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To: Chair and Members of Planning and Development Committee
From: Councillor Angelo Bentivegna, Ward 6
Date: December 3, 2019
Re: Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms

Motion:

WHEREAS, agriculture is the second largest industry in Ontario, contributing \$13.7 billion annually to Ontario's GDP and is essential for putting food on the tables of millions of people here and around the world;

AND WHEREAS, in recent months there has been reports of an increase in harassment of farmers and livestock transporters by activists opposed to animal agriculture and the consumption of animals;

AND WHEREAS the protests have become illegal in nature with extremist groups trespassing onto private property, unlawfully entering into buildings and removing animals without fear of prosecution and even promoting and publishing their actions on social media;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Burlington requests that Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario; Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General; Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; AMO and ROMA, to find a better way forward to ensure stronger enforcement of existing laws – or new legislation – to ensure the safety of Ontario's farm, families, employees and animals.

Background and Discussion:

There has been growing concern with Agriculture and Rural communities within Ontario regarding safety of farm animals and food production within Townships, County's and Municipalities. Maintaining proper biosecurity to ensure the health and well-being of animals cared for on agricultural operations is essential.

Thank you,
Councillor Angelo Bentivegna
Ward 6