

Date: 2021-05-13

Subject: **INFORMATION REPORT: BRAMPTON PLAN**

Secondary Title: Discussion Papers: Attainable and Supportive Housing & Arts and Cultural Heritage – City Wide

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Report Number: JBA OPR 19 Planning, Bld & Ec Dev-2021-627

Recommendation:

1. THAT the report titled: Information Report: Brampton Plan Review – Discussion Papers: Attainable and Supportive Housing & Arts and Cultural Heritage – City Wide, to the Planning and Development Committee Meeting of June 7, 2021, be received.

Overview:

- The Planning Act requires municipalities to update their Official Plans no less frequently than ten years after a new plan comes into effect and every five years thereafter.
- A comprehensive review of Brampton's Official Plan is being undertaken to ensure conformity and consistency with provincial and regional legislative and policy frameworks as well as to align cross-departmental plans and strategies.
- Two discussion papers are attached that provide ideas pertaining to Arts and Culture, Cultural Heritage and Attainable and Supportive Housing that will evolve to become the basis for new policy direction for Brampton Plan.
- Brampton Plan is proposed to be completed by Q2 of 2022

Background:

The current City of Brampton Official Plan (the Official Plan) was adopted by Council in 2006 and approved by the Ontario Municipal Board in 2008. In October 2013, City staff received direction from the Planning, Design, and Development Committee to initiate a scoped review of the Official Plan. However, in 2017, the scoped review was put on hold pending the outcome of the "Living

the Mosaic – Brampton 2040 Vision” (the 2040 Vision) process. Commencing in Fall 2017, the 2040 Vision process broadly engaged residents and stakeholders across the community to foster public discussion about the future of Brampton. Following this extensive engagement, the City’s 2040 Vision was endorsed by City Council in June 2018.

The City’s Official Plan Review was subsequently re-launched in Fall 2019 to build on the work completed through the 2040 Vision, and to prepare a new Official Plan (hereinafter referred to as ‘Brampton Plan’) to guide growth and development over the next 25 years. At the January 22, 2020 Special Meeting of Council, Motion C025-2020 was carried as follows:

1. That the staff report titled: Brampton 2040 Plan (official Plan Review) – Work Program (R 1/2020) (File JBA OPR 19), be received; and
2. That the work program identified in the above noted report be endorsed as the basis for Brampton’s Official Plan Review.

What is an Official Plan?

Official Plans are developed under a framework established by the Province of Ontario to ensure that short-and long-term growth is coordinated in a manner to meet local social, economic, built and natural environment needs and aspirations. Municipal Official Plans must be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 (PPS, 2020) issued under the *Planning Act*, and must conform to, or not conflict with any applicable Provincial and Regional Plans, including the A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, including amendment 1, 2020 (the Growth Plan), the Greenbelt Plan, and the Region of Peel Official Plan, as they relate to the City of Brampton.

These overarching policy documents provide direction to the City on land use planning matters. Overall, Official Plan policies establish:

- How to promote economic development and develop community improvement initiatives;
- How to protect and conserve cultural heritage resources;
- How to protect and enhance the City’s environmentally sensitive areas;
- Where new housing, industry, offices and shops will be located;
- What community services, such as roads, transportation, utilities, parks, trails and schools will be needed to accommodate growth and develop healthy and sustainable communities; and
- Where, and in what order, different parts of the community will grow.

The development of Brampton Plan offers an opportunity to adopt a contemporary and strategic set of policies that will guide growth and development over the planning horizon and direct physical change and its effects on the social, economic, built, and natural environment of the city.

Brampton Plan Program

The Brampton Plan process will be completed across five phases. An overview of the project timeline, including the purpose of the different phases is presented below. Each phase of this project is associated with major deliverables and tailored consultation and engagement tactics. The comprehensive Brampton Plan work program includes the following phases:

Phase 1 – Background Review & Community Engagement Strategy

- To introduce the project to the community and undertake a review of relevant background information.

Phase 2 – Test the Vision & Development Growth Scenarios

- To assess and identify growth scenarios to contribute to the development of population and employment forecasts.

Phase 3 – Policy Analysis and Community Structure

- To review existing Official Plan policy and confirm conformity with Provincial and Regional policy and plans. An updated community structure was proposed, and community and stakeholder meetings were held to obtain feedback on the community structure.

Phase 4 – Discussion Papers and Policy Recommendations

- To prepare Discussion Papers to organize City priorities regarding emerging planning issues and report back on community feedback. A Policy Directions Report will be prepared to assess new and emerging planning policy and research on directions for the policies and schedules of Brampton Plan.

Phase 5 – Draft New Official Plan

- To undertake the technical writing, reviewing, testing and implementation of updates to the Brampton Plan based on work completed to-date.

Current Situation:

What is a Discussion Paper?

The current phase of the Brampton Plan process includes the release of seven topic-based discussion papers, which align with the themes and findings of the Brampton 2040 Vision. The papers are meant to get people thinking about some key ideas and directions that will help guide the next phase of the process - which is policy direction.

Purpose of a Discussion Paper

Building on the work completed during the 2040 Vision, as well as in 2019 and 2020, a number of discussion papers are being prepared to guide more focused subject matter reviews as part of developing Brampton Plan. The entire process can be considered a funnel. In the beginning, during the visioning part of the process, the community put forward their ideas and aspirations for Brampton. We have been testing those ideas and discussions papers begin to narrow the process to where we produce policy direction for Brampton Plan. While never losing site of the community aspirations contained within the 2040 Vision, discussion papers begin to merge those aspirations with technical reality and planning conformity. Continued community engagement is critical through this and all future steps of the process so we maintain true to the 2040 Vision.

The topics of the seven discussion papers are identified below:

1. Arts and cultural Heritage
2. Attainable and Supportive Housing
3. Natural Environment Climate Change and Resiliency
4. Implementation of Growth Management Framework and Official Plan Structure
5. Employment and Retail
6. Transportation and Connectivity

7. Urban Design, Open Spaces and Recreation

Attainable and Supportive Housing Discussion Paper

This Discussion Paper, attached hereto as **Appendix A** examines Attainable and Supportive Housing and is intended to be an opportunity to engage in a discussion on key housing issues that should be considered in Brampton Plan. . The recent activity on housing policy in Brampton, including the endorsement of the City's housing strategy 'Housing Brampton', provides clear direction from Brampton City Council on many topics. This discussion paper highlights areas where additional community engagement will enable creation of specific policies in Brampton Plan which will achieve the long-term goals of Housing Brampton in the context of provincial and regional legislation.

This discussion paper presents:

- Housing need and gaps in Brampton;
- The roles of various levels of government in housing issues;
- The current and planned housing policy context in Brampton;
- Key directions from Housing Brampton;
- Housing Interests for focused policy formulation; and
- Best practices in the areas of the key interests.

Creating a supportive policy environment is key to the success of Housing Brampton. Official planning documents and development regulations need to clearly articulate and complement the Vision and Principles of Housing Brampton. Policy focus areas have been identified in Housing Brampton for detailed review through the Brampton Plan development and engagement process.

Through engagement on the following key Housing Interests, policies will be created that align with Housing Brampton and its ongoing initiatives. The key Housing Interests for discussion are:

1. Increase in purpose-built rental;
2. Use of public land for housing;
3. Attainable home ownership options; and
4. Clear housing targets.

This is a starting point for generating discussion about implementing Housing Brampton through policy recommendations and addressing Attainable and Supportive Housing objectives. A Policy Directions Report will follow and will outline detailed changes proposed for inclusion in Brampton Plan. The directions and recommendations presented in this discussion paper will be refined through subsequent consultation with the public. Engagement opportunities for a full range of stakeholders to provide input and perspective on these policy issues will be available in the coming months.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Discussion Paper

This Discussion Paper, attached hereto as **Appendix B** examines Arts and Culture, and Cultural Heritage. While this paper combines two themes, it should be noted that they are very different. This paper builds upon the work conducted through the Brampton 2040 Vision as well as the Culture Master Plan, in addition to highlighting professional best practices in in both the arts and cultural heritage conservation fields.

The Arts and Culture component of this Discussion Paper has been prepared to assist in affirming the City of Brampton's commitment to quality and diversity in public art, design excellence and creativity in enhancing the public realm. Arts and Culture evolves and adapts with history and time and is influenced both by visual arts trends in general and by our own relationship with the built form and the urban context to which it contributes by visually enriching the environment. To foster a sense of local pride and achievement, arts and culture needs to be accessible to the community at large and needs to encourage community interaction.

This paper offers ideas to be considered for incorporation into Brampton Plan around the following areas:

- **Cultural Facilities:** Identify and integrate art destinations, (museums, art centres, art galleries, etc.) performance spaces and celebrations within Brampton Plan and the overall City Structure.
- **Cultural Celebrations and Festivals:** Build upon existing celebrations and festivals and encourage the creation of performance and celebration spaces outside of the Downtown and Bramalea areas; potentially in urban squares or public streets with flexible space for programmed and non-programmed activities.
- **Indigenous Communities:** Explore the use of public parks and public spaces as places of representation of the various local indigenous groups, their values, and their stories.
- **Public Art:** Consider the creation of a public art program where a dedication of a minimum 1% of the capital budget of all municipal buildings (and potentially private development projects) greater than 500 square metres to public art as well as public realm improvement projects can be applied to a public art fund.
- **Supporting Youth and Championing Creativity and Experimentation:** Explore opportunities to increase local awareness and create partnerships to promote and celebrate local artists.

The Cultural Heritage component of this Discussion Paper focuses on tangible ways that the City of Brampton can update heritage policy to better reflect the values and meaning of cultural heritage to the community. Cultural heritage is commonly defined as an “expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, places, objects, artistic expressions and values” (International Council on Monuments and Sites [ICOMOS], 2002). In the City of Brampton, built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes are identified, evaluated and protected using a combination of provincial and municipal policies. Brampton's current Official Plan provides high-level policies and goals for the conservation and maintenance of cultural heritage within the municipality.

This paper outlines ideas to help enhance heritage policies in Brampton Plan around the following areas:

- **Language and Definitions:** Inclusion of definitions and terminology used in the *Provincial Policy Statement* and *The Ontario Heritage Act*.
- **Identification and Evaluation:** Adding policy statements to enhance the identification and evaluation of cultural heritage resources.
- **Conservation:** Strengthening conservation policies and including direct references to relationships between natural and cultural heritage.
- **Integration into the Land-Use Planning Process:** Harmonizing applicable tools to reference archaeological assessments and identifying cultural heritage resources and heritage character areas on schedules or maps addressing road classifications and right-of-ways.

- **Implementation:** Develop policies that acknowledge heritage policy and provisions from Peel Region's Official Plan and the desire for the City to work with other levels of government.
- **Incentives:** Outlining clear guidelines for the use of Section 37 of the *Planning Act* and identifying government and agency funding programs that may assist in implementing Community Improvement Plan requirements.

Virtual Open House – June 7, 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Prior to Planning and Development Committee (PDC), a virtual Open House will be held to provide an opportunity to share in detail the ideas contained within the two discussion papers and provide an opportunity for the public to provide feedback. Notice for the Open House and PDC meeting was provided via social media pages and the Brampton Plan project webpage: www.Brampton.ca/BramptonPlan.

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications identified at this time.

Other Implications:

Technical policy planning implications associated with the attached discussion papers will be considered and inform a future Policy Directions Report.

Term of Council Priorities:

Brampton Plan is noted as a Term of Council priority under the following:

Council Priority: A City of Opportunities

Strategic Priority: 1.4 Prioritize Jobs Within Centres

Project Number: 1.4.3 Develop a New Official Plan that aligns all master plans with Brampton 2040.

Conclusion:

The attached Discussion Papers pertaining to Arts & Culture, Cultural Heritage and Attainable and Supportive Housing are two of seven papers that are being prepared to advance Brampton Plan. The seven Discussion Papers will build upon the work completed in Phases 1-3 to establish a foundation from which to develop more detailed policy directions. This is a starting point for generating discussion about Arts and Culture, Cultural Heritage and Housing issues. Recommendations will evolve through the development of the Policy Directions Report which will outline detailed changes proposed for Brampton Plan. The ideas presented in these two papers will be refined through continued engagement with the public and relevant stakeholders.

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Attachments:

Appendix A – Attainable and Supportive Housing Discussion Paper
Appendix B – Arts and Culture and Cultural Heritage Discussion Paper
Appendix C – Presentation