

POLICY TITLE Minister's Zoning Order Council Support

EFFECTIVE DATE 10/28/2021

REVIEW DATE 10/28/2023

POLICY

Minister's Zoning Orders (MZO) are a tool that is in place which allows the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to expedite the government priorities, including transit-oriented communities, affordable housing, long-term care homes and strategic economic recovery projects by removing potential barriers and delays that may occur during the regulated planning process. **The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing is the sole approval authority for an MZO. MZOs are not required to follow the typical planning process as prescribed in the *Planning Act*.**

Although not a requirement of the Planning Act, the Minister has required that any request for an MZO must have the support of City Council before the request will be considered. This policy outlines the process for the consideration of a request for support from Council of an MZO.

Any request for support of an MZO must include a planning justification report. The MZO request will be presented to Council for consideration. Council may approve the request for support based on the information provided in the planning justification report and may request that any or all of the following requirements be complied with by the requester of an MZO before it will consider the request:

- Consult with the public including affected stakeholders
- Circulation of the proposal for an initial review to:
 - Region of Waterloo
 - Grand River Conservation Authority
 - City of Cambridge
- Completion of a Transportation Impact Study
- Completion of a Heritage Impact Assessment if the property is a listed or designated property or adjacent to a listed or designated property