

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tel.: 416 585-7000
Fax: 416 585-6470**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M5G 2E5
Tél. : 416 585-7000
Télééc. : 416 585-6470

Ontario

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Dear Head of Council:

As the consultation on our government's Housing Supply Action Plan has come to a close, I wanted to draw your attention to one part of that work that is focused on land use planning – the need to increase supply and streamline the development approval process to speed up the time it takes to get the right kind of housing built in the right places. We have received some great suggestions in that consultation that will inform potential changes.

Our Government for the People is going to take swift action to streamline the development approvals system. Earlier this year we introduced proposed changes to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. These proposed changes are in response to the implementation challenges our government heard about when we took office. Consultation on these changes closes on February 28, 2019.

Given that land use planning and development approvals are critical to achieving housing and job-related priorities in communities across Ontario, my Ministry is also reviewing the *Planning Act* and Provincial Policy Statement to ensure they are calibrated to achieve our streamlining and housing supply objectives.

My intention is to bring forward legislation and concrete policy changes that would impact planning province-wide in the coming months. I encourage you to consider the context of this streamlining work and its focus on the *Planning Act* and the Provincial Policy Statement, as it may help to inform your local actions. You may wish to consider an interim pause on some planning decisions or reviews of major planning documents such as official plans or comprehensive zoning bylaw updates until this work is completed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Clark".

Steve Clark
Minister