June 17, 2019

Mr. Charles O'Hara

Ontario Growth Secretariat, Ministry of Municipal Affairs 777 Bay Street c/o Business Management Division, 17th floor Toronto ON M5G 2E5

Dear Mr. O'Hara,

RE. Request for Reconsideration - Provincially Significant Employment Zone in Newmarket

In accordance with Section 5.2.2.3 of A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, please accept this letter as a formal request on behalf of Newmarket Council to designate the Town of Newmarket's employment area along Highway 404, as set out on the attached map, as a Provincially Significant Employment Zone.

Central York's employment areas are a largely contiguous area of developable land, strategically situated adjacent to a provincial highway (Highway 404), and are within existing settlement area boundaries. These areas currently provide a high concentration of employment and economic output, and are essential not only to the economies of the local municipalities but to the economy of the region as a whole. Specific to Newmarket, the area shown on the attached map provides over 590 acres of valuable employment area and accounts for close to 8,000 jobs.

The vast majority of the current Provincially Significant Employment Zones are located in southern parts of York Region and other parts of the GTHA. The creation of a Provincially Significant Employment Zone in central York Region will protect employment close to the significant and growing populations of Newmarket, Aurora and East Gwillimbury. This will ensure that the residents of these communities will have increased opportunities to work close to where they live, thereby decreasing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with longer-distance commuting.

Central York's employment areas are currently under growing conversion pressure to nonemployment uses and are at risk of encroachment by sensitive land uses. Designating these areas as a Provincially Significant Employment Zone will provide them with an additional level of protection over the long term.

Thank you for considering this request for re-consideration.

Respectfully, Newmarket Council

