

1. 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?

As a former resident of the Dentonia Park Co-op, I have experienced how the cooperative model is a great way to keep rents reasonable. I am a strong supporter of adding affordable housing units within the borders of this community. I strongly believe that the best way to include affordable housing units is to distribute them evenly among single unit occupancy and larger units for families. Some solutions to these challenges are:

- Propose that all developers looking to get a permit for high rise condos need to include a percentage of affordable rental units in the plan.
- Look at implementing plans like what Vancouver is working on with developers on a rent to own plan for potential homeowners making under a predetermined annual household income.
- I will work with more non-profits who wish to build or lease City land/and or buildings to provide housing for low-income families and individuals. (As they do not need to make a profit, they are able to provide housing for less. Also, they can provide supports to their clients.)
- There could be more container housing built quickly with mixed use for individuals and family size units. There are non-profits in BC that started doing this several years ago and it has been very successful.

The members of our community that reside in affordable units need to know that their representative in City Hall will make sure that they can thrive in our neighbourhoods with dignity and RESPECT. As someone who has lived in affordable housing, I will see to it that they feel RESPECTED.

2. 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?

We need to expand the development guidelines for greener buildings. Creating incentives for updating existing buildings and requiring all new buildings to have the highest energy efficiency. There are many ways to make buildings more energy efficient, such as well sealed doors and windows, double paned windows, smart lighting, smart temperature, and air systems, using materials that better insulate and shield buildings from the elements. I would also investigate adding subsidies for older buildings to install green roofs. I would work with **buildings** adopt green bin program or have onsite compost bins. I will propose a requirement for new buildings to create at least 9 square metres of green space per person. The WHO (World Health Organization) recommends that each person should, at minimum, have access to 9m² (96.8 sq ft.) of green space, with an ideal of 50m² of green space per person. Adding more and more condos without adequate green spaces will erode our current roughly 40m² of green space we currently enjoy (although it isn't evenly distributed around the city). One of the worst areas for green space per person in our city is in our riding of Beaches – East York in the M4B postal code area which stretches from Victoria Park to Coxwell through the middle of Taylor Creek Park, northward. Just south of there is a planned densification of Main and Danforth where there will be over 1000 units added with a negligent amount of green space.

Source of M4B being one of the worst postal codes in the city for green space:
<https://blog.thinkdataworks.com/data-investigation-how-green-is-toronto>

3. 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?

We need to involve experts in their design, show draft designs to the public for their input, reach out to groups that represent people with disabilities to ensure a smart and accessible space is created, and look internationally at innovative ideas that work well that could be considered for our space and climate. Working collaboratively often produces the best results. To keep them properly maintained we should factor that into the design and consider the ongoing costs. Then we need to ensure proper investment in the upkeep and maintenance of these public spaces. It's well known what a positive impact libraries have on the community and according to a 2013 report on the Toronto Public Library they deliver "\$5.63 of Economic Impact for Every \$1 Spent".

Source:

<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/content/about-the-library/service-plans-strategies-frameworks/So.Much.More.Economic.Impact.Study.pdf>