



**Durham Region Home Builders' Association**  
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April 14, 2020

Mayor Foster & Members of Council  
Municipality of Clarington  
40 Temperance Street  
Bowmanville, Ontario L1C 3A6

**Re: 2020 Clarington Development Charge Bylaw**

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The Durham Region Home Builders' Association (DRHBA) proudly represents over 170 member companies that are involved in the construction and renovation industry, and is the voice of the residential construction industry in Durham Region.

DRHBA is working with a stakeholder group made up of parties that will be affected by the proposed development charge by-law. On behalf of the group, DRHBA would like to thank the Municipality of Clarington staff for providing us with the technical appendix early in the process, allowing us time to review the information ahead of the public meeting.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, our builder members have turned their focus to the health and safety of their staff and trades. Many of our builder members have been working hard to implement the new health and safety protocols and procedures put in place by the province. These measures will not only help stop the spread of COVID-19, but it will also allow for the essential building of residential homes to continue.

The new processes and protocols have made it very difficult, if not impossible, for members to meet to discuss the new development charges bylaw. Without being able to meet, the Durham Region Home Builders' Association is not able to provide the municipality with fulsome comments on the background study. In addition, the social distancing rules will make it difficult for the municipality to host the required public meeting.

It is for these reasons that the Durham Region Home Builders' Association is asking the Municipality of Clarington to take advantage of the provincial legislation introduced today and extend the current development charge bylaw for up to six months after the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* is terminated.

***Coronavirus (COVID) Support and Protection Act, 2020***

***Schedule 1***

***Development Charges Act, 1997***

*A new section of the Development Charges Act, 1997 provides that development charge by-laws that expired on or after March 17, 2020 and before the day the section comes into force are deemed to not have expired and shall remain in force until the earlier of the day the by-law is repealed and the specified date. The section also provides that the development charge by-laws that expire on or after the day the section comes into force and before the specified date shall remain in force until the earlier of the day the by-law is repealed and the specified date. The **specified date is defined as the date that is six months after the termination or disallowance of the emergency declared under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act on March 17, 2020.***

By extending the bylaw, our members will have more time to review the background study and technical appendix provided by Watson and Associates, and provide important feedback to municipal staff.

We look forward to working with the Municipality of Clarington on an ongoing basis throughout this pandemic and beyond.

Sincerely,



Stacey Hawkins  
Executive Officer  
Durham Region Home Builders' Association

cc:

Johnathan Schickedanz, president, DRHBA  
Tiago Do Couto, vice-president, DRHBA  
Paul Creamer, deputy treasurer, finance department, Municipality of Clarington  
Clarington DCs stakeholder group