

Veillez-vous référer à la lettre suivante du sous-ministre adjoint du ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement autorisant la Ville d'Ottawa à procéder à l'ajout des exigences relatives au plan et à l'étude pour les demandes d'aménagement au Plan officiel, ce qui constitue l'objet de la présente modification du Plan officiel #47

Please refer to the following letter from the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing providing authorization for the City of Ottawa to proceed with the addition of the plan and study requirements for development applications to the Official Plan, which is the purpose of Official Plan Amendment #47

Ministry of
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Sent by email only

May 15, 2026

Caitlin Salter MacDonald, Clerk
City of Ottawa
caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca

**Re: Approval for Proposed Official Plan Amendment No. 47 (OPA No. 47) Pertaining to Complete Application Requirements
MMAH File No: 06-OTH-269166**

Dear Caitlin Salter MacDonald,

I am pleased to respond to the City of Ottawa's request regarding a proposed amendment to add a list of potential application requirements in the City of Ottawa Official Plan.

As you are aware, subsection 17(21.1) of the *Planning Act*, introduced through the *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025* (Bill 17), requires that a municipality obtain written approval from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing before adopting an official plan amendment that adds, amends, or revokes provisions related to complete application requirements.

I would also note that the government concluded consultation on a proposal for regulations under the *Planning Act* to regulate complete application requirements and submissions from certified professionals, as outlined in Environmental Registry of Ontario posting [025-0462](#). Regulations were filed in January of this year, to identify professional engineering as a prescribed profession for the purposes of complete application requirements so that municipalities must accept studies prepared by engineers as satisfying the complete application requirements in respect of which they are provided.

MMAH is now consulting for 45 days through the Environmental Registry of Ontario posting [ERO 026-0313](#) and the Regulatory Registry on a list of information and material that could be included in regulation that would be the only information and material that a municipality could require as part of a complete application. If made, the regulation would create more certainty and predictability for applicants, leading to reduced costs for applicants and faster planning approvals. If a future regulation prohibits or limits certain studies, any conflicting municipal requirements, even if adopted through an Official Plan Amendment that had been the subject of a pre-approval from the Minister under subsection 17(21.1) of the *Planning Act*, would become unenforceable.

I am writing to communicate that the Minister has provided authorization, in accordance with subsection 17(21.1) of the *Planning Act*, for the addition of complete application requirements contemplated in draft OPA No. 47 to the City of Ottawa Official Plan, as presented

at the January 28, 2026 and April 8, 2026 City Council meetings and submitted to the Ministry on April 9, 2026, subject to the following revisions being made to OPA No.47 for Council adoption:

- (a) Consolidation of 6 studies proposed by the City into larger umbrella studies already referenced in OPA 47, which align with studies listed in ERO 026-0313.
 - Agrology and Soil Capability Study
 - Heritage Act Acknowledgement Report
 - Environmental Management Plan
 - Water Budget Assessment
 - Wellhead Protection Study
 - Urban and Village Area Boundary Expansion – Land Needs Assessment
- (b) The bundling of 2 studies proposed by the City into a newly listed Functional Servicing Report in OPA No. 47 which is referenced in ERO 026-0313
 - Master Servicing Study
 - Urban and Village Area Boundary Expansion - Infrastructure Capacity Assessment
- (c) Deletion of Urban Design Brief from OPA No. 47 as it is not listed in ERO 026-0313 and is specifically referenced as a prohibited study in ERO number 025-0462.

Provided the above revisions are made, this approval enables the City of Ottawa to proceed to consider adopting OPA No. 47 under section 17 of the *Planning Act*.

The changes proposed in OPA No. 47 reflect the government's stated objectives to streamline land use planning and development approvals, and we appreciate the City of Ottawa's continued collaboration in advancing this shared goal.

For questions, your land use planning colleagues can contact Michael Elms, Manager, Community Planning and Development, Municipal Services Office – Eastern Region, at Michael.Elms@ontario.ca.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely



Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister
Municipal and Housing Operations Division
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

cc: Jen Liptrot, Regional Director, Municipal Service Office – Eastern Region
Michael Elms, Manager, Community Planning and Development, Municipal Service Office – Eastern Region
Derrick Moodie, Director of Planning Services, City of Ottawa
Royce Fu, Manager, Policy and Planning, City of Ottawa