

Memorandum

To: Mayor and Members of Chatham-Kent Council

From: Maggie Downey, Administrative Assistant

Date: July 15, 2024

Re: Council Information Package

I have attached a list of items that have come into the office that may be of interest to members of Council. Please note that in accordance with Section 6.4(d) of the Procedural By-law, **Any member of Council may raise for discussion a communication, petition or resolution that is in the Information Package during the Approval of Communication Items portion of the Council Meeting.**

1. Staff Reports and Information

- (a) Action items from the June 24, 2024 Council Meetings

2. Correspondence From

- (a) Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs of Housing to Mayor Darrin Canniff dated June 24, 2024, re Building Faster Fund (BFF) Allocation and BFF Program Guidelines
- (b) Mayor Marianne Meed Ward, Chair, Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) to Hon. Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade dated June 19, 2024 re Digital Main Street (DMS) program
- (c) Hon. Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Small Business to Mayor Marianne Meed Ward, Chair, Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) dated June 26, 2024 re Digital Main Street (DMS) program
- (d) Kathleen O'Neill, Director, Environmental Assessment Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) to Mayor Darrin Canniff dated June 28, 2024 re Comprehensive Environmental Assessment required for York1 Environmental Waste Solutions Ltd. proposed project in Dresden.
- (e) Hon. Trevor Jones, Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response dated July 3, 2024 re Engagement on a proposed modernized Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act

- (f) Letter from Elizabeth Roay, Mayor, Town of Whitby to Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada and Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario dated July 8, 2024 re Expansion of HST/GST relief to non-profit affordable ownership housing
- (g) Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Planning Policy Branch dated July 3, 2024 re Recent regulatory changes to the Planning Act and Development Charges Act, 1997

3. Committee and Board Highlights

- (a) Communication from Colin Best, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) dated July 3, 2024 re AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments
- (b) Communication from Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) dated July 9, 2024 re Resolution to recognize the physician shortage

4. Resolution

- (a) Resolution from St. Catherines dated June 27, 2024 re Green Roads Pilot Project
- (b) Resolution from the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan dated June 28, 2024 re Regulations for the Importation and Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries

Date	Item	Requestor
24-Jun-24	Safety Assessment Rushton's Corners - That staff conduct a road safety assessment at the intersection of Ridge Line and Kent Bridge Road and report back to Council with recommendations	Wright
24-Jun-24	Future Wind Turbine Projects - WHEREAS the Independent Electrical System Operator (the IESO) has proposed to move forward with three RFPs where new wind turbine projects can receive a contract from the IESO; and WHEREAS people living near existing wind turbines report considerable impact on their lives due to noise, health and clean water risks, along with other emissions and issues caused from the wind turbines; and WHEREAS there are gaps in the enforcement of key terms of the Renewable Energy Approvals governing existing projects relative to noise standards and resolution of complaints; and WHEREAS Chatham Kent has not received a response from their letter to the Ministry of Health dated May, 2023, regarding the All Hazard Investigation; and WHEREAS municipal approval is required to locate one of these projects in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent; and THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Chatham-Kent Council does not support the establishment of any new wind turbine projects within the municipality; and THAT the IESO be directed to advise potential applicants of this resolution.	Jubenville
24-Jun-24	<p>Downtown Wallaceburg Street Lights - Whereas a healthy and safe community is an area of strategic focus in CK Plan 2035. And whereas planning and advancing downtown renewal projects is included in the term priorities for our current term of Council. And whereas a CCTV project for downtown Wallaceburg was recently approved by Council. And whereas a recent Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, or CPTED, audit completed in downtown Wallaceburg highlighted the need for increased lighting over the sidewalks. And whereas the previously approved street light replacement project for downtown Wallaceburg has experienced delays, due to budget constraints. Therefore, be it resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="391 1150 1214 1234">1. Council direct staff to explore including additional lighting over the downtown Wallaceburg sidewalks as part of the street light replacement project. <li data-bbox="391 1241 1214 1297">2. All details, including estimated cost and timing, be brought back to Council as soon as possible for discussion and voting. 	Hall

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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234-2024-3201

June 24, 2024

Your Worship
Mayor Darrin Canniff
Municipality of Chatham-Kent
darrin.canniff@chatham-kent.ca; ckmayor@chatham-kent.ca

Dear Mayor Canniff,

I am pleased to be writing to you today with important details regarding the Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent's ("Municipality of Chatham-Kent") funding under the 2024 Building Faster Fund (BFF) program year for performance achieved between January 1 and December 31, 2023.

As detailed in my letter of February 14, 2024, our records show that your municipality exceeded the 80% threshold for 2023. I would like to congratulate you on this important achievement towards meeting your 2031 target and our shared housing supply goals.

Given the above, I am pleased to inform you that the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is eligible for \$440,000 in total funding in the 2024 BFF program year based on performance in 2023.

To receive this funding, the municipality must enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) and submit an Investment Plan (IP) for ministry approval. Please find attached the TPA, IP and Program Guidelines that will govern the program. A brief summary is also included below. This letter will serve as the Allocation Notice for the Municipality of Chatham-Kent for the first Program Year under the TPA. Any questions can be directed to Charlene Cressman, Director, Housing Supply Strategy at 416-418-4643 or via email at charlene.cressman@ontario.ca.

Program Overview – Building Faster Fund

Funding from the BFF is intended to support further growth in housing supply, particularly through housing-enabling infrastructure (e.g., site servicing, roads, and public utilities) and other expenses. At the same time, funding is intended to be sufficiently flexible to avoid administrative overhead and other restrictions for municipalities that might undermine the BFF's primary purpose of creating an incentive for municipalities to deliver on their annual housing targets.

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To balance these considerations, eligible categories of expenditures include the following:

- Capital expenditures on housing-enabling core infrastructure and site servicing (e.g., roads, bridges, water and wastewater, including sanitary and stormwater facilities) to accommodate future residential development (e.g., through new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation/repair or expansion of existing infrastructure). Eligible expenditures could also include capital maintenance for the renewal, rehabilitation and replacement of core infrastructure owned by the municipality to preserve existing housing supply, as well as site servicing / preparation expenses to support the direct creation of more housing (e.g., preparing a site for disposition for the purposes of housing development).
- Operating or capital expenditures that support the creation of new affordable housing. Affordable housing will be defined as a unit that meets the definition of an affordable residential unit set out in section 4.1 of the *Development Charges Act, 1997* or is a unit also supported by stacking with funds through a provincial affordable housing program (e.g., Homelessness Prevention Program). Eligible expenses must create a net increase in affordable housing stock.
- Operating or capital expenditures that support the creation of attainable ownership housing, including through modular construction.
 - Attainable housing will be defined as a unit that meets the definition of attainable ownership housing set out by the ministry through an attainable housing program or agreement with MMAH or meets the definition of an attainable residential unit as defined in section 4.1 of the *Development Charges Act, 1997*.
 - Modular is defined as a home that is built using one or more prefabricated components or modules. It is constructed partially or completely off-site in a manufacturing facility then transported to a property and assembled there, like building blocks.
- Capital expenditures for homelessness services centers. This could include capital expenses for shelter space or municipal homelessness service hubs.

Next Steps:

To receive your municipality's 2024 BFF allocation, your municipality is required to submit the signed BFF TPA to confirm your agreement to the terms and conditions of the program. Your municipality is also required to complete and submit the enclosed IP to demonstrate how your funding allocations will be used to achieve the objectives of the program.

As BFF funding must be kept in a separate interest-bearing savings account, a void cheque or official bank letter from the financial institution is required to allow for the flow of funds and must display the following:

- The legal name of the municipality/business.
- The business address.
- The branch number, institution number, and account number.

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The legal name of the municipality must match the legal name as it is registered under the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) business number and the legal name on the void cheque or official bank letter.

A void cheque will only be accepted in the municipality's operating name if it is a registered name under their CRA business number. A bank letter must be on official letterhead and include a bank stamp.

Please return the banking information by **June 28, 2024** and the signed TPA and IP by **July 19, 2024**.

Your municipality may submit your signed TPA, IP and banking documents via e-mail to BuildingFasterFund@ontario.ca. Upon approval, the Ministry will proceed to initiate your first payments. Please let us know if you would like a French version of the Program Guidelines.

I look forward to continuing our work together to ensure that more people can afford a place to call home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Calandra', is written over a large, faint circular watermark or logo.

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs of Housing

Enclosures

c: Michael Duben, Chief Administrative Officer, michael.duben@chatham-kent.ca
Judy Smith, Clerk/Director of Municipal Governance, judys@chatham-kent.ca
Hon. Vijay Thanigasalam, Associate Minister of Housing
Michael Klimuntowski, Chief of Staff, Minister's Office
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister
Sebastian Franks, Assistant Deputy Minister, Market Housing Division

Appendix "B"

Program Guidelines – Building Faster Fund

Please see attached.

Building Faster Fund

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

June 2024

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Introduction

The Building Faster Fund (BFF) is a provincially funded program designed to reward municipalities that build homes based on performance towards provincially assigned housing targets.

These guidelines outline the design of the program for municipalities with housing targets and are effective April 1, 2024. These guidelines may be updated as program implementation progresses.

Ten per cent of the overall funding will be allocated to single and lower tier municipalities that have not been assigned a housing target, including small, rural and northern communities. The design of this component of the BFF will be communicated separately from these program guidelines, which apply only to the administration of funding for municipalities with housing targets.

Context

Announced in August 2023, the BFF¹, is a three-year, \$1.2 billion fund that will provide up to \$400 million per year to municipalities that have committed in writing to achieve their overall 2031 housing target and met all other program eligibility criteria (described below).

Municipalities that have met program eligibility criteria identified below and achieve at least 80 per cent of their provincially assigned housing target will be able to receive funding, with bonus funding to municipalities that exceed 100 per cent up to a maximum of 125 per cent of their assigned target. BFF funding will be disbursed beginning in 2024 to reward performance against targets for three calendar years: 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Municipalities that have not been assigned a housing target, including small, rural and northern communities will be allocated ten per cent of the overall funding to address their unique needs. More details about the design of this stream of the BFF program will be communicated separately.

Funding is intended to balance flexibility with financial accountability, ensuring that recipient municipalities are able to invest in local priorities that support further growth in housing supply, particularly housing-enabling infrastructure and other expenditures that support community growth.

Recipient municipalities are required to enter into a Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA)

¹ <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1003397/to-build-more-homes-ontario-launching-building-faster-fund-and-expanding-strong-mayor-powers>

with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH or the ministry) in order to receive allocated funding (i.e., condition of payment). The TPA will outline the roles and responsibilities of both parties as required by the province's Transfer Payment Accountability Directive. The TPA will also include planning and reporting requirements aligned with these program guidelines.

Program Eligibility

Eligibility for funding under the BFF will be limited to municipalities that have:

- A provincially assigned housing target (number of units to be achieved by 2031);
- Committed to achieve the housing target through a council-approved pledge or a written head of council commitment submitted to MMAH; and,
- Provided feedback to MMAH prioritizing the recommendations contained in the February 2022 report of the Housing Affordability Task Force.

Municipalities must meet all program eligibility criteria to become eligible for funds. A municipality that does not meet all eligibility criteria for a particular program year may become eligible under the BFF program to receive funds in a subsequent program year if the municipality meets all program eligibility requirements for the subsequent program year. However, the municipality is not entitled to retroactively receive a funding allocation under the BFF if allocations for a particular year have already been announced by MMAH.

For example, if a municipality was ineligible for the BFF for the 2023 performance year because it did not commit to a provincially assigned housing target, and subsequently makes a commitment in summer 2024 to achieve its overall housing target by 2031, it would not be entitled to funds for the 2023 performance year as those allocations have already been announced by the ministry. It would, however, be eligible for funding for performance in 2024 and 2025.

In addition, to be eligible to receive funding under BFF, the municipality must have a TPA in place and an Investment Plan for the program year approved by the ministry.

Allocation Methodology

The three-year, \$1.2 billion fund will provide up to \$400 million per year to municipalities that have committed in writing to achieve their overall 2031 housing target and met all other program eligibility criteria. Ten per cent of the overall funding will be reserved for small, rural and northern communities that have not been assigned a housing target by the province to support their unique needs and circumstances.

For municipalities with targets, each municipality's portion of the \$400 million annually will be determined based on its share of the greater provincial housing supply goal, as well as its performance compared to their annual assigned targets. For example, if a

municipality's target represents 10 per cent of the province-wide target, that municipality will be eligible for up to 10 per cent of funding through the BFF.

Performance will be evaluated by comparing the municipality's progress against its annual target. Municipalities that achieve 80 per cent or more of their annual target will be able to access a portion of the total BFF funding. Those that exceed their target will be eligible to receive additional funding. Municipalities that do not achieve at least 80 per cent of their annual target will receive no funding.

For example, if a municipality has a total housing target of 150,000 homes by 2031, this represents 10 per cent of Ontario's target of 1.5 million homes and makes them eligible for up to \$40 million in annual funding if they meet 100% of their annual target, plus any potential bonus. The BFF provides double the funding for every one per cent above 100 per cent of a municipality's target up to 125 per cent.

For the 2024 BFF program year, a municipality's allocation will be based on their performance in 2023 (January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023). Similarly, for the 2025 BFF program year, allocation will be based on performance in the 2024 calendar year, and for the 2026 BFF program year, allocation will be based on performance in the 2025 calendar year.

Data for Performance Assessment

For the 2024 BFF program year, performance against assigned housing targets is measured through a combination of:

- Housing starts – defined as the number of new units that started construction during the performance year, as reported by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).
- Conversions – defined as renovations or additions to an existing structure that creates additional units as reported by the CMHC (e.g., basement suite, laneway apartment, office space to residential housing, single dwelling to a fourplex).
- Long-term care beds- defined as new and redeveloped beds that start construction, as reported by the Ministry of Long-Term Care.

MMAH is also working with partners across government to identify data sources for student housing and congregate retirement home settings that may be calculated in performance towards housing targets for the 2024 and/or 2025 performance years. These guidelines will be revised as more information becomes available.

Allocation Letters

For each of the three BFF program years, the ministry will provide each municipality with a letter outlining performance against assigned housing targets for the calendar year prior as well as funding allocations under the BFF for the relevant year of performance. This letter will be used to inform the development of investment plans.

Funding allocations for each eligible municipality will be determined according to the following formula:

Performance	Status	Funding
Less than 80% of target	Not on track	<p>\$0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E.g., if Municipality ABC achieves 55% of its target in 2023, it would receive \$0. ○ E.g., if Municipality ABC achieves 70% of its target in 2023, it would receive \$0.
Between 80% - 100% of target	On track	<p>80-100% of share of BFF funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E.g., if Municipality ABC achieves 85% of its target in 2023, it would receive 85% of its share (\$100 million * 85% = \$85 million allocation) ○ E.g., if Municipality ABC achieves 90% of its target in 2023, it would receive 90% of its share (\$100 million * 90% = \$90 million allocation).
Over 100% of target	Exceeds	<p>Over 100% of share of BFF funding (with a cap at 125%). Receive double payout for every 1% over target, total units that count would be capped at 125% of the target.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E.g., if Municipality ABC achieves 105% of its target in 2023, it would receive 100% of its share plus a bonus 5% paid at double the rate. (\$100 million * 5% * 2 = \$10 million bonus. \$100 million + \$10 million bonus = \$110 million allocation). ○ E.g., if Municipality ABC achieves 130% of its target in 2023, it would receive 100% of its share plus a bonus 25% (cap) paid at double the rate. (\$100 million * 25% * 2 = \$50 million bonus. \$100 million + \$50 million bonus = \$150 million allocation).

The ministry may, at its discretion, retroactively revise performance data and BFF allocations for recipients in the event new information becomes available to the ministry and is validated by the ministry as it relates to the performance data.

Investment Plans and Reporting

Recipient municipalities are required to submit a BFF Investment Plan for each of the three program years through the Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON) system for MMAH

approval. Investment Plans are required to identify each activity/initiative to be undertaken with BFF funding, as well as associated expenditures planned for the program year. Proposed activities/initiatives and associated expenditures are required to align with eligible expenditure categories* (see Eligible Expenditures on page 10).

Investment Plans are to be approved/authorized by municipal council or a delegated authority prior to submission.

For 2024 BFF program year, Investment Plans will be due to MMAH no later than July 19th, 2024. Dates and timelines for subsequent program years are included in the table below. It should be noted that only municipalities that have qualified to receive funding for a given program year will be required to complete the Investment Plan and year end reporting. Reports will also be required if a municipality has saved/banked funds from the previous program year, regardless of whether they have qualified for BFF funding in subsequent program year.

MMAH will review Investment Plans for alignment with eligible expenditures and to verify compliance with the BFF Transfer Payment Agreement, BFF Program Guidelines and any other applicable government directives or legislation. Municipalities will only receive funding for a particular program year after the municipality is notified that its Investment Plan has been approved by MMAH.

Both a signed Transfer Payment Agreement and a ministry approved Investment Plan for the program year are required for funding to flow to a recipient municipality.

At the end of each program year, recipient municipalities will be required to submit year end reports on total funds spent, (e.g., invoiced), total funds committed but not spent (e.g., purchase orders), funds carried over to subsequent year (i.e., saved/banked), as well as interest earned on saved/banked funds.

MMAH will review year end reports for alignment with municipal Investment Plans, including eligible expenditures and to verify compliance with the BFF Transfer Payment Agreement, BFF Program Guidelines and any other applicable government directives or legislation. Municipalities will only receive the final disbursement of funding for a particular program year after the municipality is notified that its year-end report has been approved by MMAH.

For the 2024 BFF program year, year-end reports will be due by February 4th, 2025.

Key Dates and Timelines

2024 BFF Program Year (April 01, 2024 – December 31, 2024)		
Report	Due Date	Details
Investment Plan	July 19, 2024	The Investment Plan must identify proposed use of funds by activity, in alignment with eligible expenditures, for the 2024 Program Year up to December 31, 2024. The Investment Plan must be approved by MMAH in order for funding to be disbursed to recipients in accordance with the payment process set out below.
Year End Report	February 4, 2025	Year End Report on spending by activity and description of alignment with eligible expenditures noted in Investment Plan, including any funding amounts carried over (saved/banked) as well as interest earned on saved/banked funds up to December 31, 2024.
2025 BFF Program Year (January 01, 2025 – December 31, 2025)		
Report	Due Date	Details
Investment Plan	February 14, 2025	The Investment Plan must identify proposed use of funds by activity, in alignment with eligible expenditures, for the 2025 Program Year up to December 31, 2025. The Investment Plan must be approved by MMAH in order for funding to be disbursed to recipients in accordance with the payment process set out below.
Year End Report	February 4, 2026	Year End Report on spending by activity and description of alignment with eligible expenditures noted in Investment Plan, including any funding amounts carried over (saved/banked) as well as interest earned on saved/banked funds up to December 31, 2025.
2026 BFF Program Year		
Report	Due Date	Details
Investment Plan	TBD	The Investment Plan must identify proposed use of funds by activity in alignment with eligible expenditures, for the 2026 Program Year. The Investment Plan must be approved by MMAH in order for funding to be disbursed to recipients in accordance with the payment process set out below.
Year End Report	TBD	Year End Report on spending by activity and description of alignment with eligible expenditures noted in Investment Plan, including any funding amounts carried over

		(saved/banked) as well as interest earned on saved/banked funds.
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Transfer Payment Agreements

Municipalities are required to enter into a TPA with MMAH in order to participate in the BFF program and to receive the funding allocated to them. The TPA outlines the roles and responsibilities of both parties as required by the province's Transfer Payment Accountability Directive. The TPA will also cover planning and reporting requirements.

Recipient municipalities will be required to enter into a TPA to receive funding under the BFF program. Any funding received by that municipality will be subject to the terms of the signed TPA. As the program implementation progresses, TPAs may need to be amended including, but not limited to, changes to the terms and conditions, updates to the program guidelines and requirements for program reporting and/or communications.

Payment Process and Financial Matters

Subject to the TPA, funding for each program year will be provided in two disbursements as follows:

- 70 per cent of funding disbursed to recipient municipalities within 30 business days after approval by MMAH of the annual Investment Plan.
- 30 per cent of funding to be disbursed to recipient municipalities within 30 business days of approval by MMAH of the year-end report.

Categories of Eligible Expenditures

Funding from the BFF is intended to support further growth in housing supply, particularly through housing-enabling infrastructure (e.g., site servicing, roads, and public utilities) and other expenses that support community growth. At the same time, funding is intended to be sufficiently flexible to avoid creating significant additional administrative overhead and other restrictions for municipalities that might undermine the BFF's primary purpose of creating an incentive for municipalities to deliver on their annual targets.

To balance these considerations, eligible categories of expenditures include the following:

- **Capital expenditures on housing-enabling core infrastructure and site servicing** (e.g., roads, bridges, water and wastewater, including sanitary and stormwater facilities) to accommodate future residential development (e.g., through new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation/repair or expansion of existing infrastructure). Eligible expenditures could also include capital maintenance for the

renewal, rehabilitation and replacement of core infrastructure owned by the municipality to preserve existing housing supply, as well as site servicing / preparation expenses to support the direct creation of more housing (e.g., preparing a site for disposition for the purposes of housing development).

- **Operating or capital expenditures that support the creation of net new affordable housing.** Affordable housing will be defined as a unit that meets the definition of an affordable residential unit set out in section 4.1 of the *Development Charges Act, 1997* or is a unit also supported by stacking with funds through a provincial affordable housing program (e.g., Homelessness Prevention Program). Eligible expenses must create a net increase in affordable housing stock.
- **Operating or capital expenditures that support the creation of net new attainable ownership housing, including through modular construction.**
 - Attainable housing will be defined as a unit that meets the definition of attainable ownership housing set out by the ministry through an attainable housing program or agreement with MMAH or meets the definition of an attainable residential unit as defined in section 4.1 of the *Development Charges Act, 1997*.
 - Modular is defined as a home that is built using one or more prefabricated components or modules. It is constructed partially or completely off-site in a manufacturing facility then transported to a property and assembled there, like building blocks.
- **Capital expenditures for homelessness services centers.** This could include capital expenses for net new shelter space or municipal homelessness service hubs.

Eligible Expenditures

BFF recipients may use funds towards any of the categories outlined above. Eligible expenditures can only include all direct, incremental and verifiable costs that are attributable to the development and implementation of the program.

Eligible capital expenditures could include soft costs (including planning, studies and permits), land costs, and hard costs (including costs of construction, labour and materials).

Operating expenditures must be time-limited and cannot create operating funding obligations beyond the end of the BFF program (e.g., the creation of new staff positions).

BFF recipients may transfer BFF funds to third parties, including another municipality/upper tier municipality, municipal services corporation, housing service manager or non-profit housing provider, or another entity that has been approved by the province in writing to receive transferred funds to support any of the categories of

eligible expenditures outlined above. The recipient must enter into an agreement with any third parties that receive transferred funds and must ensure that those third parties only expend transferred funds on eligible expenditures under the BFF.

Ineligible Expenditures

The following types of expenditures are examples of costs that will **not** be considered eligible:

- Municipal staffing and administration costs
- Legal fees
- Rolling stock (e.g., trucks, graders, etc.)
- Movable/transitory assets (e.g., portable generators, etc.)
- Office and IT equipment and supplies (e.g., computers, servers, furniture etc.)
- Costs of completing any application or reporting for a provincial funding program
- All taxes, penalties, and duties
- Financing and/or borrowing costs
- Insurance costs
- Non-cash items such as depreciation/amortization expenses for tangible capital and intangible assets, provisions for bad/ doubtful accounts etc.

Saving/Banking Provisions

Recipient municipalities may save/bank BFF funding and retain accumulated interest for use towards activities/initiatives as detailed in the BFF Investment Plan. The saved/banked BFF funds could include funds not spent, funds committed but not spent, and any interest accruing on idle BFF funds.

BFF funds must be kept in a separate interest-bearing savings account, and the recipients must report the interest earned on idle BFF funds during the program year through the year-end report. Recipients should also report on whether the saved/banked funds will be used for operating or capital expenditure. If this information is not noted, it will be assumed that the saved/banked funds will be used for capital expenditures. Failure to use saved/banked funds by March 31, 2026, will result in the funds having to be repaid to the province, including accrued interest.

Stacking

Municipalities may stack BFF funds with other sources of provincial and federal community housing and infrastructure capital funding (as long as those funding programs also allow stacking), such as the Ministry of Infrastructure's Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund or funding through the federal Housing Accelerator Fund. There is no maximum provincial contribution under the BFF, however please note that maximum provincial contributions may apply under other programs such as the Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund towards which BFF funds would be counted.

Other Program Requirements

Reallocation

Reallocation includes changes to originally approved Investment Plans, such as reallocating funds to a project not included in the Investment Plan, as long as they are within the same expenditure category (i.e., reallocating operating expenditure to another operating expenditure and capital expenditure to another capital expenditure).

Municipalities must make best efforts to ensure that planned expenditures are accurate. If changes in expenditure allocations are required, municipalities may reallocate funds, but must seek approval from the ministry by December 31 of the relevant program year. (E.g., for 2024 BFF program year funds, the municipality must seek ministry approval of reallocations by December 31, 2024.) Requests must be made to BuildingFasterFund@ontario.ca in the form of a revised BFF Investment Plan with the change(s) clearly marked. The ministry reserves the right to withhold or adjust further disbursements of funds if the reallocated expenses are determined to be ineligible under the BFF.

Reallocation requests should receive municipal council or delegated authority approval as appropriate.

Return of Funding

If funds are not fully spent by municipalities or are not used for an eligible expenditure under these Program Guidelines by March 31, 2026, funds, including any accrued interest, shall be returned to MMAH.

Communications and Signage Requirements

Consistent with Ontario Builds signage requirements, municipalities are expected to acknowledge support of the province, including with signage for any infrastructure projects that exceed \$250,000 or has a project construction period of 90 days or longer. Ontario Builds signs are required for all infrastructure projects, including constructing, modernizing, expanding, renovating, replacing, and rehabilitating infrastructure. For more information on Ontario Builds signage template and design guidelines, please visit [Ontario Builds templates | ontario.ca](https://ontario.ca/ontario-builds-templates)

Audit Requirements and Reviews

Municipalities shall support the ministry in exercising its rights under the BFF Transfer Payment Agreement to audit and inspect municipalities to ensure program funding is used in compliance with these Program Guidelines.

Risk Assessment

The ministry is committed to ensuring risk management planning is incorporated into policies, operations and program delivery. Municipalities are encouraged to assess their

risk and capacity to deliver the BFF on an annual basis.

Indemnification and Repayment

There are obligations for all BFF recipients with regard to the indemnification and repayment of government funding. Specific obligations and provisions are included in the Transfer Payment Agreement.

Compliance with Statutes: Attestation and Tax Compliance Verification

Municipalities are required to be in good standing with tax laws and attest to being in good standing with labour and environment laws. Valid compliance information is required to be submitted within the organization's profile in TPON including:

- Compliance with tax laws – tax compliance verification completed on the [Tax Compliance Verification Portal](#).
- Compliance with labour and environment laws – an attestation. An attestation form is available to be completed within the organization's profile in TPON.

Appendix: Municipal Housing Targets (2023-2025)

Municipality	2023 target	2024 target	2025 target	10-year housing target
Ajax	1,247	1,417	1,700	17,000
Aurora	587	667	800	8,000
Barrie	1,687	1,917	2,300	23,000
Belleville	227	258	310	3,100
Bradford West Gwillimbury	477	542	650	6,500
Brampton	8,287	9,417	11,300	113,000
Brantford	733	833	1,000	10,000
Burlington	2,127	2,417	2,900	29,000
Caledon	953	1,083	1,300	13,000
Cambridge	1,393	1,583	1,900	19,000
Chatham-Kent	81	92	110	1,100
Clarington	953	1,083	1,300	13,000
East Gwillimbury	315	358	430	4,300
Georgina	455	517	620	6,200
Greater Sudbury	279	317	380	3,800
Guelph	1,320	1,500	1,800	18,000
Haldimand County	308	350	420	4,200
Halton Hills	697	792	950	9,500
Hamilton	3,447	3,917	4,700	47,000
Innisfil	462	525	630	6,300
Kawartha Lakes	477	542	650	6,500
Kingston	587	667	800	8,000
Kitchener	2,567	2,917	3,500	35,000
London	3,447	3,917	4,700	47,000
Markham	3,227	3,667	4,400	44,000
Milton	1,540	1,750	2,100	21,000
Mississauga	8,800	10,000	12,000	120,000
New Tecumseth	469	533	640	6,400
Newmarket	880	1,000	1,200	12,000
Niagara Falls	587	667	800	8,000
Norfolk County	418	475	570	5,700
North Bay	73	83	100	1,000
Oakville	2,420	2,750	3,300	33,000
Oshawa	1,687	1,917	2,300	23,000
Ottawa	11,073	12,583	15,100	151,000
Peterborough City	345	392	470	4,700
Pickering	953	1,083	1,300	13,000
Richmond Hill	1,980	2,250	2,700	27,000

Municipality	2023 target	2024 target	2025 target	10-year housing target
Sarnia	73	83	100	1,000
Sault Ste. Marie	110	125	150	1,500
St. Catharines	807	917	1,100	11,000
Thunder Bay	161	183	220	2,200
Toronto	20,900	23,750	28,500	285,000
Vaughan	3,080	3,500	4,200	42,000
Waterloo	1,173	1,333	1,600	16,000
Welland	315	358	430	4,300
Whitby	1,320	1,500	1,800	18,000
Whitchurch-Stouffville	477	542	650	6,500
Windsor	953	1,083	1,300	13,000
Woodstock	403	458	550	5,500

2024 BFF Investment Plan Instructions

Section A: Contact Information

Please provide the contact information of a representative from your municipality that can answer follow-up questions from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding any of the information provided in the template below.

Section B: Proposed BFF Activities

This section provides an opportunity to describe your municipality's focus, actions and plans for use of BFF funding, including intended outcomes such as how the funding will contribute to increasing housing supply, housing development and/or address issues of housing affordability. Information on progress to date and future plans is welcome, but focus should be on activities planned for the coming year/immediate funding cycle.

Section C: Proposed Building Faster Fund (BFF) Expenditures

Please itemize how BFF funds will be used by activity/initiative as related to the eligible expenditures section.

Section D: Attestation

Attest that the information provided on Housing Plans and progress (Section B) and Proposed Expenditures for BFF funding (Section C) are true and correct, with approvals by municipal Council/ or their delegated authority.

Section A – Municipality Contact Information

Name (First & Last)	
Title	
E-mail	
Phone	

Section B – Proposed BFF Activities

Please describe the actions that will be supported with BFF funding, including how these actions support increasing housing supply, housing development, including issues of housing affordability and any identified risks to achieve housing targets.

Section C – Proposed BFF Expenditures

Please enter detailed information in the table below on the planned expenditures for your allocated BFF funding this year. Auditable detail will be requested for BFF expenditures at the end of each year which should directly connect to the activities/expenditures outlined in this section.

Proposed Activity	Eligible Expenditure Category	Funding Type (Capital/ Operating)	Description (including anticipated outcomes)	Amount to be Committed/ Spent	Other Sources of Funding (please specify amounts and sources)

Total Funds to be Saved/Banked this Program Year	
--	--

Section D – Attestation

- I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information provided in this report is true and correct, with authorization/approval by local Council/Board or their delegated authority.

Prepared by (Name and Title):

Date:

Approved by (Name and Title):

Date:

Questions on the Building Faster Fund and Building Faster Fund implementation can be directed to: **BuildingFasterFund@ontario.ca**



2024 BFF Year End Reporting Instructions

Section A: Contact Information

Please provide the contact information of a representative from the municipality that can answer follow-up questions from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding any of the information provided in the template below.

Section B: Results Achieved

This section provides an opportunity to describe at a high-level the results achieved by the municipality using BFF funding, including outcomes such as how the funding contributed to increasing housing supply, housing development and/or issues of housing affordability. Information on progress to date and future plans is welcome.

Section C: Building Faster Fund (BFF) Expenditures

Please itemize total funds spent, (e.g., invoiced) by activity and description of alignment with eligible expenditures, total funds committed but not spent (e.g., purchase orders), funds committed, funds carried over to subsequent year (i.e., saved/banked) as well as interest earned on funds.

Section D: Attestation

Attest that the information provided on Results Achieved (Section B) and Expenditures for BFF funding (Section C) are true and correct, with approvals by local Council/Board or their delegated authority.

Section A – Municipality Contact Information

Name (First & Last)	
Title	
E-mail	
Phone	

Section B – Results Achieved

Please describe the results achieved with BFF funding, including how these actions contributed to increasing housing supply, housing development, including issues of housing affordability.

Section C – BFF Expenditures

Please enter detailed information in the table below on the expenditures for allocated BFF funding this year. Auditable detail will be requested for BFF expenditures at the end of each year which should directly connect to the activities/expenditures outlined in this section.

Activity Supported	Alignment with Expenditure Noted in Investment Plan	Funding Type (Capital/ Operating)	Total Fund Spent	Total Funds Committed

Total Funds Carried Over (Saved/ Banked)	
Interest Earned on Saved/Baked Amount	

Section D – Attestation

- I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information provided in this report is true and correct, with approvals by local Council/Board or their delegated authority.

Prepared by (Name and Title):

Date:

Approved by (Name and Title):

Date:

Questions on the Building Faster Fund and Building Faster Fund implementation can be directed to: **BuildingFasterFund@ontario.ca**



June 19, 2024

Honourable Vic Fedeli
Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade

MEDJCT.Minister@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Fedeli,

On Friday June 14th the Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) Caucus met to discuss our priorities, hear from our partner municipal organizations and passed several motions brought forward by our member Mayors.

One of these motions was moved by Mayor Mat Siscoe of St. Catharines and Mayor Darrin Canniff of Chatham-Kent regarding support for Continuation of Digital Main Street Funding and was unanimously approved by the OBCM caucus. (motion attached below)

Since 2016, the Digital Main Street program across Ontario has supported more than 87,000 entrepreneurs and small businesses by providing no cost support that includes tailored digital strategies, tools, consultations, online education, and training events. This program has supported the creation of more than 3,000 jobs for youth and young adults across Ontario including supporting businesses and offering services in all OBCM member municipalities. The Digital Main Street program has become a synchronous natural extension of the work our local municipalities and Small Business Enterprise Centers (SBECs) do to support small business, and acts harmoniously to provide support in another key area for businesses.

Operating funding for this program has been discontinued, impacting the ability to maintain services businesses rely on, eliminating the time spent with business owners on this critical support - time spent in the community working with business owners directly, and the uncertainty of continued funding makes budgeting and long-term planning very difficult in a time where municipalities have increased costs with a number of provincial priorities we are responsible for delivering. With the Digital Main Streets Transfer Payment Agreements with the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade having expired on March 31, 2024, Ontario's Big City Mayors request that the Province continue to support the growth of small business in our cities by continuing to fund the Digital Main Street program in line with the needs of entrepreneurs and small businesses in communities across Ontario. We want to work with you to keep Ontario open for business.

We look forward to hearing from you on this important matter and to continuing to work with you and your government to come up with solutions to support small businesses in Ontario.



— **OBCM** —
Ontario's Big City Mayors

Sincerely,

Marianne Meed Ward, Mayor of Burlington
Chair, Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM)

cc.

MPP Effie J. Triantafilopoulos, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

MPP Andrew Dowie, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

MPP Nina Tangri, Associate Minister of Small Business

Stephen Rhodes, Deputy Minister for Economic Development, Job Creation & Trade

Anne Bermonte, Assistant Deputy Minister, Innovation and Economic Partnerships Division, Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade

Mat Siscoe, Mayor of St. Catharines

Darrin Canniff, Mayor of Chatham-Kent



Motion in Support of Continuation of Digital Main Street Funding
Mayor Mat Siscoe – St. Catharines and Mayor Darrin Canniff -Chatham-Kent

Whereas since 2016, the Digital Main Street program across Ontario has supported more than 87,000 entrepreneurs and small businesses by providing no cost support that includes tailored digital strategies, tools, consultations, online education, and training events; and

Whereas since 2016, the Digital Main Street program across Ontario has supported the creation of more than 3,000 jobs for youth and young adults; and

Whereas Digital Main Street supports businesses and offers services in all OBCM member municipalities; and

Whereas the Digital Main Street program has become a synchronous natural extension of the work our local municipalities and Small Business Enterprise Centers (SBECs) do to support small business, and acts harmoniously to provide support in another key area for businesses; and

Whereas In addition to working with businesses that are just at the start of their digital transformation, the Digital Main Street program offers support to businesses at any stage and within any industry; and

Whereas this support comes in the form of supporting them with digital transformation, new sales/revenue channels, and leveraging digital tools/technologies at every step of their journey to help their business, as well as ensure they and their clients remain secure and protected in light of the increase in cyber attacks; and

Whereas, operating funding has been discontinued, impacting the ability to maintain services, eliminating the time spent with business owners on this critical support, time spent in the community working with business owners directly; and

Whereas the uncertainty of continued funding, makes budgeting and long-term planning difficult; and

Whereas Digital Main Streets Transfer Payment Agreements with the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, expired on March 31, 2024

Therefore be it resolved that Ontario Big City Mayors request that the Province continue to fund Digital Main Street in line with the needs of our small businesses across Ontario.

Associate Minister of Small Business

**Ministry of Economic Development,
Job Creation and Trade**

19th Floor
56 Wellesley Street West
Toronto ON M5S 2S3
Email: smallbusiness.minister@ontario.ca

Ministre associée déléguée aux Petites Entreprises

**Ministère du Développement économique,
de la Création d'emplois et du Commerce**

19^e étage
56, rue Wellesley Ouest
Toronto ON M52 2S3
Courriel: smallbusiness.minister@ontario.ca



June 26, 2024

Her Worship Marianne Meed Ward
Mayor of Burlington
Chair, Ontario's Big City Mayors
chair@obcm.ca

Dear Mayor Ward:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Digital Main Street (DMS) program.

The DMS program was launched out of an urgent need to support small businesses that had to close physical locations during the pandemic. DMS provided crucial, time-limited funding to small businesses to create their online stores and helped them quickly access new markets by shifting sales or services online. This program successfully achieved its goal, and as planned, it ended on March 31, 2024.

The government continues to prioritize the needs of all small businesses. Ontario offers a range of province-wide programs to support entrepreneurs, including a network of 47 Small Business Enterprise Centres (SBECs) that provide information, programming, advice, resources and tools to help them launch and grow their small businesses.

SBECs also deliver Starter Company Plus, a non-entitlement, competitive program that provides training, mentorship and up to \$5,000 in grant funding to help entrepreneurs start, expand or purchase a business. Please see ontario.ca/business for additional available resources.

As announced in the 2024 Budget, Ontario is investing an additional \$6.8 million in funding to support programs offered through the SBEC network including:

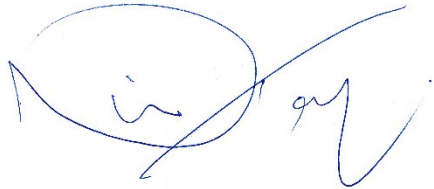
- \$4.8 million over two years to allow 500 more entrepreneurs to receive a grant of up to \$5,000 and participate in the training and mentorship program across Ontario through the Starter Company Plus program;
- \$1.5 million over two years for the Summer Company program to provide 250 additional students between the ages of 15-29 years old with training, mentorship, and grant funding to run their own summer business.

As part of the \$6.8 million, the ministry is also investing \$500,000 in the Fédération des gens d'affaires francophones de l'Ontario (FGA) to help Ontario's Francophone entrepreneurs start and grow their businesses. The two-year project will provide free French language business advisory services to francophone businesses, including consultations, workshops, networking events and outreach for Ontario's Francophone business communities.

Small businesses may also access the [Grow Your Business Online Grant](#), which is offered by the Government of Canada to help business owners with the costs related to adopting digital technologies.

Thank you once again for writing and sharing your support.

Sincerely,



Nina Tangri
Associate Minister of Small Business

- c: The Honourable Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
- Effie J. Triantafilopoulos, Parliamentary Assistant
- JP Cadeau, Deputy Minister
- Clara Chan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Small Business and Program Delivery Division
- Mat Siscoe, Mayor, St. Catharines
- Darrin Canniff, Mayor, Chatham-Kent

Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks

Ministère de l'Environnement, de la
Protection de la nature et des Parcs



Environmental Assessment
Branch

Direction des évaluations
environnementales

7th Floor
135 St. Clair Avenue W
Toronto ON M4V 1P5
Tel.: 416 314-8001
Fax.: 416 314-8452

7ème étage
135, avenue St. Clair Ouest
Toronto ON M4V 1P5
Tél. : 416 314-8001
Télééc. : 416 314-8452

357-2024-1120

June 28, 2024

His Worship Darrin Canniff
Mayor
Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Email: CKmayor@chatham-kent.ca

Dear Mayor Canniff:

I am writing to you regarding York1 Environmental Waste Solutions Ltd.'s (proponent) proposed project to resume landfill operations and expand on-site waste handling, processing and transfer operations at the site, formerly known as the Dresden Tile Yard, in the former Township of Camden, within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

We heard concerns from the public about this proposed project, and we recognize the potential impact that a project of this size could have on local residents and the surrounding environment.

Please be advised that, in response to these concerns, the Lieutenant Governor in Council has made Ontario Regulation 284/24, designating the proposed project as a Part II.3 project under the *Environmental Assessment Act* (Act) and making it subject to comprehensive environmental assessment requirements. A copy of the regulation can be accessed at:

- <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r24284>

The proponent is now required to complete a comprehensive environmental assessment process for the proposed project before it can be implemented.

The comprehensive environmental assessment process is the highest level of environmental assessment in Ontario. It requires the assessment of potential environmental impacts and public consultation, and the project cannot be implemented unless the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks makes a decision, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, to give approval under the Act to proceed with the project.

...2

His Worship Darrin Canniff
Page 2.

Additional information is available on:

- The Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO number 019-8417):
<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-8417>

If you have any questions or comments about this decision, please contact the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Environmental Assessment Branch at DresdenLandfill@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Kathleen O'Neill

Kathleen O'Neill
Director
Environmental Assessment Branch

c: Ryan Jacques, Director of Planning Services, Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Treasury Board Secretariat

Office of the Associate Minister of
Emergency Preparedness and
Response

Whitney Block, Room 4320
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto ON M7A 1W3

Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor

Bureau du ministre associé de la
Protection civile et de l'Intervention
en cas d'urgence

Édifice Whitney, bureau 4320
99, rue Wellesley Ouest
Toronto ON M7A 1W3



July 3, 2024

Dear Emergency Management Partners:

As the Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, it is my great honour and duty to ensure that Ontario is as strong and resilient as possible. That is why I am pleased to announce that we are engaging partners, stakeholders and members of the public on opportunities to modernize the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* so that we remain safe, practiced, and prepared for any emergency.

Our government continues to work with partners to strengthen emergency management in communities across Ontario through targeted investments in preparedness, enhanced capabilities, and expanded training to ensure that partners across the province have what they need to prepare for, and respond to, emergencies such as floods, wildland fires and cyber attacks. To build on this progress as highlighted in the 2023 annual report for the Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan, we are engaging on opportunities for a modernized legislative framework to ensure that communities have the tools they need to be ready and prepared in Ontario.

Building on feedback from partners and stakeholders, best practices, and lessons learned from past emergencies, Ontario is engaging on **five areas of focus** as a first step of a phased approach to inform opportunities for a proposed modernized legislative framework:

1. The scope of an emergency and emergency management;
2. One window approach to provincial emergency management coordination;
3. Enhancing coordination between government, broader public sector, and external partners;
4. Improving the consistency, quality and inclusivity of emergency management programs;
5. Reflecting how Ontario works with First Nations in emergency management.

To support engagement, a discussion guide has been posted to [Ontario's Regulatory Registry](#) and the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#), which includes further details and questions for partners, stakeholders and members of the public. This discussion guide will be open for feedback until August 26, 2024. Emergency Management Ontario is also holding focused

engagements with partners and stakeholders to seek further feedback and build upon what we have heard.

Engagement on a proposed modernized *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* will help build on our progress through the Provincial Emergency Management Strategy and Action Plan and take the next step in continuing to build a stronger and more resilient province, with the necessary tools in place for effective emergency preparedness and response.

Thank you for your valued partnership and I look forward to continuing to work together to move emergency management forward.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

The Honourable Trevor Jones
Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response
Treasury Board Secretariat

c: The Honourable Caroline Mulroney
President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Francophone Affairs

Bernie Derible, Deputy Minister and Commissioner of Emergency Management
Treasury Board Secretariat



Elizabeth Roy
Mayor
T 905.430.4300 x2203
mayor@whitby.ca



July 8, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Via email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Via email: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Dear Prime Minister and Premier of Ontario,

Public concern regarding housing unaffordability has never been greater. The Town of Whitby acknowledges that all levels of government are now actively putting measures in place to make housing more affordable and equitable for all. Whitby fully supports the 2023 decision by the federal and provincial government to exempt all forms of purpose-built rental (whether affordable or market) from HST/ GST. While we support the decision to exempt rental units from HST/GST, we were dismayed to learn that affordable homeownership homes delivered by our partners, specifically Habitat for Humanity, continue to be subject to HST/ GST.

The Town of Whitby recently made a decision at Council to donate \$5 million in land (two parcels) to Habitat for Humanity GTA that will unlock the benefits of homeownership for approximately 40 working families here in Whitby. It is distressing for our Council to realize that approximately \$3.3 million of Habitat GTA's project costs are attributable to HST, going directly to the province and federal government. Surely this is a counterproductive use of taxpayer dollars and runs in opposition to our shared goal of supporting non-profits in delivering more below market housing.

In the GTA, HST/GST is adding an average of \$80,000 per home to the price that Habitat for Humanity incurs to deliver desperately needed new affordable ownership homes. We understand from Habitat for Humanity GTA that for every 5 homes they deliver, they could potentially provide 1 more if they were not burdened with the additional expense of HST/ GST. Exempting, deferring, or rebating HST/ GST on non-profit affordable ownership homes like those built and delivered by Habitat for Humanity would represent a loss of only 0.1% to 0.5% of total revenues from HST/ GST on new homes.

The economic value of HST/ GST relief could be retained as part of the second mortgage in non-profit affordable homeownership programs, thus avoiding any financial windfall at time of sale for homeowners. Moreover, this form of relief could be provided as a deferral, rather than a straight exemption, with the requirement that it be paid back if and when an affordable ownership unit is sold to the market.



Elizabeth Roy
Mayor
T 905.430.4300 x2203
mayor@whitby.ca



[The Blueprint for More and Better Housing report released in March 2024 by the Task Force for Housing and Climate](#), recommended that the federal and provincial governments should provide a “full HST/ GST exemption for charitable non-profit (housing) organizations”.
We agree and we urge your governments to move quickly to expand the HST/ GST relief now in place for purpose-built rental to also include non-profit affordable ownership housing.

If any additional information or further confirmation of our support is required, please feel free to contact me at mayor@whitby.ca.

Yours Sincerely,

Elizabeth Roy
Mayor

Town of Whitby
Office of the Mayor
575 Rossland Road East
Whitby, ON L1N 2M8
whitby.ca

CC: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Finance - chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca
The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing - sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca
MP Ryan Turnbull - Ryan.Turnbull@parl.gc.ca
The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance - Peter.Bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org
The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Housing - Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org
The Honourable Vijay Thanigasalam, Associate Minister of Housing -
Vijay.Thanigasalam@pc.ola.org
MPP Lorne Coe, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
Matthew Gaskell, CAO, Town of Whitby – gaskellm@whitby.ca
OBCM Mayors

Ministry of
Municipal Affairs and Housing

Planning Policy Branch
777 Bay Street, 13th Floor
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tel. 416-585-6014

Ministère des
Affaires municipales et du Logement

Direction des politiques d'aménagement
777, rue Bay, 13^e étage
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tél. 416-585-6014



Date: July 3, 2024

Subject: **Planning Act and Development Charges Act Regulations related to the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 (Bill 185)***

I am writing to provide an update on regulations under the *Planning Act and Development Charges Act, 1997* related to the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024*.

The *Planning Act and Development Charges Act, 1997* regulations came into effect on July 1, 2024.

Changes made include:

- modernizing public notice requirements and providing municipalities with the ability to provide notice in respect of the above matters on a municipal website if there is no local print newspaper available
- consequential amendments to remove requirements for certain statements regarding appeal rights to be included in public notices
- consequential changes to ensure notice is provided to nearby public hospitals and airports
- housekeeping amendments for the removal of spent provisions related to DC exemptions for additional residential units and the prescribed amount of time for the DC freeze period

You can view copies of the amending *Planning Act* regulations on Ontario's e-Laws website:

- [Ontario Regulation 285/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 543/06 “Official Plans and Plan Amendments”
- [Ontario Regulation 286/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 545/06 “Zoning By-Laws, Holding By-Laws and Interim Control By-Laws”
- [Ontario Regulation 287/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 544/06 “Plans of Subdivision”
- [Ontario Regulation 288/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 197/96 “Consent Applications”
- [Ontario Regulation 289/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 200/96 “Minor Variance Applications”

- [Ontario Regulation 290/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 509/20 – “Community Benefits Charges and Parkland”
- [Ontario Regulation 291/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 549/06 “Prescribed Time Period – Subsections 51 (52.4) of the Act”

You can view copies of the amending Development Charges Act, 1997 regulations on Ontario’s e-Laws website:

- [Ontario Regulation 279/24](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 82/98 – “General”

If you have any questions about the changes to the land use planning and appeal system, including the *Planning Act* regulatory changes, please email PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca.

If you have any questions about the changes to the *Development Charges Act, 1997*, including the regulatory changes related to public notice requirements under the Act and other matters, please email MFPB@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Laura Evangelista, Director
Provincial Policy Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Ruchi Parkash, Director
Municipal Finance Policy Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

From: Colin Best <amopresident@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 3, 2024 11:27 AM
To: Judy Smith <JUDYS@chatham-kent.ca>
Subject: AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments



AMO Advocacy on Homelessness Encampments

Dear Clerks and Heads of Council of Municipal Governments Across Ontario:

The AMO President and Board is requesting that this letter be shared with all elected council members and administrative heads (i.e., CAO, City Manager) in your municipality. Please post as an information item in your next council meeting agenda.

On behalf of its municipal members, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is urgently calling for provincial and federal leadership and action to address the growing crisis of homelessness encampments in communities across Ontario.

On July 2nd, AMO released a new policy paper [Homeless Encampments in Ontario: A Municipal Perspective](#) detailing the state of this crisis and evidence-based actions that must be taken.

Municipal governments are at the front lines of the homelessness crisis without the resources or tools to support our residents and communities. We are asking the provincial and federal governments to work collaboratively with each other and municipalities. These are complex issues that require comprehensive responses from all orders of government working together.

For further resources and information, please visit www.amo.on.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colin Best". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Colin Best
President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

From: Kimberly Moran and Colin Best <amopresident@amo.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 12:00 PM
To: Judy Smith <JUDYS@chatham-kent.ca>
Subject: AMO/OMA Joint Health Resolution Campaign



Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
155 University Ave., Suite 800
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3B7
Telephone: 416.971.9856
Toll-free in Ontario: 1.877.426.6527
Fax: 416.971.6191

Ontario Medical Association
150 Bloor St. West, Suite 900
Toronto, ON M5S 3C1
Canada
TF: 1.800.268.7215
T: 416.599.2580
F: 416.533.9309
E: info@oma.org
oma.org

Dear Heads of Council and Clerks,

Communities across Ontario have been facing critical healthcare challenges, including long waitlists for primary care, shortages of doctors and other healthcare workers; and emergency room closures. These cracks in Ontario's health care system are impacting economic development, health, and well-being at the local level.

In response, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are working collaboratively to advocate for a better healthcare system for Ontario's residents and communities.

We have jointly developed the attached draft council resolution (Appendix A - Also in [PDF](#) and [Word](#) Versions), urging the provincial government to recognize the physician shortage in your municipality and the rest of Ontario. By adopting this resolution, your municipality can play a crucial role in highlighting the urgent need for more healthcare resources and support.

AMO is excited to welcome everyone to Ottawa for our annual conference from August 18-21, 2024. We are pleased to inform you that the OMA will be participating at this year's conference. Along with sponsoring the Rural Caucus Lunch on August 20, the OMA has reserved meeting room at the Fairmont Château Laurier for both August 20 and 21 to meet directly with municipal leaders. During these meetings, we would like to hear what you are seeing on the ground and discuss opportunities to work closer with

you. We believe that collaboration between Ontario's doctors and all 444 municipalities is essential in addressing the healthcare needs of your community.

To set up a meeting with the OMA, please reach out to Tarun.Saroya@OMA.org (Senior Advisor for Government Relations and Advocacy) to book a 15-30 minute time slot at your earliest convenience.

We look forward to your positive response and to working together towards a healthier future for all Ontarians.

Yours sincerely,



Kimberly Moran
CEO, Ontario Medical Association



Colin Best
AMO President

Appendix A:

WHEREAS the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.3 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being de-rostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

WHEREAS it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario School of Medicine University says communities in northern Ontario are short more than 350 physicians, including more than 200 family

doctors; and half of the physicians working in northern Ontario expected to retire in the next five years; and (Northern Ontario only)

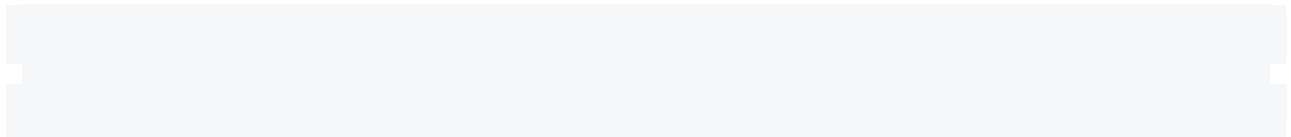
WHEREAS Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, and paramedicine.

WHEREAS the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77 in 2008 to 65 percent in 2022; and

WHEREAS per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada, and

WHEREAS a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the province;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of (the name of municipality) urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage in (name of municipality) and Ontario, to fund health care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care.



June 27, 2024

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
155 University Ave | Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5H 3B7

Sent via email: resolutions@amo.on.ca

**Re: Green Roads Pilot Project
Our File 35.72.3**

To Whom it May Concern,

At its meeting held on June 24, 2024, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS St. Catharines has declared a climate emergency, recognizing the urgent need to address and mitigate the impacts of climate change on our community and environment; and

WHEREAS alternatives to traditional road surfacing materials exist, including green roads technologies that are more sustainable and environmentally friendly; and

WHEREAS bioresin is a natural alternative that can be used to support road surfacing, providing a more sustainable option that reduces our reliance on petrochemical-based products; and

WHEREAS many secondary roads in St. Catharines require resurfacing, presenting an opportunity to explore and implement innovative and sustainable road surfacing solutions; and

WHEREAS Good Roads, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) have presented alternatives for municipal road restoration that include sustainable and environmentally friendly materials and methods; and

WHEREAS other municipalities, such as Centre Wellington, have entered into a similar pilot project using bioresin and other sustainable materials, demonstrating a commitment to innovation and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS implementing pilot projects using bioresin on city roads can provide valuable data and insights into the feasibility, performance, and environmental benefits of this alternative material; and

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has established the Green Municipal Fund which includes new funding for pilot projects to test innovative and ambitious technologies to improve environmental outcomes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that St. Catharines City Council directs staff to investigate the feasibility and potential benefits of using bioresin on City road works; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff investigate other alternative construction materials and methods for road works that minimizes the City's carbon footprint and are more environmentally sustainable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff prepare a report on the findings, no later than Q3 2024, including potential costs, benefits, and environmental impacts of using bioresin or other sustainable construction materials or methods for road works, and if feasible, a list of City streets where a pilot project may be considered in accordance with the City's procurement policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the FCM to encourage the exploration and adoption of sustainable road surfacing alternatives.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Donna Delvecchio, Acting City Clerk
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk
:sm

cc: all Ontario Municipalities



The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

June 28, 2024

Via Email: david.piccinico@pc.ola.org

Hon. David Piccini M.P.P.
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development
117 Peter Street
Port Hope, ON
L1A 1C5

Dear Minister Piccini:

Re: Regulations for the Importation and Safe Use of Lithium-ion Batteries

I am writing today to bring to your attention a matter of significant importance to the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, regarding the importation and safe use of lithium-ion batteries.

At the June 17, 2024 Council Meeting the Fire Chief of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan made a presentation to Council on the dangers presented by lithium-ion batteries. The Fire Chief was reporting back from attending the Charged For Life Symposium presented by the Office of the Fire Marshal.

During the presentation, the Fire Chief stressed that the increased importation and use of non-Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) aftermarket batteries is presenting a significant increase in fire and explosion, putting citizens and responding personnel in danger. These after market batteries are not Underwriter Laboratories of Canada (ULC) certified but can be imported into Canada without any associated regulations.

Unlicensed persons and locations can store and modify lithium-ion batteries in our communities without regulations, providing dangerous conditions within a community. Charging these batteries within the home or multi-unit dwellings can result in larger fires with grave results.

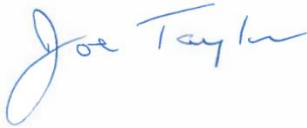
As Canada becomes more aware of Green Energy solutions, these batteries are used more often, increasing the danger to our communities. We support the Ontario Fire Marshal's program to educate citizens on the danger associated with lithium-ion batteries and encourage every municipality to actively promote safe practices for the use of lithium-ion batteries.

We also call upon all levels of government to enact regulations for the importation, sale, storage, and use of non-OEM or ULC certified lithium-ion batteries.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this very critical issue, and I look forward to your prompt consideration and support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or our Fire Chief if you require any additional information.

Yours truly,
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joe Taylor, Mayor

Cc: MP, Philip Lawrence
All Ontario Municipalities