

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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234-2020-4019

September 18, 2020

RE: Parkland Dedication, Development Charges and the Community Benefits
Charges Authority

Dear Head of Council,

As you know, our government introduced the Housing Supply Action Plan last year with the goal of increasing the supply of housing across Ontario. As part of this effort, our Government introduced the community benefits charge (CBC) authority along with changes to the *Development Charges Act* and parkland dedication under the *Planning Act*.

Over the past year, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing consulted for over 300 days with municipalities, the development industry and the public on the implementation of the framework, including several aspects of the legislation and a regulatory approach. I value the input of our municipal partners.

I am writing to inform you that on September 18th, our government proclaimed the remaining amendments that were made to the *Development Charges Act* and the *Planning Act* by Bill 108, the *More Homes, More Choice Act*, and, Bill 197, the *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act*. In addition, we have made a new regulation under the *Planning Act* and technical changes to regulations under the *Planning Act*, *Development Charges Act* and *Building Code Act* in order to finalize the framework for development charges, community benefits and parkland.

As of September 18, 2020, municipalities will have two years to transition to the new regimes. This will enable both the municipalities and builders to adjust to these changes in light of the pressures of COVID-19.

We listened to the feedback received during consultations, and that is why we are proposing to prescribe a percentage of 4% for the CBC authority that will be applied to land values to determine the maximum CBC for any particular residential development. The CBC could be used by local governments to fund capital costs of services that are needed due to higher density development and are not being recovered through other tools.

These amendments will enable growth to pay for growth, while also providing greater predictability of development costs in order to increase the supply of housing so that it is more attainable for Ontarians.

I thank you for your continued collaboration throughout the implementation of this new and enhanced framework.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steve" and last name "Clark" clearly distinguishable.

Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

c: Chief Administrative Officers
Chief Planners
Municipal Treasurers
Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Alex Beduz, Chief of Staff to Minister Clark, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Jonathan Lebi, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government and Planning Policy Division
Caspar Hall, Director, Municipal Finance Policy Branch