

Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing

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234-2023-5533

December 20, 2023

Your Worship
Mayor Patrick Brown
City of Brampton

Patrick.Brown@brampton.ca

Dear Mayor Brown:

Thank you for your letter regarding the tracking of progress in meeting housing supply targets and eligibility requirements for the Building Faster Fund. I appreciate the time you have taken to write.

We appreciate your support of the Building Faster Fund and its objective to provide financial support for municipalities that are on track to meet housing targets. This fund is aimed at helping to fund critical housing-enabling infrastructure needed to accommodate growth and will help us to meet our joint goal of building at least 1.5 million homes by 2031.

As you know our government has made a number of changes through our [Housing Supply Action Plans](#) to reduce red-tape, speed up approvals and reduce the costs of housing to help increase the supply of all types of housing across the province.

Progress in meeting housing targets will be measured using a combination of housing starts (new homes that start construction) and additional residential units. The ministry will also be measuring new long-term care home beds and other institutional types of housing, such as student residences and retirement homes. We are committed to increasing the supply of all types of housing to meet the unique needs of all Ontarians.

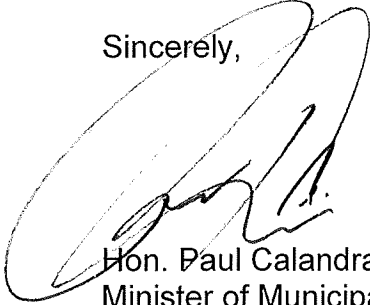
I note your concerns about using housing starts instead of permits to assess progress against municipal housing targets. We know that municipalities invest major time and resources into putting approvals in place with the understanding that builders will build. More than ever, we need shovels in the ground as soon as possible.

In response to concerns that have been raised that landowners and builders are not advancing projects to construction following municipal approval of planning applications, my ministry has been reviewing and providing options for a "use it or lose it" approach for Minister's Zoning Orders and municipal permits to encourage them to get shovels in the ground without unnecessary delays.

We remain ready and willing to work with municipalities to meet their housing pledges and address Ontario's housing crisis. But we have also been clear that collaboration and long-term commitment is needed from all levels of government.

Once again, thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention and I hope I was able to further address your concerns during the Ontario Big City Mayors meeting on Friday, December 15th. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Calandra', is written over a large, light-colored oval shape.

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing