

Planning for Complete Communities

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 Technical and Housekeeping items.

What is a Complete Community?

A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2020 (Growth Plan) defines complete communities as:

“Places such as mixed-use neighbourhoods or other areas within cities, towns, and settlement areas that offer and support opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to conveniently access most of the necessities for daily living, including an appropriate mix of jobs, local stores, and services, a full range of housing, transportation options and public service facilities. Complete communities are age-friendly and may take different shapes and forms appropriate to their contexts”.

Importance of a Complete Community to the new Town Official Plan

The concept of a complete community is implemented as a best practice with the goal of shaping communities to be places where homes, jobs, schools, community services, parks and recreation facilities are easily accessible to everyone. This ensures that communities can support people throughout all stages of life.

Building a Complete Community

The OPR will identify opportunities for strengthening the Town’s position as a Complete Community that maintains its unique rural character, manages growth and promotes physical, mental and social well-being. Key policies to be explored include the following:

- Attainable Housing – Ensure existing and future residents have access to a diverse range of housing options and forms, including affordable housing and secondary units.
- Cultural Heritage – Distinguish and enhance unique built heritage resources, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources.
- Urban Design – Enhance the form, shape and character of the built environment to contribute a functional and attractive community.
- Parks Open Spaces and Trails – Ensure readily available access to outdoor recreation.
- Sustainability, Climate Change and Energy Conservation – Promote resiliency against climate change through promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices.
- Healthy Communities and Community Services – Create opportunities for people to socialize and connect within the community to promote and enhance human health and social well-being.

Learn More and Get Involved

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



