

Via E-Mail – premier@ontario.ca

November 10, 2020

Premier Doug Ford
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

RE: Stop Minister's Zoning Orders

I wanted to record with you my concern about the proliferation about the Minister's zoning orders overriding municipal planning processes.

It was always my understanding that MZO's were only used in emergency situations and to permit uses to benefit the greater public interest and not to benefit the interest of the owners of the subject land.


Recently there have been two situations where MZO's were issued that should not have been issued. I refer to the Don Lands West development and second MZO's development referred to in The Star article published Monday, November 2, 2020 written by Noor Javed that has been reported and sounds very questionable as to why the province would chose to override established planning procedures i.e. what is the urgent need for the MZO? Why override the local planning process?

If you (the province) and municipalities want the public to have confidence in the established planning procedure the criteria for MZO's should be clearly established after a public process is implemented to determine what those criteria should be.

In the mean time MZO's should not be issued except in the most clear and urgent circumstances.

Yours truly,

DAVIS WEBB LLP


for, Ronald K. Webb, Q.C.

RKW:lb
c.c.: Mr. Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing