

County Official Plan Project

Meeting Minutes – July 8, 2021 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting No. 27



Location: Virtual Meeting, Zoom

Attendees: Per Lundberg (SEL), Rob Lamarre (SEL), Allison Martin (TL), Sonia Aaltonen (HBM), John Smallwood (HBM), Christina Coulter (CM), Karen Ellis (CM), Martina Chait-Hartwig (DD), Ed Whitmore (AN), Ken Scullion (OSM), Bryan Weir (County), Iain Mudd (County), Keziah Holden (County)

Absent: Tom Cowie (Hiawatha FN), John Connolly (CM), Adele Arbour (TL), Julie Kapyrka (Curve Lake FN), Kaitlin Hill (Curve Lake FN), Greg McGovern (NK), Travis Toms (NK)

Meeting started at 1:33pm

Items and issues discussed at the meeting were as follows:

Business Arising from Minutes/New Business

- No change to minutes as distributed
- County staff provided a brief summary of the surveys that were open at various times from April to end of June. Overall, the response numbers were well above what was anticipated and the platform was easy to use. Reports summarizing the results of the survey will be provided to County Council and TAC.

Draft Policy Changes

- Agriculture policies previously drafted were reviewed by TAC a second time
- OMAFRA provided responses to TAC's earlier questions, and examples from other Official Plans were provided as was requested.
- Discussions primarily focused on permitted uses, criteria for on-farm diversified uses and agriculture related uses, farm vacation rental requirements, cannabis processing, and clarifying severance criteria for new farm parcels and surplus dwellings.
- County Staff to do additional research for farm vacation rentals.

Discussion – Next Steps

- Draft growth management policies, develop structure of section in preparation of Growth Study findings.

- Develop policy direction and criteria for significant woodlands based on comments received from Province.
- Land Use Schedule review to be finalized. This needs to be a priority for all Municipal staff to move the project forward and ensure that local knowledge is being included as part of this step.
- County Staff to reformat draft OP document for ease of reading and in preparation for public release. Draft will include mapping done to date.
- Working Group made up of TAC members to develop an approach and rough timeline for public consultation. This could include a major website update prior to releasing draft documents, or in tandem with draft documents.

Next Steps & Action Items

- County staff to prepare survey summary reports and circulate to TAC for information.
- County staff to make changes to draft policy based on discussions and in preparation for next TAC meeting as outlined above, and research approaches to farm vacation rentals.
- County staff request volunteers from TAC for a Public Consultation Working Group.
- TAC members to review changes to draft mapping as soon as possible as they become available.
- TAC members to consider whether cannabis processing will be a permitted use in their Municipalities in Agriculture and Rural designations.

Meeting adjourned at 3:56pm