



POLICY UPDATE

May 2, 2023

AMO Policy Update – Legislation & New Resources

Micromobility Regulatory Proposal

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) released a proposal related to regulating multiple micromobility vehicles on-road under one pilot regulation to align the expiry periods for all micromobility pilot vehicles (2023-2028). In addition, MTO is also proposing to expand the use of certain pilot vehicles (golf cars), enable new ones (urban mobility vehicles), reduce regulatory burdens and streamline the existing micromobility regulatory approach.

Feedback on the proposal is due May 9.

Bill 102, *Strengthening and Modernizing Justice Act*, 2023

Bill 102 was introduced on April 25, which includes proposals to clear the path for more people to consider a career in policing, strengthen protections for animals and increase access to the courts by reducing backlogs.

If passed, amendments would make changes to the following pieces of legislation, including:

- *Community Safety and Policing Act*, 2019
- *Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act*, 2019
- *Fire Prevention Act*, 1997
- *Courts of Justice Act*
- *Provincial Offences Act*

AMO is currently reviewing the proposal for any relevant municipal impacts.

Bill 97, *Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act*, 2023

On April 20, Bill 97 was referred to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy. AMO has submitted a request to speak and looks forward to providing comments on this proposal and related regulatory initiatives, including the proposed provincial planning statement.

ECCC Webinars for Feedback on Proposed Regulatory Framework on Reducing Canada's Landfill Emissions

On April 20, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) sent a sector-wide e-mail soliciting feedback on a Proposed Regulatory Framework outlining key requirements under consideration for new federal regulations to reduce methane emissions from Canadian landfills. This proposal is more stringent than current Ontario requirements for landfill methane emissions.

Communities that own active and/or closed landfill sites will be required to assess, manage and report on methane emissions if they exceed specific thresholds.

The deadline for feedback is May 19, 2023. Feel free to submit your comments to ges-dechets-ghg-waste@ec.gc.ca

The ECCC will also hold information webinars on:

May

2: <https://canada.webex.com/weblink/register/r3b9fbf48177b7e356fec40c039774151>

May

3: <https://canada.webex.com/weblink/register/r013745fd09cd5dff0623e7d662c0994>

Both webinars are from 1:30-3pm EST. Should you run into issues with the webinar links above or have questions about the material (i.e. if the webinars will be recorded), please reach out to ges-dechets-ghg-waste@ec.gc.ca

Broadband Connectivity Project Tracking

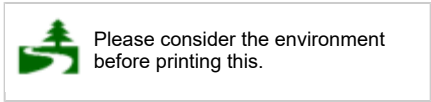
On April 27, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Honourable Kinga Surma, announced a new interactive mapping tool to track the status of Ontario broadband and cellular projects. The government has committed up to \$4 billion to connect all Ontarians to high-speed internet by the end of 2025. The new tool allows municipalities and residents to track the progress of initiatives to connect their communities. While this tool is welcome, building connectivity for Ontario's unserved and underserved communities will require careful project management and timely access to municipal rights-of-way.

AMO Webinars on Regional Energy Planning & Conservation Authorities

AMO staff recently held two webinars for municipal elected officials and staff. Both were recorded and the material is posted online. We encourage you to review and share with your colleagues.

- **Regional Energy Planning 101:** Held on April 17 with the Ontario Energy Board, the Independent Electricity System Operator, Enbridge Gas, and Hydro One. The webinar explains the regional energy planning process in Ontario and the important role municipalities can play in that process.
- **What's Next for Municipalities and Conservation Authorities (CAs):** Held on April 19 with Conservation Ontario. The webinar to discuss the recent provincial land use planning changes and how municipalities and CAs should work together.

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POLICY UPDATE

May 11, 2023

AMO Policy Update - Presentations to Standing Committee, Fees for Underground Infrastructure Locates

Standing Committee Appearance: Bill 91, *Less Red Tape, Stronger Economy Act, 2023*

On Wednesday, May 3rd, AMO presented to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy regarding [Bill 91, *Less Red Tape, Stronger Economy Act, 2023*](#). Bill 91 is the spring red tape reduction Bill omnibus legislation that amends several statutes. [AMO's comments](#) were in support of Ontario's efforts to connect all households to high-speed internet and cellular services by the end of 2025. The Bill's amendments ensure that broadband projects are better coordinated through provision of mapping data and helps to ensure that project permits for work in rights-of-way are provided within required timelines. AMO also welcomed the Province's announcement the previous week of an [interactive map](#) to track connectivity project status in Ontario.

Standing Committee Hearing: Bill 97, *Helping Homeowners, Protecting Tenants Act, 2023* & Comments on ERO

Yesterday, AMO delivered [remarks](#) to complement a [written submission](#) to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy. The presentation covered AMO's primary ideas with Bill 97, as well as the actions under the Housing Supply Action Plans being taken by the province in its effort to build 1.5 million homes by 2031.

AMO has also submitted comments on the non-legislative proposals on captured under the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Plan, including:

- Proposed *Building Code Act, 1992* Change for Unorganized Territories, Proposed Amendments to Freeze All Building Code Fees and Future Enhancements to the Qualification Program for Ontario's Building Practitioners ([ERO 019-6847](#)).
- Proposed *Planning Act, City of Toronto Act, 2006*, and *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Act* Changes (Schedules 2, 4, and 6 of Bill 97) ([ERO 019-](#)


[6821](#)).

AMO staff have also been advocating to the federal Minister of Housing about the housing priorities of Ontario and the potential of funding programs under the National Housing Strategy (NHS), including the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) in an [April 20, 2023 letter](#).

Fees for Underground Infrastructure Locates

AMO has received a joint letter from the Ministers of Energy and Public and Business Service Delivery regarding the Government’s intention to consult in the coming weeks on prohibiting fees for underground locate requests. The Ministries will work with Ontario One Call to engage stakeholders, including municipal governments, to explore options to make the system for locate provision more flexible. This includes the expansion of the dedicated locator model and locate timelines and compliance. The Ministers note that the newly established Administrative Penalty regime for late locate provision will be paused until April 1, 2024.

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