

PDS 17-2018 and PDS 18-2018

Agriculture and Natural Environment Project Frameworks

New Regional Official Plan

April 25, 2018 – Presentation to Planning and Economic Development
Committee

Overview

- High-level overview of project frameworks were endorsed by PEDC on January 31, 2018, including direction to consult
- Work programs have been presented to Area Planners and 1:1 meetings with Local Municipalities held
- Next step is endorsement of the project frameworks



PART 1 – AGRICULTURE

PDS 17-2018

What We Heard at 1:1 Meetings

- Concerns regarding viability of certain agricultural lands
- Discussions regarding refinements to Province's agricultural system mapping
- Concerns about how wineries are addressed in NEP and Province's Permitted Uses Guidelines
- Importance of Agricultural Impact Assessment
- Importance of compatibility between the Regional Natural Heritage System and Agricultural System
- Concerns about use of greenhouses for cannabis

Changes to Work Program

- Input received through the 1:1 meetings helped to validate the work program
- Discussions enhanced our understanding of the key agricultural issues
- Confirmed alignment between local issues and priorities and the agricultural work program

Engagement Program

- Agriculture Working Group to be formed and provide input throughout
- Area Planners and new Planning Advisory Committee to be engaged throughout
- Stakeholder groups to be engaged through smaller presentations and meetings
- Presentations to Local Councils once background study is complete
- Agricultural Policy and Action Committee (APAC) to be engaged throughout

Project Overview - Agriculture

Project Phase	Activities
1	Project Initiation
2	Background Study
3	1 st Point of Engagement: Inform on Background Study
4	Develop Options for Agricultural System
5	2 nd Point of Engagement: Consultation on Options for Agricultural System
6	Develop Regional Agricultural System
7	Develop OP Policies & Finalize Mapping
8	3 rd Point of Engagement: Draft OP Policies and Schedules
9	Other Implementation Tools

*Following the completion of the agricultural work program there will be a process to ensure alignment across all sections of the new Regional Official Plan.



PART 2 – NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

PDS 18-2018

What We Heard at 1:1 Meetings

- Mapping was identified as an important issue for all
- Interconnectedness with watershed planning
- Range of concerns related to woodlands
- Specific topics for consideration – offsetting, shorelines, watercourse mapping
- Education is a priority component of the engagement process

Changes to Work Program

- Mapping is to be considered as high-priority and the first component of the work program
- Watershed planning to be added to the scope of work and considered as a high-priority area
- Importance of woodlands will be identified
- Offsetting, invasive species, shorelines to be added to background study

Engagement Program

- Technical Advisory Group to be formed and provide input throughout
- Area Planners, the new Planning Advisory Committee, APAC to be engaged throughout
- Stakeholder groups to be engaged through smaller presentations and meetings
- Presentations to Local Councils once background study is complete

Project Overview – Natural Environment

Project Phase	Activities
1	Project Initiation and Procurement
2	Background Study and Discussion Papers for Mapping and Watershed Planning Priority Areas
3	1 st Point of Engagement: Inform on Background Study
4	Develop Options for Natural System(s)
5	2 nd Point of Engagement: Consultation on Options for the Natural System(s)
6	Develop Regional Natural System(s)
7	Develop OP Policies & Finalize Mapping
8	3 rd Point of Engagement: Draft OP Policies and Schedules
9	Other Implementation Tools

*Following the completion of the natural environment work program there will be a process to ensure alignment across all sections of the new Regional Official Plan.

Summary of Proposed Approach

- Natural environment planning and agricultural system planning are highly integrated
- Transparent, evidence-based approach with identification and evaluation of options for both work programs
- Work programs have been designed with several points of decision-making and engagement with Committee and Council