



Office of the Chief Planner  
Corporate Services Department

## MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Paul Freeman  
Chief Planner

Date: March 1, 2022

Re: Additional Recommendations  
Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force Report

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### **February 24, 2022, Council received a report on the recommendations of the Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force**

On [February 24, 2022](#), Council received a report commenting on the [Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force](#) recommendations released February 8, 2022. Council expressed concerns with many aspects of the Task Force report and directed staff to bring back a proposed response developed in consultation with local municipal planning staff and generally aligning with a statement issued by the [Small Urban GTHA Mayors](#).

### **Comments to the Province communicate significant concern with Provincial Affordable Housing Task Force recommendations focusing simplistically on process and municipalities as primary constraints on housing supply**

Attachment 1 includes recommendations to provide high-level comments to the Province. Several of the Task Force recommendations to increase missing middle housing, rental housing, and transit-oriented development are supported in Council approved policy. On the other hand, public consultation, local context, and local decision making are proposed to be diminished or removed in a number of instances. A focus on municipal process as causing a lack of housing supply is problematic and will not go far to address the primary causes of housing affordability. Many of the directions in the report conflict with other recommendations which propose to reinstate additional appeal rights that would only prolong the approval process. The Province is urged to consult with local municipalities prior to implementing any recommendations of the Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force.

**Comments expressed in the attached recommendations are consistent with those of the Region's local municipalities**

At a meeting of Planning Commissioners and Directors held on February 25, 2022, the high-level concerns, as summarized by the [Small Urban GTHA Mayors](#), were discussed and are shared among the Region's local municipalities. Considering the magnitude of the issue and potential implications of the Provincial report, many local municipalities will be commenting directly on the Provincial Housing Affordability Task Force recommendations.



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Paul Freeman, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Planner



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Bruce Macgregor  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments (1)

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