Township of Springwater

Office of the Mayor

Mayoral Decision

MD-2025-006

A decision to Veto a by-law passed by Council – By-law 2025-095, in part as it applies to Resolution C452-2025

Whereas the Mayor has the authority to ~~make~~exercise certain ~~decisions~~powers 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.~~; and

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

Whereas on November 5, 2025, the Mayor exercised their authority under section 284.11.1 of the Act to propose a by-law to Council to authorize the execution and delivery of an agreement related to the boundary adjustment/restructuring proposal between the Township and the City of Barrie based on their opinion that the by-law could potentially advance a provincial priority, and Council enacted By-law 2025-093 in accordance with subsection 284.11.1(4) of the Act and to take primacy over any other resolutions; and

Whereas on November 7, 2025, the Mayor issued Mayoral Decision 2025-005 to Veto By-law 2025-095, in part, as it applies to resolution C446-2025 that ~~directed~~purported to direct Loopstra Nixon LLP to commence legal proceedings challenging the use ~~of Strong Mayor Powers as it relates to the Barrie Boundary Adjustment matter~~Mayor's exercise of powers under Part VI.1 of the Act in relation to the boundary adjustment/restructuring proposal, which in the opinion of the Mayor could potentially interfere with the provincial ~~priority~~priorities 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~~; and,

Whereas the Mayor reaffirms their opinion on the matter.

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Now therefore the Mayor of the Township of Springwater hereby ~~exercise~~exercises the authority pursuant to subsection 284.11(5) of the ~~Municipal~~ Act~~, 2001~~ to veto the following by-law passed by Council on November 10, 2025 as follows;

1. That By-law 2025-095, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Township of Springwater at its meeting held on November 10, 2025 be revoked, in part, as it applies to resolution C452-2025 to direct Loopstra Nixon LLP to commence legal proceedings (hereinafter referred to as the "**By-law**").

2. That all other aspects of By-law 2025-095 shall be deemed to have been approved in writing pursuant to subclause 284.11(4)(a)(i) of the ~~Municipal~~ Act~~, 2001~~ on November ~~10~~11, 2025.

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~~priorities 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~~.

In particular, Council's decision to continue to challenge the ~~use of Strong Mayors Powers and~~exercise of powers under Part VI.1 of the Act seeking to potentially advance provincial priorities, to obtain injunctive relief in relation thereto and to request a judicial inquiry respecting the lawful and good faith exercise of said powers constitutes ~~an~~a potential interference with ~~a~~ prescribed provincial ~~priority as it seeks to quash a decision that could potentially advance a provincial priority~~priorities.

This mayoral decision shall come into effect this ~~10th~~11th day of November, 2025.

Jennifer Coughlin,
Mayor

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