

Information Sheet on the Proposed Updated County of Renfrew Official Plan Five Year Review (Amendment No. 25) Summer 2016

Background

The County of Renfrew is updating its Official Plan, which was approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 2003. An official plan is a policy document that guides the physical growth, use of land and development of a community.

The Ontario *Planning Act* requires official plans to be reviewed and updated at five year intervals to ensure they meet the needs of the community, have regard to provincial interests (e.g., protecting ecological systems, conservation of mineral aggregate resources, appropriate locations of growth and development), and are consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS).

The five year review of the County of Renfrew Official Plan is a multi-phased project that will eventually result in changes to the Official Plan by way of an amendment to the document (Official Plan Amendment No. 25 is the assigned number for this purpose). The County of Renfrew is responsible for preparing and adopting Official Plan Amendment No. 25 and the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) is responsible at the provincial level for approval of the amendment. A draft of the bold (highlighted) and strikethrough version of the proposed updated April 2016 Official Plan (including all map schedules) has been prepared for discussion purposes and is available at the County office, at any local municipal office or on the County of Renfrew website at

<http://www.countyofrenfrew.on.ca/departments/development-and-property/planning-and-land-division/official-plans-and-amendments/>

Summary of Major Changes

This Information Sheet is intended as a summary of the changes proposed to the Official Plan. Please consult the updated April 2016 Official Plan for all the changes.

Section 1 – Introduction

- References Appendix 'A' to the Plan which identifies projected population figures for lower-tier municipalities and indicates these projections are not targets or allocations and no amendment to the Plan is required for any deviation from them. Subsection 1.3(8), page 3
- Adds reference to Section 15, Local Official Plan – Township of Laurentian Valley, a new section which contains general policy guidelines for the Township of Laurentian Valley local Official Plan; only section of the County Official Plan that applies to Laurentian Valley – Subsection 1.5, page 7
- Adds the Townships of Laurentian Hills and McNab/Braeside to the list of municipalities that will utilize the County Official Plan as their local Official Plan – Subsection 1.6, page 8

Section 2 – General Development Policies

- Adds new policies on such matters as significant woodlands, significant valleylands, karst topography, wildland fire, secondary residential units, stormwater management, and watershed planning. Subsections 2.2(8)(e) and (f); 2.2(9)(b) and (c); 2.2(25); 2.2(30); and 2.2(31), pages 23, 24, 26, 27, 44 and 48

- Adds a new policy setting out criteria when a hydrogeological evaluation may be required for new development – Subsection 2.2(12)(f), page 32

Section 5 – Rural Designation

- Adds a new policy requiring the size of residential subdivisions to be based on historical and projected population growth and to require, generally, subdivisions in rural areas be no closer than 1 kilometre to a fully serviced settlement area – Subsection 5.3(3)(g), page 65

Section 6 – Agriculture Designation

- Adds a policy permitting agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses – Subsection 6.3(1), page 91

Section 7 – Mineral Aggregate Designation

- Adds a policy on permanent asphalt batching and concrete batching plants – Subsection 7.3(1), page 97

Section 8 – Environmental Protection Designation

- Adds a policy on local wetlands and designates them on map schedules – Subsection 8.3(5), page 105

Section 9 – At Capacity Lakes Designation

- Changes the terminology from “Sensitive Lakes” to “At Capacity Lakes” – Section 9, page 109
- Adds Big Limestone, Green-Brougham and Morrow Lakes to list of At Capacity Lakes – Subsection 9.1, page 109
- Revises policies on lot creation on At Capacity Lakes; restricted to separation of existing dwellings or if septic tile fields set back 300 metres from shoreline – Subsection 9.3(a), page 110

Section 14 – Land Division Policies

- Adds a policy stating that a scoped hydrogeological evaluation may be required to assess risk to groundwater to ensure site suitability for on-site water and sewage services. May require well records or on-site drilled well – Subsection 14.3(11)(c), page 136
- Adds a policy prohibiting the creation of a new lot on an existing private road that connects to a Provincial Highway – Subsection 14.3(19), page 137

Section 15 – Local Official Plan – Township of Laurentian Valley

- Adds a new section – Section 15, pages 143 – 145

Section 16 – Implementation and Interpretation

- Adds policies on pre-consultation and complete applications – Subsection 16.17, page 157

Map Schedules

- Revises Schedule ‘A’ – Map 1 and adds four new Schedule ‘B’ Maps as supporting information: Map 1 – Hazards; Map 2 – Infrastructure; Map 3 – Mineral Aggregate and Mining Resource; and Map 4 – Natural Heritage Features

For further information, please contact:

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