

Sent by Email

October 4, 2023

Andrea Horwath
Mayor
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5
mayor@hamilton.ca

Subject: Re: City of Hamilton - Request to Abandon Greenbelt Development
Corr. 29-23
File: A-1400

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on September 25, 2023 and adopted the following resolution:

That Corr. 29-23, from Andrea Horwath, Mayor, City of Hamilton, dated September 11, 2023, regarding City of Hamilton – Request to Abandon Greenbelt Development, be received and endorsed.

A copy of the original correspondence is attached for your reference.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel
City Clerk

SC:am

Encl.

Copy: The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Janet Pilon, Acting City Clerk, City of Hamilton
All Ontario Municipalities



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

VIA: Mail

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

September 11, 2023

Dear Minister Calandra:

On August 18, 2023, Hamilton City Council approved Item 7.5 which reads as follows:

7.5 City of Hamilton – Request to Abandon Greenbelt Development

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton is committed to reducing the cost of housing and has pledged to facilitate the construction of 47,000 housing units by 2031;

WHEREAS, City of Hamilton staff have concluded that residential housing development within the former Greenbelt lands is unnecessary to facilitate construction of the pledged housing units;

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2023, Hamilton City Council declared “The Minister’s decision to remove 795 hectares of land from the Greenbelt Plan is unnecessary and is not supported by the City of Hamilton”;

WHEREAS, the Auditor General for the Province of Ontario has confirmed Hamilton’s conclusion that “Greenbelt land was not needed to meet the current housing targets assigned to them by the Housing Ministry”;

WHEREAS, development of the Greenbelt would be a significant financial liability to Hamilton taxpayers;

WHEREAS, the Auditor General for the Province of Ontario stated: “Land sites removed from the Greenbelt in December 2022 were largely not serviced, were not in their servicing plans, and that many of the sites would be challenging to prioritize and service in the near future...” and “Some of these sites would require considerable infrastructure to prepare them for housing development”; and

WHEREAS, the Greenbelt should be protected as a vital element of Hamilton's environmental and agricultural resources.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the City of Hamilton requests the Province of Ontario abandon its plan to develop the Greenbelt and that all lands within the City of Hamilton removed from the Greenbelt be reinstated; and

(b) That this resolution be circulated to all Ontario municipalities where Greenbelt lands were slated for development for support and a similar declaration to the Province of Ontario.

Your consideration of Council's request is appreciated. We would ask that you reference File #C23-015 when responding to this correspondence.

Sincerely,



Mayor Andrea Horwath

File #C23-015

c.c. Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
All Ontario Municipalities (by email)