



Ontario
Home Builders'
Association

20 Upjohn Rd., Suite 101 (416) 443-1545
North York, Ontario Toll Free 1-800-387-0109
M3B 2V9 Fax: (416) 443-9982
<http://www.ohba.ca> info@ohba.ca

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Provided to: greenbeltconsultation@ontario.ca

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

The Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) is the voice of the residential construction industry in Ontario. The OHBA represents over 4,000 members including builders, professional renovators, suppliers, trade contractors and many others within the residential construction sector. Our members build the supply and choices required to accommodate the housing needs of Ontarians.

The OHBA appreciates the opportunity to participate and provide feedback on the *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) Phase 2* consultation regarding the proposed amendment to the *Greenbelt Plan* to grow the size of the Greenbelt. Our response pertains to the recent posting on the *Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) # 019-4485*.

Our Association continues to support the principle of protecting the province's most valuable environmental resources. At the same time, it is important to realize and recognize that our industry members need to continue to build complete communities in accordance with provincial policies which provide the foundation of the provincial *Growth Plan* and the population growth that Ontario is anticipating over the next decade. It is essential that such a framework is balanced and coherent while at the same time accommodates the population growth realities and expectations of the province. The OHBA is confident in the pragmatic and strategic approach reflected in the proposed amendment. Such a vision is appropriate as it recognizes the existing environmental protections for lands through both local and provincial planning policy initiatives.

As such, the OHBA is supportive of the components and extent of the Greenbelt as shown on the Proposed Schedules 1, 2, and 4 contained in the *ERO # 019-4485* posting. The inclusion of an additional thirteen Urban River Valleys within the Greenbelt is meritorious. The Urban River Valleys are the subject of a separate posting, *ERO #019-4403*, wherein the OHBA comments are provided.

The OHBA again is thankful for the opportunity to provide its commentary regarding the planning framework addressed and detailed in the provincial *Greenbelt Plan* as proposed in *ERO # 019-4485*. The consideration of the OHBA's input to the posting is appreciated.