

Appendix C

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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE
Mayor's Office

January 15, 2025
The Honourable Jill Dunlop
Minister of Education
5th Floor, 438 University Avenue
Toronto, ON M7A 2A5
Jill.Dunlop@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Dunlop,

On Friday January 10, 2025 the City received a decision from Minister Calandra on an outstanding request for a CIHA/MZO application submitted by Innovative Planning Solutions on behalf of Greenworld Construction Inc. to facilitate the development of 4,054 residential units, provided through high-rise buildings and townhouses as well as commercial uses and a school block at 175 and 199 Essa Road and 50 Wood Street in Barrie.

The City remains committed to getting more homes, built faster. The intention behind the CIHA / MZO request was to establish the land use planning principles and the matter of two school boards requesting school sites. The city expected the more detailed planning processes such as draft plan of subdivision and site plan would have addressed the usual technical items. Nonetheless, we will work through the municipal planning approvals process for this site to bring more housing and community uses to the City of Barrie. The issue of which school board will develop on this site however is outside of our local control and we continue to seek assistance to resolve this matter.

As you will see from the included maps below, the applicant was prepared to give one 6 acre school block to develop as one school site or a joint school block but there is not sufficient land available for 2 separate parcels of this size (6 acres each) on the site to accommodate two standard built form schools for the largest school boards in the area (Simcoe County District School Board and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board). If 12 acres were required for both school boards it takes a large portion of the site. However, it is proposed they work together on a shared urban school site. Both school boards indicated a site was needed according to their population projections.

With the introduction Bill 98, the Education Minister may "direct two or more boards to enter into an arrangement with each other for the joint construction, ownership, control, management, maintenance, operation, location or use of a school site, part of a school site or other property of a board." As such, in the interest of resolving the issues on this site in order to get more homes built for Barrie and Ontario, we are asking you Minister to encourage the Simcoe County District School Board and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board to work together on a possible joint school location or for resolution on this site with a single school board. Should neither school board require this land, City Council passed the following motion on March 6, 2024, as a provision:

That if the Simcoe County District School Board and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board do not exercise the option to construct a school in this development, that the land be conveyed at no cost to the City for the purpose of parkland.

Thank you for your assistance on this important matter. As you know this is a large site at a key location in Barrie that has been undeveloped for years and I look forward to resolving this.

Sincerely,

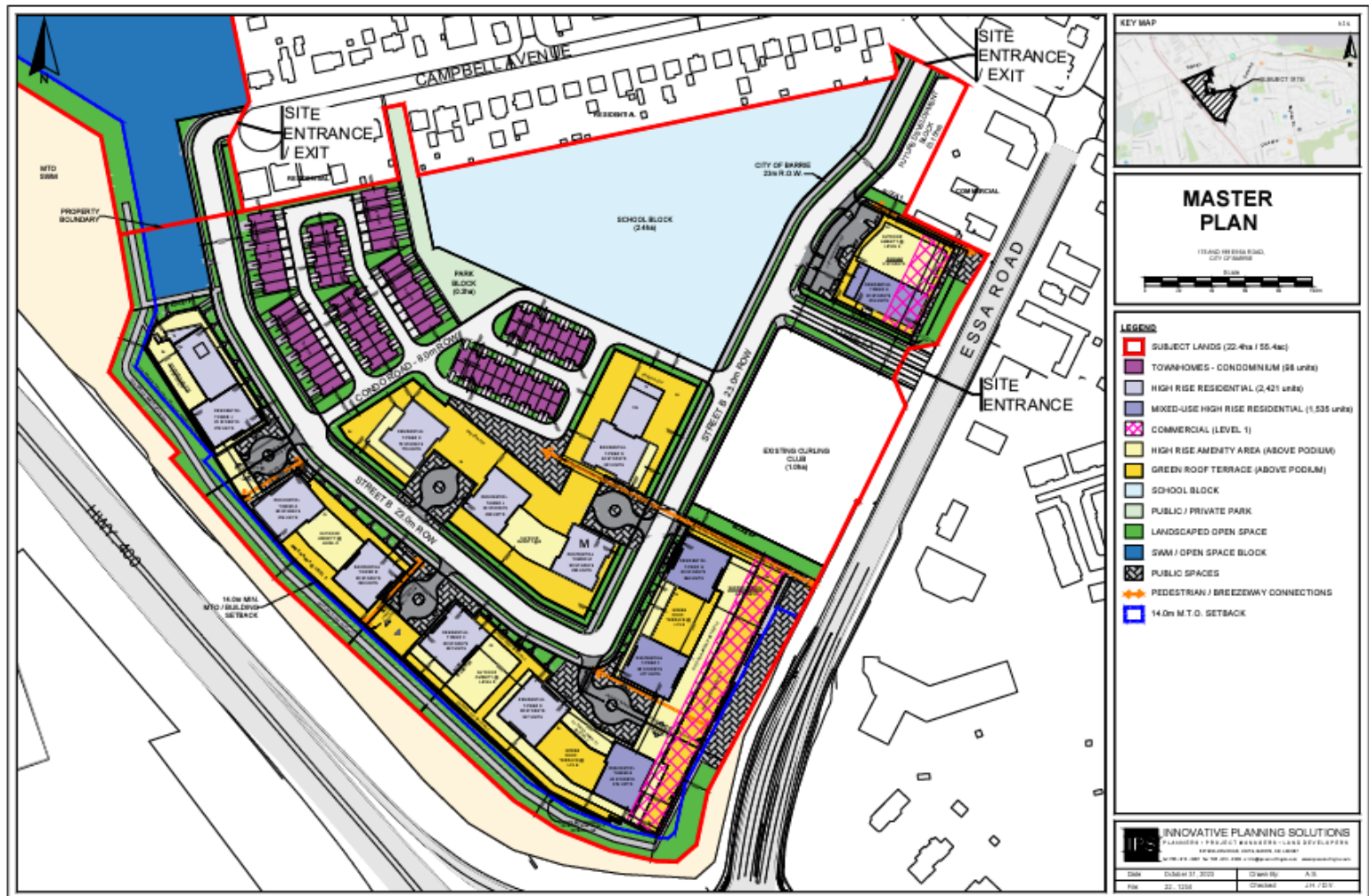
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Nuttall', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Alex Nuttall
Mayor of Barrie

cc: Minister Calandra
CAO Michael Prowse
Scott.Allinson@ontario.ca

Attachment: 2 Maps

6 acre site Approved by Council



12 acre concept if both school boards required 6 acres each

Potential Land for Two School Sites

