



Planning and Economic Development
Corporate Services Department

MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Chair Emmerson and Members of Regional Council
From: Paul Freeman, Chief Planner
Date: January 24, 2019
Re: Bill 66, Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018
Update on Planning Act Changes (Schedule 10)

The memorandum is provided as follow up to the Chief Planner memorandum and discussion at the [January 17, 2019](#), Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting. It also advises Council of the Province's intent not to move forward with changes to the Planning Act proposed through Bill 66.

Minister Steve Clark announced on social media that the proposed open-for-business planning bylaw proposed through Bill 66 won't proceed

While clarifying that the open-for-business planning tool would never have been approved at the expense of the Greenbelt or other provincial interests, Minister Steve Clark announced that the Province listened to concerned stakeholders and municipalities and will not be moving forward with Planning Act changes proposed through Bill 66. The announcement was made on social media and had not been confirmed through formal announcement at the time this memo was written.

Staff included additional comments requested by Committee of the Whole in submission to the Province on Bill 66

On January 17, 2019, COW received staff comments on legislative changes proposed through Bill 66 and provided additional comments to be submitted to the Province, as follows:

- That the Province provide an additional 60 day review period to provide comments on changes proposed through Bill 66; and

- That the Province release a detailed draft regulation and once released, municipalities be given an appropriate opportunity (60 days) to review and comment.

Detailed comments, including the January 17, 2019 memorandum from the Chief Planner and those requested by COW, were submitted to the Province by January 20, 2019 with a caveat that additional Council comments could follow.

On January 17, 2019 COW also requested staff prepare recommendations for Council consideration on January 31, 2019 focused on the open-for-business planning bylaw and associated regulation.

Staff recommendations are not required if proposed Planning Act changes are not moving forward

In light of the statement from the Province and York Region's submission through the Environmental Registry, recommendations have not been included in this memorandum. Regional staff will monitor and review information relevant to Bill 66, including formal confirmation from the Province that proposed changes to the Planning Act (Schedule 10) are no longer being considered. Recommendations can be brought forward to Council for consideration if required.

Paul Freeman
Chief Planner

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