

**Meeting Date:** August 16, 2021  
**Department:** Building, Planning and Waste Management  
**Report No.:** BBP-2021-55  
**Submitted by:** Jennifer Huff, Director, Building and Planning  
**Approved by:** Fred Tranquilli, Chief Administrative Officer / Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Official Plan Background Review Update

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**RECOMMENDATION: THAT:** Council received Report BBP-2021-55 and the attached Draft OPR Background Report for information.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

- Economic Development: Strathroy-Caradoc will have a diverse tax base and be a place that offers a variety of economic opportunities to current and prospective residents and businesses.
- Growth Management: Strathroy-Caradoc will be an inclusive community where growth is managed to accommodate a range of needs and optimize municipal resources.
- Destination Building: Strathroy-Caradoc will provide distinct experiences that celebrate its past and future by prioritizing innovative new ideas that set the community apart.

Specifically, the 5-Year update to the Official Plan was identified as one of several short-term tactics necessary to achieve the above noted strategic priorities.

**BACKGROUND:**

In October 2020 the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc embarked upon the completion of an Official Plan 5-Year update and engaged WSP, a planning consulting firm, to complete this project. The Official Plan Update project has been branded as the **“Growing Together Strathroy-Caradoc”** Project, as shown below.



**GROWING TOGETHER**  
**STRATHROY-CARADOC**  
Comprehensive Planning for Tomorrow

A website has been created that is dedicated to the Official Plan review project: [growingtogethersc.ca](http://growingtogethersc.ca). It is a live website, that is continually updated and reviewed as this project progresses.

The **Draft Official Plan Review Background Report**, completed by WSP, is one component of the Growing Together project and it is attached to this report. This Report identifies and reviews the key policy drivers and inputs that need to be considered in the updated Official Plan, as well as other housekeeping/technical items. Phase 1 of the Official Plan Review (OPR) includes the completion of the Background Report, while Phase 2 and 3 are aligned with the concurrent Master Plans and Studies being prepared through the Growing Together Project such that the various policy recommendations contained with the Master Plans and Studies will also be incorporated into the OPR.

It is noted that the Background Review Report includes an assessment of the gaps and conflicts between the current Official Plan and more recent Provincial and County policies. This assessment is intended to document and assess the significant policy changes that will need to be considered as part of the Official Plan Review.

The OPR Background Review summarizes its policy review assessment in a table, 'Table 1 – Policy Issues, Conflicts and Opportunities Assessment'. Phase 2 of the OPR will further modify Table 1 by including an additional column that identifies each policy amendment recommended to address various gaps / conflicts found during the Background Review and to include the policy recommendations of the various Master Plans and Studies. These policy recommendations will be subject to further consultation as part of Phase 2 & 3 of the OPR. The OPR is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2021.

**CONSULTATION:**

The various public consultation components of the OPR are detailed in the OPR Background Report. Additional consultation is planned as part of Phase 2 & 3 of the OPR project.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

None

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Draft OPR Background Report