Financial Incentives for Affordable, Purpose-Built Rental and Large Office Buildings

Supporting the Creation of Complete Communities

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Outline

- 1. Background and rationale for incentives
- 2. Incentives considered
- 3. Proposed incentive programs



Complete Communities

Support opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to conveniently access necessities for daily living:

- Appropriate mix of jobs
- Full range of housing types that provide affordability
- Transportation options
- Public service facilities



Why consider incentivizing purpose-built rental housing?

Provincial Definition of Affordable

(lowest earning 60% of households)



Source: Statistics Canada 2016 incomes by decile, Canadian Price Index (unadjusted).

Why consider incentivizing large office buildings?

- Address Demand (office job growth) in appropriate space and locations
- Stimulate Supply for large corporations and increase opportunities for speculative space
- Remain Competitive in the GTA where a growing number of municipalities have introduced office development incentives
- **Promote city building** in transit-supportive locations

Current office proposals



Incentives were developed through consultation

Stakeholder feedback highlights:

- Timeliness is important (do what you can now)
- Keep it simple
- Align with other levels of government
- Target incentives to desired outcomes
- Consider policy and process approaches



Stakeholders provided valuable insight for proposed incentives

Proposed incentives build on existing Regional incentives

| | Year introduced | Available throughout Region* | Duration (months) | Density requirement |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Office Buildings | 2010 | ✓ | 18 | 4 storeys |
| Purpose- Built Rental Buildings | 2017 | \checkmark | 36 | 4 storeys |

*Note: Available throughout the Region, where permitted

A number of different incentives were considered

| Potential | Evaluation Criteria | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Regional Incentive | Can be targeted | Ability to address feedback | Minimize tax levy impact | Speed of implementation | Ease of execution |
| Property tax grant | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Development charge exemption | \checkmark | \checkmark | | | |
| Long-term development charge deferral | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Planning fee waiver | \checkmark | \checkmark | | | |
| Planning fee deferral | \checkmark | | \checkmark | \checkmark | \checkmark |

Recommended development charge deferrals for affordable, purpose-built rental buildings

Key features:

- Affordable rental to mid-range income households for 20 years
- Region-wide minimum 4 storeys
- Maximum of 1,500 units
- More family sized units = longer deferral
- Interest free



Example of new rental incentives: 212 Davis Drive in Newmarket

| | Details |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Unit count | 225 |
| Unit split (large/small) | 25/75 |
| Location | Davis Drive Corridor |
| Deferral Duration | 10 years |



Note: 212 Davis Drive would also have to meet the affordability requirement

Recommended development charge deferrals for large office buildings

Key features:

- Large office buildings in Centers and Corridors
- Maximum 1.5 million square feet over 3 years
- Larger office = longer deferral
- Interest free



Example of new office incentives: KPMG building in Vaughan

| | Details |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Size | ~400,000 square feet |
| Location | Vaughan Metropolitan Centre |
| Deferral Duration | 20 years |



Desired outcomes



Purpose-Built Rental Housing Incentives

- ✓ Approval of a new graduated development charge deferral for affordable purpose-built rental buildings
- ✓ Update existing 36-month deferral policy to comply with Bill 108
- ✓ Authorize new deferral policy to apply to 175 Deerfield Road and 8010 Kipling Avenue
- ✓ Receive draft Community Improvement Plan

Large Office Building Incentives Pilot Program

- Approval of a new graduated development charge deferral for large office buildings in the Regional Centres and Corridors
- ✓ Update existing 18-month deferral policy to comply with Bill 108
- ✓ Report back to Council before end of Council term on pilot uptake

THANK YOU

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