

Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing

Municipal Services Office -  
Western

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
659 Exeter Road  
London ON N6E 1L3  
Tel: 519 873-4020  
Toll Free: 1 800-265-4736  
Fax: 519 873-4018

Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement

Bureau des services aux municipalités -  
région de l'Ouest

2<sup>e</sup> étage  
659 Exeter Road  
London ON N6E 1L3  
Tél. : 519 873-4020  
Sans frais : 1 800 265-4736  
Télééc. : 519 873-4018



March 5, 2015

Mr. John Fleming, MCIP, RPP  
Managing Director, Planning and City Planner  
City of London  
206 Dundas Street, London, ON  
N6A 4L9

Dear Mr. Fleming,

**RE: City of London Official Plan Update (The London Plan)**  
**File #: 39-OP-148831**

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Thank you for the opportunity to review the City of London's Draft Official Plan, "The London Plan". The Ministry provided extensive comments to the City in December of 2014, and Ministry and City staff met on February 4, 2015, to begin the process of working through those comments. The Ministry is currently waiting to receive a response from the City on those comments.

As noted at that February 4, 2015, meeting, the Ministry has offered to have follow-up meetings with the City Planning staff and also include the various partner ministry staff in the One-Window Planning Service. The intent of these meetings is to work through the matters identified in our comments in order to address provincial interests and to work cooperatively with the City to resolve provincial concerns and ultimately result in appropriate revisions to the official plan prior to adoption by Council. The purpose of pre-consultation in the One-Window Planning Service is to focus our resources and time along with those of the City toward the front end of the process so as to assist the City in completing an official plan which addresses both provincial interests and the City's planning objectives prior to adoption. Proceeding in this manner helps to make the latter part of the approval process much smoother and more time efficient rather than having protracted discussions regarding modifications after adoption of the official plan.

It is our understanding that the City's Planning Staff will be making a presentation to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee on Monday, March 9, 2015, with a recommendation that the "London Plan" be brought forward to a statutory public participation meeting in May of 2015, and that the revised document will be made available for public review a month in advance of the public participation meeting. Given the breadth and nature of the extensive comments provided to the City by the Ministry, we are concerned that there will not be adequate time for the City to address the provincial comments. Accordingly, it is our recommendation that the City give serious consideration to the next steps in this process and provide the appropriate and necessary time at the front end of the process to achieve revisions to the official plan prior to adoption.

Should you have any questions on this letter, the One-Window Planning Service, or the provincial comments, we would be happy to discuss this with you.

Yours truly,

Bruce Curtis, MCIP, RPP  
Manager, Community Planning and Development