

City Council

Information Items

July 3, 2020

Items for information is a weekly publication for the public and members of City Council. Members of City Council may request that any item appearing on this publication be placed onto the next available Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.

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Provincial and Federal Consultation Alert



Proposed Amendment to A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Ministry

Municipal Affairs and Housing

Consultation Deadline

July 31, 2020

Summary

The Ontario government is consulting on a proposed amendment to A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. This update includes changes to the population and employment forecasts, the horizon year for planning, and other policies with the stated goals of increasing housing supply, creating jobs, attracting business investment, and better aligning with infrastructure.

The government is also consulting on a new Land Needs Assessment Methodology, which municipalities would use to ascertain the amount of land required to accommodate housing and jobs.

Proposed Form of Input

Submit staff comments on the Environmental Registry of Ontario posting at the links below.

Rationale

The proposed amendment and land needs assessment methodology are technical in nature and an interdepartmental team response with consultant support are appropriate for this review.

Lead

[Melissa Aldunate](#), Manager, Policy Planning and Urban Design

Links to Ministry Website

<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1680>

<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1679>

Contact Information

Intergovernmental Services

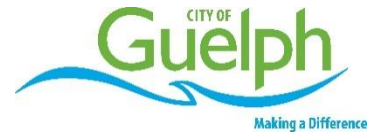
Chief Administrative Office

City Hall, 1 Carden Street, Guelph ON N1H 3A1

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Provincial and Federal Consultation Alert



Updating Ontario's Water Quantity Management Framework

Ministry

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Consultation Deadline

2 August 2020

Summary

MECP has posted proposed regulatory changes on the Environmental Registry for public comment on the management of water takings to protect the long-term sustainability of surface water and ground water.

Proposed Form of Input

That the City of Guelph submit its comments on the province's regulatory proposals via the Environmental Registry.

Rationale

The City of Guelph is committed to protecting the local environment and ensuring the long-term sustainability of surface and ground water.

Lead

Environmental Services

Link to Ministry Website

<https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1340>

Contact Information

Intergovernmental Services

Chief Administrative Office

City Hall, 1 Carden Street, Guelph ON N1H 3A1

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3 July, 2020

The Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park 17th Flr, 777 Bay St
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria
Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction
Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade
7th Flr, 56 Wellesley St W
Toronto, ON M5S 2S3

Dear Minister Clark and Minister Sarkaria,

RE: Proposals to Make Municipal Governments Simpler, Faster and Better

Consistently modernizing the way we do business is critical in making sure municipal governments like the City of Guelph continue to grow, adapt and evolve. Focusing on solutions that eliminate red tape and make municipal governments more cost efficient is particularly imperative as we enter the recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you know, municipal governments have been hard hit by the COVID crisis. Locally, the City of Guelph has taken on new expenses to protect the health of our residents and businesses. We have also seen a significant decline in revenues. While economic stimulus supports from the provincial and federal governments will be important to help cities like Guelph on the road to recovery, it is also important that we consider changes that will help local governments operate more cost-efficiently. Below you will find legislative and regulatory proposals for your consideration that aim to do just that.

Advance Central Digitalization of the Assessment Roll

Under *the Assessment Act*, the Assessment Roll as returned must be made available by the City of Guelph for public inspection during normal office hours. The current options for doing this are outdated, rely on high contact surfaces and do not allow for proper physical distancing during the COVID pandemic. This provides an opportunity to modernize how members of the public access the Assessment Roll moving forward.

The City of Guelph recommends that full access to the Roll as returned be made available online through AboutMyProperty.ca or a similar online portal so that assessment information can be accessed without attending City Hall in person. This must be done in a way that ensures data mining cannot occur. A digital online portal for the Assessment Roll would also produce savings for the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation by reducing printing and mailing costs.

Solution: Modernize Subsections 39 (1) and (2) of the *Assessment Act*, 1990, to allow for the electronic delivery of the Assessment Roll, for the public, through

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the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's 'Aboutmyproperty.ca' service or a comparable online portal.

Digitize the Freedom of Information Request (FOI) Process

Regulations under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, 1990, require modernization to allow municipal governments to digitize the FOI request process. Digitizing FOI requests would improve services for the general public while allowing municipal governments to operate more efficiently and effectively. In particular, the fee structure outlined in O.Reg 823 requires updating to facilitate online transactions, digital disclosures and the collection of fees for these online services.

Solution: Update O.Reg 823 under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, 1990, by allowing online payment transaction fees and the collection of fees for the digital disclosure of requested records.

Extend Bylaw Powers Granted during COVID-19

The City of Guelph supports the provincial government's decision to empower bylaw enforcement officers during the COVID-19 crisis. Enabling bylaw officers to request identification and to issue charges for minor provincial offences eliminated key barriers to effective bylaw enforcement. These powers should remain in place beyond the COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency.

Solution: Amend Part XIV of the *Municipal Act*, 1990, by adding a section granting municipal bylaw officers the power to request identification, where appropriate.

Continue Digitizing Reporting Requirements

The City of Guelph welcomes the provincial government's ongoing efforts to reduce and streamline municipal reporting requirements. Outstanding examples of reporting requirements that could be streamlined through digitization include driver logs and training records.

Solution: Introduce necessary legislative and regulatory changes under the *Highway Traffic Act*, 1990, to allow for the digitalization of driver logs and training records.

The City of Guelph welcomes your consideration of these legislative and regulatory proposals. If implemented they will help municipal governments run more efficiently, allowing us to better serve our communities as we all adapt to the 'new normal' under COVID-19.

If you have any questions or comments, I encourage you to contact Leslie Muñoz, Manager, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations for the City of Guelph, at leslie.munoz@guelph.ca.

3 July 2020

Page 3 of 3

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Stewart', followed by a horizontal line.

Scott Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer
City of Guelph

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E Scott.Stewart@guelph.ca

C: The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance;
The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Government and Consumer Services;
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General of Ontario;
Mayor Jamie McGarvey, AMO President;
Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, City of Guelph;
Colleen Clack, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Public Services, City of Guelph;
Kealy Dedman, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise, City of Guelph; and
Jodie Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services, City of Guelph.

30 June 2020

The Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park, 777 Bay St
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Clark,

RE: Proposals to Support Municipal Recovery

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the City of Guelph has remained focused on providing essential services to the public in ways that are safe, accessible and affordable. As the crisis stabilizes and we transition to the ‘new normal,’ it is imperative that we continue to work together to identify solutions that make sense for the people of Guelph.

The City of Guelph continues to call on the province of Ontario to immediately provide municipal governments with robust stimulus supports to enable our economic recovery as we emerge from the pandemic. Financial relief from the federal and provincial governments will be necessary to keep cities afloat as our costs balloon and our revenues decline sharply in light of COVID-19. Supporting cities is crucial in making sure our local communities and economies are able to recover quickly from the COVID recession.

The City has also identified other provincial actions for immediate consideration that would support municipal governments as we transition to our new normal in upcoming weeks.

Continue Enabling Electronic Participation in Council Meetings

The *Municipal Emergencies Act*, 2020, has proven that electronic participation can make municipal government safer and more accessible to the public without compromising the integrity of local democracy and council business. Once the Declaration of Emergency expires, the province should continue to allow local councils and committees to convene electronically to protect against a second wave of infections.

Solution: Amend Section 238 (3.1) and (3.3) of the *Municipal Act* to allow electronic participation to count towards quorum and to allow electronic participation in closed door meetings outside of provincially declared emergencies as deemed necessary by local councils through their procedural bylaws.

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Extend the Validity of Marriage Licenses Issued by the City of Guelph

The City of Guelph recommends that the province temporarily waive the 90-day period of validity on outstanding marriage licenses issued by the City that expired during the Declaration of Emergency. This would spare the City from having to fund and process refunds for affected residents, including fees already remitted to the province.

Solution: That Ontario pass a time-limited regulation extending the validity of marriage licenses that expired during COVID-19.

Thank you for considering these policy proposals from the City of Guelph. In the coming weeks, the City will continue to identify solutions that will make municipal governments simpler, faster and better as we transition to the new normal. I look forward to sharing these ideas with you.

If you have any questions or comments, I encourage you to contact Leslie Muñoz, Manager, Policy and Intergovernmental Relations for the City of Guelph, at leslie.munoz@guelph.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Scott Stewart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer
City of Guelph

T 519-822-1260 x 2221
E Scott.Stewart@guelph.ca

CC the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Government and Consumer Services; Jamie McGarvey, AMO President; Trevor Lee, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, City of Guelph; and Jodie Sales, General Manager, Strategy, Innovation and Intergovernmental Services, City of Guelph.



July 7, 2020

RE: TAPMO Executive Meeting Minutes dated May 28, 2020.

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on June 17, 2020 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2020-166: Moved by Councillor Bulmer and
Seconded by Councillor Sepulis

That the Intergovernmental Affairs correspondence item 4 listed for JUNE 17, 2020 Council meeting be received; and

WHEREAS previous assessment methodologies for aggregate resource properties valued areas that were used for aggregate resources or gravel pits at industrial land rates on a per acre basis of the total site and such properties were formally classified and taxed as industrial lands;

WHEREAS the Council of Puslinch supports a fair and equitable assessment system for all aggregate resource properties;

WHEREAS the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation determined, with the participation only of the Ontario Sand, Stone and Gravel Association, revised criteria for assessing aggregate resource properties;

AND WHEREAS the Council of Puslinch has concerns that the revised criteria does not fairly assess the current value of the aggregate resource properties;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) That the Council of Puslinch does not consider the revised criteria for assessment of aggregate resource properties as a fair method of valuation for these properties; and

(b) The Council of Puslinch believes there is a need to review the current



assessment scheme for aggregate resource properties to address the inequity of property values;

(c) The Council of Puslinch hereby calls upon the Province to work with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation to address the assessment issue so that aggregate resource properties are assessed for their industrial value; and

(d) The Council of Puslinch directs the Clerk to provide a copy of this motion to the Minister of Finance, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, AMO, ROMA, and all Ontario municipalities and {the local MPP(s)}

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,
Courtenay Hoytfox
Deputy Clerk



The Municipality of West Elgin

22413 Hoskins Line, Box 490, Rodney Ontario N0L 2C0

June 26, 2020

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier
Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park

Dear the Honorable Doug Ford:

Please be advised that at the Regular Meeting of Council on June 25, 2020, the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2020-210

Moved: Councillor Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Tellier

Whereas West Elgin received a resolution from the Municipality of Grey Highlands with regard to the creation of a Universal Basic Income for citizens; and

Whereas the Council of West Elgin agrees that the creation of a Universal Basic Income would assist in reducing the financial strain on its citizens and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Where a basic income ensures everyone an income sufficient to meet basic needs and live with dignity, regardless of work status and has the potential to improve individual physical and mental health, labour market participation, food security, housing stability, financial status and social relationships and generally raise the standard of living for vulnerable members of society; and

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin urges the Ontario Provincial government and the Federal government work together to investigate the feasibility of implementing a universal basic income program.

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe
Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

If you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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F: 519.785.0644

E: clerk@westelgin.net
www.westelgin.net

Yours Truly,



Jana Nethercott
Clerk
Municipality of West Elgin

cc. Hon. Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks
All Ontario Municipalities



The Municipality of West Elgin

22413 Hoskins Line, Box 490, Rodney Ontario N0L 2C0

June 26, 2020

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier
Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park

Dear the Honorable Doug Ford:

Please be advised that at the Regular Meeting of Council on June 25, 2020, the Council of the Municipality of West Elgin passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2020-209

Moved: Councillor Cammaert

Seconded: Councillor Rowe

Whereas West Elgin Council wishes to support resolution number CW93-20 from Grey County; and

Whereas West Elgin recognizes that the need for reliable access to affordable broadband is required for education and business purposes to ensure continuity and success; and

Whereas reliable broadband will continue to play an essential role in economic and social recovery across Ontario post-pandemic; and

Whereas not all residents of West Elgin are within a connectivity coverage area and that rural areas often receive inadequate or disproportionately low levels of service; and

Where as while it is important for the Provincial Government to look at both the number of people and the number of businesses that can be serviced by broadband expansion, it is essential, as well, that the Province provide broadband service to areas that have a small number of people, yet cover a vast geographical area; and

Whereas the need for broadband infrastructure improvement is now;

Now Therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of West Elgin representing our residents and business owners alike, call to action Premier Ford, Minister of

Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Honorable Jeff Yurek to champion the implementation of broadband in the under-serviced areas of West Elgin;

For (3): Councillor Tellier, Councillor Cammaert, and Councillor Rowe
Abstain (1): Mayor McPhail

Carried (3 to 0)

If you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Truly,



Jana Nethercott
Clerk
Municipality of West Elgin

cc. Hon. Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks
All Ontario Municipalities



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kingsvilleworks@kingsville.ca

June 29, 2020

The Honourable Doug Ford (premier@ontario.ca)
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

-and to-

The Honourable Rod Phillips (rod.phillips@pc.ola.org)
Minister of Finance
Frost Building South; 7th Floor
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Y7

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Phillips:

RE: Kingsville Council request that the Rent Assistance Program to include all businesses in a lease agreement within all "residential-above-commercial" properties without a cap on commercial/residential ratio

At its Regular Meeting of June 22, 2020, Kingsville Council resolved the following:

391-2020

Moved By Councillor Kimberly DeYong

Seconded By Councillor Larry Patterson

Whereas the COVID-19 Pandemic has greatly impacted the business community in the Town of Kingsville;

And Whereas the Province of Ontario has provided financial assistance including a multi-level Rent Assistance program to the business community impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic;

And Whereas the Rent Assistance program offered by the Province of Ontario established an arbitrary cap on multi-use properties where it is common for "residential-above-commercial" developments, especially in downtown and Main Street corridors;

And Whereas Kingsville, particularly in our downtown business centres, has several properties with residential-above-commercial where the ratio of commercial storefront businesses represents less than 30 per cent of the entire building, thus leaving a gap where local business owners cannot qualify for rent relief with their willing landlords;

And Whereas the Town of Kingsville's newly adopted Business Retention and Expansion Project Report identified that Kingsville businesses would benefit from the Province expanding the Rent Assistance program to include all commercial lease properties regardless of overall footprint.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That the Town of Kingsville requests that the Province of Ontario expand their Rent Assistance program to include all businesses in a lease agreement within all "residential-above-commercial" properties without a cap on commercial/residential ratio;

And Finally, That this Resolution be circulated to the Premier, Doug Ford, the Minister of Finance, Rod Phillips, our local MPP Taras Natyshak, and all Ontario municipalities requesting their support.

CARRIED

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Astrologo'.

Jennifer Astrologo, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk
Corporate Services Department

jastrologo@kingsville.ca

/sjk

CC: Taras Natyshak, MPP (tnatyshak-qp@ndp.on.ca)

CC: All Ontario Municipalities