



**Town of Whitby
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**Don Mitchell
Mayor**
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January 24, 2022

Mayor Shaun Collier and Ajax Council
Town of Ajax
65 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax, ON L1S 2H9

Re: Ajax Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines

Dear Mayor Collier and Ajax Council:

The Town of Whitby is writing to express its support for the proposed Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines.

As experienced through the Whitby Green Standard, we can attest that green development standards are instrumental in ensuring that developers provide sufficient, appropriate, and efficient infrastructure to meet the unique needs of the community, while ensuring an immediate response to the global concern of climate change.

The Town of Whitby particularly wants to congratulate Ajax for proposing a tiered approach within its Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines. This approach aligns with the work in place as part of the Whitby Green Standard, and it also provides both flexibility for developers and certainty about long-term expectations for advancing building performance.

We do urge Ajax Council to consider aligning its energy and emission criteria within the Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines to be as aggressive as those included in both the Whitby Green Standard and the Toronto Green Standard. These criteria were developed in response to the recommendations from the International Panel on Climate Change in relation to global emission reduction. We feel these same targets apply to all municipalities across Canada. Alignment on emissions and energy

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performance ensures we are on track to meeting climate change targets, and helps the development community with a consistent approach across multiple jurisdictions, making it easier for them to be implemented and therefore successful.

Over the next 30 years, municipalities will be faced with a number of challenges. Most of the buildings that are being built in our communities today, will be here in 2050 and beyond. Through our alignment in implementing green development standards, we will ensure that Whitby and Ajax are leading by example and responding to climate change while also helping to avoid expensive retrofit costs for residents in the future.

Congratulations to the Town of Ajax for developing this tool and improving the quality of living for our residents and the environment for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Don Mitchell, Mayor

c:

Nicole Cooper, Director, Legislative and Information Services, Town of Ajax
Cameron Richardson, Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability, Town of Ajax
Sarah Klein, Director, Strategic Initiatives, Town of Whitby
Jade Schofield, Project Manager Sustainability & Climate Change, Town of Whitby