



INFO-24-140

TOWN OF AJAX  
65 Harwood Avenue South  
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Hon. Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities  
2A - 115 MacLean Street  
New Glasgow, Nova Scotia  
B2H 4M5  
[sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca](mailto:sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca)

**Sent by E-Mail**

May 23, 2024

**Re: Calling on the Province to Recognize Ajax's Progress on Housing and Honour its \$4-Million Commitment**

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on May 21, 2024:

**WHEREAS** the provincial government announced the Building Faster Fund (BFF) in August 2023 to provide up to \$1.2 billion over three years to help qualifying municipalities pay for critical housing and community-enabling infrastructure to accommodate growth;

**AND WHEREAS** the Town of Ajax was issued a target of 1,247 housing unit starts in the 2023 BFF Program Year, and 17,000 new housing units by 2031;

**AND WHEREAS** Ajax Council has taken bold steps to encourage the development of new homes, from the introduction of five unanswered Minister's Zoning Order and Community Infrastructure and Housing Accelerator applications, to new policy direction to allow four residential units as of right and increasing allowable building heights along transit corridors;

**AND WHEREAS** according to staff report PDS-2024-10, Ajax Housing Pledge 2023 Progress Report, Ajax had 1,121 Housing Starts in 2023;

**AND WHEREAS** this accounts for 90% of the Town's 2023 target and would qualify Ajax to receive approximately \$4-million under the BFF;

**AND WHEREAS** on February 14, 2024, the Town received a letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), Paul Calandra, stating that, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) data, the Town had only reached 64% of its target and therefore had not qualified to receive funds;

**AND WHEREAS** despite outreach from the Town to identify missing data, the CMHC will not revise past data and MMAH will not intervene;

**AND WHEREAS** several municipalities across the province have identified similar challenges, resulting in promises at both the federal and provincial level to modernize the way housing data is collected;

**NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Ajax Council ask the federal and provincial governments to engage the Town of Ajax, Ontario municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) to identify opportunities to improve the accuracy of housing starts data;
2. Ajax Council ask the provincial government to work with municipalities and CMHC to revisit data from the 2023 BFF Program Year and make good on payments to the Town of Ajax and other municipalities resulting from faulty data; and
3. A copy of this motion be shared with the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, the Honourable Mark Holland, MP for Ajax, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Patrice Barnes, MPP for Ajax, all lower tier Durham Region municipalities, AMO, and OBCM.

CARRIED

If you require further information please contact me at 905-619-2529 ext. 3342 or [Jason.McWilliam@ajax.ca](mailto:Jason.McWilliam@ajax.ca).

Sincerely,



Jason McWilliam  
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Mayor S. Collier  
Regional Councillor M. Crawford  
Hon. Mark Holland, MP for Ajax  
Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Patrice Barnes, MPP for Ajax  
All lower tier Durham Region municipalities  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Ontario's Big City Mayors