



April 8, 2022

DELIVERED BY E-MAIL

Regional Municipality of Durham

Email: clerks@durham.ca

Re: Notice of Motion - Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force (All Wards)

Oshawa City Council considered the above matter at its meeting of March 28, 2022 and adopted the following recommendation of the Development Services Committee:

“Whereas, on February 8, 2022, a “Report of the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force” was released publicly and presented to the Honourable Steve Clark, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and,

Whereas, the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force was formed by the provincial government and tasked with the goal of formulating a number of actionable and concrete solutions to address the housing affordability and supply crisis in Ontario; and,

Whereas, the report contains a number of recommendations aimed to address housing affordability for Ontarians, and sets an ambitious target of 1.5 million new homes to be built in Ontario in the next ten years; and,

Whereas, several of the recommendations in the report, if implemented, would result in reduced decision-making powers for municipalities when it comes to identifying and planning for appropriate residential intensification within their respective communities, as well as result in fewer opportunities for public consultation and input in the local development approval process; and,

Whereas, while it is acknowledged that Ontario is in the midst of a housing crisis and all levels of government need to identify opportunities to increase the supply of housing to meet community needs, it is also essential to respect local decision-making and the democratic process to ensure that housing is appropriately planned at a local level and through a public process;

Therefore be it resolved that:

1. City Council supports the need to increase the supply of housing within the Province of Ontario and within the City of Oshawa, where appropriately planned at a local municipal level and advanced through a public process that involves City Council in the decision-making process and supports any recommendations of the Task Force that would lead to increases in the planning department capacity of municipalities and preserves the utmost public participation in the planning process and,
2. City Council opposes those recommendations of the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force related to such matters as limiting appeal rights, reducing public participation, limiting decision-making at the local municipal level, limiting heritage preservation efforts, reducing or eliminating minimum parking requirements, removing barriers to construction that may compromise health and safety, limiting fiscal responsibility by requiring mandatory development charge and cash in lieu of parkland exemptions and permitting increased density as-of-right without local review of appropriate locations, servicing capacities and zoning by-law standards for intensification; and,
3. Mayor Carter, on behalf of City Council, be authorized to send a letter to the Premier of the Province of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to express the City's concerns, as generally noted in this resolution, with respect to those recommendations of the "Report of the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force" which seek to limit public input and local decision-making power by municipalities concerning residential intensification in their respective communities; and,
4. Development Services staff report through the Development Services Committee on any subsequent recommendations or legislative changes being advanced by the Province with respect to this matter when posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights or released publicly; and,
5. A copy of this Council resolution be sent to the Region of Durham, Durham area municipalities, Durham area M.P.P.s, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Ontario's Big City Mayors."

If you need further assistance concerning the above matter, please contact Warren Munro, Commissioner, Development Services Department at the address listed below or by telephone at 905-436-3311.



Mary Medeiros
City Clerk

/rr

c. Development Services Department