



SUBJECT: Bill 162, Get it Done Act, 2024 update

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Community Planning Department

Report Number: PL-27-24

Wards Affected: All

Date to Committee: March 4, 2024

Date to Council: March 19, 2024

Recommendation:

Receive and file community planning department report PL-27-24 providing an update regarding Bill 162, Get it Done Act, 2024.

PURPOSE:

To provide a verbal update related to Bill 162, Get it Done Act, 2024.

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth

Background and Discussion:

On February 20, 2024 [Bill 162, Get it Done Act, 2024](#), was introduced in the Ontario Legislature. The Bill proposes amendments to 6 Acts, including the Official Plan Adjustments Act, 2023 and the Environmental Assessment Act. At the time of writing this report the Bill has had its First reading and been ordered for Second Reading.

Below is a brief discussion of the proposed amendments to the Official Plan Adjustments Act, and the Environmental Assessments Act and related proposals. Staff comments will also be provided.

Official Plan Adjustments Act, 2023

In the Fall of 2023 the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing introduced legislation ([Bill 150](#)) to wind back certain modifications made to official plans and official plan

amendments. This included the modifications made by the Minister to the Region's Official Plan through the Minister's decision on Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA 49).

The Minister sent a letter to Heads of Council outlining the opportunity to note:

If there are changes that the municipality would like to see made to the official plan, based on the modifications that the province had previously made, and which you support. Lower-tier municipal feedback on the original official plan submitted to the province will be important to supporting its implementation.

And:

While I intend to introduce legislation prior to the conclusion of the 45-day period, please rest assured that municipal feedback received during the 45-day window, and through consultation on the legislation, will be carefully considered to determine the best approach for moving forward, including if further legislative steps or the use of other provincial tools are required.

On December 5th Council endorsed the [draft letter from the Mayor to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing](#) regarding support for ROPA 49 changes. Bill 150 received Royal Assent on December 6, 2023.

As part of [Bill 162, Get it Done Act, 2024](#) the Amending the Official Plan Adjustments Act, 2023 has been posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario ([ERO Posting 019-8273](#)) and the Regulatory Registry ([24-MMAH002](#)), until March 21, 2024. A letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing dated February 23, 2024 regarding the proposed amendments is attached as Appendix A.

These proposed amendments would, if passed, update official plans in response to municipal feedback. Schedule 3 presents modifications in two ways:

- In table format reference is made to the Minister's modifications
- In the form of a listing of additional modifications

Staff have reviewed both and confirm that in addition to the modifications that were retained through Bill 150, the proposed legislation includes all of the Minister's modifications relevant to the City of Burlington, with the exception of Modification 44. As a reminder Modification 44 from the Minister's Decision on ROPA 49 read as follows:

44. New Section 81.4 (5) reads as follows:

“Notwithstanding Section 77(5), the approval of development applications within Strategic Growth Areas are not permitted prior to the adoption of an Area Specific plan, with the following exceptions:

- a) **720 Oval Court, 735 Oval Court, 740 Oval Court, 5155 Fairview Street, and 5135 Fairview Street, City of Burlington.”**

Staff supported maintaining the modification in previous reports. However, staff note that the MTSA Area Specific Planning project and implementing Official Plan Amendment and CPPS are expected to address this issue and given that staff have no concerns with this modification not being retained at this time.

Environmental Assessment Act

Bill 162 proposes a change to the Environmental Assessment Act to make reference to acquiring property or rights in property. In tandem with this change the Province has also posted [ERO 019-7891](#) titled “New regulation to focus municipal environmental assessment requirements”.

Staff are reviewing both related items and will provide comments in advance of the March 17, 2024 ERO deadline. In general, the amendments proposed and the new municipal environmental assessment requirements appear to be positive.

Strategy/process/risk

Not applicable.

Options Considered

Not applicable.

Financial Matters:

Not applicable.

Total Financial Impact

Not applicable.

Source of Funding

Not applicable.

Other Resource Impacts

Not applicable.

Climate Implications:

Not applicable.

Engagement Matters:

Not applicable

Conclusion:

Bill 162, Get it Done Act, 2024 if approved, will provide clarity with respect to the Regional Official Plan and will act to support the City moving forward with appropriate processes to establish the City's vision for achieving vibrant mixed-use neighbourhoods inclusive of the following elements:

- economic benefits including future employment targets that increase future property assessment growth.
 - social benefits including affordable and attainable housing, public parks and greenspace and community facilities and amenities.
 - environmental benefits including climate mitigation and adaption, natural heritage preservation and enhanced integrated mobility.
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Respectfully submitted,

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Director of Community Planning

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Appendices:

- A. Letter from Minister Calandra, dated February 23, 2024

Notifications:

Curt Benson, Halton Region

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Counsel.