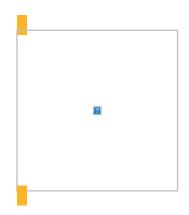
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Webpage has been updated to add a link for the PMTSA and Corridors Webinar on June 12, 2025.

The City of Richmond Hill's Official Plan is intended to guide land use and development over the next 25 years and beyond. The City is undertaking a conformity and enhancement update to ensure our policies reflect current provincial directions. This update will continue to help transform our suburban communities and promote the vision of more vibrant, compact and complete communities that serve the needs of all residents, businesses and visitors in Richmond Hill.

## Get Involved: Upcoming Events

The City will be holding a series of engagement events over the coming months to provide the public with opportunities to learn more about various topics related to the Official Plan Update.

# 1. Webinar: Environmental and Resource Policies

This virtual webinar will focus on environmental and resource policies to strengthen our natural heritage system and water resources, and to wisely manage our natural resources.

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025 Time: 7 – 8:30 p.m.

# REGISTER FOR WEBINAR #1

# 2. Webinar: Affordable Housing, Transportation, Community Uses and Other Topics

This virtual webinar will focus on supporting affordable housing and local jobs, improving the transportation system, enhancing community uses, and other matters.

Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025

REGISTER FOR WEBINAR #2

# 3. Public Information Centre: PMTSAs and Corridors

Join us at an in-person event to learn about what is a Protected Major Transit Station Area (PMTSA), why it is important to the City's long-term growth, and what the plan is for the Regional Mixed-Use Corridors along Yonge Street and Highway 7.

This event will also be held virtually in June to provide the public with another option to attend.

Address: McConaghy Centre, 10100 Yonge Street Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 Time: 7 – 9 p.m.

## 4. Webinar: PMTSAs and Corridors

This virtual webinar will cover the same topics as the in-person Public Information Centre held on May 28, 2025, providing the public with another option to attend.

Date: Thursday, June 12, 2025 Time: 7 – 8:30 p.m.

## REGISTER FOR PMTSAS AND CORRIDORS WEBINAR

## Let's Plan Our Future Together!

# The Official Plan Update Project

What is an Official Plan?

An Official Plan is a policy document that applies to all properties within the municipal boundary. It guides how land is used, and how and where growth and development will take place in our city.

The CURRENT RICHMOND HILL OFFICIAL PLAN provides:

- A vision for the future of the city
- An approach for where and how development will occur
- Direction for municipal servicing to meet the needs of our growing city
- Protection of natural areas and ecosystems
- Implementation tools

Why the Official Plan is being updated

The Province requires that an Official Plan update be completed 10 years after the preparation of a new comprehensive Official Plan. This ensures that the updated plan implements any changes to provincial policies, conforms with policies in the York Region Official Plan, responds to current urban issues and conditions, and considers new opportunities for shaping the City.

Richmond Hill's current Official Plan was adopted by Council in July 2010 in order to guide development to 2031. This review will provide a clear vision for planning and development in Richmond Hill over the long term.

In addition to Planning Act requirements, the update of the Official Plan will look to better support long-term sustainable city building, respond to climate change, and create a better balance of jobs and residents in the City.

The Official Plan update process is occurring concurrently with those of the Regional Official Plan.

VORK REGION'S MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

As such, the update will also ensure that policies and mapping conform with those of the Regional Official Plan.

Other City initiatives related to the Official Plan Update

There are several City initiatives that will occur at the same time as the Official Plan update. These initiatives will develop tools that will be used to implement the policies of the Official Plan. There are also studies underway which will inform the Official Plan Update. Throughout this process, the existing approved Official Plan is in effect and guides decision making for the City.

The following is a list of City-led projects:

- AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY
- COMMUNITY BENEFITS CHARGE STRATEGY
- COMMUNITY ENERGY AND EMISSIONS PLAN
- COMPREHENSIVE ZONING BY-LAW
- ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY
- INVESTMENT ATTRACTION STRATEGY
- PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE PLANS
- RICHMOND HILL CENTRE SECONDARY PLAN
- SOCIO ECONOMIC STUDY
- TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE
- URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
- Urban Master Environmental Services Plan
- YONGE AND BERNARD KEY DEVELOPMENT AREA SECONDARY PLAN

#### Staff Reports

#### Background

- SRPRS.19.053 OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE INITIATION REPORT (item 13.3 at the November 20, 2019 Council meeting)
- SRPRS.19.181 OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE (item 11.19 at the December 4, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting)
- SRPRS.20.003 YORK REGION'S MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW (PART 1): REQUESTS FOR EMPLOYMENT AREA

CONVERSIONS (item 13.9 at the February 26, 2020 Council meeting)

- SRPRS.20.004 YORK REGION'S MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW (PART 2): MAJOR TRANSIT STATION AREAS, SETTLEMENT AREA
   EXPANSION, AND AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM (item 13.10 at the February 26, 2020 Council meeting)
- SRPI.21.055 REQUEST FOR COMMENTS YORK REGION OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE POLICY DIRECTIONS (item 13.8 at the COUNCIL MEETING )

**Key Directions** 

- SRPI.21.118 REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT: OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE KEY DIRECTIONS
   (item 13.6 at the DECEMBER 8, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING )
- SRPI.22.012 REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT: OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE KEY DIRECTIONS REPORT SUPPLEMENTARY TO SRPI.21.118 (item 13.4 at the FEBRUARY 9, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING )

Official Plan Amendments

SRPRS.20.097 EMPLOYMENT LAND CONVERSIONS - OPA 18.1 AUTOMOTIVE USES AND OPA 18.2 LESLIE STREET INSTITUTIONAL
AREA (item 3.1 at the June 29, 2020 Special Council Public Meeting)

OPA 18.5 – YONGE AND CARRVILLE/16TH AVENUE KDA

OPA 18.6 – VILLAGE LOCAL CENTRE OPA 18.8 – OAK RIDGES LOCAL CENTRE

# Project Phases

#### Preliminary Official Plan Amendments

Two proposed amendments to the Official Plan related to uses in Employment Lands were initiated by the City. These amendments aimed to coordinate with the work being undertaken by York Region with respect to their Municipal Comprehensive Review, to respond to Council direction, and to respond to site-specific concerns.

The amendments proposed were:

- OPA 18.1 Automotive uses in employment lands (city file D01-20005)
  - DRAFT OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT 18.1
  - OPA 18.1 PRESCRIBED INFORMATION
- OPA 18.2 Conversion of Employment Area to permit new and/or expansion of existing institutional, office, and small-scale retail uses (city file D01-20006)
  - DRAFT OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT 18.2
  - OPA 18.2 PRESCRIBED INFORMATION

OPA 18.2 was adopted by Council on September 23, 2020, and was approved by York Region and came into effect on December 25, 2020. The changes proposed as part of OPA 18.1 (automotive uses) will be considered as part of the overall Official Plan Update, and are no longer proceeding ahead of the overall Official Plan Update.

#### Meetings and Engagement Events

- · Virtual Open House June 22, 2020
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE JUNE 22, 2020 VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
  - JUNE 22, 2020 VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE PRESENTATION SLIDES
- Special Council Public Meeting June 29, 2020
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE JUNE 29, 2020 SPECIAL COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING
  - THE STAFF REPORT AND ITS ATTACHMENTS
- Council Meeting September 23, 2020
  - THE STAFF REPORT AND ITS ATTACHMENTS

Phase 1 - Define Vision and Urban Structure

This phase focuses on the big picture thinking and generating ideas to inform a vision for the City over the long term. This phase also focuses on gathering feedback on the urban structure of the City.

Meetings and Engagement Events

- OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE MEETING NOVEMBER 24, 2020
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE NOVEMBER 24, 2020 OPUC MEETING
  - NOVEMBER 24, 2020 OPUC MEETING PRESENTATION SLIDES (note: 10MB file size)
- OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 19, 2021
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE JANUARY 19, 2021 OPUC MEETING
  - JANUARY 19, 2021 OPUC MEETING PRESENTATION SLIDES

- City Plan 2041 Virtual Open House February 18, 2021
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2021 VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
  - FEBRUARY 18, 2021 VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE PRESENTATION SLIDES

#### What We Heard

Following the engagement that the City has conducted to the end of March 2021, LURA Consulting has prepared a "What We Heard" report. This report provides a summary of consultation the City has undertaken and the responses that have been received so far. This input will inform Phase 2 of the Official Plan Update process.

VIEW THE "WHAT WE HEARD" PHASE 1 SUMMARY REPORT

Phase 2 - Key Directions Report

This phase of the OP Update process focuses on gathering feedback on key policy directions related to: height and density of buildings, intensification of development in transit supported areas, opportunities to increase employment and economic prosperity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, technical matters, and implementation tools. At the conclusion of this phase, Council endorsed a Key Directions report, which was informed by several engagement events and a report, prepared by urbanist David Dixon, called "Planning for Change."

## **Key Directions Report**

The Key Directions Report provides a framework for the updating of the Official Plan, to ensure that the proposed Vision and Urban Structure for the City Plan can be achieved. The framework is informed by Provincial policy, emerging Regional policy resulting from the Municipal Comprehensive Review process that York Region is presently undertaking, other City initiated studies that are in-process or completed, and the City Plan consultation that has taken place to date. Accordingly, the Report provides the foundation for preparing future amendments to the City's Official Plan during Phase 3 of this update process.

- KEY DIRECTIONS REPORT November 2021 (note: 11MB file size)
- COUNCIL MEETING February 9, 2022 (see Items 11, 13.3, 13.4 and 13.8)

#### Meetings and Engagement Events

- BUSINESS COMMUNITY WORKSHOP April 27, 2021
- Area-specific Workshops
  - BATHURST STREET AND HIGHWAY 7 CENTRE WORKSHOP May 4, 2021
  - YONGE STREET AND 16TH AVENUE/CARRVILLE ROAD CENTRE WORKSHOP May 6, 2021
  - VILLAGE AND RICHMOND HILL GO STATION CENTRES WORKSHOP May 11, 2021
  - BAYVIEW AND HIGHWAY 7 CENTRE WORKSHOP May 13, 2021
  - OAK RIDGES CENTRE WORKSHOP May 18, 2021
  - EAST BEAVER CREEK CENTRE WORKSHOP May 20, 2021
- OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 21, 2021
- Key Directions Virtual Open House October 14, 2021
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE OCTOBER 14, 2021 KEY DIRECTIONS OPEN HOUSE
  - OCTOBER 14, 2021 KEY DIRECTIONS OPEN HOUSE PRESENTATION SLIDES
- COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2021 (see items 13.6 and 13.7)

## What We Heard

Following the engagement that the City conducted as part of Phase 2 of the Official Plan Update process, LURA Consulting has prepared three "What We Heard" reports. The first two reports provide a summary of the consultation the City has undertaken to the end of May 2021 with the business community and on six Centres in Richmond Hill respectively. The third report summarizes the comments and feedback that were received by the City in the fall of 2021 as part of the Phase 2 consultations on the emerging Key Directions.

- PHASE 2: WHAT WE HEARD BUSINESS COMMUNITY SUMMARY REPORT July 2021
- PHASE 2: WHAT WE HEARD CENTRE-SPECIFIC WORKSHOPS ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT July 2021
- PHASE 2: WHAT WE HEARD KEY DIRECTIONS ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT
   November 2021

#### **Planning for Change**

City Plan 2041's visionary urbanist David Dixon and Stantec's Urban Places have prepared a report titled "Planning for Change", which will serve as a "playbook" to guide the Official Plan Update and its implementation. The "playbook" intends to inform the Official Plan Update, provide guidance to Council and Planning Staff to successfully implement the Official Plan, and adds additional perspective in terms of a path to take for planning complete communities.

PLANNING FOR CHANGE REPORT - July 2021 (note: 11MB file size)

Phase 3 - Policy Development and Official Plan Amendments

During this phase, the City will gather feedback from residents and community groups as they proceed to draft and finalize several Official Plan Amendments (OPAs). These OPAs will be divided into three batches. Each part will include public engagement, to share our research, discuss possible changes to the Official Plan, receive feedback and share what we have heard, prior to recommending adoption of changes to the Official Plan.

Phase 3 - Batch 1 Official Plan Amendments

#### **Timeline and Engagement Events**

- On April 26, 2022, City of Richmond Hill staff presented Official Plan Amendment (OPA) 18.3 Vision and City Structure and OPA 18.4 Neighbourhoods at a virtual Open House. At this meeting, staff explained how the proposed changes to the Official Plan relate to matters such as the City Plan's planning vision and the overall city structure for where and how to accommodate growth and development. Staff also explained how these amendments propose changes to the Official Plan relating to matters such as: building "15-minute communities", providing affordable market housing, responding to climate change and prioritizing active transportation. These proposed amendments implement several key directions identified in the Council endorsed the City Plan KEY DIRECTIONS REPORT.
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE APRIL 26, 2022 OPEN HOUSE
  - VIEW THE APRIL 26, 2022 OPEN HOUSE PRESENTATION SLIDES
- On May 18, 2022, a COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING was held to receive comments on proposed amendments to the Official Plan. Copies of the staff reports are also provided in the staff report section of this webpage.
  - VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE MAY 18, 2022 COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING
- On June 27, 2022, the City of Richmond Hill brought forward two Official Plan Amendments related to the Official Plan Update at the MEETING . During the meeting, Council adopted OPA 18.3 and referred OPA 18.4 to the official NOTICE OF ADOPTION of OPA 18.3 is posted as of July 5, 2022.
  - VIEW THE ADOPTED OPA 18.3
- On July 6, 2022, OPA 18.4 Neighbourhoods was adopted by City Council, with one amendment to it. Please see the MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING for more details. The official NOTICE OF ADOPTION of OPA 18.4 is posted as of July 19, 2022.
  - VIEW THE ADOPTED OPA 18.4

## Informative Videos

- OPA 18.3 OVERVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENT VIDEO
- OPA 18.4 OVERVIEW OF DRAFT AMENDMENT VIDEO

Phase 3 - Batch 2 Official Plan Amendments

# **Timeline and Engagement Events**

November 2022 - Virtual Workshops

In November 2022, the City of Richmond Hill hosted virtual workshops related to four growth areas identified in the Official Plan: Yonge and 16th Avenue/Carrville Key Development Area, Village Local Centre, Newkirk Local Centre and Oak Ridges Local Centre.

#### VIEW MAP OF STUDY AREAS

At each of these workshops, participants were able to:

- Hear from City staff about the KEY DIRECTIONS for the area
- Share their insights and personal experiences about the area
- Engage in interactive discussions about how the area can be further developed to address the community's current and future needs

View the slides that were shared at each session:

- YONGE AND CARRVILLE / 16TH AVENUE KEY DEVELOPMENT AREA WORKSHOP
   November 15, 2022
- VILLAGE LOCAL CENTRE WORKSHOP November 17, 2022
- NEWKIRK LOCAL CENTRE WORKSHOP November 22, 2022
- OAK RIDGES LOCAL CENTRE WORKSHOP November 24, 2022

May 2, 2023 - Official Plan Update Committee Meeting

On May 2, 2023, an Official Plan Update Committee (OPUC) was held to discuss the proposed amendments to the Official Plan.

- View the RECORDING of the May 2, 2023 OPUC meeting
- View the May 2, 2023 OPUC presentation slides
  - INTRODUCTION
  - OPA 18.8 OAK RIDGES LOCAL CENTRE (OPUC recording at 1:12:49)
  - OPA 18.7 NEWKIRK LOCAL CENTRE (OPUC recording at 1:36:09)
  - OPA 18.6 VILLAGE LOCAL CENTRE (OPUC recording at 2:05:20)
  - OPA 18.5 YONGE AND CARRVILLE/16TH AVENUE KEY DEVELOPMENT AREA (OPUC recording at 2:40:36)
  - NEXT STEPS (OPUC recording at 3:17:57)

June 7, 2023 - City Plan Open House

On June 7, 2023, the City of Richmond Hill staff hosted an Open House at the McConaghy Centre, where participants were able to learn about the four proposed Official Plan Amendments, as well as how the Zoning By-law will be used to implement the Official Plan vision for centres and corridors in these and other mixed-use areas.

As identified in the KEY DIRECTIONS REPORT, these centres are located at Yonge Street and Carrville/16th Avenue, Yonge Street and Major Mackenzie Drive, Yonge Street and King Road, and Major Mackenzie Drive East and Newkirk Road.

At this open house, participants were able to ask questions and provide input and feedback on the Draft Official Plan Amendments, including:

- The proposed Vision for each Centre;
- Proposed Land Use Permissions;
- Proposed Density, Height and Built Form permissions;
- Proposed Public Realm elements in each Centre; and
- Alignment of the Draft OPAs with the Official Plan Update Pillars

View the presentation materials that were shared at the Open House:

- INTRODUCTION
- OPA 18.5 YONGE AND CARRVILLE/ 16TH AVENUE KEY DEVELOPMENT AREA
- OPA 18.6 VILLAGE LOCAL CENTRE
- OPA 18.7 NEWKIRK LOCAL CENTRE
- OPA 18.8 OAK RIDGES LOCAL CENTRE

June 20, 2023 - Council Public Meeting

On June 20, 2023, a COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING also provided in the staff report section of this webpage.

VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE JUNE 20, 2023 COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING

November 1, 2023 - Committee of the Whole Meeting

On November 1, 2023, the City of Richmond Hill brought forward two Official Plan Amendments related to the Official Plan Update at the Committee of the Whole meeting. On November 8, 2023, OPA 18.5 and OPA 18.6 were referred back to staff for a report back to a Special Council Meeting on November 29, 2023. Copies of the staff reports are provided in the staff report section of this webpage.

- VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2023 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING (PART 1)
- VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2023 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING (PART 2)
- VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

November 15, 2023 - Committee of the Whole Meeting

On November 15, 2023, the City of Richmond Hill brought forward two Official Plan Amendments related to the Official Plan Update at the Committee of the Whole Meeting. Council adopted OPAs 18.7 and 18.8 at the meeting on November 22, 2023. Copies of the staff reports are provided in the staff report section of this webpage.

- VIEW THE ADOPTED OPA 18.7
- VIEW THE ADOPTED OPA 18.8
- VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2023 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

November 29, 2023 - Special Council Meeting

On November 29, 2023, Council adopted OPAs 18.5 and 18.6 at the Special Council Meeting on November 29, 2023. Copies of the staff reports are provided in the staff report section of this webpage.

- VIEW THE ADOPTED OPA 18.5
- VIEW THE ADOPTED OPA 18.6
- VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE NOVEMBER 29, 2023 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Phase 3 - Batch 3 Official Plan Amendment

## **Timeline and Engagement Events**

Batch 3 Timeline (Fall 2024)

On September 10, 2024, an Official Plan Update Committee (OPUC) meeting was held to discuss the timeline for the remainder of the Official Plan Update project, receive information on recent legislative and policy changes, and the requirements for completing additional Secondary Plans for new growth areas.

VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 OPUC MEETING

On October 23, 2024, Council approved a revised timeline for completion of the Official Plan Update project.

STAFF REPORT SRPBS.24.115 – REQUEST FOR DIRECTION – COMPREHENSIVE OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE AND SECONDARY PLAN APPROACH

March 4, 2025 Official Plan Update Committee Meeting

On March 4, 2025, an Official Plan Update Committee (OPUC) meeting was held to provide an overview of the remaining policy areas to be covered as part of the final stage of the Official Plan Update, as well as highlight the upcoming engagement events to take place in Spring 2025.

• VIEW THE RECORDING OF THE MARCH 4, 2025 OPUC MEETING

What We Heard

