



Notice of Adoption of Official Plan Amendment No. 63 And Passing of Zoning By-Law Amendment 2025-32

File number:	Plan 22 262723
Applicant:	Bahá'i National Centre and Temple
Property Address/Location:	7200 and 7290 Leslie Street
Date of decision:	April 22, 2025
Date of notice:	May 6, 2025
Last date to appeal:	May 27, 2025

Take notice that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Markham approved By-law 2025-31 to adopt Official Plan Amendment No. 63 and passed Zoning By-law Amendment No. 2025-32 on the 22nd of April, 2025, under Sections 17, 22 and 34, respectively of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended. The Council, in making its decision, took into consideration all written and oral submissions received from the public on this matter.

This proposed Official Plan Amendment is exempt from approval by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The decision of the Council is final if a notice of appeal is not received before or on the last day for filing a notice of appeal.

Purpose And Effect

The purpose and effect of the Official Plan Amendment and the Zoning By-law Amendment is to facilitate the development of a new Bahá'i National Centre building that includes administrative offices, meeting rooms, and lodging facilities at 7200 Leslie Street, and a National Temple building for the Bahá'i faith at 7290 Leslie Street

Location

The 16.56 ha (40.9 ac) Subject Lands are located on the west side of Leslie Street (7200 and 7290 Leslie Street), approximately 520 m (1,706 ft) north of Steeles Avenue, and the northeast corner of Leslie Street and Steeles Avenue (7015 Leslie Street).

Appeal Information

Any appeals to the Ontario Land Tribunal ("OLT") in respect to the Official Plan Amendment and the Zoning By-Law Amendment must be made by filing a written notice of appeal with the City Clerk of The Corporation of the City of Markham, **no later than 4:30 p.m. on May 27, 2025**, shown above as the last date to appeal. Notice of Appeal may be mailed or hand delivered to the City Clerk at the address noted below, or submitted via the OLT e-file service at [E-File Portal | Ontario Land Tribunal \(gov.on.ca\)](https://www.ontario.ca/gov/e-file-portal) by selecting Markham as the Approval Authority. If the E-file portal is down, you may send an email to notifications@markham.ca.

The Notice of Appeal must:

- (1) set out reasons for the appeal and specific part of the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments to which the appeal applies,



- (2) be accompanied by the fee required by the [Ontario Land Tribunal \(gov.on.ca\)](http://gov.on.ca), which can be paid by certified cheque/money order addressed to the Minister of Finance or through [E-file](#), and
- (3) be accompanied by the fee of \$310.19, payable by certified cheque/money order to the City of Markham.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the Official Plan Amendment was adopted or before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the Council or, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

The public may view planning documents at the Development Services Commission front counter during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. Questions may be directed to Rick Cefaratti MCIP, RPP, Senior Planner, Planning and Urban Design Department, at (905) 477-7000, ext. 3675 or via email at rcefaratti@markham.ca.

Dated at the City of Markham this 6th of May, 2025.

Kimberley Kitteringham City Clerk
The Corporation of the City of Markham,
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3



Explanatory Note

In consideration of the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment applications, the first of two Statutory Public Meeting was held on May 23, 2023. Thirty-nine written submissions were received, and 40 deputations were made, both in support and objection to the Proposed Development. Support was based on the need for a National Baha'i Temple in Markham to pray and practice their faith. Other supportive comments were based on how the new National Centre will promote unity in the community and the fact that the Baha'i faith attracts people from various backgrounds and that gatherings and activities are open to everyone. Concerns raised related to the scale of the proposed development and that it should be located on a major arterial road instead. In addition, concerns were raised that the proposed development would invade the privacy of the existing residents as well as a perceived disruption to the natural habitat and wildlife. Concerns were also raised with respect to a proposed emergency access route through the German Mills Meadow in order to address the fact that a portion of Leslie Street is currently located within a regulatory floodplain and that safe access during an extreme weather event could not be provided through Leslie Street.

A second statutory Public Meeting was held on May 28, 2024. Twenty-two written submissions were received, and 29 deputations were made, both in support and objection to the Proposed Development. Support was based on the many youth programs the Baha'i offers to the community and the openness provided to people from all backgrounds. Concerns raised related to reduced parking supply and that the proposal would provide a detrimental impact to the community and to the German Mills Meadow.

The staff recommendation report outlined how other concerns have been addressed which were considered in Council's decision to approve the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment applications.



Location map will be placed here.

