

Corporation of the County of Bruce
Planning and Development
30 Park St. P.O. Box 848
Walkerton, Ontario N0G2V0



May 2, 2024

By Email: growthplanning@ontario.ca
Provincial Land Use Plans Branch
13th Floor, 777 Bay St
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3

RE: ERO Posting 019-8371

Thank you for providing the opportunity for the County of Bruce to comment on ERO Posting 019-8371 on the proposed changes to the Development Charges Act.

The proposed changes are generally welcome partial reversals of previous changes that impact the ability of municipalities to cover the costs of servicing growing communities.

Bruce County requests that the province also reverse its decision to prevent municipalities from resourcing housing services through development charges.

Bruce County adopted its development charges by-law in late 2023, and appreciates the opportunity provided in the legislation to update Development Charges by-laws to reflect the proposed legislative changes, without significant re-work or appeal risk. We suggest that the province amend the proposed legislation to extend this opportunity to by-law amendments to the rate lock-in period following a planning approval from 24 months to 18 months as is proposed in the legislation.

Bruce County Council and staff appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the Development Charges Act changes proposed through Bill 185, and appreciate any further engagement by the province on opportunities to make municipalities whole we work with the province and our communities to create favourable conditions to increase housing supply.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any further questions.

[Warden Chris Peabody](#)
County of Bruce
cpeabody@brucecounty.on.ca

Jack Van Dorp, RPP
Planning & Development Director
County of Bruce
jvandorp@brucecounty.on.ca

cc: Minister Paul Calandra
Bruce County Council
Bruce County CAO & Senior Management Team
Municipal Clerks and CAOs
MPP Lisa Thompson, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
MPP Rick Byers
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Western Ontario Warden's Caucus