

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM2.3	ACTION			Ward: All
-------	--------	--	--	-----------

Options for a new City of Toronto policy to Inform residents about changes to the development and planning appeal process after the passing of Provincial Bills 23 and 109 - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Housing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to report to City Council on a proposal for the implementation of a new City of Toronto policy to:
 - a. notify local residents when development applications are appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal;
 - b. erect a sign at the development site (similar to School Board notices) that notify local residents and provide details about the appeal; and
 - c. include contact information for the Ontario Land Tribunal and the local Member of Provincial Parliament to allow residents to easily participate in the appeal process.

Summary

2022 marks an unprecedented year in the number of legislative changes affecting municipalities' jurisdiction in planning matters.

Bill 109, the More Homes for Everyone Act, has significantly altered local decision making, gutted residents' rights in the appeal process and moved virtually all decision making to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act, has restricted or rescinded many of the powers the City of Toronto had to comprehensively manage growth and development including:

1. stripping Official Plan amendments from the City which limit the City's ability to manage growth;
2. removing the City's Green Standards - key to Toronto meeting it's 2040 net-zero goal;

3. eliminating development charges creating a 230-million dollar budget shortfall for Toronto which will equate to a 20 percent increase in property taxes for residents; and
4. providing absolutely no guarantee that any additional affordable housing will be built in the City.

It is critical that residents are given the opportunity to have their voices heard in the appeal process. The ability for residents to appeal to the Toronto Local Appeal Body has been taken away in Bill 23 for any appeal that has not received a hearing date as of October 25, 2022.

These recommended measures will provide more transparency for residents to be informed citizens, remain engaged with their neighbourhoods and broader communities, and voice their opinions and concerns.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM2.3