Council - Secure

Ontario Municipal Board

Office of the Chair

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September 27, 2006

To all Municipal Clerks and OMB Municipal Stakeholders:

I am writing to advise you that the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) will open a Citizen Liaison Office effective October 2, 2006 that will provide information and assistance to the public.

The Citizen Liaison Office will help the public to understand the OMB's processes and be better informed on how to participate at OMB hearings. It will complement the changes to planning legislation as the government proceeds with OMB reform.

The Citizen Liaison Office will:

- Provide information to the public about the OMB, such as how to file an appeal, the hearing process, and the issuance of decisions;
- Develop information materials about the OMB to assist the public;
- Be available to the public, either in person or by phone;
- Provide recommendations to the Board on how to improve access to the OMB and the transparency of its operations.

The OMB plays a critical role in Ontario's land-use planning process, ensuring that there is an independent, public body to settle land-use disputes. The Citizen Liaison Office will assist the public to participate effectively in the process.

The Citizen Liaison Office will be staffed and operating effective October 2, 2006. This office may be contacted at (416) 326-6800 or toll free 1-866-887-8820, or in person at 655 Bay Street, Suite 1500, Toronto.

Sincerely,

Marie Hubbard

Chair

Ontario Municipal Board

Capy: Jim Baid

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