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To: Chair and Members of the Planning and Development Committee

From: Councillor Shawna Stolte, Ward 4

Date: October 3, 2019

Re: 2019 Planning Process Review

Residential infill developments are becoming increasingly more common in many neighbourhoods of the city and appropriate infill development, that conforms to the character of the neighbourhood is a necessary and welcome component of the growth of our community.

Beginning in the spring of 2013 the City of Burlington, responding to public pressure, began to engage residents with the purpose of exploring issues such as the protection of trees, the demolition and permitting process, incompatible redevelopment as well as the impacts of infill development on existing neighbourhoods. Public meetings, walking tours and stakeholder interviews were held to ensure that all stakeholder perspectives were considered. This process of public engagement and staff analysis resulted in the creation of Character Area Studies in neighbourhoods such as Indian Point, Shoreacres and Roseland which were imbedded in the proposed Official Plan.

As Burlington continues to evolve, it has become evident that the existing Planning Process and subsequent construction management process are not addressing the needs of residents and neighbourhoods, not just in the Character Study Areas but across the city.

As part of the funding provided by the Province of Ontario, the City of Burlington has made a commitment to review the Planning Process and consider the adoption of recommendations that will be presented in December of this year by Performance Consulting. Many of these recommendations will likely coincide with the recommendations that have been made by the Red Tape/Red Carpet Taskforce which will make the development application process more efficient and timely for residents and developers wishing to redevelop.

It has become clear however that this planning process review did not have as part of its mandate, the continued goal of addressing the impact of infill development on adjacent properties after the building permit is issued and the construction begins.

I therefore bring forward the following motion for your consideration.

Motion:

Direct the Director of City Building to include broad stakeholder perspectives in the 2019 Planning Process Review including residents who reside in proximity to infill development applications and to consider recommending the implementation of effective Construction Management Strategies in order to protect adjacent properties throughout the infill development process.

Councillor Shawna Stolte