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Town of Aurora

Member Motion

Mayor's Office

Re: Supporting Affordable Housing and Gentle Density

To: Members of Council

From: Mayor Tom Mrakas

Date: February 6, 2024

Whereas the Town of Aurora is forecasted to grow to a population of over 85,000 people by 2051, which represents an increase of over 30% from today; and

Whereas on September 26, 2023, the Council of the Town of Aurora approved a commitment to the Government of Ontario's Housing Pledge to build 8,000 new residential units by 2031; and

Whereas on February 21, 2023, the Council of the Town of Aurora approved a motion to develop an Affordable Housing Action Plan aimed at promoting attainable and diverse housing options for residents as the Town grows; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora has developed a new Official Plan that provides the policy context to encourage gentle density and a mix of housing options through compatible and appropriate-scale intensification in line with Provincial and Regional objectives; and

Whereas as-of-right permissions from the Province already permit three (3) residential units per lot, with additional residential units recognized as necessary to address the ongoing housing and rental crisis; and

Whereas the Federal Government has made funds available through the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) to provide funding to local governments for initiatives aimed at increasing affordable housing supply and supporting the development of complete, low-carbon and climate-resilient communities that are affordable, inclusive, equitable and diverse;

1. Now Therefore Be it Hereby Resolved That as part of the Town's Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review, staff be directed to implement as-of-right permissions to allow up to four (4) residential units on properties zoned for single detached, semi-detached, or townhouse dwellings, provided the lots are of sufficient size and the necessary servicing and parking requirements are met; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That Staff report back to Council on the review and implementation of this update as part of the Comprehensive Zoning By-law Review process.