

Proposed City of Windsor Council Resolution – Bill 229 (Skd. 6) Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act

That the Windsor City Council, given the provincial government's recent passage Bill 229 adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS on November 5, 2020, the Government of Ontario introduced Bill 229, the Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020, which proposes changes to Conservation Authorities' permitting, planning and enforcement powers (contained in Schedule 6);

AND WHEREAS Conservation Authorities play a critical role protecting our environment and natural heritage, mitigating natural hazards, and supporting municipal partners by providing an environmental, conservation and risk assessment lens on development applications;

AND WHEREAS proposed changes in Schedule 6 of Bill 229 have raised concerns amongst Conservation Authorities, First Nations, the Association of Municipalities Ontario, dozens of individual municipalities, environmental groups, the Ontario's Big City Mayors, Professional Associations in agriculture and engineering as well as others and community members in Windsor;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Province of Ontario repeal Schedule 6 of the Budget Measures Act (Bill 229);
- (b) That the Province continue to work with Conservation Authorities across Ontario to find workable solutions to reduce red tape and create conditions for growth;
- (c) That the Province respect the current Conservation Authority / Municipal relationships;
- (d) That the Province embrace their long-standing partnership with the Conservation Authorities and provide them with the tools and financial resources they need to effectively implement their watershed management role; and
- (e) That this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance; Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment; Honourable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry; Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; local MPPs; the local Media; Conservation Ontario, the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).