Township of Springwater

**Office of the Mayor**

# Mayoral Decision

**MD-2026-001**

**A decision to Veto a by-law passed by Council – By-law C020-2026 in part as it applies to Resolution C016A-2026**

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Whereas the Mayor has the authority to make certain decisions under Part VI. 1 (Special Powers and Duties of Head of Council) of the Municipal Act, 2001 ("Act"); and

Whereas section 284.11 of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that if the head of council is of the opinion that all or part of a by-law could potentially interfere with a prescribed provincial priority, the head of council may veto the by-law; and

Whereas the Province has prescribed provincial priorities by making O. Reg. 580/22: Provincial Priorities pursuant to section 284.9 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Whereas the Mayor of the Township of Springwater deems it desirable to exercise decision-making power under the Act.

Now therefore the Mayor of the Township of Springwater hereby exercise the authority pursuant to subsection 284.11 (5) of the Municipal Act, 2001 to veto the following by-law passed by Council on February 4, 2026 as follows;

1. That By-law C020-2026 being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Township of Springwater at its meeting held on February 4, 2026 be revoked, in part, as it applies to resolution C016A-2026 to direct staff to pay an invoice from Loopstra Nixon (hereinafter referred to as the "**By-law**").
2. That all other aspects of By-law C020-2026 shall be deemed to have been approved in writing pursuant to subclause 284.11(4)(a)(i) of the Municipal Act, 2001 on February 4, 2026.

The reason for the veto are as follows:

> I, Jennifer Coughlin Mayor of the Township of Springwater am of the opinion that the By-law could potentially interfere with the provincial priority set out in paragraph 1 of section 1 of O. Reg. 580/22 of "Building 1.5 million new residential units by December 31, 2031", and the provincial priority set out in paragraph 2 of O. Reg 580/22 Constructing and maintaining infrastructure to support housing.
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> In particular, this matter relates to Council's decision to challenge the use of Strong Mayors Powers and to provide direction which constitutes an interference with a prescribed provincial priority as outlined below:

- November 5, 2025 the Mayor introduced a by-law under the authority of Strong Mayors Powers to approve the framework agreement relating to the City of Barrie's Boundary Adjustment Proposal,
- November 5, 2025 resolution C446-2025, to seek legal advice and to direct Loopstra Nixon to seek an injunction
- November 7, 2025 Mayoral Decision MD-2025-005 to veto By-law 2025-091, in part, as it applies to resolution C446-2025
- November 8, 2025 Mayoral Direction MDIR-2025-005 to direct staff to engage legal counsel and provide notice to Loopstra Nixon
- November 10, 2025, resolution C452-2025, relating to retaining legal to commence legal proceeding relating to the use of Strong Mayors Powers regarding the City of Barrie boundary adjustment matter
- November 12, 2025 Mayoral Decision MD-2025-006 to veto By-law 2025-095, in part, as it applies to resolution C452-2025
- November 12, 2025 resolution C458-2025 relating to the vetos by the Mayor
- November 13, 2025 Mayoral Decision MD-2025-007 to Veto By-law 2025-094, in part at it applies to resolution C458-2025

**This mayoral decision shall come into effect this 6th day of February, 2026.**

Jennifer Coughlin,
Mayor