

OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE

What is an Official Plan?

An official plan is the primary land use planning document of the City that contains vision, goals, objectives and policies established primarily to manage and direct land use and its effects on the social, economic and/or natural environment of the City.

Official plans may also contain a description of the measures and procedures proposed to attain the objectives of the plan. Official Plans are designed to manage land use on the basis of a 20 year time horizon.

Why update the Official Plan?

- The Ontario Planning Act requires that all municipal Official Plans be reviewed and updated every five years.
- The Official Plan must be brought into conformity with recent changes to Provincial Plans including the Provincial Policy Statement, the Greenbelt Plan and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.
- The timing is right to listen to citizens and stakeholders and chart a path for the City that recognizes and responds to an evolving global economy.

Provincial Policy Statement 2005

The Provincial Policy Statement contains overall policy direction on matters of Provincial interest related to land use planning and development. Matters of Provincial interest identified in the PPS include:

- Protection of natural resources;
- Public health and safety; and,
- Quality of the natural environment.

The Greenbelt Plan

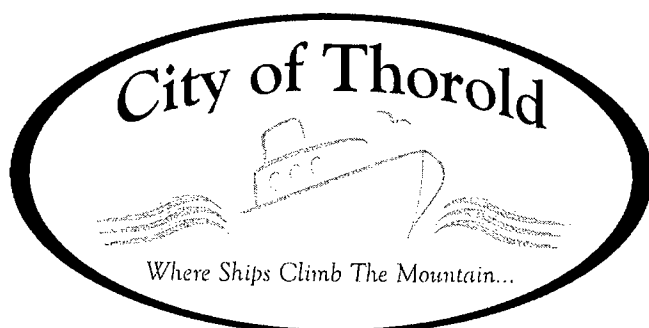
The Provincial Greenbelt Plan provides clarity and certainty about urban structure, where and how future growth should be accommodated, and types of land and features that should be protected for current and future generations.

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe is a 25-year plan that aims to maximize the benefits of growth within existing urban areas. This Plan sets clear Provincial standards for growth and development, yet provides some limited flexibility to address local circumstances.

City of Thorold Official Plan

- The current Official Plan was approved on January 18, 1985.
- During this period, the City grew by approximately 2,000 people, creating 3 major urban expansion areas.
- To date, there have been about 70 Official Plan Amendments to the City of Thorold Official Plan



Public Consultation

Public Consultation is an important aspect of an Official Plan Update. It is necessary to allow planners to better understand the values and planning issues within the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PROVIDE A WRITTEN SUBMISSION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Upcoming Workshops

Please join us at one of the upcoming workshops being held for this important project:

- Wednesday, January 13th, 2010, Nick Basciano Centre, 131 Richmond Street at 7 pm.
- Thursday, January 14th, 2010, Fire Station #2, 701 Allanburg Road at 7 pm.
- Wednesday, January 27th, 2010, Club Castropignano, 1291 Egerter Road at 7 pm.
- Thursday, January 28th, 2010, Fire Station #4 at 2189 Highway 20 from 2pm - 4 pm

How to get involved

Do you live and work in the City of Thorold? Do you operate a business or have a particular interest in the City of Thorold? If you answered yes to either of these questions, you are a stakeholder and you should consider contributing to the Official Plan Update.

Your input into the Official Plan Update process is vital to the success of the Official Plan. That's why we want to keep you informed and engaged in the process and ensure we receive your input and feedback.

We would like to hear your ideas on planning issues and what you would like to see happen in the City of Thorold from the perspective of planning and land use.

There are several ways to get involved:

- Participate and provide input at one of the upcoming workshops.
- Read the current Official Plan as well as the Province's Greenbelt Plan and Growth Plan and talk to us about how Thorold's planning issues relate to these documents.
- Provide your input and share your ideas though a written submission sent to your City's Planning Department.
- Talk to City Planning Staff or members of Council about this project.

City of Thorold

Dec 09

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