

# CHIEF PLANNER AWARD

CITY OF HAMILTON  
**2025 URBAN DESIGN  
AND ARCHITECTURE AWARDS**



## 1620 MAIN STREET EAST

1620 Main Street East, Hamilton, ON

Located at 1620 Main Street East on a compact, transit-connected urban site, this six-storey mass timber building is adjacent to the 55 Queenston Road site. It provides housing that supports vulnerable residents in a well-connected neighbourhood. The structure is built primarily from sustainably harvested cross-laminated timber, including stairwells and elevator shafts, which greatly reduces greenhouse gas emissions compared to concrete construction. The building's simple, modern form aligns with the residential scale of the area while reflecting civic investment. This approach combines sustainable materials with practical design to meet the needs of the community.

CityHousing Hamilton  
mcCallumSather  
Landwise  
OMC Landscape Architecture  
RDH Building Science Inc.  
DEI Consulting

MTE Consultants  
Element5  
Melloul-Blamey Construction  
Vortex Fire  
HGC

### CHIEF PLANNER COMMENTS

This 42-unit affordable housing development marks a significant step for the City of Hamilton by increasing access to supportive housing with 52% deeply affordable rent-geared-to-income housing unit and 48% moderately affordable 'half-market' rents. As CityHousing Hamilton's first mass timber project, it highlights the city's commitment to innovative, sustainable construction. Certified under Passive House International standards, the building is among the most energy-efficient in Hamilton, offering low operating costs and nearly zero greenhouse gas emissions throughout its lifespan. The use of prefabricated components accelerated the construction timeline, enabling the city to deliver affordable housing more quickly to meet urgent community needs.