



Cheryll Case

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To: Oren Tamir,
Interim Executive Director
Development Review
City of Toronto

David Driedger
Active Director
Community Planning
City of Toronto

Sipo Maphangoh
Manager
Community Planning
City of Toronto

Date: May 12, 2026 (update sent 11:21am)

Re: Little Jamaica and Oakwood Vaughan Planning Framework - Stakeholder Advisory Committee Recommendations

Dear Oren, David, and Sipo,

I hope you are doing well.

I am writing to formally submit recommendations for membership to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee requested through Councillor Josh Matlow’s motion at [Planning and Housing Committee on April 9th, 2026 regarding the Little Jamaica Planning Framework](#).

I appreciate the Planning and Housing Committee’s direction to establish a Stakeholder Advisory Committee that reflects the principles, shared understandings, and boundaries of the Little Jamaica community. Given the pace of ongoing change and displacement pressures in the neighbourhood, timely establishment of the committee will be important to maintaining trust and ensuring meaningful collaboration between city staff and the community you are representing in your work in the next phase of Framework development.

Little Jamaica presents an important opportunity to advance a planning process that meaningfully integrates equity, cultural continuity, anti-displacement, and community leadership into implementation. It is both the community’s expertise and direction from existing City plans/policy that the Committee will be most effective if it functions not simply as a consultation body, but as an ongoing forum for collaborative problem-solving, shared accountability, and co-



creation of the Framework alongside residents, tenant organizers, local businesses, cultural leaders, and community organizations. In particular, relevant city plans/policies include the [Public Engagement Review](#), [CABR Plan on addressing anti-Black racism in displacement](#), [HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan](#), and the [Toronto Housing Charter](#).

The following recommendations are intended to support a Stakeholder Advisory Committee that is balanced, community-grounded, and capable of advising on the Framework's intersecting priorities of anti-displacement, anti-Black racism, cultural preservation, housing stability, local economic development, community ownership, and planning across Little Jamaica.

Recommended representation should include:

Essential Seats

- 1 representative of each of the tenant associations in the neighbourhood
 - Oakwood Vaughan Tenant Union: Amber Lee Rowe -> amberlee.rowe@mail.com
 - Toronto Tenant Union - Keele and Eglinton Hub: Sharlene Henry -> sharlene.n.henry@gmail.com
- 1 representative from each of the Oakwood Vaughan Community Organization, and the Keele Residents Association
 - Oakwood Vaughan Community Organization: Peter Clutterbuck -> pclutterbuck@rogers.com or assigned delegate
 - Natural Vybz (also hub of the Keele Eglinton Resident Association): Geraldine Alexander -> geraldnealex@hotmail.ca or Jermauri Collins -> jermauri123@gmail.com
- 1 representative living in TCH housing in the neighbourhood
- Indigenous residents
 - Morgan Miya -> morgan.miya@gmail.com

Recommended Seats

- Local Community Land Trust board members who live in the neighbourhood
 - Oakwood Vaughan Community Land Trust: Gillian Graham -> gillian.graham@alumni.utoronto.ca or assigned delegate
 - Little Jamaica Community Land Trust
- Prior participants in the development of the City's consultants' proposed Little Jamaica Cultural District Plan
- Social service providers
 - Syme Woolner Community Centre: Rushelle A. Campbell -> jane.coordinator@symewoolner.org
 - Macaulay Centre for Children: Head office (2010 Eglinton Avenue West) -> [416-789-7441](tel:416-789-7441)



- Black Action Defence Committee: Rita Asare-Clarke -> Rita.asare@blackactiondefencecommittee.com
- For Youth Initiative
- Little Jamaica Community Coalition
 - Toronto Community Benefits Network: Kumsa Baker -> kbaker@communitybenefits.ca
 - Community in Public: Cheryll Case -> Cheryll.Case@CPplanning.ca
- Local businesses and local arts centres
 - Studio M (also hub to youth artist and rasta gatherings) -> studiomradio@gmail.com

In particular, given the Framework's stated scope of addressing systemic anti-Black racism and displacement, it is essential that each active tenant association in the neighbourhood have dedicated representation on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. Tenant organizers bring direct knowledge of housing insecurity, rooming house conditions, eviction pressures, and the lived impacts of neighbourhood change. This is especially important in light of the recent Toronto Ombudsman report concerning a rooming house, as noted in the Ombudsman's blog - [Inaction by City staff left rooming house without heat, water and power for six months](#) - an example that underscores the need for tenant perspectives to be embedded in planning, accountability, and implementation structures from the outset. This report brings awareness to the attention placed in ensuring city staff act in line with the City's commitment to progressively realize adequate housing by understanding and taking action to address bias that favour landlords over residents.

To support transparency, legitimacy, and long-term effectiveness, we also encourage:

- the development and public documentation of a clear Terms of Reference;
- clarity regarding membership selection, timelines, and decision-making processes;
- regular meeting intervals throughout the Framework development process; and
- appropriate support and resourcing for community participation to enable sustained engagement. This includes honoraria for members who would not be paid by their job to be in attendance of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. I'm aware that the City has provided such honoraria in the past for Advisory Committees such as that on the 20 person Expanding Housing Options in Neighbourhoods Roundtable which provided participants honoraria of \$1,200 - \$1,400.

As you know, community members and organizations have invested years into advancing local research, organizing, planning, and implementation efforts connected to the future of Little Jamaica. Establishing a meaningful and collaborative advisory structure is an important opportunity to build on that work and strengthen alignment between City-led planning and community-defined priorities.



I would appreciate written confirmation of your receipt of this letter. As we remain in ongoing communication with community members, confirmation will support transparent updates regarding the City's follow-up on the direction from Planning and Housing Committee, as well as broader community recommendations to ensure local planning efforts meaningfully address systemic anti-Black racism and displacement.

I look forward to supporting a process that meaningfully reflects the knowledge, leadership, and aspirations of the Little Jamaica community, and would welcome the opportunity to continue collaborating on next steps.

Sincerely,

Cheryll Case

Founder and Executive Director
Community in Public

cc: Councillor Josh Matlow, Alejandra Bravo, Mike Colle, and Frances Nunziata, along with their planning associates