

Councillors adopt resolution to give Oakville final control over development

Oakville, April 16, 2013 – For Immediate Release

Oakville Town Council unanimously adopted a resolution in support of Conservative MPP Frank Klees' Private Members Bill 41, Preserving Existing Communities Act. The bill and the resolution empower municipal councils in decisions relating to the intensification of established neighbourhoods; they cite development applications that fall outside of a municipality's Official Plan as having no right of appeal at the Ontario Municipal Board. The resolution before Oakville Council was moved by Councillor Alan Johnston and seconded by Councillor Roger Lapworth.

"In Bill 41, MPP Klees is championing municipalities and their ability to decide how they grow," Mayor Rob Burton said. "In Oakville we deserve the right to preserve our quality of life and the character of our existing communities."

New growth taking place through intensification in existing built-up areas is noted as having a negative impact where it deviates from Official Plans and does not incorporate the insight and perspective of local councils.

"I want to thank MPP Klees for bringing forward a bill that allows municipalities to control their own destiny," said Councillor Johnston.

Council resolved that the adopted resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Large Urban Mayors Caucus of Ontario (LUMCO) and the local Members of Provincial Parliament, Kevin Flynn and Ted Chudleigh, for support.

Bill 41, Preserving Existing Communities Act was carried after first reading on March 27, 2013. The bill is scheduled for second reading on Thursday April 18, 2013.

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