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Report 2024-078

Report Title: Northumberland Next - Public Meeting for Growth Management Official Plan Amendment (2024)

Committee Name: Economic Development, Tourism and Planning

Committee Meeting Date: June 5, 2024

Prepared by: Dwayne Campbell
Director (Acting)
Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Initiatives

Approved by: Jennifer Moore, CAO

Council Meeting Date: June 19, 2024

Strategic Plan Priorities: Innovate for Service Excellence
 Ignite Economic Opportunity
 Foster a Thriving Community
 Propel Sustainable Growth
 Champion a Vibrant Future

Information Report

“That the Economic Development, Tourism and Planning Committee, receive Report 2024-078 ‘Northumberland Next - Public Meeting for Growth Management Official Plan Amendment (2024)’, for information; and

Further That the Committee recommend that County Council receive this report for information.”

Purpose

This report introduces a revised official plan amendment as part of the County Official Plan Update, Northumberland Next. The purpose of the amendment is to include updated policies on growth management in accordance with Provincial policy.

Background

The growth management amendment is one of a series of amendments required to update the County Official Plan in accordance Provincial requirements.

In 2021, County Council supported a Long-Term Growth Forecast and Urban Land Needs Analysis report prepared as part of the growth management component of the County Official Plan Update. Draft growth management amendments were prepared and presented to Council in 2021 and 2022. An updated amendment (2024) is now being presented.

Consultations

In December 2021, Northumberland County launched the public consultation process for the amendment with a virtual presentation of our Growth Management Report and an online public review and comment period, which is currently ongoing.

In spring 2022, County staff hosted a virtual open house and public meeting to provide additional information and opportunities for public feedback.

With the consolidated feedback from the first two rounds of consultation, the project team has now prepared updated mapping and reports and is hosting an additional open house and public meeting in May/June 2024.

County staff have also consulted with member municipal planning teams throughout the process.

All information, including map schedules, technical reports and the draft policies are available on the project page JoinIn.Northumberland.ca. Notice about the open house and public meeting was advertised on social media, in online newspapers and mail-out to residents within the vicinity of the expansion areas. An additional public consultation event will be held in Port Hope this summer.

Legislative Authority / Risk Considerations

Notice and hosting of all open house events and public meetings are undertaken in accordance with the *Planning Act*.

Discussion / Options

A memo / information report, prepared by Meridian Planning Consultants, dated April 5, 2024, is attached and provides the details about the growth management amendment, process and next steps (refer to attachment 1).

In summary, the intent of the amendment is to:

- allocate population, employment and housing forecasts to local municipalities and establish a local planning policy framework to support growth and development in accordance with Provincial requirements;
- expand the Port Hope Urban Area to accommodate forecasted employment and community uses;
- remove the existing Major Employment Area (Potential Location) identifier on the Schedules and replace it with a re-configured Major Employment Area designation, which will be in the expanded Port Hope Urban Area;
- Expand the Grafton Rural Settlement Area in two locations in response to a request made by the Township of Alnwick-Haldimand;

- Expand the Codrington Rural Settlement Area at the request of a landowner;
- Modify the boundaries of the Campbellford and Hastings Urban Areas so that they match up with existing and potential development areas; and
- Modify the boundaries of the Trent River, Crowe River, Baltimore, Hamilton West and Hamilton East, Precious Corners, Camborne, Harwood, Campbellcroft, Osaca, Welcome, Orland, Hilton, Smithfield, Eddystone, Vernonville, Lakeport, Wicklow, Roseneath, Dundonald, Salem and Castleton Rural Settlement Areas so that they match up with existing and potential development areas.

Financial Impact

The growth management amendment is within the Council approved budget for the Official Plan update that was approved in 2020.

Member Municipality Impacts

Once the amendment has been approved by the Province, each of the local municipalities will need to update their official plans to ensure that they conform to the County Official Plan.

Conclusion / Outcomes

A revised growth management amendment has been prepared by Meridian Planning Consultants and is attached for information along with a copy of the draft official plan policies and map schedules.

Attachments

1. Report 2024-078 ATTACH 1 'Public Meeting Information Report, Meridian Planning Consultants Inc. (April 24, 2024)'
2. Report 2024-078 ATTACH 2 'Draft Official Plan Amendment No. 2 (April 24, 2024)'