Good afternoon your Worship,

As committed to each of you in my previous correspondence, enclosed is a Motion developed by the OMB Reform Working Group in response to Bill 108.

This Motion opposes the changes outlined in Bill 108 in its current state and sends a clear message to the Government of Ontario that Municipalities need to be consulted on how we grow.

Please consider adding this Motion to your Council agendas, as the Bill is in Second Reading. It is imperative that collectively our voices are heard. Local governments should have the authority to exercise greater control over planning matters in their own communities and by working together we can build a positive future and ensure planning that's for the people.

WHEREAS the legislation that abolished the OMB and replaced it with LPAT received unanimous – all party support; and

WHEREAS All parties recognized that local governments should have the authority to uphold their provincially approved Official Plans; to uphold their community driven planning; and

WHEREAS Bill 108 will once again allow an unelected, unaccountable body make decisions on how our communities evolve and grow; and

WHEREAS On August 21, 2018 Minister Clark once again signed the MOU with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and entered into “…a legally binding agreement recognizing Ontario Municipalities as a mature, accountable order of government.”; and

WHEREAS This MOU is “enshrined in law as part of the Municipal Act”. And recognizes that as “…public policy issues are complex and thus require coordinated responses...the Province endorses the principle of regular consultation between Ontario and municipalities in relation to matters of mutual interest”; and

WHEREAS By signing this agreement, the Province made “…a commitment to cooperating with its municipal governments in considering new legislation or regulations that will have a municipal impact”; and

Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That your Municipality oppose Bill 108 which in its current state will have negative consequences on community building and proper planning; and

Be it further resolved that your Municipality call upon the Government of Ontario to halt the legislative advancement of Bill 108 to enable fulsome consultation with Municipalities to ensure that its objectives for sound decision making for housing growth that meets local needs will be reasonably achieved; and

Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier, the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Andrea Horwath, Leader of the New Democratic Party, and all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; and

Be It Further Resolved That a copy of this Motion be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

Regards,

Tom Mrakas
Councillor Town of Aurora
http://www.mrakas.ca
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