



Rideau Lakes Official Plan Update
Join the community conversation

Discussion Paper #2 - Summary

Resilient Communities

Official Plan Update Discussion Paper Series

1. Lot Creations
2. Resilient Communities
3. Housing Options

Purpose of Discussion Papers

To inform the public about important Official Plan issues identified by the public, how the existing Plan addresses the issues, and what policy options exist to tackle the issues.

Who to contact to comment or learn more?

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Information Sources

Provincial Policy Statement

<https://www.ontario.ca/document/provincial-policy-statement-2014>

United Counties Official Plan

https://www.leedsgrenville.com/uploads/474/Doc_636688912689377695.pdf

Township Official Plan

<http://www.twprideaulakes.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Official-Plan-December-2010-Office-Consolidation.pdf>

What are Resilient Communities?

This theme consists of several topics that play a role in the ability of the municipality to manage development to help our communities adapt to environmental, social, and economic changes that present new challenges to the community at large. These topics are climate change, social resiliency, the adaptive reuse of historical buildings, community improvement plans, our ability to rehabilitate contaminated lands, and environmental servicing options.

Provincial Legislation

Section 16 (14) of the Planning Act requires municipalities to incorporate policies that mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and provide for adaptation to a changing climate, including through increasing resiliency

Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) requires efficient land use and development patterns that support sustainability by promoting strong, livable, healthy and resilient communities, protecting the environment and public health and safety, and facilitating economic growth.

Existing Official Plan Policies

Social Resiliency

Section 1.3.2: Rideau Lakes is rich in natural and built heritage attributes, supported by an interested and dedicated community

Section 1.3.3.13: Develop and maintain parkland, open space and community facilities to accommodate various ages and socio-economic groups

Section 2.14: New land uses should not have negative impacts

Adaptive Reuse

Section 2.18.1: Encourages the identification, protection, maintenance, restoration and enhancement of cultural heritage features

Brownfields (Contaminated sites)

Section 1.3.3.18: Ensure that adequate attention be paid to human-made hazards such as contaminated sites

Section 2.21: Development on a brownfield is subject to a record of site condition signed by a professional and a site clean-up plan

General Community Improvement

Section 2.7: Council's goal is to maintain, rehabilitate and upgrade the physical environment in order to enhance the Township as an attractive place to live, work and visit

Servicing Options

Section 2.22: Ground water supply, sewage disposal and other services

Section 2.22.1: No municipal piped water or sewage services are available making ground water protection a major interest

Section 2.22.2: Development is encouraged in Villages and Hamlets where other services are already available or can be readily provided

Climate Change

Guidance for policies is currently found in the Counties Official Plan

Identified Issues & Potential Policy Options

Climate Change

Issue 1: The Official Plan does not have any policies that recognize or address climate change

- Include a new section, 'Climate Change and Renewable Energies' with policies such as the following:
 - Policy statement addressing working with environmental agencies
 - Policy framework for developing a conservation and demand management plan
 - Encouraging and Incentivizing development applications with green building designs
 - Policy wording to accept LIDAR data
 - Promote environmental initiatives
 - Recognize our unique ecosystem interface resulting from the Frontenac Arch
 - Promote the establishment of renewable energies
 - Establish greenhouse gas reduction targets

Social Resiliency

Issue 2: Limited policy framework for the role of the citizen community groups within the Township

- Provide a policy that recognizes community groups and allows the Township to engage and promote them by consulting on major initiatives and developments

Issue 3: There is currently a lack of formal policy to require community/social infrastructure assessment of major development proposals

- Include a policy within the Subdivision section that requires this assessment for any new proposed subdivision
- Include a policy within the Community Improvement section that requires this assessment of new major commercial or industrial uses

Issue 4: The current public participation technique policies go beyond the requirements of the Planning Act, however, more can be done

- Include a policy to require or encourage pre-consultation meetings with neighbours for certain development applications

Issue 5: No electronic means of public participation

- Include electronic communication as one of the prescribed methods for public consultation

Adaptive Reuse

Issue 6: Historical buildings have various challenges to redevelopment which are not currently a formal consideration in redevelopment applications

- Adaptive reuse to be considered for Zoning By-Law Amendment applications for historical buildings in

the Village and Hamlet designation

- Include an adaptive reuse policy in the environmentally-sensitive development section

Community Improvement

Issue 7: Existing Community Improvement policy framework should be revised to establish basis for Community Improvement Plans

- Give consideration to grant programs that promote the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings
- Change "Community Improvement Areas" to include the entire Township instead of only Villages and Hamlets

Brownfields (Contaminated Lands)

Issue 8: Leaving brownfield sites vacant creates an abundance of underutilized land that has the potential to be redeveloped

- Include a generic supportive policy that recognizes the importance of rehabilitation and redevelopment of brownfield sites
- Include a policy in Community Improvement section to support the redevelopment of brownfields in Villages and Hamlets
- Include a policy that allows for special environmental consideration for development applications on brownfield sites

Issue 9: The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville has an overall minimum target that 20% of dwelling growth will take the form of residential intensification and redevelopment

- Proposals for residential uses on brownfield sites could be considered and Zoning By-Law Amendments permitted to change the designation of an industrial area into a residential area
- Policies should reflect increased growth in dwellings and support more affordable housing options for future residents through the use of remediated brownfield sites

Servicing Options

Issue 10: Policies should enable for additional opportunities to explore and permit alternative forms of environmental servicing for various land uses

- Recognizing the Township's leadership role in research and implementing innovative ideas for alternative environmental servicing options
- Providing flexibility for new alternative means of sewage disposal systems
- Commit to working with relevant ministries regarding Environmental Compliance Approvals for septic systems