

Phillip D’Cruze

Candidate for Mayor of Toronto
City of Toronto

The following answers were provided by the candidate in response to [a letter sent by the Toronto Society of Architects on September 20, 2022](#) outlining three questions related to issues of the built environment. Answers have been copied and pasted into this page for clarity and ease of access, but all answers are verbatim and no changes or edits have been made.

Q1: Housing is a fundamental human right, and yet an increasing number of residents across the Greater Toronto Area are struggling to pay rent or find an affordable place to live. What policies and actions do you believe need to be implemented to address this crisis?

A: My first plan and goal is a rent reduction of 20% locked in for 3 years for all renters-apts, houses, rooms, retail, condos, ODSP. Also, there are over 2, 000 empty houses unoccupied for the past 2 years unoccupied. The City could buy them and use them.

Q2: The design, construction and operation of our built environment accounts for nearly 40% of energy related carbon emissions, contributing to the ongoing climate crisis affecting us today. What do you believe needs to be prioritised to reduce carbon emissions within the built environment?

A: Green materials used for future building. Like the example at Mohawk College. By-law that any materials used must comply with list of less pollutant products.

Q3: In towns and cities, so much of life happens in the shared public spaces—in our parks, libraries and streets. How can we ensure these civic spaces achieve design excellence in their initial conception and construction, and that they are properly maintained so they may continue to serve future generations?

A: For every school there must be a park, for every sub-division a community center with workshops, outdoor gardens. Bike paths, walkways, more greenery.