

Appendix III – Summary of Provinces Response to Council’s Bill 185 Comments

Comment #	Comment	Status (Addressed, Partially Addressed, Not Addressed)
Planning Act		
3	That Council support the proclaiming date of July 1, 2024 to remove upper-tier planning responsibilities and request that the province pass an order exempting local municipalities from provincial approval for official plan amendments and secondary plans to support the goal of faster decision making	
4	That Council support the removal of the fee refund requirement for development applications	
5	That Council support limiting third party appeals on Council decisions to improve timelines for the delivery of development projects but consider scoping to matters of provincial interest (e.g. housing) or those that do not conform to an official plan and further recommend the province develop a protocol to scope third party appeals to matters of provincial interest	
6	That Council not support the exemption of Universities from the Planning Act	
7	That Council not support proposed changes that would allow applicants to appeal decisions made by Council to refuse official plan and zoning by-law amendments for settlement area boundary expansions	
8	That the province provide further consultation on Additional Residential Units with the City’s operations and environmental services departments, utility companies and emergency services to ensure appropriate standards are maintained and in place to provide appropriate levels of service for infrastructure, utilities, and life safety measures	
9	That Council support the removal of the Community Infrastructure and Housing tool from the Planning Act and replacement with a more transparent process for Ministers Zoning Orders and recommend that the Minister be provided the ability to impose conditions on the approval of MZO for community benefits and infrastructure	
10	That the province clarify the scope of the proposed regulation making authority to streamline approvals for community service facilities including public schools, hospitals, and long-term care facilities and how priority project would be identified and expedited	
11	That Council support reduced parking minimums in principle and recommend the addition of policies to support and strengthen the ability of municipalities to manage the time gap until the higher order transit and other supportive services are available. Specifically, additional policies and investments from senior levels of government are required, in the interim, to support the delivery and operation of higher frequency bus service and public infrastructure such as active transportation networks, public parking, and Transportation Demand Management programs as a part of any development	
Development Charges Act		
12	That Council support the proposed changes to the Development Charges Act as they apply to the following matters:	
	a. Repeal the 5-year phase-in of development charges for by-laws passed on or after January 1, 2022	
	b. Re-instating studies as an eligible capital cost for Development Charges	
	c. Reduce the timeframe for the DC rate freeze from 2 years to 18 months	
	d. Streamline the process for municipalities to extend existing Development Charges by-laws	
Municipal Act		
26	That Council support in principle the proposed incentive tool that municipalities could leverage to attract specified manufacturing, industrial or commercial investments and the province consult with municipalities to clarify the regulations and criteria that would govern the exemption process	
27	That Council support enhanced policies that will allow the municipality to ensure infrastructure is directed to developments to support housing	

Note: The Council comments shown in the table reflect the resolution passed by Markham Council on May 15, 2024 for proposed changes to the *Planning Act*, *Development Charges Act*, and *Municipal Act* in Bill 185.