
Letter from the City of Kelowna

From Fiona Hands <FHands@kelowna.ca>

Date Tue 6/30/2026 9:04 AM

To minister.transportation@gov.bc.ca <minister.transportation@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, HMA HMA:EX
<hma.minister@gov.bc.ca>

Cc Doug Gilchrist <DGilchrist@kelowna.ca>; Axelle Bazett <ABazett@kelowna.ca>

 1 attachment (132 KB)

2026 06 30 Farnworth Boyle Letter from Mayor Dyas City of Kelowna Re TOA.pdf;

Dear Minister Farnworth and Minister Boyle,

Sending on behalf of His Worship Tom Dyas, Mayor of the City of Kelowna.

Sincerely,

Fiona Hands

Executive Assistant to Mayor and Council

Executive Office | City of Kelowna

250-469-8687 | fhands@kelowna.ca

Connect with the City | kelowna.ca

Kelowna is located on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the syilx/Okanagan people.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 30, 2026

The Honourable Mike Farnworth
Minister of Transportation and Transit
Government of British Columbia

The Honourable Christine Boyle
Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Government of British Columbia

VIA EMAIL: Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Farnworth and Minister Boyle,

Re: Exemption request for the Kelowna General Hospital Transit Oriented Area (TOA) designation

On behalf of Council, I am writing following a resolution adopted by Council at our June 15, 2026 public meeting regarding the Province's designation of Kelowna General Hospital as a Transit-Oriented Area (TOA). Council requests that the Abbott Street Heritage Conservation Area (HCA) be excluded from the Provincial regulations. The current TOA overlaps with the City's HCA, creating policy uncertainty and tension between the preservation of some of our community's heritage buildings and future growth.

The Abbott Street corridor is one of Kelowna's historic neighbourhoods, with some of the city's earliest residential properties, dating back to 1904, still intact. Its HCA designation reflects decades of community investment, policy development, and stewardship to protect its distinct character, mature streetscape, and cultural value. The area is also a vibrant community corridor, including a popular Active Transportation Corridor used by commuters and recreational cyclists.

The City of Kelowna has been an early adopter and leader in implementing Provincial housing legislation to increase housing supply and advance transit-oriented development. However, in listening to residents' concerns, Council views the current TOA designation as confusing and difficult to regulate given the context of the established heritage protections for this neighbourhood.

We respectfully request that the Province expedites a decision on an amendment to the Kelowna General Hospital TOA designation to exclude the Abbott Street HCA.

We value our ongoing collaboration with your ministries and look forward to your response.

Sincerely on behalf of Council,

Mayor Tom Dyas



City Hall | 1435 Water Street, Kelowna BC V1Y 1J4
TEL 250-469-8980 | FAX 250-862-3399
mayorandcouncil@kelowna.ca
kelowna.ca

From: [Axelle Bazett](#)
To: Stefan.avlijas@gov.bc.ca
Subject: Fwd: Letter from the City of Kelowna
Date: June 30, 2026 9:53:25 AM
Attachments: [2026-06-30 Farnworth Boyle Letter from Mayor Dyas City of Kelowna Re TOA.pdf](#)

Response can be sent to:

Tdyas@kelowna.ca

Mayorandcouncil@kelowna.ca

Dgilchrist@kelowna.ca

Axelle Bazett | City of Kelowna

Cell | [REDACTED]

Sent from my mobile

Begin forwarded message:

From: Fiona Hands <FHands@kelowna.ca>
Date: June 30, 2026 at 9:05:33 AM PDT
To: minister.transportation@gov.bc.ca, "Minister, HMA HMA:EX" <hma.minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Doug Gilchrist <DGilchrist@kelowna.ca>, Axelle Bazett <ABazett@kelowna.ca>
Subject: Letter from the City of Kelowna

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kelowna.ca

From: [Axelle Bazett](#)
To: [Laura Bentley](#); [Ryan Smith](#)
Cc: [Michelle Kam](#)
Subject: TOA letter Fwd: Letter from the City of Kelowna
Date: June 30, 2026 9:36:54 AM
Attachments: [2026-06-30 Farnworth Boyle Letter from Mayor Dyas City of Kelowna Re TOA.pdf](#)

See attached, letter sent and please refer to approach **S. 13(1)**

Laura: for you to advance/share with Council via M&C correspondence. Once Councillors have it then can advance to residents who requested it.

Ryan, please share accordingly with those on your team who need this.

I have advised **S. 13(1)**. Usually **S. 13(1)**.

Thanks and let me know if you need anything additional from me.

Axelle

Axelle Bazett | City of Kelowna
Cell | **[REDACTED]**
Sent from my mobile

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Date: June 30, 2026 at 9:05:33 AM PDT
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