

April 12, 2022

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
777 Bay St, Toronto ON  
M5G 2G2

Sent Via Email to: [greenbeltconsultation@ontario.ca](mailto:greenbeltconsultation@ontario.ca)

## Public Works

10 Peel Centre Dr.  
Suite A  
Brampton, ON  
L6T 4B9  
tel: 905-791-7800

[peelregion.ca](http://peelregion.ca)

### **Re: Proposed Amendment to the Greenbelt Plan - Growing the size of the Greenbelt (ERO #019-4485)**

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above noted Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) posting. Associated with this ERO posting are two related ERO notices (ERO 019-4483 Proposed amendment to the Greenbelt Area boundary regulation and 019-4803 Ideas for adding more Urban River Valleys) as part of this Phase 2 Consultation.

The following comments are provided by Region of Peel staff as input to the Ministry to consider regarding Consultation on Growing the Size of the Greenbelt.

#### **Region's Position on the Greenbelt**

It is important to reiterate the Region's position on protecting and maintaining the Greenbelt. Regional staff continues to support the Ministry's efforts to protect and maintain the Greenbelt including where feasible seeking to increase its size. The continued protection of the Greenbelt in Peel is important as it provides for the permanent protection of Peel's agricultural land base, its significant landscapes and ecosystems.

In Peel all of the major river valleys connecting the Greenbelt to Lake Ontario have been designated as Urban River Valleys (URVs). Further, they are also subject to strong valley and stream corridor policies in the Regional and local municipal official plans. The official plan policies provide effective protection of Peel's major and minor valley systems and apply to both public and private lands.

#### **Ideas for adding more URVs**

If future additions of new URVs to the Greenbelt are being considered, their delineation should be based on topographic (e.g., interpreted crest of slope) or ecological criteria and not on the basis of a 60 m offset from watercourse limits. In many cases, the 60 m offset from smaller valley and stream corridor tributaries in existing built areas extend beyond valley slopes to include existing developed areas including tableland developed with urban residential and other uses that would be inappropriate to include in the Greenbelt Plan Area.

The inclusion of additional URVs in the Greenbelt Plan Area should build on the systems approach of the Greenbelt Plan and be directly and functionally connected to natural heritage, water resource or agricultural systems and the objectives of the Greenbelt Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Learie Miller, Advisor, Research and Analysis at [Learie.miller@peelregion.ca](mailto:Learie.miller@peelregion.ca) or 905-791-7800 x 4266.

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Yours Respectfully,



Adrian Smith MCIP, RPP  
Chief Planner and Director, Planning and Development Services  
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, 6th Floor  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6T 4B9  
[adrian.smith@peelregion.ca](mailto:adrian.smith@peelregion.ca)