

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

From: Minister Steve Clark <mah@ontario.ca>

Sent: January 15, 2019 9:49 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Dear Mayor Fred Eisenberger,

My sincere thanks to your staff participating in the November 2018 Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Planning Stakeholder Forum.

Our government is committed to making it faster and easier for municipalities in the region to plan for growth, increase housing supply, attract investment, and create and protect jobs. That is why we are proposing changes to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017 and its transition regulation. We encourage you to visit www.placestogrow.ca. Your municipality is invited to provide feedback by February 28, 2019.

Given the rising number of people who will live and work in the Greater Golden Horseshoe in the next 20 years, the Growth Plan provides a long-term framework for growth. It aims to:

- Increase and promote economic growth, reduce congestion and provide residents easy access to businesses and services
- Build communities that maximize infrastructure investments, while balancing local needs for the agricultural industry and natural areas

We have heard that planning for growth in the Greater Golden Horseshoe Region is needed. However, we have also heard that there are some issues with how best to implement the Growth Plan. The proposed changes build on feedback that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing heard from the business, research and development sectors, municipalities, and others during engagement sessions last fall.

The proposed changes respect the ability of local governments to make decisions about how they grow. The province will maintain protections for the Greenbelt, agricultural lands, the agri-food sector, and natural heritage systems.

Visit the [Environmental Registry](#) to read the proposed amendment and other changes, and provide feedback.

I look forward to hearing your comments and advice.

Sincerely,

Steve Clark

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

cc: Rose Caterini

Jason Thorne

Mike Zegarac