



BUILDING A GREATER GTA
Building Industry and Land
Development Association

February 21, 2012

Mr. Bill Hughes
Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Hughes,

**RE: 2012 York Region Development Charges Background Study and By-law
Public Meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee - March 1st**

The Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) is in receipt of the proposed Development Charges Background Study and By-law, and we offer the following comments in advance of the March 1st Public Meeting of the Finance and Administration Committee.

BILD has retained the services of IBI Group and the volunteer member-companies of Cole Engineering Group Ltd., MMM Group, Schaeffers Engineering Consultants and SCS Consulting to assist with the review of the proposed development charges background study, by-law and associated information. Commencing in 2011, this consultant team has been involved in extensive consultation and technical working group meetings with Senior Staff. This group met on 9 occasions with Senior Staff at the Region to discuss the methodology for (then) forthcoming background study and by-law update.

We are pleased that Regional staff are hosting these meetings and we greatly value the dialogue and information flow that has taken place to date. We appreciate being able to participate in the process of reviewing the revised methodology, in order to gain clarity on what we believe to be considerable increases in capital projects and related items.

Based on our initial review of the background study, our BILD consultant team and the York Chapter membership at-large have expressed significant concerns with the magnitude of the proposed increase, and we do acknowledge that additional meetings and dialogue must take place so that we can continue to discuss the questions raised by our consultant team. We would reserve our working group consultation meetings as the appropriate venue to seek refinements to the Region's final proposal.

We trust that you will take these comments into consideration and we look forward to our continued consultation. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the undersigned.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Danielle Chin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Danielle Chin MCIP RPP
Municipal Government Advisor

CC: *Michael Pozzebon, York Chapter Chair*
 Paula Tenuta, Vice President, Policy & Government Relations, BILD
 Randy Grimes, IBI Group
 BILD York Development Charges Consultation Team and Working Group
 BILD York Chapter Members