

## **Motion Requesting that the Provincial Government Change the Criteria for Municipalities and Regions to Qualify for the Building Faster Fund**

**Motion Moved By: David West, Mayor of Richmond Hill**

**Whereas** Ontario is in a housing crisis and municipalities and regions across the province are working hard to do our part in achieving the province's goal of constructing 1.5 million new homes by 2031; and

**Whereas** Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) and the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO) remain fully committed to working collaboratively with all levels of government and partners to resolve the current housing crisis and we are especially interested in seeing a significant portion of new housing being more affordable to more people; and

**Whereas** the Provincial government launched the Building Faster Fund (BFF) in 2023 which was intended to incentivize municipalities by awarding funding based on performance against provincial housing targets; and

**Whereas** regions are not eligible to receive funding from BFF; and

**Whereas** the funding awarded under BFF is based on criteria beyond the control of municipalities given that it relies solely on counting housing starts through the number of foundations poured, which is outside of a municipalities' control and jurisdiction. Municipalities have within their control the approval of housing **NOT** the building of housing; and

**Whereas** of the 50 municipalities currently assigned housing targets 24 (or 48%) were ineligible to receive the first round of BFF funding (based on 2023 numbers).

**Whereas** this year (2024) to date 40 of the 50 municipalities are either below or well below 40% of their target which could mean approximately 82% will not meet their target this year and therefore won't receive their share of the BFF funding – funding that is critical to be able to build the housing-enabling infrastructure needed to support new homes.

**Therefore, be it resolved that Ontario's Big City Mayors (OBCM) and the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO) request that the criteria for receiving funding under the Building Faster Fund be amended to achieve fairness and effective incentivization of the actions that are actually under municipal jurisdiction so that property taxpayers can receive their fair share of critical funding to support the development of community-enabling and housing-enabling infrastructure;**

**AND** that the province review the criteria for eligibility so that it may include regions across Ontario;



— **OBCM** —  
Ontario's Big City Mayors



**AND** we also call on the province to officially acknowledge the need to revise the metrics of evaluation for the BFF in consultation and collaboration with both municipal leaders and stakeholders in the development community;

**AND be it further resolved** that the provincial government, through the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing as well as the Office of the Premier, meet with the municipal sector to negotiate amendments to the BFF criteria that will result in positive outcomes for all parties; those seeking housing, the building community, and municipalities.