

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère des  
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234-2026-1390

April 22, 2026

Dear Head of Council:

I am writing to update you on amendments to Ontario Regulation 584/06 under the *Municipal Act, 2001* (MA) and O. Reg 595/06 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* (COTA) that were filed on April 17, 2026. These changes come into force on July 16, 2026.

As you know, since spring 2024 the province has encouraged municipalities designing stormwater fees and charges to ensure that there are no unintended consequences that would disproportionately impact farmers and greenhouse operators.

In the province's 2025 Fall Economic Statement, our government stressed the importance of the agri-food sector and that protecting Ontario's local agriculture and food industry is essential to ensuring a strong, self-sufficient food supply chain.

Agricultural properties generally have invested in their own stormwater-mitigating measures and have large areas of green space that contribute significantly to stormwater runoff management.

In this respect, the province is making changes to remove the authority for municipalities to impose stormwater fees and charges on portions of properties that are classified in the farm or managed forests property class, if they are not connected to a municipal storm sewer.

As we continue to work together to build up our communities, I look forward to our continued collaboration in investing in key infrastructure projects while making life more affordable for members of the agri-food sector and supporting the viability of their operations. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert J. Flack".

Hon. Robert J. Flack  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Municipal Chief Administrative Officer and/or Treasurer  
Hon. Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness  
Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ryan Puviraj, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness  
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Laurie Miller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division,  
Municipal Affairs and Housing