

INVITES YOU TO SIGN ONTO THE COMMUNITY-LED PLANNING CHAMPION PLEDGE

Community-led planning is where residents identify neighbourhood needs, build consensus around local priorities, and directs resources toward local resident-prioritized solutions.

The local expertise is clear.

- Sustained funding is needed for community-led planning to scale solutions to displacement and ensure inclusive economic development at the neighbourhood level.
- Priority funding of up to \$500K/yr for neighbourhoods facing high levels of displacement and unmet social needs.
- Investing in communities reduces need to invest in emergency policing or health services.

PUT COMMUNITY FIRST



NOV 2025

The City's Confronting Anti-Black Racism Advisory Committee formally recommended to Mayor Olivia Chow: fund community-led planning at up to \$500,000 per neighbourhood per year.

APR 2026

Councillor Alejandra Bravo, Chair of the Economic & Community Development Committee, directed City staff to consider the recommendation as part of the 2027 budget process. **Your leadership is needed to commit the City to allocate funding.**

THE 5 PLEDGE COMMITMENTS

- 1 Direct City staff to meaningfully collaborate with community members
- 2 Fund community-led planning in 15 neighbourhoods in the 2027 budget
- 3 Scale investment to all 158 neighbourhoods by 2030
- 4 Ensure community-led funds governed through participatory budgeting and neighbourhood-level resident leadership
- 5 Co-design the program model with community through an Advisory Table



THE CALL IS ALREADY ON THE TABLE

2026 Approved Police Budget Increase

\$93.8 million

2027 Funding first 15 neighbourhoods

\$9.25 million

2030 Funding All 158 neighbourhoods

\$45 million/year

The public understands that funding community-led planning is within the City's power. Standing with community costs less than half of the permanent police budget increase in 2026.

SIGN THE PLEDGE: [CRCD.TO/PLEDGE](https://crcd.to/pledge)



**Coalition for
Responsible
Community
Development**

CRCD is a coalition of residents, tenant leaders, community organizations, and planning experts working to advance community-led planning - proven solution for equitable development, and neighbourhood-level accountability.

The Community-led Planning Champion Pledge is a public commitment process that invites candidates to align with community expertise on resident-led decision-making. Let community know you're standing on their side.

The Pledge is a public commitment process, not a CRCD endorsement

USE YOUR LEADERSHIP TO SUPPORT LOCAL INITIATIVES IN YOUR WARD



Local leadership is already here. Funding community-led planning enables it to scale and generate impact at a pace that respects the human dignity of marginalized populations.

Community Associations

Community associations bringing neighbours together to identify local priorities, build relationships, and organize for improvements that reflect the needs, knowledge, and aspirations of residents.

Tenant Associations

Tenant associations helping renters organize, identify shared needs, prevent displacement, and organize for safe, affordable, and dignified housing.

Social Service Organizations

Organizations such as settlement and employment agencies, food security programs, and youth-serving organizations advancing local well-being.

STAND WITH RESIDENTS

FUND COMMUNITY-LED PLANNING

PUBLIC CANDIDATE TRACKER

CRCD.TO includes a public tracker so residents can see which candidates have been sent and fully signed on to the pledge.

- ✓ Shows candidate sign-on status
- ✓ Makes public accountability visible
- ✓ Helps residents compare commitments across campaigns

SIGN ON TO SHOW YOU STAND WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Candidates who answer "Yes" to all five commitments will be publicly listed as fully signed on and receive a shareable candidate commitment card.

SAMPLE PREVIEW

Available once you fully sign on to the pledge

**FULLY SIGNED ON TO THE
COMMUNITY-LED PLANNING CHAMPION PLEDGE**





YOU
Candidate for Councillor

Ward ## — Ward Name

**I COMMIT TO FUNDING
COMMUNITY-LED
PLANNING**

**15 neighbourhoods in 2027.
All 158 by 2030.**

“ Personalized quote from you, sharing why you're standing to resource community to build solutions to displacement and improve the economy. ”

Anti-displacement
inclusive economic
development
community building

up to
\$500k
for high needs
neighbourhoods

Funds governed
by local resident
consensus

CRCD acknowledges your commitment to respecting community expertise

 **OUR COMMUNITIES. OUR VOICES. OUR CITY.**

SIGN THE PLEDGE: [CRCD.TO/PLEDGE](https://crcd.to/pledge)



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STAND WITH RESIDENTS

FUND COMMUNITY-LED PLANNING

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU COMPLETE THE FORM?

- Your alignment status is added to the public tracker.
- Champions who fully sign on will be contacted by someone from CRCD who will prepare your candidate commitment graphic (see pg 2) that will be shared through our networks and platforms and with you for your own distribution.

We are sending regular updates to Ward constituents: who has fully signed on, and declined to or not responded.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is this an endorsement?

No. The Pledge is a public commitment process, not a CRCD endorsement.

Are other cities funding community-led planning?

Yes. There are great examples in Montreal, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Glasgow.

What if I want to support community-led planning more than what's listed in the Pledge?

Great! Fully sign on to the pledge, and then share with us how you would go further than our ask.

What type of initiatives would be funded?

The primary purpose of funding community-led planning is to address displacement and support inclusive economic development. As such, while evaluation criteria prioritizes higher levels of investment for resident-led initiatives that prioritize projects and leaders focused on these outcomes, community-building initiatives for health and culture are supported as well.

Why is sustained funding for community-led planning needed?

Too often, resident-led work to address displacement or support an inclusive economy depends on volunteer labour and short-term grants. This slows progress. Your leadership for sustained funding will enable communities to build solutions before issues become crises requiring policing or medical care.

Where would the money come from? Is this new spending?

Yes. this is new, dedicated spending.

Isn't the City already supporting neighbourhood initiatives? What makes this different?

Toronto has invested in neighbourhood-level work through small-scale project granting (E.g the Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy and Toronto Neighbourhood Assessment Framework) - what is missing is sustained, resident-governed funding, where residents have real decision-making power at the neighbourhood level. This Pledge prioritizes funding resident leadership directly and ensuring City staff meaningfully collaborate with residents to advance solutions.

Why compare this to the police budget increase?

The comparison shows the ask is achievable. Funding community-led planning in all 158 neighbourhoods would cost up to \$45 million/year, while the 2026 Toronto Police budget increase alone was \$93.8 million.

How would the first 15 neighbourhoods be selected?

Through co-design with residents, community organizations, City representatives. Priority given to neighbourhoods already doing the work to addressing displacement .



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STAND WITH RESIDENTS

FUND COMMUNITY-LED PLANNING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What role would City staff play?

City staff would support coordination across divisions, including social development, land use planning, housing, economic development, public health, culture, and other relevant services.

Would this duplicate work already being done by City divisions?

No. Community-led planning strengthens existing work - not duplicate it. The gap is that residents - especially renters, newcomers, and those with low income - often do not have the opportunity to shape how public services or investment responds to local needs by identify shared priorities and coordinating across sectors. As a result, City services have been prioritizing the interests of the private sector. Funding community-led planning addresses that gap and ensures the City is serving the people who live here. This includes by significantly improving the capacity for the City to (and high levels of government) to provide services and make investment decisions that respects human dignity and ensures all residents can thrive.

How would CRCD ensure the process is accountable and not captured by a small group of residents?

The Pledge calls for participatory budgeting, resident-led governance, and co-design with community because accountability must be built into the model from the start. This includes clear eligibility rules, transparent decision-making, public reporting, and outreach to renters, youth, seniors, newcomers, low-income residents, Black and racialized communities, disabled residents, small businesses, and other groups often excluded from planning decisions. Local leaders would apply for funding through Neighbourhood Planning Coalitions made up of local leaders and organizations, so priorities are shaped through broad participation and local consensus. Ask for our detailed proposal on what this could look like.

Why should all neighbourhoods eventually receive funding if some communities have greater need?

Every neighbourhood should have access to sustained funding for community-led planning because every community has local knowledge, public assets, and residents who deserve a meaningful role in decisions that affect their lives. At the same time, deeper funding should be directed to neighbourhoods facing higher levels of displacement risk, underinvestment, housing insecurity, food insecurity, economic exclusion, and barriers to participation. This approach avoids creating a small, temporary pilot while still recognizing that equity requires greater investment where the need is most urgent.

What would success look like after the first year?

In the first year, success would mean that the City has funded the first 15 neighbourhoods, established clear governance and accountability rules, supported local staffing and resident-led granting, and created formal pathways for City staff to meaningfully collaborate with communities. Early outcomes could include stronger local partnerships within neighbourhoods, stronger tenant associations to address displacement, improved operational capacity for local acquisition of affordable housing for CLTs, and identified opportunities to protect commercial spaces for local businesses. The first year should build the foundation for long-term impact, not try to solve every issue at once.

How do I sign?

Complete the pledge form.
It takes only three minutes!

For questions or to arrange a briefing conversation, contact your CRCD Outreach Representative and CC.Connect@CRCD.To

SIGN HERE: CRCD.TO/PLEDGE