



BUILDING A GREATER GTA
Building Industry and Land
Development Association

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Communication
CW: NOV 26/13
Item: 11

November 25, 2013

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua and Members of the Committee of the Whole
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario
L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua and Members of the Committee of the Whole,

Re: *Measuring Sustainability Performance of New Development in Brampton, Richmond Hill and Vaughan Final Comprehensive Report and Implementation Recommendations File No. 22.24.1*

We thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on the recently released staff report titled *Measuring the Sustainability Performance of New Development – Final Comprehensive Report and Implementation Recommendations*.

BILD is committed to promoting the development of sustainable communities. We value the opportunity to be part of the City's consultation regarding the creation and implementation of sustainability guidelines and trust that our industry experiences are being used to help determine best-practices and find value-added opportunities that work well in principle and in practice in the areas of planning, development and building.

That being said, our members have signalled that they feel the robust document you have before you have not been met with adequate input from the industry. In fact we had been under the impression based on our discussions with the joint Brampton/Richmond Hill/Vaughan Committee in May, that further opportunity to consult on the final report and a proposed *Implementation Guide* would occur prior to any of the three municipalities moving to approve the *Final Comprehensive Report*. Our members agree that having the opportunity to review an implementation program ahead of any approval of the metrics is critical to understand the reasonableness of the program. Understanding that the intent is to garner feedback through the testing phase, we are suggesting it would be helpful for our members to have the opportunity to comment on these aspects of the program in advance of any trial application.

Of particular note: It was our understanding based on our stakeholder meeting that any suggestion of a "score" with which to weigh the merit of a development application would not be the intent of the program. This is a much different direction from what is currently presented in the report and we would like further opportunity to discuss this concept.

We are requesting at this time, a *deferral* of your approval of the *Final Comprehensive Report* to allow for our full review of the existing metrics and any implementation guidelines that will roll out of the respective municipalities. As such, we are requesting further meetings of our working group with City staff in the development of implementation guidelines, and indeed the final metrics.

Considering that there continues to be a great degree of uncertainty with the content and intent of the report as presented, BILD feels further consultation with the industry is necessary in order to bring forward a program that once again, works well in principle and in practice.

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We trust our comments will be taken into consideration and look forward to further dialogue with Committee and staff on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mara Samardzic, MCIP, RPP
Planner, Policy and Government Relations
BILD

Cc: *John Mackenzie, Commissioner of Planning, City of Vaughan*
Tony Iacobelli, City of Vaughan – Project Lead – Phase 2 Sustainability Performance Metrics, City of Vaughan
Michael Pozzebon, BILD York Chapter Chair
BILD York Chapter members

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