June 1, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Via Email

Dear Premier Ford;

Re: Elimination of LPAT

Please be advised that Council for the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Tuesday, May 25, 2021, adopted the following Resolution:

Resolution No. 2021-0115

WHEREAS The Government of Ontario, on June 6, 2019, passed the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019; (Bill 108);

AND WHEREAS the changes to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT), contained in Bill 108 gives LPAT the authority to make final planning decisions based on a subjective “best planning outcome” approach rather than compliance with municipal and provincially approved official plans and consistency with provincial plans and policy;

AND WHEREAS Bill 108 restricts third party appeals of plans of subdivision only to the applicant, municipality, Minister, public body or prescribed list of persons;

AND WHEREAS Bill 108 takes local planning decision-making out of the hands of democratically elected municipal councils and puts it into the hands of a non-elected, unaccountable tribunal;

AND WHEREAS the LPAT adds cost and delays delivery of affordable housing by expensive, time consuming hearings, contrary to the intent of the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019;

AND WHEREAS Regional and City/Town Councils have spent millions defending provincially approved plans at the OMB/LPAT;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is the only province in Canada that empowers a separate adjudicative tribunal to review and overrule local decisions applying provincially approved plans;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT in the short term, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately restore the amendments to the Planning Act that mandated the evaluation of appeals on a consistency and conformity with Provincial policies and plans basis;

AND FURTHER THAT in the long term the Government of Ontario eliminate the LPAT entirely, as an antiquated body that slows delivery and adds costs to housing supply via expensive and drawn out tribunal hearings;

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, Ontario L7G 5G2

Tel: 905-873-2600 Toll Free: 1-877-712-2205 Fax: 905-873-2347
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AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Halton’s Members of Provincial Parliament, Leaders of the New Democratic, Liberal and Green parties, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Small Urban Mayors’ Caucus of Ontario, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario and Halton’s local municipalities.

CARRIED

Attached for your information is a copy of Resolution No. 2021-0115.

If you have any questions, please contact Valerie Petryniak, Town Clerk for the Town of Halton Hills at 905-873-2600 ext. 2331 or valeriep@haltonhills.ca.

Yours truly,

Melissa Lawr
Deputy Clerk – Legislation

c. The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Halton’s Members of Provincial Parliament
Leaders of the New Democratic, Liberal and Green parties
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Small Urban Mayor’s Caucus of Ontario
Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario
Halton Region
Town of Milton
Town of Oakville
City of Burlington
WHEREAS The Government of Ontario, on June 6, 2019, passed the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019, (Bill108);

AND WHEREAS the changes to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT), contained in Bill 108 gives LPAT the authority to make final planning decisions based on a subjective “best planning outcome” approach rather that compliance with municipal and provincially approved official plans and consistency with provincial plans and policy;

AND WHEREAS Bill 108 restricts third party appeals of plans of subdivision only to the applicant, municipality, Minister, public body or prescribed list of persons;

AND WHEREAS the LPAT adds cost and delays delivery of affordable housing by expensive, time consuming hearings, contrary to the intent of the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019;

AND WHEREAS Regional and City/Town Councils have spent millions defending provincially approved plans at the OMB/LPAT;
AND WHEREAS Ontario is the only province in Canada that empowers a separate adjudicative tribunal to review and overrule local decisions applying provincially approved plans;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT in the short term, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing immediately restore the amendments to the Planning Act that mandated the evaluation of appeals on a consistency and conformity with Provincial policies and plans basis;

AND FURTHER THAT in the long term the Government of Ontario eliminate the LPAT entirely, as an antiquated body that slows delivery and adds costs to housing supply via expensive and drawn out tribunal hearings;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Halton’s Members of Provincial Parliament, Leaders of the New Democratic, Liberal and Green parties, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Small Urban Mayors’ Caucus of Ontario, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario and Halton’s local municipalities.

Mayor Rick Bonnette