

NIMBYs Are In Charge

Optimizing Will Be Replaced By Politicizing

(Toronto) May 30, 2017 – The Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) is disappointed that the *Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017*, which replaces the Ontario Municipal Board and announced today, will undermine provincial plans to optimize density and intensification for growing communities across Ontario.

"The Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) Act only serves to empower NIMBY councils to make planning decisions to get re-elected," said OHBA CEO Joe Vaccaro. "Local political decisions will continue to block townhomes and other affordable, missing middle housing options from being built in existing communities."

"For more than 10 years, the provincial government has been demanding the increase of density and intensification in existing communities across Ontario," added Vaccaro. "The Province will not have the ability to optimize housing opportunities."

"Considering the current high price of new housing, this decision will only create more politics around how and what housing options home builders can bring to market," said Vaccaro.

Provincial planning policy directs more growth into existing communities through intensification and higher density targets. As the industry that builds 95 per cent of new housing in Ontario, OHBA will continue to be actively involved in legislative and regulatory consultations, voicing the industry's concerns as it relates to housing supply and choice for Ontarians.

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About OHBA

The Ontario Home Builders' Association is the voice of the residential construction industry in Ontario representing 4,000 member companies organized into 29 local associations across the province. The industry contributes over \$56 billion dollars to Ontario's economy, generating \$19.8 billion in wages and employing more than 336,000 people across the province.

For further information or to arrange an interview with OHBA CEO Joe Vaccaro, please contact Valerie Lam-Bentley <u>valerie@ohba.ca</u> 647-255-3875

