

Motion regarding Ontario Municipal Board Jurisdiction over Official Plans

(Notice provided to Council April 4, 2016 by Councillor Bisanz)

Whereas a municipal Official Plan is the basis for substantial long term capital / infrastructure investments by local municipalities; and

Whereas the Town of Newmarket has an Official Plan that respects and reflects *Places To Grow* as well as all other Provincial Planning Legislation; and

Whereas The Town of Newmarket's Official Plan has been approved by the Region of York and the Province of Ontario, and is therefore deemed to be in compliance with the planning requirements of those two governments; and

Whereas the Town of Newmarket has planned for, and will meet, all intensification and population targets as set out in Regional and Provincial planning legislation and policies; and

Whereas the Town of Newmarket wishes to have control of local planning decisions while meeting all Regional and Provincial legislation and policies; and

Whereas local planning decisions which require local knowledge and public input are best made by local planning staff and local Councils as long as they meet all Regional and Provincial planning legislation and policies:

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Town of Newmarket call for the Province's Ontario Municipal Board review to provide significant and meaningful amendments and process changes that give authority to local control of planning decisions; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Province ensures municipal compliance to provincial legislation and policy through a more rigorous review and approval process related to Official Plans and not through OMB intervention in individual planning applications.

Be it Further Resolved that individual applications are therefore left to the local decision making process and that OMB challenges are restricted only to a review of whether local planning decisions are in compliance with the municipality's own Official Plan.