

Memo

To: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
From: Town of Oakville
Date: December 9, 2022
Subject: ERO number 019-6163 Proposed Planning Act and City of Toronto Act Changes (Schedules 9 and 1 of Bill 23 – the proposed More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022)

Comments

The Town of Oakville is aligned with the province's goal of building 1.5 million homes over the next 10 years. The town also supports the purpose and intent sustaining the province's land use planning framework exemplified in the *Planning Act* and the 2019 Growth Plan, including the:

- protection of ecological systems, including natural areas, features and functions
- conservation of features of significant architectural, cultural, historical, archaeological or scientific interest;
- integrated planning, adequate provision and efficient use of communication, transportation, sewage and water services, waste management systems and public service facilities;
- orderly development, protection and achievement of safe, healthy & complete communities;
- adequate provision of a full range and mix of housing, including affordable housing with the prioritization of intensification in strategic growth areas;
- protection of the financial and economic well-being of the province and its municipalities;
- promotion of development that is designed to be sustainable, to support public transit and to be oriented to pedestrians; and
- integration of climate change considerations into land use planning and growth management

Land use planning for growth and development that supports economic prosperity, protects the environment and helps communities achieve a high quality of life remains pivotal for the Town of Oakville and the Province of Ontario.

The Town of Oakville seeks clarification from the Province regarding the removal of the planning policy and approval responsibilities from upper tier municipalities with the following questions:

1. What type of official plans and amendments would require approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs?
2. There are a variety of reviews and oversight currently undertaken by regional staff that the town lacks both resources and expertise to undertake internally. How does the Province envision local municipalities addressing these resourcing/staffing implications?
3. Is the Province considering financial assistance to local municipalities with updating and implementing municipal plans, policies and procedures to achieve the ambitious housing goals?