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February 14, 2022

via email premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A7

Dear Premier Ford:

Please be advised, at their regular meeting on the evening of February 7, 2022, the Council of the Township of Front of Yonge passed the following motion:

"Moved by Gail Williams and seconded by Carson Massey:

WHEREAS *Municipalities across this province collectively spend millions of dollars of taxpayer money and municipal resources developing Official Plans that meet current Provincial Planning Policy; and*

WHEREAS *an Official Plan is developed through months of public consultation to ensure, "that future planning and development will meet the specific needs of (our) community"; and*

WHEREAS *our Official Plan includes provisions that encourage development of the "missing middle" or "gentle density" to meet the need for attainable housing in our community; and*

WHEREAS *our Official Plan is ultimately approved by the province; and*

WHEREAS *it is within the legislative purview of Municipal Council to approve Official Plan amendments or Zoning By-law changes that better the community or fit within the vision of the Township of Front of Yonge's Official Plan; and*

WHEREAS *it is also within the legislative purview of Municipal Council to deny Official Plan amendments or Zoning By-law changes that do not better the community or do not fit within the vision of the Township of Front of Yonge's Official Plan; and*

WHEREAS municipal planning decisions may be appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT; formerly the Ontario Municipal Board or “OMB”), an unelected, appointed body that is not accountable to the residents of the Township of Front of Yonge; and

WHEREAS the OLT has the authority to make a final decision on planning matters based on a “best planning outcome” and not whether the proposed development is in compliance with municipal Official Plans; and

WHEREAS all decisions—save planning decisions—made by Municipal Council are only subject to appeal by judicial review and such appeals are limited to questions of law and or process; and

WHEREAS Ontario is the only province in Canada that empowers a separate adjudicative tribunal to review and overrule local decisions applying provincially approved plans; and

WHEREAS towns and cities across this Province are repeatedly forced to spend millions of dollars defending Official Plans that have already been approved by the province in expensive, time consuming and ultimately futile OLT hearings; and

WHEREAS lengthy, costly OLT hearings add years to the development approval process and act as a barrier to the development of attainable housing;

1. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** That the Township of Front of Yonge requests the Government of Ontario to dissolve the OLT immediately thereby eliminating one of the most significant sources of red tape delaying the development of more attainable housing in Ontario; and
2. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this Motion be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leaders of the Liberal and Green Party, all MPPs in the Province of Ontario; the Large Urban Mayors’ Caucus of Ontario, the Small Urban GTHA Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario; and
3. **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.

Carried- Roger Haley, Mayor”

Sincerely,



 Jennifer Ault
Clerk

cc via email:

- Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing - steve.clark@pc.ola.org
- Honourable Andrea Horwath, Opposition Leader – ahorwath-gp@ndp.on.ca
- Honourable Steven Del Duca, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party – info.leader@ontarioliberal.ca
- Honourable Mike Schreiner, Leader of the Ontario Green Party – mschreiner-co@ola.org
- All Ontario MPPs
- Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario
- Small Urban GTHA Mayors of Ontario
- Regional Chairs of Ontario
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) – amo@amo.on.ca
- All Ontario municipalities