



Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number: PLAN2021-021
Meeting Date: May 4, 2021
Title: Growth Management Strategy (GMS) Task Force
Description: Terms of Reference for the GMS Task Force
Author and Title: Leah Barrie, (Acting) Manager of Planning

Recommendations:

That Report PLAN2021-021, **Growth Management Strategy (GMS) Task Force**, be received for information;

That the GMS Task Force Terms of Reference, substantially in the form attached as Appendix A to Report PLAN2021-021, be approved and adopted by Council;

That these recommendations be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

(Acting) Department Head: _____

Legal/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

The Province's Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe 2019 provides updated population and employment forecasts to 2051, wherein the City of Kawartha Lakes is expected to grow to 117,000 people and 39,000 jobs. To plan for this population growth, housing and employment needs and to coordinate with infrastructure investments, the Planning Division is initiating a new Growth Management Strategy (GMS). This is the second GMS exercise the City is administering; the first GMS was completed in 2010 and updated in 2011. A series of municipal master plans flowed from the GMS in 2012, and included the Municipal Servicing Assessment, the Transportation Master Plan, and the Solid Waste Management Master Plan Update.

The new GMS will establish where growth can take place, ensuring every development complements the City's strategic priorities. It forms the foundation for the forthcoming updates to the municipal master plans, and sets the cornerstone of the City's municipal comprehensive review (MCR), a multi-year cross-divisional program to update the City's Official Plan. Building on the principles of the Provincial Policy Statement 2020, the MCR program is a conformity exercise that applies the policies and schedules of the Growth Plan, reflects the community's interests, and establishes the Official Plan goals, objectives and policies for land use and development over the next 25 years.

Under the Places to Grow Act, 2005 the official plan of a municipality must be brought into conformity with a growth plan within three years of the growth plan coming into effect. For the 2017 Growth Plan, the Minister directed July 1, 2022 as the alternate date for official plans to be brought into conformity; notwithstanding a series of amendments to the 2017 and 2019 Growth Plans, the date by which municipalities must conform with the policies remains July 1, 2022. The Province is supportive of a phased-approach to completion of the municipal comprehensive review.

Development of the GMS is inextricably linked to the City of Kawartha Lakes Official Plan, 2012 (Official Plan) that provides policies and direction on the growth and development of the municipality, and establishes settlement boundaries. The Official Plan was approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 2012, and remains subject to a number of appeals, presently before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT). Related Secondary Plans to the Official Plan for urban settlement areas also remain under appeal before the LPAT. Decisions resulting from the hearings of the appeals will be considered throughout the development of the GMS.

Rationale:

Funding in the amount of \$100,000 has been allocated for this project in the City's 2021 Tax-Supported Capital and Special Projects budget. The City has recently awarded the

24-month GMS project contract to a consulting team led by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. in partnership with Dillon Consulting Limited.

Development of the GMS will include broad public consultation and stakeholder engagement and will ultimately recommend a preferred growth scenario based on an assessment of a variety of factors, including land capacity, servicing capacity and allocations, and ability to achieve the Growth Plan intensification and density targets.

As a resource to help guide this project, staff support the establishment of both a steering committee and an internal technical advisory committee, comprised of the CAO and Directors of Development Services, Engineering & Assets, Public Works, Corporate Services, Human Services, or their designate Managers and Supervisors. The steering committee is in the form of a City Task Force, and as such has members appointed by Council.

GMS Task Force

The Task Force shall be comprised of a maximum of 9 members consisting of up to 5 stakeholders, up to 3 members of the public and 1 Council representative. The contributions of the Task Force are critical to the development of a GMS that is representative of the diverse interests of the community.

The Task Force Terms of Reference at Appendix "A" to this report includes details pertaining to the Task Force Mission, Roles and Responsibilities, Activities, Composition, Appointment of Officers, Resources, Meetings and Logistics, Reporting, Purchasing, and Insurance.

Once appointed, the members of the Task Force will be introduced to the project with an overview of the objectives and the work plan, and a review of the preliminary Discussion Paper. The Task Force will provide direct input to the Project Team, and identify issues, review and discuss strategies, policies and reports including a draft GMS, provide advice on a public consultation process, and attend meetings and open houses. Staff anticipate a minimum of four Task Force meetings over the development of the GMS, resulting in recommendations to the City's Planning Advisory Committee and Council for the implementation and completion of the GMS.

Other Alternatives Considered:

No other alternatives have been considered.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities:

The four strategic priorities within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan are:

1. Healthy Environment
2. An Exceptional Quality of Life
3. A Vibrant and Growing Economy
4. Good Government

Managing growth effectively aligns with all of the City's strategic priorities. In particular, the Task Force promotes community involvement and effective governance.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial/operation impacts to the City as a result of striking the Task Force.

Consultations:

Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.

Dillon Consulting Limited

Attachments:

Appendix 'A' – GMS Task Force Terms of Reference



Department Head email: rholy@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Richard Holy, (Acting) Director of Development Services

Department File: D00-99-001