

Options for the temporary elimination of Development Charges (DGM-03-26) (SD)

From: David Fenton

Date: February 21, 2026 at 10:02:18 AM EST

To: mayor@burlington.ca, lisa.kearns@burlington.ca

Subject: municipal development fees

To Marianne Meed Ward and Lisa Kearns,

Regarding the thinking behind the relaxation of Municipal development fees for developers.

I would suggest that the city stay firmly in its lane, this scheme should be handled by the Province and the costs spread amongst a larger income tax base.

Your answer to the developers lobbyist at council, should have been “This is a Provincial matter, my job as Mayor is to serve the interests of Burlington residents”.

This scheme does not enhance Burlington or benefit its residents in any way; But it certainly benefits the Federal and Provincial governments.

The residents of Burlington already contribute to the Federal and Provincial tax revenues to make sure that Canadians in general can live in an affordable Canada.

The City receives property tax revenues to maintain and enhance the infrastructure and programs within its boundaries.

Once you step out of that lane, no matter the good intentions, you set off a chain reaction of events that immediately affects the business activity and economics of not only Burlington but the Province and Canada as a whole.

When taxes increase, people look for efficiencies in areas that they can control.

Regards. David Fenton.