

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

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19-4093

Dear Head of Council:

Our government believes everyone deserves a place to call home. Inadequate supply and high housing costs have made housing unattainable for too many people in Ontario. We want to put affordable home ownership in reach of more Ontario families, and provide more people with the opportunity to live closer to where they work.

That is why I am pleased to provide you with an update on the [More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019](#), which was passed by the Legislature on June 6, 2019.

In Effect Date

Schedule 12 of the *More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019* makes changes to the *Planning Act*. All changes, except for those related to community benefits charges, came into force on September 3, 2019, as specified by proclamation. This includes changes to:

- Broaden the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal’s jurisdiction over major land use planning matters (i.e., official plans and zoning by-laws) and give the Tribunal the authority to make a final decision on appeals of these matters based on the best planning outcome;
- Reduce timelines for municipalities to make planning decisions;
- Remove certain “third party” appeals;
- Authorize the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to mandate the use of a community planning permit system in or around specific locations to promote intensification around transit;
- Require municipalities to authorize in their official plans and zoning by-laws additional residential units in both a primary dwelling and ancillary building or structure; and
- Promote the development of affordable housing near transit by focusing the use of inclusionary zoning.

Regulations

To help implement the *Planning Act* changes, amendments to existing regulations under the Act also came into force at the same time as the related legislative provisions.

These regulations were filed on August 29, 2019 and include changes to:

- Set out transition rules for planning matters that are in process;
- Remove or update certain redundant or out-dated provisions and references;
- Remove the ability to appeal (except by the province) the implementing by-law when a municipality is required to establish a community planning permit system through a Minister’s order; and

- Clarify that the new community benefits charge by-law will not apply in areas within a municipality where a community planning permit system is in effect.

A new regulation for additional residential units (ARUs) was also filed on August 29, 2019 and helps remove certain zoning barriers to the creation of additional residential units by establishing the following requirements and standards:

- One parking space for each ARU, which may be provided through tandem parking as defined;
- Where a municipal zoning by-law requires no parking spaces for the primary residential unit, no parking space would be required for the ARUs;
- Where a municipal zoning by-law is passed that sets a parking standard lower than a standard of one parking space for each ARU, the municipal zoning by-law parking standard would prevail;
- An ARU, where permitted in a zoning by-law, may be occupied by any person regardless of whether the primary residential unit is occupied by the owner of the property; and
- An ARU, where permitted in a zoning by-law, would be permitted without regard to the date of construction of the primary or ancillary building.

Our proposal for the new and amended regulations was posted on the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#). All comments received were carefully considered.

You can view copies of the new and amending *Planning Act* regulations on Ontario's e-Laws:

- [New Ontario Regulation 299/19](#) – “Additional Residential Units”
- [Ontario Regulation 296/19](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 174/16 “Transitional Matters - General”
- [Ontario Regulation 297/19](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 543/06 “Official Plans and Plan Amendments”
- [Ontario Regulation 298/19](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 544/06 “Plans of Subdivision”
- [Ontario Regulation 301/19](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 173/16 “Community Planning Permits”
- [Ontario Regulation 300/19](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 232/18 “Inclusionary Zoning”

If you have any questions about the changes to the *Planning Act* and related regulations, please email PlanningConsultation@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark
Minister

c: Chief Administrative Officer