

County Official Plan Project

Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2021 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting No. 32



Location: Virtual Meeting, Zoom

Attendees: Christina Coulter (CM), Karen Ellis (CM), John Connolly (CM), Julie Kapyrka (Curve Lake FN), Per Lundberg (SEL), Ken Scullion (OSM), Ed Whitmore (AN), Sarah Dilamarter (TL), Barb Waldron (TL), Sonia Aaltonen (HBM), Iain Mudd (County), Keziah Holden (County)

Absent: Martina Chait-Hartwig (DD), John Smallwood (HBM), Candice White (AN), Adele Arbour (TL), Travis Toms (NK), Kaitlin Hill (Curve Lake FN), Tom Cowie (Hiawatha FN), Rob Lamarre (SEL), Bryan Weir (County)

Meeting started at 1:33pm

Items and issues discussed at the meeting were as follows:

Business Arising from Minutes

- No change to minutes as distributed

Natural Heritage System Refinement Update

- Original submission of adopting the Kawarthas Naturally Connected (KNC) preferred scenario and corridors layer was not accepted by Province (County staff and TAC used this approach to more accurately reflect the local context and open up areas in the north end of the County).
- County staff met with MMAH & MNDMNRFP to review the mapping and expectations – large areas being omitted in north end of County a concern to province. Suggestion made to include crown lands to the KNC mapping providing to provide larger coverage and connectivity.
- County GIS department prepared a comparison of the Provincial NHS and the proposed refinement with crown lands added for province to consider.
- Initial comments from Province were positive; MNDMNRFP staff will make further refinements by adding provincial priority areas. Townships are asked whether they are seeking to make further refinements to the NHS.
- CM Staff inquired about a deadline for these local refinements and how it will affect the July 2022 deadline for the OP
 - County requests any local refinements to be provided as soon as possible, recognizing the need to get a draft OP to Council and public

- Province has commented that their review will take several weeks, and there is concern with that timeline

Land Needs Assessment Update & Next Steps

- Hemson made presentation to County Council on October 29th with their findings; this information was previously reviewed with TAC
- A lot of discussion at Council around the intensification target of 40% and inability to meet this target (intensification target is only applicable in the four serviced settlement areas of Havelock, Lakefield, Millbrook and Norwood).
- Intensification target can be changed but the request must be made to the province for an alternative target and the alternative must be justified.
- Council supported the reference scenario and requested that an alternative intensification target be sought from the Province – looking at 15% intensification target for four serviced settlement areas.
- Hemson working on finalizing their report and justification for the Province; County will reach out to four Municipalities to review the information and get support for the alternative target.
- Hemson can then move forward with the greenfield acreages and allocations
- TL Staff had a concern with the building permit numbers used by Hemson; they were not in line with new residential development and likely included renovations and additions.
 - County Staff requested that building permit numbers be provided that reflect new home builds so that they could be provided to Hemson

Aggregate Resource Mapping

- County recently obtained new data for aggregate which has already been posted to GIS.
- Rather than showing a single layer the data is broken into three levels of significance (primary, secondary and tertiary). This data needs to be implemented in new OP (update existing aggregate resource deposit layer).
- The PPS and Growth Plan don't refer to any level of significance for protection so County Staff reached out to MMAH for guidance.
- Province recommends at a minimum to identify and protect primary and secondary deposits. They also suggested that tertiary deposits be considered for protection where the deposit is greater than 50m x 300m (15,000 sq. m) in size.
- TAC was interested in seeing tertiary deposits that meet size requirements and are not in PSW – some Townships don't have primary or secondary, so it would be appropriate to recognize tertiary deposits meeting this criteria.
- TAC also requested that deposits be clipped with a 300m buffer from settlement areas, recognizing these areas as primary development locations.

Highly Vulnerable Aquifers and Groundwater Recharge Areas

- Through their involvement with the City's OP, Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) was advised by Province that they should be providing mapping not only of the wellhead protection areas and intake protection zones, but should also be providing mapping for highly vulnerable aquifers (HVA) and significant groundwater recharge areas (SGRA).
- County Staff met with ORCA to review existing policy and learn about the new information to be included in new OP.
- For consistency with PPS policy 2.2.1, the Province (MECP) recommends ALL designated vulnerable areas (WHPAs, IPZs, SGRAs, HVAs) be in the OP, in text and on maps or schedules.
- County GIS department has been working with Lower Trent CA to obtain the mapping; TAC was shown a preview.
- Stormont-Dundas and Glengarry has existing language that address these types of areas.
 - Note that the highly vulnerable aquifers do not align with the areas of high aquifer vulnerability on the Oak Ridges Moraine – suggested that mapping on the ORM remains unchanged (already in-line with legislation)
- TAC requests that ORCA Risk Management Officer be invited to next TAC meeting to further explain the implications of this mapping and answer questions.

New Business

- TAC Members were reminded to review any existing site-specific OP policies and advise as soon as possible (no later than December holidays) which policies will be carried forward into new OP.
- TAC Members interested in adding Community Planning Permit System policies to draft OP; ensures this planning tool is an option available to Townships in future without need for OPA.

Next Steps & Action Items

- County to arrange for ORCA Staff to attend next TAC meeting
- County Staff and GIS to update aggregates mapping and provide to TAC
- County Staff to meet with staff from 4 municipalities with serviced settlement areas, and request alternate intensification target from Province
- County Staff to continue to work with Province on refined NHS mapping
- TAC Members to review and advise of existing site-specific policies to be carried forward

Meeting adjourned at 2:40pm