

March 30, 2020

Mayor Gordon Krantz and Members of Council
Town of Milton
150 Mary St.
Milton, ON
L6T 6Z5

Dear Mayor Krantz and Members of Council,

RE: Report CORS-013-20 Indexing of the Town's Development Charges By-law

With more than 1,500 member-companies, BILD is the voice of the land development, home building and professional renovation industry in the Greater Toronto Area. Our industry is essential to Halton Region's long-term economic strength and prosperity. In 2018 alone, the residential construction industry in Halton Region generated over 26,000 on-site and off-site jobs in new home building, renovation and repair – one of the Region's largest employers. As a simple rule of thumb, one crane in the sky represents 500 jobs. These jobs paid \$1.6 billion in wages and contributed \$3.3 billion in investment value to the local economy.

BILD is in receipt of Staff Report No. CORS-013-20 entitled, *Indexing of the Town's Development Charges By-law* which will be brought forward to the March 30th Town Council meeting for consideration. This report seeks Council's approval of a 3% indexing adjustment that is to be applied to both residential and non-residential development charges effective April 1, 2020.

On behalf of our Halton Chapter members, BILD requests Town Council to defer any reviews on its development charges by-law as well as the scheduled 3% indexing until the COVID-19 situation has stabilized.

The far-reaching effects of COVID-19 has left our industry, like many others, facing unprecedented times. The situation continues to rapidly evolve, and as it does, members of BILD have expressed growing concerns and challenges with current business plans, the viability of future projects, and the overall health of our industry and local economy. Given the state of the economy and uncertainty of the situation, we have instigated conversations with a number of our municipal partners on ways we can support each other during this difficult period. Since indexing is typically a financial measure that is used to reflect the local economy, BILD believes Town Council should withhold from a 3% increase to its development charges given the state of affairs with COVID-19.

We appreciate the time taken to consider our request carefully and thank Town Council and Staff for their leadership and efforts during these trying times. We are your partners in prosperity. If there is anything we can do at BILD or with our members that can be of service to you – we welcome that discussion.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Carmina Tupe, MCIP RPP
Manager, Policy & Advocacy, BILD

CC: Jason Sheldon, BILD Halton Chapter Chair
BILD Halton Chapter Members