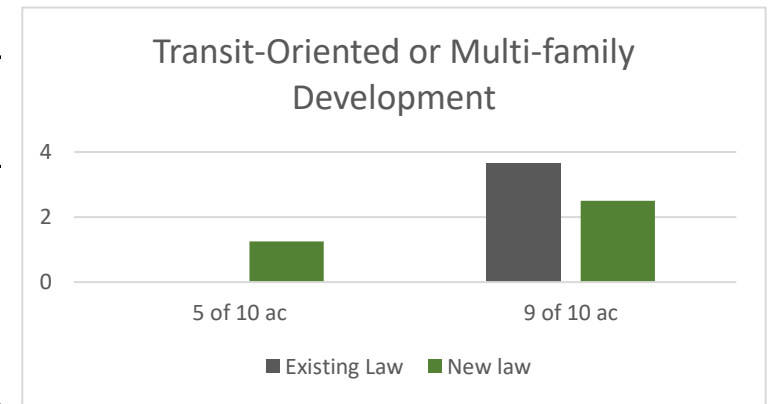
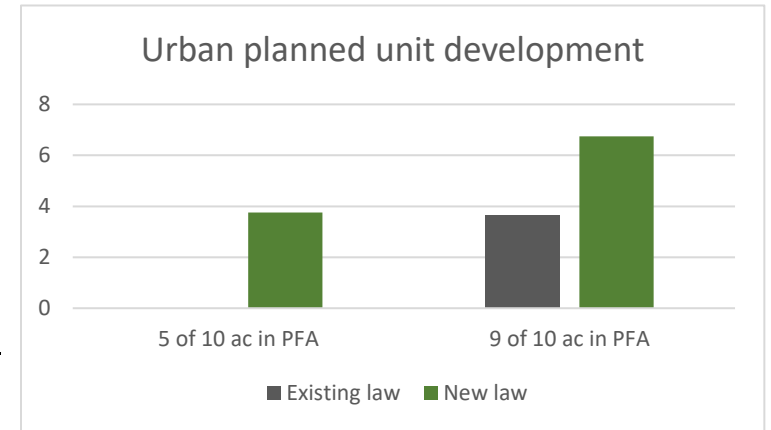
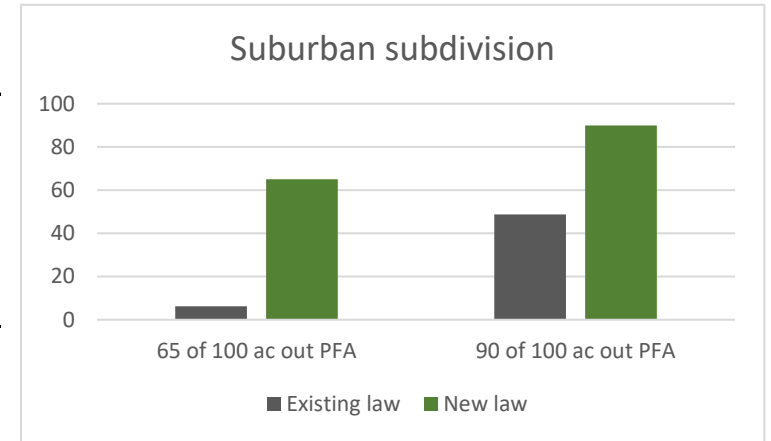


# Forest Conservation Act updates: SB 526 / HB 723 of 2023

	Existing FCA 1991	New FCA 2023
<b>Replanting ratios</b>	1/4:1 above conservation threshold 2:1 below conservation threshold Acre-for-acre offset for forest retained above conservation threshold	1:1 priority forest 1:1 standard forest outside PFAs 1/2:1 standard forest inside PFAs 1/4:1 TOD and multi-family housing Eliminates retention offset Allows local no-net-loss alternative
<b>Priority forest</b>	Environmentally sensitive areas including stream buffers, steep slopes, wetland buffers, etc.  Largest, most contiguous tracts of forest on site  Trees associated with rare, threatened, or endangered species, historic sites, and champion trees	Environmentally sensitive areas including stream buffers, steep slopes, wetland buffers, etc.  Largest, most contiguous tracts of forest on site  Trees associated with rare, threatened, or endangered species, historic sites, and champion trees FIDS, Tier II & III watersheds, drinking water areas, largest contiguous forest patches Significant urban forest patches Written justification for clearing Public notice & comment
<b>Preservation banking</b>	Local practice with no restrictions	Permanent allowance for up to 50% of mitigation obligation (60% with DNR approval)
<b>Utility exemption</b>	Energy generation footprint and transmission exempt from the FCA	Energy generation footprint subject to FCA (solar facilities subject to reforestation but not afforestation)
<b>Other mitigation tools</b>	Offsite afforestation Street trees (in urban areas) Natural regeneration Enhanced landscaping Fee-in-lieu	Offsite afforestation Street trees (in urban areas) Restoration of degraded forest (in urban areas) Enhanced green stormwater management (urban) Natural regeneration Enhanced landscaping Fee-in-lieu



Charts show acres of mitigation required for hypothetical representative projects. X-axis labels indicate amount cleared of total forest on-site. Suburban site is fully forested. Urban site (graphs 2 & 3) is 12 acres with 5 acres of standard forest and 5 acres of priority forest.