

September 26, 2022

Mayor and Council
City of Edmonton
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2R7

**Canadian
Home Builders'
Association**



Re: Executive Committee Agenda Item 7.7 – Clean Energy Improvement Program and Climate Mitigation – Priority Projects

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Canadian Home Builders' Association-Edmonton Region (CHBA-ER) is a not-for-profit organization representing more than 400 member companies in the region including builders, renovators, land developers, trades, suppliers and more. The residential construction industry in the Edmonton Region is a network of local businesses that represents more than 36,000 jobs, \$2.7 billion in wages and \$5.3 billion in built investment. CHBA-ER members are proud to have built 80% of new units in Edmonton in 2021.

This letter addresses an item scheduled for the September 28 Executive Committee meeting: Item 7.7 – Clean Energy Improvement Program and Climate Mitigation – Priority Projects.

CHBA-ER strongly supports a permanent Clean Energy Improvement Program for the City of Edmonton and recognizes its importance to Edmonton's overall energy transition. Creating resilient communities is a significant focus for the residential construction industry, which is leading the way in addressing climate change with greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in housing down by 11% since 1990.

The greatest opportunity to improve energy efficiency in residential construction lies in retrofits. Every dollar spent on energy retrofits of the existing housing stock yields 4 to 7 times more energy savings than that spent on upgrading a new home. A permanent CEIP will help make energy efficient renovations more affordable and accessible to homeowners throughout the city, creating a true market transformation with homeowners leading the charge for energy efficient renovations and more.

In the City of Edmonton, home renovations account for more than 9,000 jobs representing \$672 million in wages and \$1.2 billion in investment. CEIP will not only continue to help bolster interest and participation in energy efficiency but will also support local job opportunities.

CHBA-ER members are passionate about reducing greenhouse gas emissions in housing with many who are already CEIP Qualified Contractors. CHBA-ER fully supports a permanent CEIP to create accessible and affordable solutions to reducing GHG emissions in housing.

Sincerely,

Laura Bruno
Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Home Builders' Association – Edmonton Region