



BILD

BUILDING A GREATER GTA

Building Industry and Land
Development Association

February 18, 2015

Chairman Emmerson and members of the Committee of the Whole
York Region Administrative Centre
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON
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Sent via email to: Denis.kelly@york.ca

**RE: February 19th Committee of the Whole Meeting, Agenda Item C3. 2015-2018
Budget – Environmental Services: Water and Wastewater Investment Deferrals**

Dear Chair Emmerson and members of the Committee of the Whole,

The Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD), is in receipt of the January 22nd presentation to Council on the proposed 2015-2018 Regional Budget and we acknowledge that this budget will return to the February 19th meeting of the Region's Committee of the Whole for endorsement. We offer you the following comments with respect to this matter.

We recognize that through this budget review process lower-than-planned development charges were collected and the Region's credit rating was downgraded resulting in some water and wastewater investments being temporarily deferred, namely, the Upper York – Water Reclamation Centre, West Vaughan Water & Wastewater Servicing and the Northeast Vaughan Water & Wastewater Servicing.

BILD strongly supports the strategic, coordinated and timely delivery of infrastructure investments to create jobs and lay the foundation for future economic expansion, prosperity and productivity gains. As such, BILD does not support the infrastructure deferrals noted in the proposed budget (as seen on page 30 of the Region's budget presentation). Many development projects are planned in alignment with the current timeframes and this delay would significantly challenge our business plans and the delivery of new homes for future residents of York Region. These projects are also critical to meeting the Region's growth targets as delineated in the provincial *Growth Plan*.

We would encourage Regional Council to 'pause' the endorsement of these delays and allow the industry to meet with the associated regional and municipal staff to determine if alternative and mutually acceptable solutions can be established that would prevent the delay of these critical projects.

We thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments and should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL POZZEDON
BILD York Chapter Chairman

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