



9.4.5 Neighbourhood Commercial Centre

Neighbourhood Commercial Centres are identified on Schedule 2 of this Plan.

Objectives

- a) To establish local convenience and neighbourhood commercial uses within a convenient walking distance of residential areas.
- b) To ensure Neighbourhood Commercial Centres are developed in a cohesive and coordinated manner that is compatible with the surrounding residential neighbourhood.
- c) To primarily serve the shopping needs of residents living and working in nearby neighbourhoods and employment districts.
- d) To be connected to surrounding neighbourhoods through the City's pedestrian trails, walkways and by transit.

Policies

1. The Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designations on Schedule 2 recognize the existing centres within the city and identify the general location of new Neighbourhood Commercial Centres.
2. To prevent the creation of strip commercial development comprising a series of Neighbourhood Commercial Centres located adjacent to one another along a major street, it is the general requirement of this Plan that designated Neighbourhood Commercial Centres have a minimum distance separation from one another of 500 metres.
3. A Neighbourhood Commercial Centre shall have a maximum total commercial gross floor area of 6,500 square metres (70,000 square feet) of gross floor area
4. Notwithstanding policy 9.4.5.3, the existing Neighbourhood Commercial Centres listed below will be permitted to provide a maximum of 10,000 square metres (108,000 square feet) of commercial gross floor area:
 - Speedvale Avenue at Stevenson Street
 - Victoria Road at Grange Street
 - Kortright Road at Edinburgh Road
 - Harvard Road at Gordon Street
 - Kortright Road at Gordon Street
 - Wellington Street at Imperial Road
5. A Neighbourhood Commercial Centre shall only be extended or enlarged to provide more than the permitted maximum commercial gross floor area by amendment to this Plan and shall require a Market Impact Study.
6. The maximum gross floor area of an individual retail use within a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre shall be 3,250 square metres (35,000 square feet).
7. The City will require the aesthetic character of site and building design to conform to the Urban Design policies of this Plan and applicable guidelines

and will incorporate measures into the approval of Zoning By-laws and Site Plans to ensure conformity.

8. Where new development occurs within a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre, adjacent lands will be integrated in terms of internal access roads, entrances from public streets, access to common parking areas, open space, urban squares, grading, and stormwater management systems.
9. Development within the Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designation will be designed to be connected to the wider community by footpaths, sidewalks, and bicycle systems and by the placement of buildings in close proximity to the street line near transit facilities.
10. Applications for the purpose of establishing or expanding a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designation will be required to satisfy the following criteria:
 - i) Located with direct access to an arterial or collector road, preferably at an arterial or collector road intersection
 - ii) The location will contribute to the creation of a compact, well-defined node oriented to a major intersection and does not promote the creation of 'strip commercial' development along a major street;
 - iii) designed in a manner that is *compatible* with the building design and use of surrounding properties;
 - iv) the location shall minimize the impact of traffic, noise, signs, and lighting on adjacent area;
 - v) adequate site area will be provided for parking, loading and all other required facilities; and
 - vi) adequate landscaping, screening, and buffering will be provided to preserve the amenities and appearance of surrounding properties.
11. Development proposals that would decrease the existing commercial gross floor area within a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre by more than 25 per cent or that would provide commercial gross floor area a less than .15 FSI will require a Commercial Function Study in accordance with the policies of this Plan.

Permitted Uses

12. The following uses may be permitted in Neighbourhood Commercial Centres, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
 - i) commercial, retail and service uses;
 - ii) small-scale offices;
 - iii) community services and facilities;
 - iv) live/work
 - v) multiple unit residential within mixed-use buildings; and
 - vi) urban squares
13. Vehicle sales and vehicle repair uses shall not be permitted

14. *Development* will be planned and designed to maintain the principal commercial function. Residential uses are not permitted on the ground floor.

Height and Density

15. The maximum height is six (6) storeys.
16. For residential development, the maximum *net density* is 100 units per hectare.
17. Notwithstanding Policy 9.4.5.16, the maximum *net density* for residential development for the Willow Road and Dawson Road Neighbourhood Commercial Centre