Date: June 11, 2025

## RE: 025-0461 Proposed Planning and City of Toronto Act, 2006 Changes (Schedule 3 and 7 of Bill 17) – *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025*

This letter represents the City of Ottawa's comment on <u>ERO 025-0461</u>. These comments should be read together with the City of Ottawa's upcoming comments on ERO <u>025-0463</u> and <u>025-0462</u> pertaining to As of Right Variances and Complete Applications, respectively.

In addition to the below, the City of Ottawa is pleased to provide comment on the entirety of Bill 17 in the attached Appendix.

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Amendment	Bill 17,	City of Ottawa Position	Suggested
Proposed	Sch. 7		Revision or
	Section(s)		Clarifications
Minor Variances (As of	4(1)	The City does not have any	The City notes its
Right Variation from		objections to this	support of the
Setback Requirements)		amendment as written.	definition of
			"building setback",
		The intent of this provision is	which
		to reduce the number of	appropriately
		minor variance applications	excludes setbacks
		to local Committees of	from surface water
		Adjustment, thereby	features and tower
		accelerating the	separations.
		development process. In the	
		City's view, this would not be	If the Province
		case for at least two	proceeds with this
		reasons. First, staff	section as worded,
		anticipate that the setbacks	the City of Ottawa
		permitted by this amendment	has provided
		would be further varied.	detailed comments
		Second, there are very few	on the proposed
		minor variance applications	regulation (ERO
		that are both limited to	025-0462).
		setbacks and entirely within	
		a 10% buffer. The	
		amendment as proposed	
		would not meaningfully	
		reduce the number of	
		applications in Ottawa.	

		The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation related to this amendment has been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0463.	
Minister's Zoning Order	8	The City of Ottawa has no concerns with this amendment.  In the event that an MZO is considered with Ottawa, the City would appreciate the opportunity to request conditions be added to the MZO under this subsection.	An additional amendment to section 47 affording municipalities a formal opportunity to request or comment on proposed conditions is needed.
Study Requirements (Complete Application) and Certified Professionals	2, 3, 4(2), 4(3), 7(2), 7(3), 9(1), 9(2), 10(1), 10(2) and 11	The City of Ottawa has concerns with these amendments.  Staff have obtained clarity from the Province to confirm that studies submitted by prescribed professionals would be deemed complete, but that municipalities retained the ability to review the studies and apply conditions for approval that depend on the quality of the study.  Nevertheless, these new complete application requirements could impose new pressures on timelines To meet provincial timelines where a deficient study has been provided, it is expected that municipalities will more frequently include conditions on approval.	As an interim measure (that is, during the life of 17(21.1)), the City recommends that 17(21.1) be amended to clarify that "written approval" is deemed to exist for OPAs that required ministerial approval after May 12, 2025.

		The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation to this amendment has been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.	
Streamline Planning Approval for Schools	1, 6, 7(1)	The City has no concerns with amendments to section 17 and 34 of the <i>Planning Act</i> .  The City of Ottawa has some concerns with section 7(1) of Schedule 7 to allow new portables on newer school sites without site plan, specifically implications on stormwater management and drainage.	The City of Ottawa suggests amending 41(1.1) to require site plan for a specified number of portables (i.e. 5 or more) or for where the addition of portables crosses a specified lot coverage threshold.

## Sincerely,

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## Appendix A – The City of Ottawa's Comments on Schedules 1, 4 and 7 of Bill 17

Bill 17	Amendment	Support	Concerns
Section		Yes/No	
	Schedule 1 – Building Code Act		
1/ s. 28 new subsection	Restriction (6) If the Canadian Construction Materials Centre of the National Research Council of Canada has examined or has expressed its intention to examine an innovative material, system or building design, the Building Materials Evaluation Commission shall not exercise its powers under subsection (4) in respect of that material, system or building design.	Yes	None
2/ Section 29 amended	Rulings by Minister 29 (1) The Minister may, subject to such conditions as the Minister in his or her discretion considers appropriate, make rulings, (a) approving the use of innovative materials, systems or building designs evaluated by a materials evaluation body designated in the building code. (b) adopting an amendment to a code, formula, standard, guideline, protocol or procedure that has been adopted by reference in the building code; or (c) approving the use of alternative materials, systems and building designs which, in the opinion of the Minister, will achieve the level of performance required by the building code.	Yes	None
	Restriction (8) If a materials evaluation body designated in the building code has examined or has expressed its intention to examine an innovative material, system or building design, the Building Materials Evaluation Commission shall not exercise its power under subsection 28 (4) in respect of that material, system or building design.		
3/ Para 23 of 34(1) is repealed	Regulations 34 (0.1) The Minister may make such regulations as are desirable governing standards for the construction and demolition of buildings. 2020, c. 18, Sched. 1, s. 3 (1).  Same	Yes	None

	(1) Without limiting the generality of subsection (0.1), the Minister may make regulations,  23. designating materials evaluation bodies for the purposes of section 29;		
4/ New subsection	Municipal by-laws 35 (1) This Act, and the building code supersede all municipal by-laws respecting the construction or demolition of buildings.  Same (1.1) For greater certainty, sections 9, 10 and 11 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and sections 7 and 8 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006 do not authorize a municipality to pass by-laws respecting the construction or demolition of buildings.	n/a	The City of Ottawa has questions over how this will impact municipalities' climate resiliency and tenant protection efforts, as well as urban design.
	Schedule 4 – Development Charges Act		
1/ New section 4.4 exemption for LTC	Exemption for long-term care home development 4.4 (1) The development of any part of a building or structure intended for use as a long-term care home, as defined in subsection 2 (1) of the Fixing Long-Term Care Home Act, 2021, is exempt from development charges.  Transition (2) Subsection (1) does not apply with respect to a development charge that is payable before the day section 1 of Schedule 4 to the Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 comes into force.  Same (3) For greater certainty, subsection (1) applies to future instalments that would have been payable in accordance with section 26.1 after the day section 1 of Schedule 4 to the Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 comes into force.	Yes	None
2/ Subsection 5(3) amended	Determination of development charges Capital costs, inclusions (3) The following are capital costs for the purposes of paragraph 7 of subsection (1) if they are incurred or proposed to be incurred by a municipality or a local board directly or by others on behalf of, and as authorized by, a municipality or local board:	TBD	The City will closely monitor any regulatory change impacting the determination of capital costs related to the acquisition of land. An impact cannot be determined at this time.

	<ol> <li>Subject to the regulations, costs to acquire land or an interest in land, including a leasehold interest, except in relation to such services as are prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph.</li> <li>Costs to improve land.</li> <li>Costs to acquire, lease, construct or improve buildings and structures.</li> <li>Costs to acquire, lease, construct or improve facilities including, i. rolling stock with an estimated useful life of seven years or more, ii. furniture and equipment, other than computer equipment, and iii. materials acquired for circulation, reference or information purposes by a board within the meaning of the <i>Public Libraries Act</i>.</li> <li>Costs to undertake studies in connection with any of the matters referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4.</li> <li>Costs of the development charge background study required under section 10.</li> <li>Interest on money borrowed to pay for costs described in paragraphs 1 to 4.</li> </ol>		
3/ subsection 19(1.1) replaced	Exceptions  (1.1) Subsection (1) does not apply to an amendment to a development charge by-law if the only effect of the amendment is to,  (a) repeal a provision specifying the date on which the by-law expires or to amend such a provision to provide for the by-law to expire on a later date.  (b) repeal a provision providing for the indexing of a development charge or to amend such a provision to provide for a development charge not to be indexed; or  (c) decrease the amount of a development charge that is payable for one or more types of development in the circumstances specified in the amendment.	Yes	None
4/ Section 26.1 amended	Certain types of development, when charge payable (1) Despite section 26, a development charge in respect of any part of a development that consists of a type of development set out in subsection (2) is payable in accordance with this section.  Same (2) The types of development referred to in subsection (1) are the following: 1. Rental housing development. 2. Institutional development. 3. Residential development not described in paragraph 1.	Yes	None

Subsection 26.1(3)	Annual instalments (3) A development charge referred to in subsection (1) A development charge in respect of any part of development that consists of a type of development described in paragraph 1 or 2 of subsection (2) shall be paid in equal annual instalments beginning on the earlier of the date of the issuance of a permit under the <i>Building Code Act</i> , 1992 authorizing occupation of the building and the date the building is first occupied, and continuing on the following five anniversaries of that date.	Yes	None
New 26.1(3.1)	Payable on occupancy (3.1) Subject to subsection (3.2), a development charge in respect of any part of a development that consists of a type of development described in paragraph 3 of subsection (2) shall be paid in full on the earlier of,  (a) the day a permit is issued under the Building Code Act, 1992 authorizing occupation of the building; and  (b) the day the building is first occupied.	Yes	The City will closely monitor the impact of this change. The City risks forgoing 18 to 24 months of indexed revenue growth and will incur additional carrying costs due to the deferral of expected payments.
	Same, financial security (3.2) If the prescribed circumstances exist, the municipality that imposes a development charge in respect of a type of development described in paragraph 3 of subsection (2) may require the person required to pay the charge to provide an instrument to be used to secure the payment of the charge under subsection (3.1), subject to any prescribed limitations.		
Amended 26.1(4)	Amount of charge  (4) The amount of a development charge referred to in subsection (1) is the amount of the development charge determined in accordance with section 26.2, regardless of whether the by-law under which the amount of the development charge would be determined is no longer in effect on the date an instalment is payable the amount is payable in accordance with this section.	Yes	None
26.1(7) replaced	Interest (7) A municipality may charge interest on the instalments payable under subsection (3) in accordance with this subsection, as it read before the day subsection 4 (5) of Schedule 4 to the Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025 came into force, but only to the extent that the interest being charged had accrued before that day.	No	The City of Ottawa does not support this amendment. This has the potential to reduce revenues, the extent of the impact will be a function of how many outstanding annual installments is still to come.
26.1(8) amended	Unpaid amounts added to taxes	Yes	None

	(a) in the case of a permit issued under subsection 8 (1) of that Act, all development charges have been paid except for any charges payable in accordance with section 26.1 of this Act or any charges that an agreement made under section 27 of this Act provides are payable after the permit is issued; or in the case of any other permit issued under that Act, all development charges that are payable before the issuance of the permit have been paid.		
7/ Section 41 amended	Use of a credit 41 (1) Subject to subsection (1.1), a credit that relates to a service may be used only with respect to that part of a development charge that relates to the service.  Services deemed to be one service	TBD	The City will closely monitor any regulatory change impacting the use of credits and provision of local services in subdivisions. An impact cannot be determined at this time.
subsection 41(1.1)	(1.1) If two or more services are deemed to be one service by the regulations, a credit that relates to any one of those services may be used with respect to that part of a development charge that relates to any of those services.		
8/ New subsection 59(2.1)	What constitutes a local service (2.1) What constitutes a local service for the purposes of clauses (2) (a) and (b) may be determined by the regulations.		
9/ Reg powers changed	Regulations 60 (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations,		
3	(I) prescribing services for the purposes of paragraph 1 of subsection 5 (3); providing for exceptions to the application of subsection 5 (3) and making such exceptions subject to conditions.		
	(s.3) prescribing the amount of time for the purposes of clauses 26.2 (5) (a) and (b).		
	(s.5) deeming two or more services to be one service for the purposes of subsection 41 (1.1).		
	(t.0.2) determining what constitutes a local service for the purposes of clauses 59 (2) (a) and (b);		
9(2)/ new clause	(s.1.1) prescribing circumstances and limitations for the purposes of subsection 26.1 (3.2);		
	Schedule 7 – <i>Planning Act</i>		

1/ New subsection 16(3.2.1)	Official Plan Restrictions for elementary and secondary schools (3.2.1) No official plan may contain any policy that has the effect of prohibiting the use of a parcel of urban residential land for an elementary school or secondary school of a school board or any ancillary uses to such schools, including the use of a childcare centre located in the school.	Yes	None
1(2)/ 16(3.3) amended	Policies of no effect (3.3) A policy in an official plan is of no effect to the extent that it contravenes a restriction described in subsection (3), (3.1), er (3.2) or (3.2.1).	Yes	None
2/ New subsections 17(21.1) and (21.2)	Written approval of amendment to official plan  (21.1) The council of a municipality or a planning board, as the case may be, shall obtain written approval from the Minister before adopting an amendment to an official plan that adds, amends or revokes any of the provisions described in subsection 22 (5), 34 (10.2), 41 (3.4), 51 (18) or 53 (3) of this Act or subsection 114 (4.3) of the City of Toronto Act, 2006.  Same  (21.2) An amendment described in subsection (21.1) that is adopted on or after May 12, 2025, without first obtaining the approval of the Minister in accordance with subsection (21.1) is deemed not to have been adopted.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this provision are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City requests clarification that an official plan amendment requiring ministerial approval (i.e. a section 26 OPA) passed after May 12, 2025, is the same as obtaining written approval in accordance with these subsections.
2(2)/ Subsections 17(21.1) and (21.2) repealed		No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this provision are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City requests clarification that an official plan amendment requiring ministerial approval (i.e. a section 26 OPA) passed after May 12, 2025, is the same as obtaining written approval in accordance with these subsections.
3(1)/ ss. 22(5) amended	Other information (5) Subject to the regulations, a council or a planning board may require that a person or public body that requests an amendment to its official plan	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are

	provide any other information or material that the council or planning board considers it may need, but only if the official plan contains provisions relating to requirements under this subsection.		outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation referred to in this provision have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
3(2)/ new subsection 22(6.0.1)	Information and material prepared by prescribed professionals (6.0.1) The provision of information or material to a council or planning board in respect of a requirement under subsection (4) or (5) is deemed to meet the applicable requirement if the information or material is prepared by a person authorized to practice a prescribed profession.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on
			the proposed regulation setting out prescribed professionals have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
4(1)/ New subsections 34(1.4) to (1.7)	Provision re setbacks (1.4) Subject to subsection (1.5), a minimum setback distance is deemed to be the prescribed percentage of the setback distance.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with these provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.
	<ul> <li>Same, Greenbelt</li> <li>(1.5) Subsection (1.4) does not apply to a building or structure located,</li> <li>(a) in the Greenbelt Area within the meaning of the Greenbelt Act, 2005.</li> <li>(b) on a parcel of land that is not a parcel of urban residential land; or</li> <li>(c) on a parcel of land that includes any land in an area prescribed for the purposes of subsection 41 (1.2) of this Act.</li> </ul>		The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation setting out the prescribed percentage have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0463.
	Same, transition (1.6) Despite any subsequent changes to a minimum setback distance as a result of any changes to a percentage prescribed for the purposes of subsection (1.4), the minimum setback distance in respect of a building or structure is deemed to be the minimum setback distance on the day, (a) a permit is issued under subsection 8 (1) of the Building Code Act, 1992, in respect of the building or structure, where the permit was not revoked under subsection 8 (10) of that Act; or		

	(b) the lawful use of the building or structure was established, in the case of a building or structure in respect of which no building permit was required.		
	<b>Definition</b> (1.7) In this section, "setback distance" means the distance that a building or structure must be setback <u>from a boundary of the parcel</u> on which the building or structure is located in accordance with a by-law passed under this section.		
4(2)/ 34(10.2) amended	Other information (10.2) Subject to the regulations, a council may require that a person or public body that applies for an amendment to a by-law passed under this section, or a predecessor of this section provide any other information or material that the council considers it may need, but only if the official plan contains provisions relating to requirements under this subsection.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation referred to in these provisions have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
4(3)/ new subsection 34(10.301)	Information and material prepared by prescribed professionals (10.3.1) The provision of information or material to a council in respect of a requirement under subsection (10.1) or (10.2) is deemed to meet the applicable requirement if the information or material is prepared by a person authorized to practice a prescribed profession.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation setting out prescribed professionals have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
5/ 35.1(1/3) amended	Restrictions for residential units  Provisions of no effect (1.3) A provision of a by-law passed under section 34, or an order made under subsection 34.1 (9) or clause 47 (1) (a) is of no effect to the extent that it contravenes a restriction described in subsection (1), (1.1) or (1.2) of this section.	Yes	None

6/ New section 35.1.1	Restrictions for elementary and secondary schools 35.1.1 (1) The authority to pass a by-law under section 34 does not include the authority to pass a by-law that prohibits the use of a parcel of urban residential land for an elementary school or secondary school of a school board or any ancillary uses to such schools, including the use of a childcare centre located in the school.  Provision of no effect (2) A provision of a by-law passed under section 34, or an order made under clause 47 (1) (a) is of no effect to the extent that it contravenes a restriction described in subsection (1) of this section.	Yes	None
7(1)/ ss 41(1.1) amended	Exception (1.1) The definition of "development" in subsection (1) does not include the placement of a portable classroom on a school site of a district school board if the school site was in existence on January 1, 2007.	In part	The City of Ottawa has some concerns over implications on stormwater management and drainage on both school sites and adjacent properties.
7(2)/ 41(3.4) amended	Other information (3.4) Subject to the regulations, a municipality may require that an applicant provide any other information or material that the municipality considers it may need, but only if the official plan contains provisions relating to requirements under this subsection.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation referred to in these provisions have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
7(3)/ new subsection 41(3.5.1)	Information and material prepared by prescribed professionals (3.5.1) The provision of information or material to a municipality in respect of a requirement under subsection (3.3) or (3.4) is deemed to meet the applicable requirement if the information or material is prepared by a person authorized to practice a prescribed profession.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation setting out prescribed professionals have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.

8/ New	Power of Minister re zoning and subdivision control	Yes	The City of Ottawa has no major
subsections			concerns with this amendment,
47(1.0.1) - (1.0.5)	Conditions  (8.1.1) The Minister may, in an order made under clause (1) (a), impose such conditions on the use of land or the erection, location or use of buildings or structures as in the opinion of the Minister are reasonable.		however an additional amendment to section 47 affording municipalities a formal opportunity to request or comment on proposed conditions is needed.
	<ul> <li>Same (1.0.2) When a condition is imposed under subsection (1.0.1), (a) the Minister may require an owner of land to which the order applies to enter into an agreement relating to the condition with the Minister or with the municipality in which the land is situate.</li> <li>(b) the agreement may be registered against the land to which it applies; and</li> <li>(c) the Minister or the municipality, as the case may be, may enforce the agreement against the owner and, subject to the Registry Act and the Land Titles Act, any and all subsequent owners of the land.</li> </ul>		
	Same, effect (1.0.3) If a condition has been imposed under subsection (1.0.1) with respect to the use of land or the erection, location or use of buildings or structures, the order is suspended and no person shall use the land or erect, locate or use the buildings or structures under the authority of the order until the Minister is satisfied that the condition has been or will be fulfilled.		
	Notice to clerk (1.0.4) If the Minister is satisfied that the conditions imposed under subsection (1.0.1) have been or will be fulfilled, the Minister shall provide notice to the clerk of the local municipality in which the land is situate.		
	Publication (1.0.5) Within 15 days after receiving notice pursuant to subsection (1.0.4), the clerk shall make the notice available to the public.		
9(1)/ subsection 51(18) amended	Other information (18) Subject to the regulations, an approval authority may require that an applicant provide any other information or material that the approval authority	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.

	considers it may need, but only if the official plan contains provisions relating to requirements under this subsection.		The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation referred to in these provisions have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
9(2)/ New subsection 51(19.0.1)	Information and material prepared by prescribed professionals (19.0.1) The provision of information or material to an approval authority in respect of a requirement under subsection (17) or (18) is deemed to meet the applicable requirement if the information or material is prepared by a person authorized to practice a prescribed profession.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation setting out prescribed professionals have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
10(1)/ subsection 53(3) amended	Other information (3) Subject to the regulations, a council or the Minister may require that a person or public body that makes an application for a consent provide any other information or material that the council or the Minister considers it, or he or she may need, but only if the official plan contains provisions relating to requirements under this subsection.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation referred to in these provisions have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
10(2)/ new subsection 53(4.0.1)	Information and material prepared by prescribed professionals (4.0.1) The provision of information or material to a council or the Minister in respect of a requirement under subsection (2) or (3) is deemed to meet the applicable requirement if the information or material is prepared by a person authorized to practice a prescribed profession.	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached.  The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation setting out prescribed professionals have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
11/ New para 20.1	General regulations, Minister 70.1 (1) The Minister may make regulations,	No	The City of Ottawa's concerns with this and related provisions are

20.1 governing the information or material that may be required under subsection 22 (5), 34 (10.2), 41 (3.4), 51 (18) or 53 (3), including specifying information or material that may or may not be required, and providing that such requirements or prohibitions prevail over any requirements in an official plan;	outlined in the letter to which this Appendix is attached. The City of Ottawa's comments on the proposed regulation referred to in these provisions have been or will be submitted under ERO 025-0462.
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