



General Technical / Housekeeping Updates Discussion Paper Summary

As part of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Official Plan Review

The Town is undertaking an Official Plan Review (OPR) and has identified key issues to be addressed with the community under key theme areas: Planning for Growth, planning for the Natural Environment, Planning for Complete Communities, Consultation and Visioning, and General and Housekeeping items

Why are General Technical Housekeeping Updates Needed?

General technical / housekeeping updates, including the incorporation and application of major Provincial planning policy tools, need to be considered when preparing the new Official Plan for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. General Technical / Housekeeping updates will improve the overall readability and clarity of the Official Plan, modernize definitions and terminology, update pre-consultation and community engagement requirements, and expand development approvals and supporting study requirements.

General Technical Housekeeping Components

Key policies/tools to be explored include the following:

- Planning Tools – There is an opportunity for the Town to incorporate and implement recent planning tools to guide the Town’s land use and development decisions over the planning horizon. These tools may include Inclusionary Zoning and Community Planning Permit System.
- Implementation and Interpretation of Policies - Over the last few years, the Province has introduced legislation modernizing public consultation requirements, providing clearer direction related to consultation with Indigenous Communities and clarifying requirements related to complete applications. These matters will be considered as part of the OPR process, and will be addressed by updating the Implementation and Interpretation Sections of the Official Plan.
- Organization/Structure – There is a desire to make the Official Plan easier to read and more intuitive. Care shall be taken to ensure the text and mapping is prepared to be accessible to the broadest possible audience. The aim is that this Review results in a user-friendly, graphically-enhanced Official Plan which is accessible to all users.
- Definitions Review - A review of the definitions will be undertaken to ensure that they are clear, contemporary, contain accessible language and are in conformity with Provincial legislation and the Regional Official Plan. A substantial number of new definitions will also be added to the Official Plan.
- Consistency and Consolidation - The Town will use this OPR as an opportunity to undertake a Secondary Plan consolidation exercise with the objective of streamlining the Official Plan. This will include the removal of repetitive designations, policies, definitions and mapping.

Learn More and Get Involved

To learn more about the Town Official Plan Review visit us at: www.cometogetherws.ca/opr.

Comments and feedback on the Discussion Papers can be provided through the webpage or emailed to: opreview@townofws.ca.

