

Official Plan Update Public Meeting

**owen
sound**
where you want to live

CITY OF OWEN SOUND 
OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE

February 8, 2021


MHBC PLANNING
URBAN DESIGN
& LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE

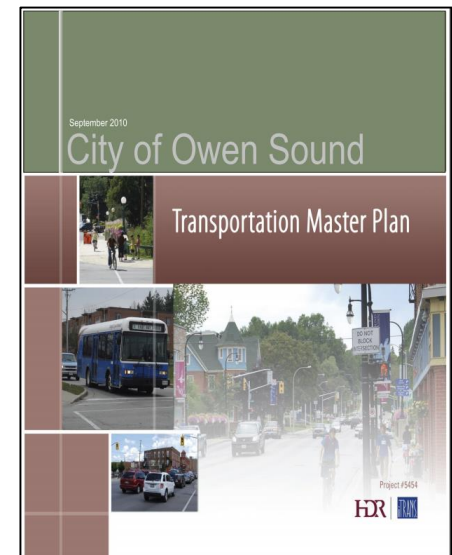
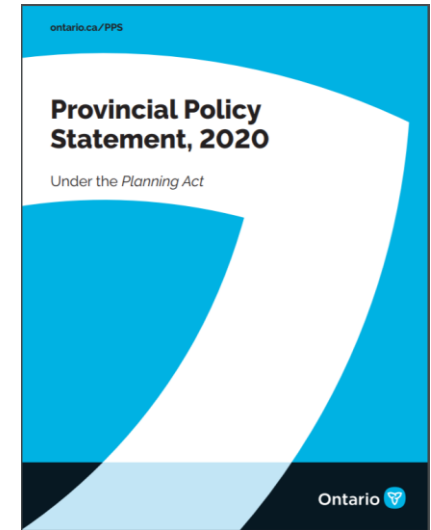
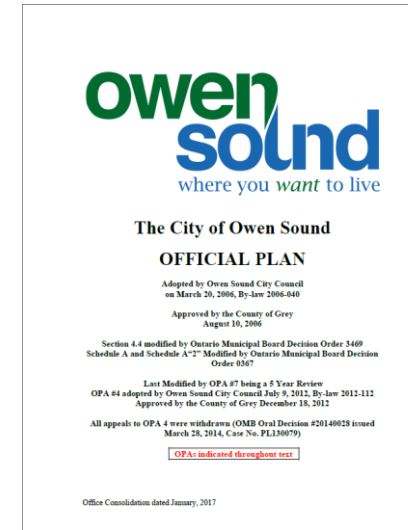
Purpose of Public Meeting

- Provide an update on the Official Plan Update
- Present the Draft Official Plan
- Acknowledge input / comments received on the Draft Official Plan
- Respond to questions on the Draft Official Plan process and development
- Identify next steps to finalizing the Official Plan



Need for Official Plan Update

- Current Official Plan was adopted in 2006 and there was a need to review to address changes in the City and plan for the future
- Review and ensure consistency with Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)
- Assess conformity with applicable planning policies (Grey County Official Plan, NEP)
- Implement recommendations from other adopted Master Plans & Studies



Where we are at now

JAN - FEB



Phase 1:
Kick-off & Visioning

FEB - SEPT



Phase 2:
Research & Analysis

OCT - DEC



Phase 3:
Prepare Draft
Official Plan

DEC - APR



Phase 4:
Finalize Official Plan



WE ARE HERE

Public Consultation Process to Date

Community involvement is an important component of an Official Plan update.

Up to this point, opportunities to provide comments have included:

- ***Community Engagement Session***
- ***Online survey to obtain input to the Official Plan Vision Statement***
- ***Posting of Discussion Papers on City Website for Comment***

A Council Visioning exercise was also completed as input to the Vision Statement.



Community visioning session held at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre on March 2, 2020

Discussion Papers

Discussion papers were prepared to inform and engage with Owen Sound's stakeholders. Discussion papers were completed for the following topics:

- *Sustainability & Climate Change*
- *Housing & Affordability*
- *Transportation & Infrastructure*
- *Land Use & Design*

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Official Plan Vision Statement

“The City of Owen Sound is where you want to live. A complete community that values the natural environment, cultural diversity, historic streetscapes, vibrant waterfront and provides a sense of belonging. The City will plan to evolve as a centre for growth, opportunity and innovation while ensuring that sustainability, resiliency, and quality of life are considered in every decision.”

Sustainability & Climate Change

- Introduce policies to address and respond to a changing climate
- Provide policies and support for more sustainable transportation options (e.g. active transit, EV charging stations)
- Support low impact and energy efficient developments
- Provide clear policy for supporting 'Living Streets' with an active transportation focus



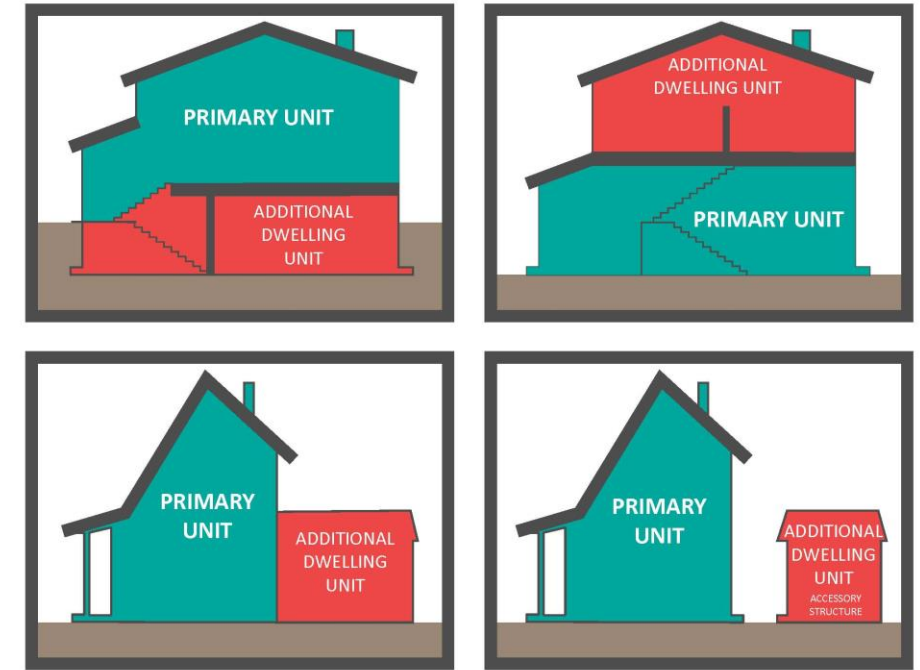
EV charging station



'Living Streets'

Housing & Affordability

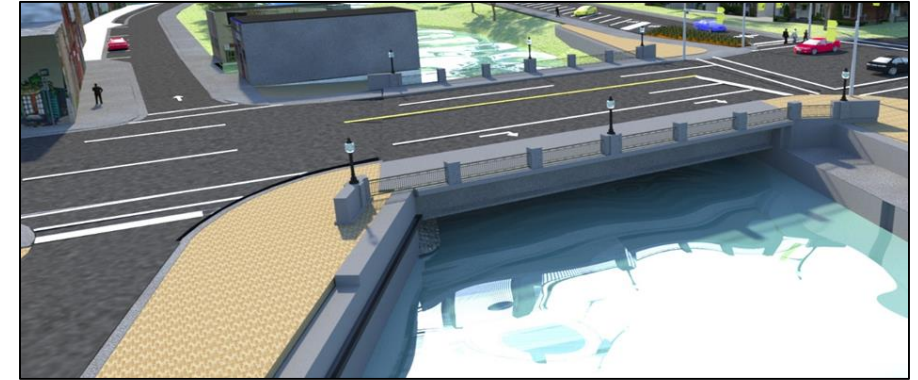
- Simplify Additional Dwelling Unit (ADU) policies and provide direction for ADUs
- Encourage a balance of low, medium and high density residential uses where appropriate
- Provide additional direction and policy support for day-care centres and group homes
- Strengthen affordable and rental housing policy direction



Examples of ADU types and locations

Transportation & Infrastructure

- Introduce policies to support infrastructure needs for capital projects (funding, grants, incentives, etc.)
- Strengthen policies that promote active transit infrastructure and connectivity to trails and parks
- Provide policies and support to become increasingly connected via high-speed internet
- Support the efficient use of existing transportation and infrastructure systems for development



10th Street Bridge Replacement – Capital Project



Active transportation connectivity

Land Use & Design

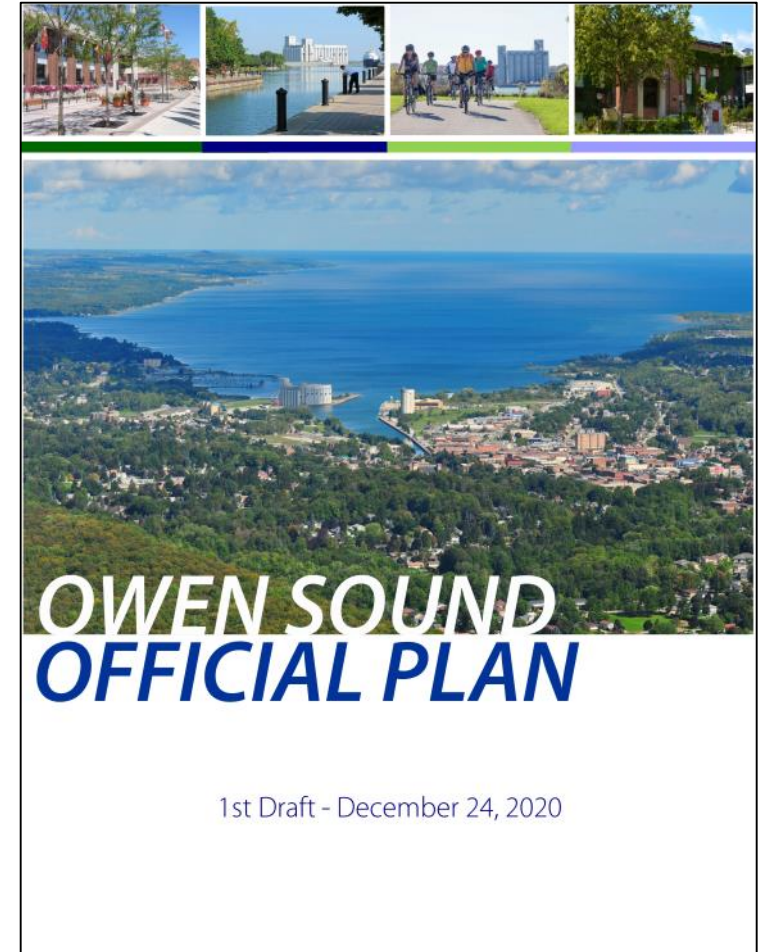
- Introduce updated density targets for small, medium and high density residential development
- Simplify the naming of land use areas within the City to conform to current strategies (e.g. Downtown → River District)
- Introduce further direction on the collection of cash-in-lieu of parkland dedications fees
- Introduce policies that support safety and security through development design



Illuminated sidewalk development design strengthens safety and security

Summary Conclusion

- Process to update Official Plan has followed approved Terms of Reference and Planning Act requirements
- Proposed draft Official Plan brings document into conformity with Provincial and County policies
- Policies proposed to be amended and/or new policies provide appropriate balance and direction for future land use and sustainability



Public Comments – (received to date)

- Need for greater policy direction for climate change and incorporation of a Climate Action Plan
- No mention of climate change in "Quality of Life", "Urban Design", or "Infrastructure"
- Ensure that we are not only encouraging, but requiring sustainable action
- Density associated with a sustainable community and impacts of intensification
- Support for intensification and alternative dwelling unit types
- Waste management technology and use (i.e., green bins)
- Need to maintain cultural heritage policies
- Property specific input from stakeholders
- Confirmation on timing for Council consideration relative to timing and incorporation of public input

Preliminary Response to Public Comments – (received to date)

Climate Change and Sustainability

- Modify objectives to provide a clear objective related to sustainability and climate change
- Introduce new Climate Change Section in Official Plan to include:
 - Policy support for the development of a Climate Action Plan
 - Policy support for City and/or County targets
- Strengthen and incorporate further policies with a climate change focus

Waste Management

- Update policy language to address (input from Wastewatchers)

Tree Protection

- Confirm policy basis for completion of tree management plans and a City tree by-law

Next Steps to Council Adoption and Approval

January – February 2021

- Consider public input and comments
- Review agency circulation comments
- Provide notice of Special Meeting of Council
- Public Meeting – February 8th
- Prepare Technical Report
- Update draft Official Plan based on comments

Next Steps to Council Adoption and Approval

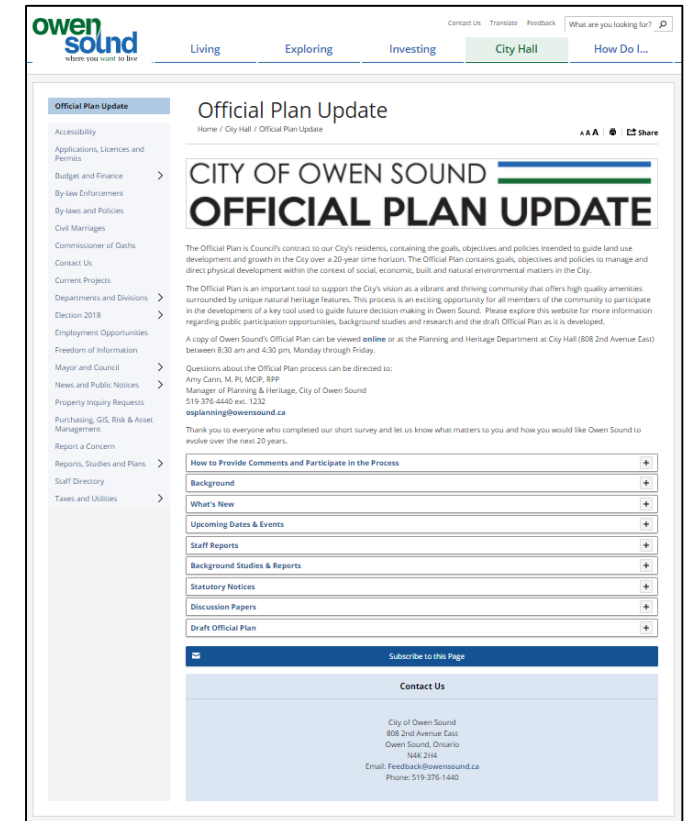
March – April 2021

- Special Meeting of Council – March 15th
- Finalize Official Plan and Prepare a Recommendation Report for Council Consideration and Adoption
- Following Council adoption, Official Plan is forwarded to County for final review and approval. New Official Plan comes into effect following issuance of County approval (subject to any notice/appeal period)

Continued Involvement & Engagement

Official Plan Update webpage

- <https://www.owensound.ca/en/city-hall/official-plan-update.aspx>
- Access all documents and reports prepared to date
- Access upcoming dates and events
- Provide comments or feedback



Official Plan Update webpage

Thank you!

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