

**The Corporation of the Township of Springwater**  
**By-law 2025-042**

**Being a By-law to authorize the Mayor to engage in discussion with the City of  
Barrie and the Province regarding the Barrie Boundary Proposal**

(City of Barrie Boundary Discussions)

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**Whereas** pursuant to 284.11.1(2) of The Municipal Act, 2001 (the “Act”), if the head of council is of the opinion that a by-law could potentially advance a prescribed provincial priority, the head of council may propose a by-law to the Council and require the council to consider and vote on the proposed by-law at a meeting; and;

**Whereas** pursuant to 284.11.1(3) of the Act, the Mayor shall provide a copy of any by-law proposed under 284.11.1(2) of the Act, together with the Mayor’s reasons for the proposal, to the Clerk and to each member of Council;

**Whereas** Hemson Consulting (“Hemson”) was jointly retained by the Township of Springwater, Township of Oro-Medonte, County of Simcoe and City of Barrie (the parties) to evaluate the need for additional residential and employment lands at the boundaries of Barrie/Springwater and Barrie/Oro-Medonte and produced a report (Hemson Report); and,

**Whereas** the Province is encouraging a local solution to assist in its mandate; and,

**Whereas** pursuant to Ontario Regulation 580/22, building 1.5 million new residential units by December 31, 2031 and constructing and maintaining infrastructure to support housing is a provincial priority prescribed for the purposes of subsection 284.11.1(2) of the Act; and,

**Whereas** the head of council for the Township of Springwater is of the opinion that the passage of a by-law authorizing the Mayor to engage in discussion with the City of Barrie and report back to Council advances the prescribed provincial priority of building 1.5 million homes by 2031.

**Now Therefore**, the Council of the Township of Springwater enacts as follows:

1. That the Mayor be authorized and directed to engage in direct discussions with the City of Barrie and Province in order to expedite an economical, mutually satisfactory outcome and bring back an offer of agreement to Township Council for consideration in an open meeting.
2. Notwithstanding any previous resolutions regarding the Barrie Boundary Discussions, this by-law shall take precedence.

**Passed in open Council this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.**

**Original Signed by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Coughlin, Mayor

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Jennifer Marshall, Clerk

By signing this By-law on May 8, 2025, Mayor Jennifer Coughlin will not exercise the power to veto this By-law.

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**Reasons for By-law Proposed  
pursuant to 284.11.1(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001**

**Date:** May 7, 2025

**To:** Members of Council

**And To:** Jennifer Marshall, Clerk

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Whereas pursuant to 284.11.1(2) of The Municipal Act, 2001 (the “Act”), if the Mayor is of the opinion that a by-law could potentially advance a prescribed provincial priority, the Mayor may propose a by-law to the Council and require the Council to consider and vote on the proposed by-law at a meeting; and,

Whereas pursuant to 284.11.1(3) of the Act, the Mayor shall provide a copy of any by-law proposed under 284.11.1(2) of the Act, together with the Mayor’s reasons for the proposal, to the Clerk and to each member of Council;

Therefore, in accordance with 284.11.1(3) of the Act, I Jennifer Coughlin, Mayor of the Township of Springwater, provide the following reasons for the proposal of a By-law to authorize the Mayor to speak directly with the City of Barrie regarding the Barrie Boundary Proposal (the “By-law”).

The reasons for the proposal of the By-law are as follows:

1. The By-law could potentially support the provincial priority set out in paragraph 1 of O. Reg. 580/22 of “Building 1.5 million new residential units by December 31, 2031”. In particular, discussion with the City of Barrie and Province could potentially support this provincial priority because it realizes a potential opportunity to create new housing units.
  2. The By-law could potentially support the provincial priority set out in paragraph 2 of O. Reg 580/22 Constructing and maintaining infrastructure to support housing.
  3. The By-law could support the province’s desire for a local solution to assist in its mandate.
  4. Since 2023, the Council of the Township of Springwater has been considering a proposed boundary adjustment between the Township and City of Barrie with no timeline for conclusion.
  5. In November 2023, the Council of the Township of Springwater terminated discussions with the City of Barrie regarding cross-border servicing and proposed boundary adjustments.
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6. In 2024, the Township of Springwater agreed to discussions led by a provincially facilitated process with the City of Barrie, Township of Oro-Medonte and County of Simcoe.
7. In March 2024, Council reaffirmed termination of discussions with the City of Barrie regarding proposed boundary adjustments.
8. In 2025, the facilitated process advanced to Stage 3, with no timeline for conclusion.
9. I, Jennifer Coughlin, Mayor of the Township of Springwater, am of the opinion that a by-law is required to authorize the Mayor to engage in direct discussions with the City of Barrie and Province in order to expediate an economical, mutually satisfactory outcome and report back to Council for consideration in an open meeting.

**“Original Signed By”**

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Jennifer Coughlin, Mayor

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