



TOM MRAKAS
MAYOR

For Immediate Release
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MAYOR MRAKAS' STATEMENT ON ONTARIO GOVERNMENT REVERSING GREENBELT DECISION

"I am very glad that Ontario Premier Doug Ford has decided that Ontario will not be opening up the Greenbelt to development.

I've long advocated that Ontario has more than enough land to address the housing crisis without having to encroach on prime agricultural farmland and environmentally sensitive areas. To quote the province's own Housing Taskforce: "a shortage of land isn't the cause of the problem . . . land is available both inside the existing built-up areas and on undeveloped land outside greenbelts."

To solve the housing crisis, we need an all-hands-on-deck effort from all orders of government and our partners in the development community. We need to continue finding ways to work together to increase density and offer more housing options like duplexes, triplexes, sixplexes and low rises on major transit routes and close to the amenities that people need. And we can do all of this while protecting the Greenbelt and still respecting the Official Plans of local municipalities.

Here in Aurora, we've committed to building more than 8,000 new housing units by 2031, part of the Housing Pledge we made to the Ontario Government. We're also developing our own Affordable Housing Action Plan to help ensure young people and families can afford to live in our great town.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Ontario Government to solve this generational crisis and ensure all Ontarians can afford to live, work and raise a family in this province."

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