



MULTI-AREA
DEVELOPMENTS INC.

January 23, 2009

City of Hamilton
Office of the City Clerk
77 James Street North
Hamilton, ON
L8R 2K3

Attention: Mayor Fred Eisenberger and Members of City Council

Subject: GRIDS AND THE RURAL OFFICIAL PLAN

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

At its meeting of January 20, 2009, the Economic Development and Planning Committee recommended that the City appeal Modification 33(b) of the Province's Decision in respect of the Rural Official Plan. Modification 33(b) would re-designate many lands from Rural to Agricultural.

However, the Committee did not resolve to appeal the Province's Decision to delete the SPA B designation for the Elfrida Area. In our view, this is not in the City's interest, since the SPA B designation was arrived at after a comprehensive growth management study undertaken by the City (the GRIDS study). If the City does not appeal the Province's Decision to delete the SPA B designation, it will be undermining a key finding and result of the GRIDS study.

A way for the City to appeal the Province's Decision to delete the SPA B designation, but to do so in a non-confrontational way, would be to do the following:

- Appeal Modifications 46 and 49 (which delete the SPA B designation), but indicate that the reason for the appeal is that the City is requesting a deferral of any final decision on the SPA B designation, to allow further discussions between the Province, the City and interested stakeholders.

We ask this Council to respect and support previous Council decisions with regard to GRIDS and the Rural Plan in order that the City continue to move forward with its growth plans. GRIDS resulted from 4 years of non-partisan professional planning supported by prudent Council decisions. Our concern is that failure to stay the course will undoubtedly compromise the integrity of the GRIDS recommendations resulting in uncertainty in the direction of future growth. The Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Plan has designated 62,000 new households be accommodated in Hamilton over the next 22 years. Our community needs the long range planning set out in GRIDS to prepare for and guide that growth. If we're not ready, another jurisdiction will be and we will lose the people and jobs that this growth represents.

Yours truly,

MULTI-AREA DEVELOPMENTS INC.

Aldo DeSantis
President