

Ministry of Municipal Affairs  
and Housing

Municipal Services Office  
Central Ontario

777 Bay Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Telephone : 416-585-6226  
Fax.: 416 585-6882

Ministère des Affaires municipales  
et Logement

Bureau des services aux municipalités  
du Centre de l'Ontario

777, rue Bay, 16<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Téléphone : 416-585-6226  
Téléc. : 416 585-6882



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Sent via email only

October 28, 2022

Andrea Holland, City Clerk  
[Clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:Clerk@hamilton.ca)

### **Re: Proposed Revocation of the Parkway Belt West Plan**

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Everyone in Ontario should be able to find a home that is right for them. But too many people are struggling with the rising cost of living and with finding housing that meets their family's needs.

Ontario's housing supply crisis is a problem which has been decades in the making. It will take both short-term strategies and long-term commitment from all levels of government, the private sector, and not-for-profits to drive change. Each entity will have to do their part to be part of the solution to this crisis.

Ontario needs more housing, and we need it now. That's why the Ontario government is taking bold and transformative action to get 1.5 million homes built over the next 10 years.

To support Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan: 2022-2023, the government introduced the **More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022**, which, if passed, would ensure that cities, towns, and rural communities grow with a mix of ownership and rental housing types that meet the needs of all Ontarians.

These changes are providing a solid foundation to address Ontario's housing supply crisis over the long term and will be supplemented by continued action in the future.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is seeking feedback on a proposal to revoke the Parkway Belt West Plan, (the "Plan"), to support the government's commitment to streamline, reduce, and eliminate burdens and to increase housing supply.

The Plan has been successful over the years in protecting transportation and utility corridors for projects that were planned for and mostly built decades ago (e.g., Hwy 403, Hwy 407, transit way corridors, hydro corridors).

Over the years, provincial legislation, land use policies (e.g., Provincial Policy Statement) and provincial plans have provided a more modernized and up-to-date policy framework that has resulted in the Parkway Belt West Plan becoming outdated. This includes policies in the Provincial Policy Statement and Provincial Plans related to infrastructure, natural heritage, agriculture, parks and open space. The application process for amendments to the outdated plan has created additional burden with an extra layer of provincial approvals, resulting in added time and costs at all levels.

Under subsection 4(8) of the *Ontario Planning and Development Act, 1994*, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing may, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, by order, revoke the Plan.

Being an important partner on applications regarding this Plan, we wanted to inform you that the ministry is pausing the processing of applications during the consultation period and will not be accepting any new applications at this time.

We are interested in hearing from you on this proposal through the notice posted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario at <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-6167>. This posting closes December 30, 2022.

Thank you,

<Original Signed By>

Laurie Miller,  
Regional Director, Planning, Municipal Services Office Central

C. Steve Robichaud, Director of Planning and Chief Planner, City of Hamilton,  
[Steve.Robichaud@Hamilton.ca](mailto:Steve.Robichaud@Hamilton.ca)