Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Minister

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November 4, 2022

Dear Clerks, CAOs, and Conservation Authority Administrators:

As you are aware, on October 25, 2022 the government introduced the More Homes Built Faster plan, which takes bold action to advance our plan to address the housing crisis by building 1.5 million homes over the next 10 years. The government is taking further action to support this goal by launching a consultation on proposed changes to the Greenbelt that would support our municipal partners to plan for responsible growth and help build housing faster and in a targeted manner, while leading to an overall expansion of the Greenbelt.

Ontario is expected to grow by more than two million people by 2031, with approximately 1.5 million people living in the Greater Golden Horseshoe Region.

To accommodate that growth and support the building of more homes, MMAH is seeking feedback on proposed amendments to the Greenbelt Plan, the Greenbelt Area boundary regulation (O. Reg. 59/05) and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan in order to:

- Remove/redesignate lands from the Greenbelt Plan and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan that would be suitable for residential development; and
- Add a portion of the Paris Galt Moraine area, designated as Protected Countryside with a Natural Heritage System.

The proposed strategic removal of lands from the Greenbelt Area was considered in the context of the objectives and policies of the Greenbelt Plan and the requirement in the Greenbelt Act, 2005 that the total amount of land within the Greenbelt Area shall not be reduced. The area of the Paris Galt Moraine lands that are proposed to be added would be in addition to the proposed 13 Urban River Valley areas that were consulted upon previously in March 2022 (see ERO
Posting 019-4485). The total lands proposed to be added would be greater than the area of the lands proposed for removal from the Greenbelt Plan under this proposal.

For more information on this proposal and the consultation, please visit the following links where you will find information including a description of the proposed amendments to the Greenbelt Plan, Greenbelt boundary regulation, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, and the associated maps.

- ERO 019-6216 Proposed amendments to the Greenbelt Plan
- ERO 019-6217: Proposed amendments to the Greenbelt Area boundary regulation O. Reg. 59/05
- <u>ERO 019-6218: Proposed redesignation of land under the Oak Ridges Moraine</u>
 <u>Conservation Plan O. Reg. 140/02</u>

The comment period on the Environmental Registry of Ontario will close on December 5, 2022.

The government is building a strong foundation for action that will continue to ensure Ontario is a prosperous and growing province – and the best place in the world to call home. The Province looks forward to continued collaboration with municipal partners to get more homes built faster.

Sincerely,

Steve Clark

Steve Clark

Minister

c. Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing