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Notice of public meeting concerning the Township of Severn new Official Plan

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Township of Severn will be holding a hybrid public meeting on **June 19, 2024** during the Planning and Development Committee meeting scheduled to begin at **9:00 a.m.** in the Council Chambers at the Township's Administration Office (**1024 Hurlwood Lane**) to consider the re-adoption of the proposed new Official Plan for the Township of Severn under Section 26(3) and 17(17) of the **Planning Act**, R.S.O. 1990.

Purpose

The Purpose of the proposed new Official Plan is to ensure conformity to current Provincial and County of Simcoe plans, policies, and legislation and to reflect the goals and values of the community. The proposed new Official Plan is intended to establish a planning and growth management framework for the Township to the year 2051.

Township of Severn Council originally adopted a **new Official Plan** on November 14, 2022. The adopted Official Plan was sent to the County of Simcoe as the approval authority. The County of Simcoe provided comments and proposed modifications to the Township staff for discussion. In the meantime, the Province has unveiled some changes to the planning legislation and policies that will directly impact the Official Plan.

Township staff has worked closely with the planning consultants who were retained by the Township to assist in the preparation of the new Official Plan, to review of the County's proposed modifications, the legislative and policy changes brought forward by the Province and to consider further modifications. The scope of the proposed modifications warrants an additional opportunity for public review and commenting prior to the Township Council considering re-adoption of the new Official Plan.

The proposed new Official Plan that is the subject of this public meeting has been modified as follows.

General modifications:

- streamlining of policy where possible
- ensured consistency in terminology and use of Defined terms
- inclusion of additional Definitions and modified other terms to be consistent with proposed Provincial Planning Statement
- updated Section 7.1: Growth Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy for greater clarity
- updated Sections 8.5.1: Natural Hazards and 8.5.2: Human-Made Hazards for consistency with Provincial policies

- updated Waste Management Section 8.7 for consistency with County of Simcoe Official Plan and removed policy duplications from Section 11.15: Waste Disposal

Land Use Designations modifications:

- New Section 11.2: Environmental Protection Land Use Designation for the protection of Provincially significant wetlands and coastal wetlands in accordance with Provincial policy, as shown on updated Schedules ‘B’ and ‘C’
- Section 11.3: Greenlands Designation updated policies for consistency with Provincial policies
- Renamed Section 11.6: Public Service Facilities to “Community Uses” Designation and updated policies to clarify permitted uses and intent of the Designation
- Updated Section 11.7: Agriculture and Section 11.8: Rural Designations for consistency with Provincial policies
- Clarified physical extent of Section 11.9: Shoreline Residential Designation and moved some policies to Section 12.4: Shoreline Development for guidance regardless of designation
- Land Use Designation changes on some properties has occurred; for example, all marinas to be designated as Resort Employment Designation, consistent approach in Shoreline Residential Designation, some lands previously shown as Shoreline Residential are proposed as County Residential Designation because they are not located on a waterbody

Mapping modifications:

- proposed New Map Schedule ‘D’ to reflect all Natural Heritage Features
- updated Land Use Schedules ‘B’ and ‘C’ and Settlement Area Schedules ‘SA1’ and ‘SA2’ to reflect designation changes as a result of the above-noted modifications

How to participate

ANY PERSON may participate in the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation regarding this matter. Please note that all comments will form part of the public record. Members of the public can participate in the meeting as follows.

Participation options	Description/details
1. In-person	The meeting will be held at the Township’s Administration Office in Council Chambers (1024 Hurlwood Lane) and is open to the public.
2. Submit written comments	Comments can be submitted to planning@severn.ca or sent by mail (P.O. Box 159, Orillia, L3V 6J3) by June 19, 2024.
3. Active remote attendance	Registration is required for active verbal participation. Email planning@severn.ca or call 705-325-2315 x246.
4. Online viewing only	Watch the live stream at severn.ca/portal or on our YouTube (@severntonario) channel.

Location map

As the proposed new Official Plan will apply to all lands within the municipal boundary of the Township of Severn, there is no key map included in this Notice.

Additional information

The proposed new Official Plan and related information will be available on the Township's [website](#) on May 30, 2024, and a hard copy will be available for public inspection between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Township's Administration Office ([1024 Hurlwood Lane](#)). Appointments are recommended for viewing the materials.

Appeal Rights

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the County of Simcoe to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Severn before the Official Plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Township of Severn before the Official Plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

Notification of the decision

The County of Simcoe is the approval authority of the proposed new Official Plan. If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Township of Severn regarding the adoption of the proposed new Official Plan, you must make a written request to the Township of Severn at planning@severn.ca or to the mailing address at the top of this Notice prior to the Township Council's adoption of the Plan.

Township contact

For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, contact planning@severn.ca or 705-325-2315 x246.

Dated at the Township of Severn this 30 day of May 2024.

