

# Shanicka Edwards

Councillor Candidate in the City of Barrie, Ward 2  
Simcoe County

*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:** I do believe housing is a basic human right and some of the policies I would love to see implemented or expanded upon in Barrie are:

- PUSH Affordable housing initiative.
- Public housing programs prepared by community with the government
- Following models from TCHC

**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:** So things I believe will help reduce our carbon emissions are:

- Cut operational carbon
- Utilize things like above grade wood
- Start initiatives to encourage micro mobility, EV and express trail use

**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:** In order to ensure Civic Spaces achieve their initial concept I believe that:

- We need to stick to City Planning Guidelines
- Create more public spaces
- Explore and encourage the idea of live/work spaces