

**PART IV
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT**

Community improvement project area

28. (1) In this section,

“community improvement” means the planning or replanning, design or redesign, resubdivision, clearance, development or redevelopment, construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation, improvement of energy efficiency, or any of them, of a community improvement project area, and the provision of such residential, commercial, industrial, public, recreational, institutional, religious, charitable or other uses, buildings, structures, works, improvements or facilities, or spaces therefor, as may be appropriate or necessary; (“améliorations communautaires”)

“community improvement plan” means a plan for the community improvement of a community improvement project area; (“plan d’améliorations communautaires”)

“community improvement project area” means a municipality or an area within a municipality, the community improvement of which in the opinion of the council is desirable because of age, dilapidation, overcrowding, faulty arrangement, unsuitability of buildings or for any other environmental, social or community economic development reason. (“zone d’améliorations communautaires”) R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (1); 2001, c. 17, s. 7 (1, 2); 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (1).

Affordable housing

(1.1) Without limiting the generality of the definition of “community improvement” in subsection (1), for greater certainty, it includes the provision of affordable housing. 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (2).

Designation of community improvement project area

(2) Where there is an official plan in effect in a local municipality or in a prescribed upper-tier municipality that contains provisions relating to community improvement in the municipality, the council may, by by-law, designate the whole or any part of an area covered by such an official plan as a community improvement project area. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (2); 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (3).

Acquisition and clearance of land

(3) When a by-law has been passed under subsection (2), the municipality may,

- (a) acquire land within the community improvement project area with the approval of the Minister if the land is acquired before a community improvement plan mentioned in subsection (4) comes into effect and without the approval of the

Minister if the land is acquired after the community improvement plan comes into effect;

- (b) hold land acquired before or after the passing of the by-law within the community improvement project area; and
- (c) clear, grade or otherwise prepare the land for community improvement. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (3); 2001, c. 17, s. 7 (3).

Community improvement plan

(4) When a by-law has been passed under subsection (2), the council may provide for the preparation of a plan suitable for adoption as a community improvement plan for the community improvement project area and the plan may be adopted and come into effect in accordance with subsections (5) and (5.1). 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (1).

Restriction re upper-tier municipality

(4.0.1) The community improvement plan of an upper-tier municipality may deal only with prescribed matters. 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (4).

(4.1)-(4.4) Repealed: 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (1).

Same

(5) Subsections 17 (15), (17), (19) to (19.3), (19.5) to (24), (25) to (30.1), (44) to (47) and (49) to (50.1) apply, with necessary modifications, in respect of a community improvement plan and any amendments to it. 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (1).

Same

(5.1) The Minister is deemed to be the approval authority for the purpose of subsection (5). 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (1).

Same

(5.2) Despite subsection (5), if an official plan contains provisions describing the alternative measures mentioned in subsection 17 (19.3), subsections 17 (15), (17) and (19) to (19.2) do not apply in respect of the community improvement plan and any amendments to it, if the measures are complied with. 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (1).

Powers of council re land

(6) For the purpose of carrying out a community improvement plan that has come into effect, the municipality may,

- (a) construct, repair, rehabilitate or improve buildings on land acquired or held by it in the community improvement project area in conformity with the community improvement plan, and sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any such buildings and the land appurtenant thereto;
- (b) sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any land acquired or held by it in the community improvement project area to any person or governmental authority for use in conformity with the community improvement plan. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (6); 2001, c. 17, s. 7 (6).

Grants or loans re eligible costs

(7) For the purpose of carrying out a municipality's community improvement plan that has come into effect, the municipality may make grants or loans, in conformity with the community improvement plan, to registered owners, assessed owners and tenants of lands and buildings within the community improvement project area, and to any person to whom such an owner or tenant has assigned the right to receive a grant or loan, to pay for the whole or any part of the eligible costs of the community improvement plan. 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (8).

Eligible costs

(7.1) For the purposes of subsection (7), the eligible costs of a community improvement plan may include costs related to environmental site assessment, environmental remediation, development, redevelopment, construction and reconstruction of lands and buildings for rehabilitation purposes or for the provision of energy efficient uses, buildings, structures, works, improvements or facilities. 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (8).

Grants or loans between upper and lower-tier municipalities

(7.2) The council of an upper-tier municipality may make grants or loans to the council of a lower-tier municipality and the council of a lower-tier municipality may make grants or loans to the council of the upper-tier municipality, for the purpose of carrying out a community improvement plan that has come into effect, on such terms as to security and otherwise as the council considers appropriate, but only if the official plan of the municipality making the grant or loan contains provisions relating to the making of such grants or loans. 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (8).

Maximum amount

(7.3) The total of the grants and loans made in respect of particular lands and buildings under subsections (7) and (7.2) and the tax assistance as defined in section 365.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* or section 333 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, as the case may be, that is provided in respect of the lands and buildings shall not exceed the eligible cost of the community improvement plan with respect to those lands and buildings. 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (8); 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 48 (3).

(8) Repealed: 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (3).

Application of s. 32 (2, 3)

(9) Subsections 32 (2) and (3) apply with necessary modifications to any loan made under subsection (7) of this section. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (9).

Conditions of sale, etc.

(10) Until a by-law or amending by-law passed under section 34 after the adoption of the community improvement plan is in force in the community improvement project area, no land acquired, and no building constructed, by the municipality in the community improvement project area shall be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of unless the person or authority to whom it is disposed of enters into a written agreement

with the municipality that the person or authority will keep and maintain the land and building and the use thereof in conformity with the community improvement plan until such a by-law or amending by-law is in force, but the municipality may, during the period of the development of the plan, lease any land or any building or part thereof in the area for any purpose, whether or not in conformity with the community improvement plan, for a term of not more than three years at any one time. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (10).

Registration of agreement

(11) An agreement concerning a grant or loan made under subsection (7) or an agreement entered into under subsection (10), may be registered against the land to which it applies and the municipality shall be entitled to enforce the provisions thereof against any party to the agreement and, subject to the provisions of the *Registry Act* and the *Land Titles Act*, against any and all subsequent owners or tenants of the land. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (11); 2006, c. 23, s. 14 (10).

Debentures

(12) Despite subsection 408 (3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* or any regulation under section 256 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, debentures issued by the municipality for the purpose of this section may be for such term of years as the debenture by-law, with the approval of the Municipal Board, provides. 2002, c. 17, Sched. B, s. 9; 2006, c. 32, Sched. C, s. 47 (4).

Dissolution of area

(13) When the council is satisfied that the community improvement plan has been carried out, the council may, by by-law, dissolve the community improvement project area. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 28 (13).

Agreement re studies and development

29.(1) A municipality, with the approval of the Minister, may enter into agreement with any governmental authority or any agency thereof created by statute, for the carrying out of studies and the preparation and implementation of plans and programs for the development or improvement of the municipality.

Where approval of Minister not required

(2) Despite subsection (1), a municipality may enter into agreement with one or more other municipalities under subsection (1) without the approval of the Minister. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 29.

Agreements for grants in aid of community improvement

30. The Minister, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and a municipality may enter into agreement providing for payment to the municipality on such terms and conditions and in such amounts as may be approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council to assist in the community improvement of a community improvement project area as defined in section 28, including the carrying out of studies

for the purpose of selecting areas for community improvement. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 30.

31.Repealed: 1997, c. 24, s. 226 (1).

Note: Despite the repeal of section 31, an order made under that section is continued as an order made under the corresponding provision of the *Building Code Act, 1992*. See: 1997, c. 24, ss. 226 (2), 228.

Grants or loans for repairs

32.(1)When a by-law under section 15.1 of the *Building Code Act, 1992* is in force in a municipality, the council of the municipality may pass a by-law for providing for the making of grants or loans to the registered owners or assessed owners of lands in respect of which an order has been made under subsection 15.2 (2) of that Act to pay for the whole or any part of the cost of the repairs required to be done, or of the clearing, grading and levelling of the lands, on such terms and conditions as the council may prescribe. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 32 (1); 1997, c. 24, s. 226 (3).

Loans collected as taxes, lien on land

(2)The amount of any loan made under a by-law passed under this section, together with interest at a rate to be determined by the council, may be added by the clerk of the municipality to the collector's roll and collected in like manner as municipal taxes over a period fixed by the council, and such amount and interest shall, until payment thereof, be a lien or charge upon the land in respect of which the loan has been made.

Registration of certificate

(3)A certificate signed by the clerk of the municipality setting out the amount loaned to any owner under a by-law passed under this section, including the rate of interest thereon, together with a description of the land in respect of which the loan has been made, sufficient for registration, shall be registered in the proper land registry office against the land, and, upon repayment in full to the municipality of the amount loaned and interest thereon, a certificate signed by the clerk of the municipality showing such repayment shall be similarly registered, and thereupon the lien or charge upon the land in respect of which the loan was made is discharged. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 32 (2, 3).

Demolition control area

33.(1)In this section,

“dwelling unit” means any property that is used or designed for use as a domestic establishment in which one or more persons may sleep and prepare and serve meals; (“logement”)

“residential property” means a building that contains one or more dwelling units, but does not include subordinate or accessory buildings the use of which is incidental to the use of the main building. (“immeuble d’habitation”) R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 33 (1).

Establishment of demolition control area by by-law

(2) When a by-law under section 15.1 of the *Building Code Act, 1992* or a predecessor thereof is in force in a municipality or when a by-law prescribing standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property under any special Act is in force in a municipality, the council of the local municipality may by by-law designate any area within the municipality to which the standards of maintenance and occupancy by-law applies as an area of demolition control and thereafter no person shall demolish the whole or any part of any residential property in the area of demolition control unless the person is the holder of a demolition permit issued by the council under this section. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 33 (2); 1997, c. 24, s. 226 (4).

Council may issue or refuse to issue permit

(3) Subject to subsection (6), where application is made to the council for a permit to demolish residential property, the council may issue the permit or refuse to issue the permit.

Appeal to O.M.B.

(4) Where the council refuses to issue the permit or neglects to make a decision thereon within thirty days after the receipt by the clerk of the municipality of the application, the applicant may appeal to the Municipal Board and the Board shall hear the appeal and either dismiss the same or direct that the demolition permit be issued, and the decision of the Board shall be final.

Notice of appeal

(5) The person appealing to the Municipal Board under subsection (4) shall, in such manner and to such persons as the Board may direct, give notice of the appeal to the Board.

Application for demolition permit where building permit issued

(6) Subject to subsection (7), the council shall, on application therefor, issue a demolition permit where a building permit has been issued to erect a new building on the site of the residential property sought to be demolished.

Conditions of demolition permit

(7) A demolition permit under subsection (6) may be issued on the condition that the applicant for the permit construct and substantially complete the new building to be erected on the site of the residential property proposed to be demolished by not later than such date as the permit specifies, such date being not less than two years from the day demolition of the existing residential property is commenced, and on the condition that on failure to complete the new building within the time specified in the permit, the clerk of the municipality shall be entitled to enter on the collector's roll, to be collected in like manner as municipal taxes, such sum of money as the permit specifies, but not in any case to exceed the sum of \$20,000 for each dwelling unit contained in the residential property in respect of which the demolition permit is issued and such sum shall, until payment thereof, be a lien or charge upon the land in respect of which the permit to demolish the residential property is issued.

Registration of notice

(8) Notice of any condition imposed under subsection (7) may be registered in the proper land registry office against the land to which it applies.

Registration of certificate

(9) Where the clerk of the municipality adds a sum of money to the collector's roll under subsection (7), a certificate signed by the clerk setting out the sum added to the roll, together with a description of the land in respect of which the sum has been added to the roll, sufficient for registration, shall be registered in the proper land registry office against the land, and upon payment in full to the municipality of the sum added to the roll, a certificate signed by the clerk of the municipality showing such payment shall be similarly registered, and thereupon the lien or charge upon the land in respect of which the sum was added to the roll is discharged.

Appeal to O.M.B.

(10) Where an applicant for a demolition permit under subsection (6) is not satisfied as to the conditions on which the demolition permit is proposed to be issued, the applicant may appeal to the Municipal Board for a variation of the conditions and, where an appeal is brought, the Board shall hear the appeal and may dismiss the same or may direct that the conditions upon which the permit shall be issued be varied in such manner as the Board considers appropriate, and the decision of the Board shall be final.

Application to council for relief from conditions of demolition permit

(11) Where a condition has been imposed under subsection (7) and the holder of the demolition permit considers that it is not possible to complete the new building within the time specified in the permit or where the holder of the permit is of the opinion that the construction of the new building has become not feasible on economic or other grounds, the permit holder may apply to the council of the municipality for relief from the conditions on which the permit was issued.

Notice of application

(12) Notice of application under subsection (11) shall be sent by registered mail to the clerk of the municipality not less than sixty days before the time specified in the permit for the completion of the new building and, where the council under subsection (14) extends the time for completion of the new building, application may similarly be made for relief by sending notice of application not less than sixty days before the expiry of the extended completion time.

Extension of time

(13) Despite subsection (12), the council may, at any time, extend the date specified in that subsection for the making of an application for relief from the conditions on which the permit was issued.

Powers of council on application

(14) Where an application is made under subsection (11), the council shall consider the application and may grant the same or may extend the time for completion of the new

building for such period of time and on such terms and conditions as the council considers appropriate or the council may relieve the person applying from the requirement of constructing the new building.

Appeal to O.M.B.

(15) Any person who has made application to the council under subsection (11) may appeal from the decision of the council to the Municipal Board within twenty days of the mailing of the notice of the decision, or where the council refuses or neglects to make a decision thereon within thirty days after the receipt by the clerk of the application, the applicant may appeal to the Municipal Board and the Board shall hear the appeal and the Board on the appeal has the same powers as the council has under subsection (14) and the decision of the Board shall be final.

Offence

(16) Every person who demolishes a residential property, or any portion thereof, in contravention of subsection (2) is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$50,000 for each dwelling unit contained in the residential property, the whole or any portion of which residential property has been demolished.

Standards for health and safety remain in force

(17) The provisions of any general or special Act and any by-law passed thereunder respecting standards relating to the health or safety of the occupants of buildings and structures remain in full force and effect in respect of residential property situate within an area of demolition control. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 33 (3-17).

Certain proceedings stayed

(18) Subject to subsection (17), an application to the council for a permit to demolish any residential property operates as a stay to any proceedings that may have been initiated under any by-law under section 15.1 of the *Building Code Act, 1992* or a predecessor thereof or under any special Act respecting maintenance or occupancy standards in respect of the residential property sought to be demolished, until the council disposes of the application, or where an appeal is taken under subsection (4), until the Municipal Board has heard the appeal and issued its order thereon. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 33 (18); 1997, c. 24, s. 226 (5).

Exemption re Building Code

(19) Where a permit to demolish residential property is obtained under this section, it is not necessary for the holder thereof to obtain the permit mentioned in subsection 8 (1) of the *Building Code Act, 1992*. R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, s. 33 (19); 1997, c. 24, s. 226 (6).