

Municipal Services Office - Central Ontario (Priority Projects)
12<sup>th</sup> floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Canada

Dear Minister Flack,

ONPHA is writing to express our strong support for the **Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO) requested by the City of Hamilton** to enable the urgently needed Jamesville redevelopment to move forward.

ONPHA is the leading voice of community housing in Ontario and has been championing affordable housing for over 30 years. Our members include CityHousing Hamilton, one of the partners in the Jamesville redevelopment.

Since 2022, the partners behind the Jamesville redevelopment have made sustained efforts to address CN Rail's concerns and advance this critical project. While good-faith discussions have taken place, ongoing challenges have limited progress. At the same time, Hamilton's housing crisis continues to deepen, and delays, regardless of the source, are contributing to growing frustration among families in urgent need of affordable homes.

In this context, the use of an MZO is both a timely and appropriate tool to help unlock the development potential of this strategically located site adjacent to the West Harbour GO Transit station. The proposal directly supports the government's goals of increasing density near transit and expanding the supply of affordable housing.

Projects like Jamesville do more than provide housing. They restore stability and dignity for families and individuals, help end chronic homelessness, reduce pressure on hospitals, and create hundreds of local jobs. ONPHA is committed to advocating for initiatives that deliver these lasting, transformative outcomes for Ontario's communities.

With your leadership, we can ensure that Jamesville becomes a vibrant, inclusive community once again.

Sincerely,

Marlene Coffey, MA, MAES, MCIP, RPP

Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association