File No. 028133/000017

November 15, 2013

Delivered by Email

Chair and Members of Planning Committee
Clerks Department
City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West, First Floor
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Attention: Vanessa Robicheau

Dear Chair and Members of Planning Committee:

Re: Horizon Utilities Corporation
Fruitland-Winona Secondary Plan
Statutory Public Meeting November 19, 2013

As you may be aware, we act for Horizon Utilities Corporation ("Horizon") and have participated in the approval of the Fruitland-Winona Secondary Plan ("Secondary Plan") process. Horizon owns property at 703 Highway No. 8 in Stoney Creek ("Subject Property").

HISTORY

As stated above, our client and Borden Ladner Gervais LLP ("BLG") have been participating in the Secondary Plan approval process in an extensive manner with the City of Hamilton Planning staff. Numerous discussions and informal emails have been exchanged between the client and City staff as well as between BLG and City staff with respect to the drafting of the Secondary Plan policies, prior to Council adoption of the Secondary Plan on June 26, 2013. In addition, formal letters were exchanged between BLG and City staff, specifically dated, December 13, 2011 (BLG to City staff); February 28 2012 (response from City staff); April 17, 2012 (BLG meeting with City staff); May 15, 2012 (BLG to City staff); and July 6, 2012 (response from City staff).

On June 4, 2013, the recommendation by Planning staff to Planning Committee was to recommend to Council to approve the Secondary Plan, which was an amendment to both the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth Official Plan and the former City of Stoney Creek.
Official Plan. The Secondary Plan was approved, with modifications, by Council on June 26, 2013.

Furthermore, on June 4th, the Planning report recommended that Council receive the draft Secondary Plan (Official Plan Amendment) to the Urban Hamilton Official Plan ("UHOP") and be held in abeyance until such time as the relevant sections of the UHOP come into force and effect, and at which time, Planning and Economic Development staff be directed and authorized to hold a Statutory Public Meeting to consider the proposed Secondary Plan (Official Plan Amendment) to the UHOP. The UHOP at that time was before the Ontario Municipal Board.

We understand that the UHOP was approved by the Ontario Municipal Board recently and it replaced the Stoney Creek Official Plan, including the Official Amendment for the Fruitland-Winona Secondary Plan that was adopted by Council on June 26th. As such, the adopted Secondary Plan has no effect and must be before a new Statutory Public Meeting to bring the Official Plan Amendment into the UHOP.

REQUEST

We have reviewed the latest draft Secondary Plan which provides some modifications to the June 4th draft to Planning Committee and Council’s adoption on June 26th. At this time, our client continues to support the version that was presented to Planning Committee on June 4th, without Council’s modifications.

Planning staff’s June 4, 2013 version allows for the following permissions at the Subject Property:

- The Subject Property was designated Utilities with Special Policy Area B.
- Utilities designation permits:
  - major facilities, corridors, easements and rights-of-way for utilities and services, such as electric power, natural gas and oil pipelines, telecommunication, storm water management, solid waste management outside Employment Areas, water and wastewater service;
  - municipal works yards outside Employment Areas;
  - parking lots in conjunction with adjacent uses;
  - open space uses such as trails and community gardens;
  - transportation yards;
  - heavy rail corridors and main lines; and,
  - waste management facilities.
- Special Policy Area B permits: In addition to Utilities uses and any use considered as part of the essential operations of a utility, Medium Density Residential 2 designation in accordance with the associated policies and subject to:
  - A Zoning By-law amendment to permit the residential use; and
  - A record of site conditions is submitted prior to or at the time of application.
- The maximum height is 6 storeys.

In the current draft to Planning Committee on November 19, 2013:
The Subject Property is designated Utilities with Special Policy Area B.

Utilities designation permits:
  - all the same uses listed in the June 4th version, except that transportation yards and waste management facilities are not permitted.

Special Policy Area B permits: In addition to Utilities uses and any use considered as part of the essential operations of a utility, Medium Density Residential 2 designation in accordance with the associated policies and subject to:
  - A Zoning By-law amendment to permit the residential use; and
  - A record of site conditions is submitted prior to or at the time of application.

The maximum height is 4 storeys.

In light of the above and to protect our client’s property rights, our client is requesting that Planning Committee consider approving what was before Planning Committee on June 4th of this year with respect to the Subject Property. Specifically, allowing a maximum height of 6 storeys in the Medium Density Residential 2 Designation and permitting “transportation yards” and “waste management facilities” in the “Utilities” designation.

Furthermore, we kindly ask to be placed on the circulation list to receive any future public/Committee/Council meeting notices regarding this matter, as well as, Committee/Council decisions relating to same.

We thank Planning Committee in advance for your consideration of this request. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Best regards,

May Luong, MCIP, RPP

cc: Alissa Mahood, City of Hamilton, Planning & Economic Development
    Joseph Almeida, Horizon Utilities Corp.

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