

The Corporation of the

## **TOWN OF AJAX**

### **DRAFT RESOLUTION**

Moved by: Councillor Dies

Seconded by: Councillor Jordan

May 8, 2006

WHEREAS the Town of Ajax initiated an official plan review of the Ajax District Plan in 1997 which included an extensive public consultation process; and

WHEREAS a comprehensive public consultation process is an important component to any official plan review; and

WHEREAS the majority of the lands located east of Audley Road in Ajax were and are currently being actively farmed and used for agricultural purposes; and

WHEREAS there was public support to preserve the urban separator between Ajax and Whitby as an agricultural and environmental feature in compliance with the policies of the Durham Regional Official Plan; and

WHEREAS the Town of Ajax adopted a new Official Plan on April 17, 2000, which identified a fixed and ultimate urban boundary and as such, set aside sufficient land to achieve a balance between employment and housing opportunities to ensure that Ajax will be a financially viable, balanced and complete community; and

WHEREAS the Town of Ajax has designated a Rural Area beyond the fixed and ultimate urban boundary in the new Official Plan to establish a permanent countryside to permit the continued functioning of natural systems, maintain the rural pattern of large land holdings and a landscape dominated by agriculture, open fields and forests; and

WHEREAS the Ajax Official Plan was approved by the Region of Durham on November 1, 2000, with modifications and deferrals; and

WHEREAS the Ajax Official Plan came into full force and effect on November 23, 2000, save and except for portions deferred or appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board; and

WHEREAS only one landowner (i.e. Stroud Family) from the Audley - Lake Ridge Landowners Group appealed the Rural Area designation in the Ajax Official Plan as it applied to their lands (southwest corner of Kingston Road and Lake Ridge Road) and did not pursue their appeal; and  
WHEREAS the Town of Ajax supports the vision of the Greenbelt Plan to provide for a diverse range of rural communities, agriculture, tourism, recreation and resource uses; gives permanent protection to natural systems; and supports agriculture as the predominant land use; and  
WHEREAS the Greenbelt Plan reinforces the Rural Area designation in the Ajax Official Plan by

establishing a permanent countryside; and

WHEREAS the Town of Ajax forwarded a staff report dated December 6, 2004, to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing as the Town's comments regarding the Greenbelt Draft Plan, October 2004, requesting among other matters, that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing include all the lands located north of Taunton Road and east of Audley Road in Ajax, that are designated Rural Area in the Ajax Official Plan, as part of the Greenbelt Plan; and

WHEREAS Durham Regional Commissioner's Report 2004-P-89 dated December 7, 2004, regarding the Greenbelt Draft Plan recommended that to maintain the network of open space connections between Lake Ontario and the Moraine, the width of the Greenbelt between Ajax and Whitby, and the inclusion of the Greenbelt between Courtice and Bowmanville should reflect the Major Open Space urban separators established in the Durham Regional Official Plan, for almost 30 years; and

WHEREAS Durham Regional Commissioner's Reports 2000-P-55, 2001-P-79 and 2002-P-58 regarding site specific amendments within the Ajax and Whitby urban separator all indicate that the proposals were contrary to the fundamental regional structure by eroding the urban separator that performs vital urban separator and ecological functions linking the Lake Ontario waterfront with the Oak Ridges Moraine; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing included all the lands located north of Taunton Road and east of Audley Road in Ajax as part of the Greenbelt Plan as approved on February 28, 2005;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Ajax reaffirms and continues to fully support the inclusion of all lands located north of Taunton Road and east of Audley Road in Ajax within the Greenbelt Plan; and

That the Ajax Council resolution be forwarded to the Greenbelt Council and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in opposition to Durham Regional Council's Resolution # /06 regarding the removal of the lands located within the area bound by Taunton Road, Highway 401, Audley Road and Lake Ridge Road from the Greenbelt Plan in the Town of Ajax; and

That Ajax Council direct staff to take any and all appropriate action required to oppose Durham Regional Council Resolution # /06.

I declare the resolution carried.

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Mayor