



**Shaping** Guelph

# The City of Guelph Official Plan

February 2024  
Consolidation

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CITY OF  
**Guelph**  
Making a Difference

## 2024 Consolidation

The City of Guelph Official Plan was initially adopted by Council November 1, 1994 and has been comprehensively updated. This consolidation includes OPA 80 as approved by the Minister through Bill 150, Planning Statute Law Amendment Act, 2023 and in effect as of April 11, 2023 and OPA 81 through 87, OPA 89, 91 and 92.



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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of the Official Plan

This document constitutes the Official Plan for the City of Guelph. It may be referred to as the "Official Plan" or the "Plan."

This Plan has been prepared and enacted in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*. This Plan updates the previous Official Plan for the City of Guelph, which was adopted by City Council on November 1, 1994, approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs on December 20, 1995 and comprehensively updated by the City on December 17, 2001. In addition, the Plan includes the detailed provisions required to ensure conformity with the *Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*, consistency with the *Provincial Policy Statement* and applicable Provincial legislation.

The Official Plan:

- a) Establishes a vision, guiding principles, strategic goals, objectives and policies to manage future land use patterns that have a positive effect on the social, economic, cultural and natural environment of the city.
- b) Promotes long-term community sustainability and embodies policies and actions that aim to simultaneously achieve social well-being, economic vitality, cultural conservation and enhancement, environmental integrity, energy sustainability and climate change resiliency.
- c) Promotes the public interest in the future *development* of the city and provides a comprehensive land use policy basis which will be implemented through the *Zoning By-law* and other land use controls.
- d) Guides decision making and community building to the year 2051.

## 1.2 Plan Organization

The Official Plan consists of written text, figures and tables within the text, schedules and definitions.

The Official Plan is composed of thirteen parts including Schedules.

**Part One, 'Introduction', establishes the context for the Official Plan. This section sets out the purpose and provides a description of how the Plan is structured and how it should be read and interpreted.**

**Part Two, 'Strategic Directions', establishes the Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles and Strategic Goals of the Plan.**

**Part Three, 'Planning a Complete and Healthy Community', provides the City's urban structure, establishes a Growth Management Strategy and sets out general policies that provide an overall guiding framework for the detailed policies of subsequent sections of the Official Plan.**

**Part Four, 'Protecting What is Valuable', establishes policies and *development* criteria that address natural heritage and water resource protection, cultural heritage conservation, energy conservation measures and health and safety provisions aimed at ensuring a diverse, healthy environment.**

**Part Five, 'Movement of People and Goods – An Integrated Transportation System', provides policies for the City's transportation system to facilitate efficient, safe, convenient and energy efficient movement of goods and people throughout the city.**

**Part Six, 'Municipal Services', provides policies for municipal services including water, wastewater, solid waste and stormwater.**

**Part Seven, 'Community Infrastructure', sets out a policy framework for the efficient and adequate provision of physical and social infrastructure to sustain and support growth and quality of life.**

**Part Eight, 'Urban Design', provides detailed policy on how the city will be built. It sets out objectives and policies that focus on creating adaptable and well-designed infrastructure networks, buildings, sites, neighbourhoods and open spaces.**

**Part Nine, 'Land Use' sets out objectives, policies, permitted uses and design and *development* criteria for land use designations within the city as set out on Schedule 2.**

**Part Ten, 'Implementation', provides the operational framework and tools necessary to achieve the goals and objectives and implement the policies of this Plan.**

**Part Eleven, 'Secondary Plans', lists the Secondary Plans that have been adopted by Council and form part of the Official Plan.**

**Part Twelve, 'Glossary' provides definitions for words that are *italicized* in the text of this Plan. A list of acronyms used in the Plan is also provided.**

**Part Thirteen, 'Schedules', contains maps that correspond to policies within the Plan.**

### 1.3 Interpretation

1. The Plan must be read in its entirety as a comprehensive policy framework to be used in land use evaluation and decision making by Council, committees appointed by Council, Boards and Commissions having jurisdiction within the City, and by staff and the public, including the Ontario Municipal Board.
2. All schedules form part of the Plan and must be read in conjunction with the text of the Plan.
3. Words that are italicized in the text are either defined in the Glossary or are the title of a report, plan, legislation or regulation.
4. This Plan consists of text, tables, figures and schedules. Diagrams, appendices and photographs are provided for descriptive purposes and are not part of the Plan.

5. In the event of a conflict between a general and an area specific policy, the area specific policy shall prevail.
6. In this Plan words used in the singular number shall include the plural and words used in the plural number shall include the singular.

#### Boundaries

7. The boundaries of the designations on the Schedules to the Plan shall be considered approximate, except where they coincide with roads, railways, former township lots and concession lines, major water courses or other well defined natural or physical features. Where the general intent of the Plan is maintained, minor boundary adjustments will not require an amendment to this Plan.
8. In the case of discrepancy between the maps and related text policy, the policies will take precedence.

#### Symbol

9. Where the designations on the Schedules to the Plan are delineated by symbols, their extent and location are to be considered flexible and interpreted in accordance with the policies of this Plan. Minor adjustments in their location will not require an amendment to this Plan.

#### Permitted Uses

10. Permitted uses are intended to indicate the possible range and types of uses permitted and are not intended to be all encompassing. Uses that are not listed but are considered similar to those listed and conform to the objectives and policies of the land use designation may be recognized as a permitted use. However, specific uses that are not listed and cannot reasonably be interpreted to be similar to a permitted use will not be considered a permitted use.

#### Numerical Provisions

11. Numerical provisions in this Plan are approximate, except where they refer to minimum setbacks from the Natural Heritage System. Minor variations from other numerical figures will not require an amendment to this Plan where it can be demonstrated that the objectives of the Plan will be met.

#### Amendments to the Plan

12. Where a goal, objective, policy, land use designation or a schedule is proposed to be changed, added, deleted or the meaning of which is significantly altered, an amendment to this Plan shall be required.
13. Changes to the text, tables, figures or schedules to this Plan to correct grammatical, spelling or reference errors or updates, punctuation, formatting, numbering or sequencing or modification of illustrations may be made without an amendment to this Plan.

14. When considering an application to amend the Official Plan, Council shall consider the following matters:

- i) the conformity of the proposal to the strategic directions of this Plan and whether the proposal is deemed to be in the overall interests of the City;
- ii) consistency with applicable provincial legislation, plans and policy statements;
- iii) suitability of the site or area for the proposed use, particularly in relation to other sites or areas of the city;
- iv) compatibility of the proposed use with adjacent land use designations;
- v) the need for the proposed use, in light of projected population and employment targets;
- vi) the market feasibility of the proposed use, where appropriate;
- vii) the extent to which the existing areas of the city designated for the proposed use are developed or are available for development;
- viii) the impact of the proposed use on sewage, water and solid waste management systems, the transportation system, community facilities and the Natural Heritage System;
- ix) the financial implications of the proposed development;
- x) other matters as deemed relevant in accordance with the policies of this Plan.

#### Provincial Plans and Legislation

15. Where any legislation, *Provincial Plan*, policy or regulation or portion thereof is referred to in this Plan, such reference shall be interpreted to refer to any subsequent renaming or amendment(s) to these documents or successors thereof.

#### By-laws

16. No By-law may be passed, and no public work may be undertaken, which does not conform to this Plan.

### 1.4 Planning Area

The Plan applies to all lands within the corporate boundary of the City of Guelph.



## 2 Strategic Directions

### 2.1 Introduction

The Official Plan is a future oriented document that sets out a course for the desired development of Guelph to 2051. It recognizes that future objectives can only be achieved through a strategic vision, policies and actions. Ultimately, the Official Plan establishes a framework to retain and improve the quality of life for residents of the City of Guelph. The high quality of life in the city has historically been recognized as one of its greatest strengths and is a characteristic that sets this community apart from others. The high quality of life in the city is related to a healthy natural ecosystem, community services and facilities, educational and employment opportunities, the availability of infrastructure supportive of alternative forms of transportation, **the community's relative safety, the vibrancy of its neighbourhoods and the character of its downtown.** A high quality of life is the key to the enjoyment of city living and is necessary to assure continued competitiveness in an increasingly globalized economy.

#### Vision

Guelph in 2051 is a place of community. Guelph is a diverse community that is rich in history and vibrant new places and spaces. We are welcoming to new people to live and work within our neighbourhoods and to new businesses that support and strengthen our diverse and innovative local economy. Our community has a full range and mix of housing that is accessible and affordable. We have built a community where we can safely walk, cycle, ride transit, or drive anywhere we want to go. Our city has been thoughtfully designed and is compact, connected, and complete. We have places to shop and work. We are able to explore open spaces and parks. Our cultural heritage resources have been embraced and celebrated. Our natural heritage system and water resources are protected and maintained as one of our most valuable assets.

**This Official Plan sets out how we will manage Guelph's land use patterns that shape the city's social, economic, cultural, and natural environments.**

This Official Plan creates a strong foundation that will guide the future growth of Guelph. In 2051, Guelph is a place we are proud to call home. We are proud because we have worked together to shape its future.

#### Connecting with our Past

The lands on which the City of Guelph exists today are steeped in rich Indigenous history and have been a cherished home to First Nations for thousands of years. Guelph is located on the lands of the Between the Lakes Treaty No. 3 territory signed between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation in 1792. The City also acknowledges that Guelph is located on the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee people.

The City of Guelph was founded in 1827 and originally planned by John Galt. The city was initially designed in a fan shape, radiating outward from the Speed River. The rivers and topography influenced the design of the city and allowed for scenic views and focal points particularly **within the downtown. Many of the city's early buildings were constructed of** locally quarried limestone providing visual unity to the older areas of the city and a rich legacy to protect.

**The city's future depends on carefully balancing yesterday's legacy, today's needs and tomorrow's vision. This balance can be achieved by respecting the** land on which we reside, being mindful of our collective role as stewards of the land; enhancing the integrity of natural systems and promoting an atmosphere of innovation and creativity. **Celebrating Guelph's character while introducing innovative development is part of creating a vibrant city.**

Working together with Indigenous people now and in the future

The City of Guelph is committed to working closely with Indigenous people. As treaty people we have a shared responsibility to act as stewards of the lands, waters and resources that make up Guelph today. We continue to build relationships in an effort to deepen our understanding and engagement with Indigenous people as well as advance efforts toward reconciliation.

## 2.2 Engagement with Indigenous Governments and Communities

The City recognizes the role that Indigenous governments and communities have in the **stewardship of land and water resources, including those within the City's corporate** boundary.

The City is committed to meaningful engagement with Indigenous governments and communities to facilitate knowledge-sharing in land use planning processes and to inform decision making. This includes:

- maintaining a process for notification and engagement that reflects and respects Indigenous governance and decision-making role over land use planning and other decisions that have the potential to affect Section 35 Aboriginal and treaty rights.
- engaging and collaborating with Indigenous governments on the shared responsibility to sustain the lands, waters, and resources for the benefit of generations to come. This includes the Natural Heritage System, with a particular focus on the *water resource system*.
- engaging with Indigenous governments and considering their interests when identifying, protecting and managing cultural heritage and archaeological resources.

The City shall engage with Indigenous governments on land use planning matters including the development review process, land use planning studies, environmental

assessments, and policy reviews in a way that is consistent with the recognition of Section 35 Aboriginal and treaty rights.

## 2.3 Strategic Goals of the Plan

The following Strategic Goals are general statements of intent that describe a desired future condition. The goals are consistent with the principles set out in Section 2.1 and provide a broad framework for more specific Official Plan policy that will inform planning and *development* within the city. The strategic goals are focused on sustainability and supportive of the quadruple bottom line – ecological, social, cultural and economic – in decision making. The Strategic Goals are themed to align with the Chapters of the Official Plan.

The following are the strategic goals of the Official Plan:

### 1. Planning a Complete and Healthy Community

- a) Utilize an interdisciplinary approach to planning whereby decisions are made with an understanding of the ecological, social, cultural and economic interrelationships and implications for any particular course of action.
- b) Ensure an appropriate range and mix of employment opportunities, local services, community infrastructure, housing including affordable housing and other land uses are provided to meet current and projected needs to the year 2051.
- c) Provide for urban growth and land use patterns that support community needs and ensures efficient use of public expenditures and municipal financial sustainability over the long term.
- d) Ensure that development is planned to meet the goals, objectives and policies of this Plan.
- e) Promote opportunities for employment in the high-tech "knowledge based" sectors including environmental management and technology, advanced manufacturing and agri-food technology.
- f) Foster sustainable local food systems.
- g) Preserve and enhance a safe, liveable and healthy community.

### 2. Protecting what is Valuable

- a) Ensure that land use planning provides for a diverse and inclusive city.
- b) Protect, maintain, enhance and restore *natural heritage features* and functions and **biodiversity of the City's Natural Heritage System** and *water resource system* to the greatest extent possible and support linkages between and among such systems and features within the city and beyond.
- c) **Enhance the visual identity of the city through protecting and celebrating the City's cultural heritage resources.**

- d) Prepare Guelph for a net-zero carbon future through the implementation of the **City's Community Energy Initiative**.
- e) Mitigate risks to public health and safety or property damage from natural hazards.
- f) Prepare for the impacts of a changing climate.

### 3. Transportation

- a) Develop a safe, efficient, convenient and sustainable transportation system that provides for all modes of travel including cycling and walking to support sustainable land use patterns.

### 4. Municipal Services

- a) Ensure servicing, including water, wastewater and stormwater, are adequate to **support Guelph's growth**.
- b) Direct *development* to those areas where full municipal services and related *infrastructure* are existing or can be made available, while considering existing land uses, natural heritage systems, *development* constraints, fiscal sustainability, *development* costs and related factors.
- c) Protect, maintain, enhance and sustainably manage the finite *groundwater* and surface water resources **that are needed to support the City's existing and planned** growth and natural systems.
- d) Promote the effective management of waste to ensure protection of the natural and built environment.

### 5. Community Infrastructure

- a) Ensure an accessible, connected open space, park and trail system and sustainable network of recreational facilities necessary to promote a physically active and healthy community that meets resident needs for active and passive recreation activities.
- b) Provide an appropriate supply and distribution of community facilities to meet the social, health and education needs of existing and future residents in a manner that maximizes accessibility.
- c) Recognize the Speed and Eramosa Rivers as a vibrant and dynamic component of the city, along with their designation as a Canadian Heritage River which highlights their cultural and recreational opportunities.
- d) Ensure that an adequate supply, range and geographic distribution of housing types including *affordable housing*, *special needs housing* and supporting amenities are provided to satisfy the needs of the community.

## 6. Urban Design

- a) Preserve, enhance and protect the distinct character of the city and the sense of a community of neighbourhoods.
- b) Build a compact, mixed-use and *transit-supportive* community.
- c) Plan and design an attractive urban landscape that reinforces and enhances Guelph's sense of place and identity while encouraging innovative design and *development* opportunities.
- d) Encourage *intensification* and *redevelopment* of existing urban areas that is *compatible* with existing built form.

## 7. Downtown

- a) Strengthen the role of the Downtown as a major area for investment, employment and residential uses such that it functions as a vibrant focus of the city.

## 8. Implementation

- a) Promote informed public involvement and engagement in a user-friendly planning and *development* process.
- b) Engage with Indigenous governments, and collaborate where appropriate, when considering land use planning matters that may affect Indigenous rights and interests.

### 3 Planning a Complete and Healthy Community

A Place to Grow, Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe establishes a framework for implementing the **Province's** vision for building stronger more prosperous communities by managing projected growth to the year 2051. This Official Plan, and in particular the following objectives, policies and Schedule 1, along with the land use designations and policies of Chapter 9 and Schedule 2, constitute an integrated approach to implementing **A Place to Grow and the City's Growth Management Strategy while reflecting the City's** vision for growth to the year 2051.

#### Objectives

Guelph will be a compact, vibrant City, made up of *complete communities* for current and future generations that meets the following objectives:

- a) **To provide for a sufficient supply of land within the City's** *settlement area* boundary to accommodate projected growth to the year 2051.
- b) To direct growth to locations within the delineated *built-up area* where the capacity exists to best accommodate the expected population and employment growth.
- c) To ensure that the designated *greenfield area* provides for a diverse mix of land uses at *transit-supportive* densities.
- d) To maintain a healthy mix of residential and employment land uses at approximately 57 jobs per 100 residents;
- e) To maintain a strong and competitive economy by protecting employment areas and identifying areas for future employment uses.
- f) To support a *multi-modal* transportation network and efficient public transit that links Downtown to the rest of the city and surrounding municipalities.
- g) To reduce overall energy demand with an integrated approach to planning.
- h) To plan for *community infrastructure* to support growth in a compact and efficient form.
- i) To ensure that sustainable energy, water and wastewater services are available to support existing *development* and planned growth.
- j) **To protect and enhance the City's Natural Heritage System** and *water resource system*.
- k) To support the protection and/or conservation of *cultural heritage resources*.
- l) To support transit, walking and cycling for everyday activities.
- m) To promote opportunities to increase movement of goods by rail.

- n) To increase resiliency to climate change and address the impacts of a changing climate.

### 3.1 Complete and Healthy Communities

1. Planning to support the achievement of *complete communities*, as a central theme to this Plan, is focused on the achievement of a well-designed, compact, vibrant city that **meets people's needs for daily living throughout their lifetime by providing:**
  - i) **a variety of employment opportunities in appropriate locations;**
  - ii) **a full range and mix of housing options and densities to accommodate a range of incomes and household sizes;**
  - iii) **local services and public service facilities including affordable housing and schools;**
  - iv) **high quality publicly accessible open space and adequate parkland opportunities for recreation including trails and other recreational facilities;**
  - v) **access to healthy, local and affordable food options;**
  - vi) **convenient access to a range of transportation options including public transit and active transportation.**
2. This Plan recognizes that components of land use planning influence human health, activity and social well-being. The policies of this Plan are collectively aimed at designing the built environment in a manner that will promote sustainable, healthy, active living while mitigating and adapting to the *impacts of a changing climate*.

### 3.2 Population and Employment Forecasts

1. By the year 2051, Guelph is forecast to have a population of 208,000 people. The rate of growth will be moderate, steady, and managed to maintain a compact and human-scale city.
2. Employment growth in the city is planned to keep pace with population growth by planning for a minimum forecast of 116,000 jobs by the year 2051.
3. Forecasted growth will be managed and supported by integrated planning for *infrastructure and public service facilities*.
4. The City will plan and provide for a diverse and compatible mix of land uses, including residential and employment uses to support vibrant communities.

### 3.3 Housing Supply

1. To provide for an appropriate range and mix of housing options and densities to meet projected requirements of current and future residents, the City shall:
  - i) **maintain at all times the ability to accommodate residential growth for a minimum of 15 years through *residential intensification and redevelopment***

and, if necessary, on lands which are *designated and available* for residential development; and

- ii) maintain at all times, where new development is to occur, land with servicing capacity sufficient to provide at least a 3-year supply of residential units available through lands suitably zoned to facilitate *residential intensification* and *redevelopment* and land in draft approved and registered plans.

### 3.4 *Delineated Built-up Area* and General Intensification

1. The *delineated built-up area* is identified on Schedule 1a of this Plan. The *built-up area* has been delineated in accordance with *A Place to Grow* and is based on the limits of the developed urban area as it existed on June 16, 2006. The *delineated built-up area* remains fixed for the purpose of measuring the density and intensification targets of the Official Plan.
2. The minimum intensification target for the *delineated built-up area* is as follows: a minimum of 46% of all residential development occurring annually will be within the *delineated built-up area*.
3. The City will promote and facilitate *intensification* throughout the *delineated built-up area*, and in particular within Downtown and *Strategic Growth Areas* as identified on Schedule 1a.
4. To support the achievement of the minimum intensification target, vacant or underutilized lots, *greyfield*, and *brownfield sites* will be revitalized through the promotion of *infill development*, *redevelopment* and expansions or conversion of existing buildings.
5. A diverse range and mix of housing options and densities will be planned, including *affordable housing* and *additional residential dwelling units* to meet projected needs of current and future residents at all stages of life and to accommodate the needs of all household sizes and incomes.
6. *Development* within the *delineated built-up area* will be encouraged to generally achieve higher densities than the surrounding areas while achieving an appropriate transition of built form to adjacent properties.
7. *Development* within the *delineated built-up area* will create attractive and vibrant spaces in accordance with the urban design policies of this Plan.

### 3.5 Downtown: the Urban Growth Centre and Protected Major Transit Station Area

1. The **City's** *Urban Growth Centre* and protected *Major Transit Station Area* share the same boundary and are identified on Schedule 1a. The *Urban Growth Centre* and protected *Major Transit Station Area* are hereafter referred to as Downtown.



2. Downtown will continue to be a focal area for investment in office employment, commercial, recreational, cultural, entertainment and institutional uses while attracting **a significant share of the city's residential growth**.
3. Downtown will be maintained and strengthened as the heart of the community and will be the preferred location for *major office* and major institutional uses.
4. Downtown will be planned to achieve a minimum density target of:
  - i) 150 residents and jobs combined per hectare by the year 2031;
  - ii) 175 residents and jobs combined per hectare by the year 2041; and
  - iii) 200 residents and jobs combined per hectare by the year 2051.
5. Downtown will be planned and designed to:
  - i) serve as a high density major employment centre that will attract provincially and potentially nationally and internationally significant uses;
  - ii) provide for residential *development*, including *affordable housing* and additional residential units, *major offices*, commercial and appropriate institutional development to promote transit supportive densities, *live/work* opportunities and economic vitality in Downtown;
  - iii) maintain, enhance and promote *cultural heritage resources*, the Natural Heritage System, unique streetscapes and landmarks within Downtown;
  - iv) develop additional public *infrastructure* and services; public open space; and tourist, recreational, entertainment, and cultural facilities within Downtown;
  - v) accommodate a major transit station and associated *multi-modal* transportation facilities within Downtown, which facilitates both inter and intra-city transit service; and
  - vi) achieve multi-modal access to the major transit station by providing infrastructure to support active transportation, including sidewalks, bicycle lanes, secure bicycle parking and commuter pick-up/drop-off areas.
6. In keeping with the vision for a complete and transit supportive community, Downtown **is the City's protected** *major transit station area* as identified on Schedule 1a. The minimum density target for Downtown (*urban growth centre*), set out in policy 3.5.4, is the minimum density target for the *major transit station area*. The Downtown Secondary Plan land use designations and policies for permitted land uses, densities and heights apply to the protected *major transit station area*.

### 3.6 Strategic Growth Areas

1. *Strategic growth areas* are identified on Schedule 1a of this Plan and include Downtown. *Strategic Growth Areas*, other than Downtown, are classified as community mixed-use nodes or intensification corridors. *Strategic growth areas* will be planned to provide for higher density mixed-use development in proximity to transit services.

2. *Strategic growth areas* provide a focus for investment in transit, other infrastructure and *public service facilities* to support forecasted growth while supporting a more diverse range and mix of housing options.
3. *Strategic growth areas* will be planned and designed to:
  - i) achieve increased residential and employment densities that support and ensure the viability of existing and planned transit service levels;
  - ii) be well served by transit and facilitate pedestrian and cycling traffic;
  - iii) provide mixed-use *development* in a higher density, compact form that supports walkable communities and live/work opportunities; and
  - iv) provide a mix of residential, office, institutional, and commercial uses that allows for a range of housing options and services.

#### Intensification Corridors

4. The following *strategic growth areas* are classified as *intensification corridors* and will be planned to achieve the following density targets at build-out:

Name	Density Target
Eramosa Road	100 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Silvercreek Parkway	100 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Gordon Street at Harvard Road	100 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Gordon Street at Arkell Road	120 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Gordon Street in Clair-Maltby	200 residents and jobs per hectare
Stone Road at Edinburgh Road	160 residents and jobs combined per hectare

5. *Development* within *intensification corridors* will be directed and oriented toward arterial and collector roads.

## Community Mixed-use Nodes

6. The following *strategic growth areas* are classified as Community Mixed-Use Nodes and will be planned to achieve the following density targets at build-out:

Node	Density Target
Woodlawn Road/Woolwich Street	120 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Paisley Road/Imperial Road	110 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Silvercreek Junction	130 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Guelph Innovation District	100 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Watson Parkway/Starwood Drive	130 residents and jobs combined per hectare
Gordon Street & Clair Road	130 residents and jobs combined per hectare

7. Community Mixed-use Nodes are intended to realize, in the long term, an urban village concept through a mix of uses in a *compact urban form* with a *Main Street area* and attractive private and public open spaces, such as urban squares.
8. Community Mixed-use Nodes will evolve over the Plan horizon and beyond through intensification and *redevelopment* to provide a compact built form.
9. New major *development* within areas identified as *strategic growth areas* will demonstrate through concept plans how the proposed *development* meets the policies and objectives of this Plan.
10. Concept plans will be developed by the City or by a *development* proponent in consultation with the City prior to the approval of new major *development* proposals within *strategic growth areas*. The concept plan will include but not be limited to the following:
- i) linkages between properties, buildings and uses of land both within and adjacent to the *strategic growth area*;
  - ii) identification of an appropriate location for a Main Street area within Community Mixed-use Nodes;
  - iii) locations of new public and/or private streets and laneways;
  - iv) locations of open space such as urban squares;
  - v) general massing and location of buildings that establish a transition to the surrounding area;
  - vi) pedestrian, cycling and transit facilities; and
  - vii) heritage attributes to be retained, conserved and/or rehabilitated.

11. Applications for *Zoning By-law* amendments and site plans, or any phases thereof, for **properties subject to a concept plan shall demonstrate to the City's satisfaction that the proposed *development* is generally consistent with the concept plan.**

### 3.7 Designated Greenfield Area

1. The *designated greenfield area* is identified on Schedule 1a of this Plan. The *designated greenfield area* will be planned and designed in a manner which will contribute to the **City's overall vision for the achievement of diverse and complete communities.** *Development* within the *greenfield area* must be compact and occur at densities that support *walkable communities*, cycling and transit and promote *live/work* opportunities.
2. The minimum density target for the *designated greenfield area* is 68 residents and jobs combined for hectare to be achieved by the year 2051. The following minimum density targets, which contribute to the achievement of the *designated greenfield area* target, apply to the secondary plan areas of the City:
  - i) Guelph Innovation District (area of the secondary plan within the designated greenfield area): 90 residents and jobs combined per hectare
  - ii) Clair-Maltby: 74 residents and jobs combined per hectare.
3. The designated greenfield area will be planned and designed to:
  - i) ensure that new *development* is designed to promote energy conservation, *alternative and/or renewable energy systems* and water conservation;
  - ii) create street configurations, densities and an urban form that supports walking, cycling and the early integration and sustained viability of transit services;
  - iii) provide a diverse mix of land uses, including residential and employment uses, to support vibrant neighbourhoods;
  - iv) create high quality public open spaces with site design and urban design standards that support opportunities for transit, walking and cycling;
  - v) promote, where appropriate through secondary planning, the development of identifiable, pedestrian oriented neighbourhood scale 'urban villages' through the use of medium and high density, street-related built form that contains a mix of commercial, residential and employment uses, as well as supporting *live/work* opportunities. These centres will be designed around active public spaces and streets and pedestrian access that is well-linked to the surrounding neighbourhood through walking, cycling and public transit; and
  - vi) develop and implement policies, including phasing policies and other strategies to achieve the *targets* of this Plan and ensure alignment of growth with *infrastructure*.

### 3.8 Employment

1. The City shall promote economic development and competitiveness and ensure that there is an adequate supply of land for a variety of employment uses to accommodate the forecasted growth of this Plan by:
  - i) planning to accommodate the employment growth forecast of a minimum of 116,000 jobs city wide by the year 2051;
  - ii) providing for an appropriate mix and range of employment uses including, industrial, commercial, and institutional uses to meet long term needs;
  - iii) providing opportunities for a diversified economic base, including maintaining a range and choice of suitable sites for employment uses which support a wide range of economic activities and ancillary uses and take into account the needs of existing and future businesses;
  - iv) planning for, protecting, and preserving *employment areas* for current and future uses;
  - v) ensuring the necessary infrastructure is provided to meet current and future employment needs;
  - vi) directing *major office* and appropriate major institutional uses to primarily locate Downtown or *strategic growth areas* with existing or planned *frequent transit* service; and
  - vii) planning for and facilitating employment where *transit-supportive* built form and the development of active transportation networks are facilitated and surface parking is minimized.
2. *Employment areas* and *provincially significant employment zones* are identified on Schedule 1b and are protected for employment uses over the long-term.
3. *Provincially significant employment zones* have been identified by the Province for the purpose of long-term planning for job creation and economic development. The Province may provide specific direction for planning in these areas to be implemented through appropriate official plan policies and designations and economic development strategies.
4. Employment areas are planned to achieve an overall density target of 40 jobs per hectare by the year 2051.
5. To achieve the overall density target, the following minimum density targets by land use designation apply to the *employment areas* identified on Schedule 1b:

Name	Density Target
Industrial	35 jobs per hectare
Corporate Business Park	70 jobs per hectare
Institutional/Research Park	50 jobs per hectare

6. To ensure that adequate land is available to meet future employment needs, the conversion of lands within *employment areas* to *non-employment use(s)* may only be permitted through a *municipal comprehensive review* where it is demonstrated that:
  - i) there is a need for the conversion at the proposed location on the basis that there are no alternative location(s) within the city where the use could be accommodated in conformity with the Official Plan;
  - ii) the lands are not required over the horizon of this Plan for the employment purposes for which they are designated;
  - iii) sufficient employment lands will be maintained to accommodate the forecasted growth to the horizon of this Plan;
  - iv) the proposed uses would not adversely affect the overall viability of the *employment area* or the achievement of the minimum intensification and density targets, and other policies of this Plan; and
  - v) there are existing or planned infrastructure and *public service facilities* to accommodate the proposed uses.
7. Outside of *employment areas*, redevelopment of employment lands will only be considered through development applications where space is retained for a similar number of jobs to remain accommodated on-site.
8. *Major retail* uses are not permitted within *employment areas*.

### 3.9 Transportation

1. The City's transportation system will be planned and managed to:
  - i) provide connectivity among transportation modes for moving people and goods;
  - ii) offer a balance of transportation choices that reduces reliance upon the automobile and promotes transit, cycling and walking;
  - iii) be sustainable and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, by encouraging the most financially and environmentally appropriate mode for trip-making and supporting the use of zero and low-emission vehicles;
  - iv) offer *multi-modal* access to jobs, housing, schools, cultural and recreational opportunities and goods and services;
  - v) provide for the safety of system users; and
  - vi) ensure coordination between transportation system planning, land use planning and transportation investment.
2. In planning for the development, optimization, and/or expansion of new or existing *transportation infrastructure* the City will:
  - i) consider increased opportunities for moving people and moving goods by rail, where appropriate;

- ii) consider separation of modes within *transportation corridors*, where appropriate;
  - iii) provide opportunities for inter-modal linkages;
  - iv) prioritize areas with existing or planned higher residential and employment densities to optimize the return on investment and the efficiency and viability of existing and planned transit service levels;
  - v) increase the capacity of existing transit systems to support *strategic growth areas*;
  - vi) expand transit service to areas that have achieved, or are planned to achieve, *transit-supportive* residential and employment densities, together with a mix of residential, office, institutional and commercial development wherever possible;
  - vii) facilitate improved linkages from within the City to Downtown, *employment areas* and *strategic growth areas*; and
  - viii) increase the *modal share* of transit.
3. The City will develop and implement *Transportation Demand Management (TDM)* policies within this Plan and other transportation planning documents with the objective to reduce trip distance and time, and increase the *modal share* of alternatives to the automobile.
  4. Public transit will be the first priority for vehicular *transportation infrastructure* planning and transportation investments.
  5. The City will ensure that pedestrian and bicycle networks are integrated into transportation planning to:
    - i) provide safe, comfortable travel for pedestrians and cyclists within existing communities and new *development*; and
    - ii) provide linkages between *intensification areas*, adjacent neighbourhoods, and transit stations, including dedicated lane space for cyclists on the major street network where feasible.

### 3.10 Natural Heritage System

The Natural Heritage System and the *water resource system* are valuable assets. The City takes an environment first approach and is committed to protecting, maintaining, enhancing and restoring the diversity, *function*, linkages, and connectivity between and among *natural heritage features and areas* and *water resource system* within the city over the long term.

1. The City will define the Natural Heritage System and *water resource system* to be maintained, restored and, where possible, improved and will recognize the linkages between *natural heritage features and areas*, and *key hydrologic features*, *key hydrologic areas*, related *ecological* and *hydrologic* functions and linkages between

these systems. *Development* will be prohibited within defined features in accordance with the provisions of the *Provincial Policy Statement* and *A Place to Grow*.

2. Ensure that the *quality and quantity of water* is protected, improved or restored.

### 3.11 Culture of Conservation

1. The City will develop and implement policies and other strategies in support of the following conservation objectives:
  - i) **water conservation including water demand management for the efficient use of water and water recycling to maximize the reuse of water to protect the quality and quantity of supply.**
  - ii) **a sustainable groundwater/water supply and waste water system that ensures water quality and quantity is protected, improved, or restored.**
  - iii) **energy conservation**
  - iv) **protection of air quality, including the reduction of emissions;**
  - v) **integrated waste management to enhance waste reduction, composting and recycling and the identification of new opportunities for source reduction, reuse and diversion where appropriate; and**
  - vi) **conservation of cultural heritage and archaeological resources; and**
  - vii) **management of excess soil and fill through *development* or *site alteration*.**

### 3.12 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Systems

1. Development will be planned and coordinated relative to a program for infrastructure planning, asset management and infrastructure investment that is focused on the orderly extension, repair and upgrading of municipal trunk storm and sanitary sewers and watermains.
2. Construction of new, or expansion of existing, municipal water and wastewater systems should only be considered where the following conditions are met:
  - i) **strategies for water conservation, efficiency and other water demand management initiatives are being implemented in the existing service area; and**
  - ii) **plans for expansion or for new services are to serve growth in a manner that supports achievement of the minimum *intensification* and *density targets* of this Plan.**

### 3.13 Community Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities

1. Infrastructure planning, land use planning, and infrastructure investment will be coordinated to implement the objectives of this Plan.



2. Planning for growth will take into account the availability and location of existing and planned *public service facilities* so that *public service facilities* can be provided efficiently and effectively.
3. An appropriate range of *public service facilities* should be planned to meet the needs resulting from population changes and to foster *complete communities*.
4. *Public service facilities* that are located in or near *strategic growth areas* and easily accessible by active transportation and public transit are the preferred location for community hubs.
5. The City will work with the Grand River Conservation Authority, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties to encourage and develop a system of publicly accessible parkland, open space and trails, including shoreline areas that:
  - i) **clearly demarcate where public access is and is not permitted;**
  - ii) **is based on a coordinated approach to trail planning and development; and**
  - iii) **is based on good land stewardship practices for public and private lands.**
6. The City will encourage an urban open space system that may include rooftop gardens, urban squares, communal courtyards and public parks.

### 3.14 Urban-Rural Interface: Planning Coordination

#### Objective

- a) To promote a clear demarcation between the urban uses within the *settlement area* boundary of the City and the agricultural/rural lands within the surrounding townships.

#### Policies

1. The City will review and provide comments on *development* applications processed by the County of Wellington, the Townships of Guelph-Eramosa and Puslinch for proposals generally within one kilometre of the City of Guelph boundary.
2. The City will consider the provisions of the County of Wellington's Official Plan and the *Provincial Policy Statement* and applicable *Provincial Plans*, regulations and guidelines that prohibit or limit *development adjacent to the City's settlement area boundary*.
3. Consultation between the City, the County of Wellington, and the Townships of Guelph-Eramosa and Puslinch will be encouraged to prepare a coordinated planning approach in dealing with issues which cross municipal boundaries including:
  - i) **river, watershed, subwatershed, water/groundwater and source water protection issues;**
  - ii) **transportation, trails, infrastructure and other public service facilities;**
  - iii) **connectivity with the Natural Heritage System within the city; and**
  - iv) **other land use planning matters requiring a coordinated approach.**

### 3.15 Managing Growth

#### Objectives

- a) To ensure that *development* is planned in a logical and economical manner in **keeping with the City's Growth Management Strategy, growth management objectives** outlined in Section 2.2.1 and Chapter 3 of this Plan.
- b) To **monitor the rate and timing of growth and the achievement of the City's growth management objectives** as outlined in Chapter 3 of this Plan.

#### Policies

- 1. The City will determine the rate and direction of *development* in accordance with the **goals, objectives and policies of this Plan in particular the City's growth targets**, population and employment projections, municipal fiscal sustainability, the logical and planned expansion and provision of municipal services and *public service facilities*.
- 2. Within the *delineated built-up area*, priority for the upgrading of municipal services will be given to Downtown and *Strategic Growth Areas*.

#### Growth Monitoring

- 3. The City will prepare a growth management monitoring report on an annual basis to:
  - i) Monitor *development* activity for consistency with population and employment forecasts, intensification targets for the *delineated built-up area* and density targets for the *designated greenfield area, urban growth centre, strategic growth areas* and *employment areas*;
  - ii) Track the supply of available residential units and the ability to accommodate residential growth in accordance with the housing supply policies of this Plan;
  - iii) Track the availability of land for employment uses and supply of land within *employment areas*;
  - iv) Address servicing capacity and availability of servicing; and
  - v) Support the integration of financial planning of growth-related capital costs with land use planning.

## 4 Protecting What is Valuable

This part of the Plan addresses the features, resources and built form that are highly valued and essential to the protection of the natural and cultural heritage resources, ensure health and safety, enhance energy sustainability and enhance the quality of life within the city and includes:

- Natural Heritage System
- Water Resources
- Public Health and Safety
- Community Energy Planning
- Cultural Heritage Resources.

### 4.1 Natural Heritage System

**The City's Natural Heritage System (NHS) is comprised of a combination of *natural heritage features and areas*, including Significant Natural Areas and *minimum buffers*, Natural Areas, Ecological Linkages, Restoration Areas and Wildlife Crossings as identified on Schedule 4. Together, these elements maintain local biological, hydrological and geological diversity, *ecological functions*, connectivity, support viable populations of indigenous species, and sustain local biodiversity.**

A diverse and well-**connected Natural Heritage System contributes to the City's** environmental, social, cultural and economic values. The wide range of ecological services provided by the Natural Heritage System includes, but is not limited to, the protection of *natural heritage features and areas*, and *ecological functions*, biodiversity and water resources, reduced need for engineered stormwater management, attenuation of air and water pollutants, moderation of the urban heat island effect, the provision for natural and open spaces for leisure activities and aesthetic enjoyment, and opportunities for residents and visitors to experience nature in the city.

#### Purpose

The Natural Heritage System is made up of *natural heritage features and areas*, linked by natural corridors which are necessary to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, viable populations of indigenous species, and ecosystems within the City of Guelph. The system can include lands that have been restored and areas with the potential to be restored to a natural state.

This is accomplished by: protecting *natural heritage features and areas* for the long term, and maintaining, restoring, and where possible, improving the biodiversity and connectivity of *natural heritage features and areas*, and *ecological functions* of the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, and the related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems.

In order to achieve this purpose, the Natural Heritage System:

- i) provides permanent protection to the Significant Natural Areas (including *Ecological Linkages*) and *established buffers*;
- ii) identifies Natural Areas for further study to determine the features and *functions* that should be incorporated into the Natural Heritage System for permanent protection or, alternatively, identify the areas that may be developed; and
- iii) identifies wildlife crossings to ensure that mitigative measures are undertaken to minimize any harm to wildlife, the public and/or property.

The policies in Section 4.1 aim to strike a balance between protection of the Natural Heritage System and limited compatible *development*. The Natural Heritage System fosters partnerships with public agencies, community organizations and private land owners by promoting stewardship and enjoyment of these natural assets.

#### Objectives

- a) To implement a systems approach that ensures that the diversity and connectivity of natural features in the city, and the long-term *ecological function* and biodiversity of the Natural Heritage System is maintained, restored or, where possible improved, recognizing linkages between the Natural Heritage System and the *water resource system* and their related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions*.
- b) To identify Significant Natural Areas (including *Ecological Linkages*) for long term protection.
- c) To identify Natural Areas for further study to determine whether long term protection is warranted.
- d) To protect the Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species.
- e) To recognize that the Natural Heritage System contributes to important *ecosystem services* that benefit current and future generations.
- f) To protect, maintain, enhance and restore the Natural Heritage System to the greatest extent possible, while providing for compatible *development* and activities as identified that do not negatively impact the *natural heritage features and areas*, and their *ecological* or *hydrologic functions* now and in the long term.
- g) To protect and enhance *tree canopy cover* while providing for meadow habitat at appropriate locations to support biodiversity.
- h) To protect *significant* portions of the *Paris Galt Moraine* identified by the City in recognition of its role in contributing to *wildlife habitat* and *ecological linkages*, continuity of the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, *biodiversity*, aesthetic value in the landscape, and local geologic uniqueness.
- i) To ensure that the criteria identifying the Natural Heritage System are applied in a transparent and consistent manner.

- j) To implement an ecosystem based approach on a watershed and subwatershed basis.
- k) To provide clear mechanisms for assessing the potential immediate and long term impacts of *development, site alteration* and other activities on the Natural Heritage System.
- l) To recognize that *natural heritage features and areas* in urban settings are subject to a variety of impacts and stresses, and seek to identify opportunities to mitigate against these influences through ongoing stewardship, monitoring and ecological management.
- m) To foster appreciation and local stewardship of the Natural Heritage System.
- n) To support the ongoing monitoring and management of the City's Natural Heritage System** to ensure its long-term sustainability and resilience in relation to the impacts and stresses associated with being in an urban context, as well as other factors, such as the *impacts of a changing climate*.

#### 4.1.1 General Policies

1. The City shall ensure the long term protection of the Natural Heritage System and associated *ecological and hydrologic functions*.
2. Each of the Natural Heritage System components is subject to specific policies as set out in 4.1.3, 4.1.4 and 4.1.5.
3. Significant Natural Areas, Natural Areas and Wildlife Crossings are designated based on the best available mapping, on Schedules 2 and 4.
4. The Natural Heritage System is identified on Schedules 2 and 4, and consists of Significant Natural Areas (including *Ecological Linkages*), Natural Areas, and Wildlife Crossings.
5. The individual components that make up Significant Natural Areas and Natural Areas are listed below and are illustrated on Schedules 4, and 4A through 4E. These schedules provide additional detail to assist in the interpretation of Schedules 2 and 4.
  - i) Significant Natural Areas include:**
    - a) Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI),
    - b) Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened species,
    - c) Significant Wetlands,
    - d) Fish Habitat and permanent and intermittent streams,
    - e) Significant Woodlands,
    - f) Significant Valleylands,
    - g) Significant Landform,
    - h) Significant Wildlife Habitat (including Ecological Linkages),
    - i) Restoration Areas, and
    - j) Minimum or established buffers (where applicable).

ii) **Natural Areas include:**

- a) Other Wetlands,
- b) Cultural Woodlands
- c) Habitat of Significant Species, and
- d) Established buffers (where applicable).

**Adjacent Lands and Buffers**

*Adjacent lands* are those lands contiguous to a specific *natural heritage feature or area* where it is likely that *development* or *site alteration* would have a *negative impact* on the *natural heritage feature or area*. Generally, an *Environmental Impact Study (EIS)* or *Environmental Assessment (EA)* is required to assess potential impacts of the proposed activities, and recommend appropriate setbacks (i.e., *established buffers*) from the *natural heritage feature or area* within the *adjacent lands*, to ensure no *negative impacts*. The *minimum buffers*, where applicable, are identified to prevent damage and degradation to the *natural heritage features and areas* that are part of the Natural Heritage System. Requirements related to *minimum buffers*, where applicable, *established buffers* and *adjacent lands*, for all *natural heritage features and areas*, are identified on Table 4.1.

6. *Development* and *site alteration* on *adjacent lands*, within the *minimum* or *established buffers* are subject to the applicable Significant Natural Areas (Section 4.1.3) and Natural Areas (Section 4.1.4) policies.
7. The final width of *established buffers* may be greater than the *minimum buffers* identified on Table 4.1 and shall be established through an *EIS* or *EA*, approved by the City in consultation with the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) and/or the provincial government where applicable.
8. *Adjacent lands* and *buffers*, where applicable, shall be measured from the field-verified edge of an identified *natural heritage feature and area* (e.g. drip line of a *woodland*, boundary of a *wetland*).
9. With the exception of the uses permitted by this Plan, *established buffers* shall be actively or passively restored to, or maintained in a natural state in support of the *ecological* and/or *hydrologic functions* of the adjacent protected *natural heritage features and areas*.
10. Minimum buffers where appropriate (as identified on Table 4.1), and established buffers where approved, are incorporated into Significant Natural Areas and Natural Areas as identified on the Schedules of this Plan.
11. Notwithstanding 4.1.1.9, *minimum buffers* have not been applied to lands containing existing development which may preclude achievement of the *minimum buffer* specified on Table 4.1. For any *redevelopment* of such lands, an *EIS* will be completed to the satisfaction of the City that evaluates the need for an *established buffer*, and determines an appropriate width where a *buffer* is required.

Table 4.1 Minimum Buffers, Established Buffers and Adjacent Lands to natural heritage features and areas.

Natural Heritage Features and Areas	Width of <i>Minimum Buffers</i>	Width of <i>Established Buffers</i>	Width of Adjacent Lands
<i>Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)</i>	No <i>minimum buffer</i>	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i> in consultation with the provincial government	50 m – 120 m
<i>Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species</i>	No <i>minimum buffer</i>	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i> in consultation with the provincial government	120 m
<i>Significant Wetlands</i> <i>i. Provincially Significant Wetlands</i> <i>ii. Locally Significant Wetlands</i>	i. 30 m ii. 15 m	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i>	i. 120 m ii. 120 m
<i>Fish Habitat</i> <i>i. Cold/cool water Fish Habitat</i> <i>ii. Warm water Fish Habitat, permanent and intermittent streams and undetermined Fish Habitat</i>	i. 30 m ii. 15m	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i>	i. 120 m ii. 120 m
<i>Significant Woodlands</i>	10 m from the drip line	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i>	50 m
<i>Significant Valleylands</i>	No <i>minimum buffer</i>	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i>	50 m
<i>Significant Landform</i>	No <i>buffer</i> required	No <i>buffer</i> required	50 m
Significant Wildlife Habitat			i. 50 m

i. Deer Wintering Areas and Waterfowl Overwintering Areas ii. Significant Wildlife Habitat iii. Ecological Linkages	1. No <i>minimum buffer</i> 2. No <i>minimum buffer</i> 3. No <i>buffer</i> required	i. To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i> ii. To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i> iii. No <i>buffer</i> required	ii. 50 m iii. 50 m
<i>Other Wetlands</i>	No <i>minimum buffer</i>	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i> and is required where all or part of the <i>feature</i> is to be protected.	30 m
<i>Cultural Woodlands</i>	No <i>minimum buffer</i>	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i> and is required where all or part of the <i>feature</i> is to be protected.	50 m
Potential Habitat for Significant Species (excluding provincially <i>Endangered</i> and <i>Threatened Species</i> )	No <i>minimum buffer</i>	To be established through an <i>EIS</i> or <i>EA</i> and is required where all or part of the <i>feature</i> is to be protected.	50 m

#### Study Requirements Within and Adjacent to Natural Heritage Features and Areas

12. The scope of the required *EIS* will depend on the scale and nature of the proposed *development* and/or *site alteration* and the specific *natural heritage features and areas* potentially impacted.

13. Within the *built-up area* identified on Schedule 1, the study requirements on the *adjacent lands* may be reduced by the City under limited circumstances where existing development or *infrastructure* exists between the proposed *development* and the *natural heritage feature and area*.



## Interpretation

14. The boundaries of the *natural heritage features and areas* that make up the Natural Heritage System are based on criteria for designation and the best information available at the time of completion of this Plan.
15. In the event that there is a discrepancy between the Schedules and the policies, the policies shall prevail.
16. Species designations and rankings change over time. As new information becomes available and is assessed at the national, provincial, and local level, the most current species designations shall apply and will not require an amendment to this Plan.
17. Boundaries of *natural heritage features and areas* that make up the Natural Heritage System shown on Schedules 2, 3, 4, and 4A-E and shall be delineated using the criteria for designation and the most current information, and are required to be field verified and staked as part of an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the provincial government and/or the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA), as applicable. Once confirmed in the field, and approved by the City, boundaries of *natural heritage features and areas* and *established buffers* shall be required to be accurately surveyed and illustrated on all plans submitted in support of *development* and *site alteration* applications. Such boundary interpretations will not require an amendment to this Plan. Minor refinements to the boundaries may be made on the basis of the criteria for designation, without an amendment to this Plan.
18. Where land is under private ownership within the Natural Heritage System, or determined through an *EIS*, to meet the criteria for inclusion in the Natural Heritage System, nothing in this Plan will be construed to imply that such lands are open for public use, or that the City or other public agency are obliged to purchase the lands, or **that the landowner is obliged to actively manage the lands to meet the City's Natural Heritage System objectives.**
19. The City may consider alternative means to protecting and managing the Natural Heritage System including, but not limited to:
  - i) **partnerships with the GRCA and other public or non-profit agencies;**
  - ii) **entering into agreements such as conservation easements;**
  - iii) **conveyance of land to the City, a public agency or a land trust; and**
  - iv) **implementing municipal by-laws.**

### 4.1.2 General Permitted Uses

1. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within the Natural Heritage System, including *minimum* or *established buffers*, except for the following uses:
  - i) **legally existing uses, buildings or structures;**
  - ii) **passive recreational activities;**

- iii) low impact scientific and educational activities;
  - iv) fish and wildlife management;
  - v) forest management;
  - vi) habitat conservation; and
  - vii) *restoration* activities.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 4.1.2, an *EIS* may be required for the construction of trails and walkways, fish and wildlife management, and *habitat conservation*, where the proposed work has the potential to result in *negative impacts* to the Natural Heritage System.
  3. The above uses may be further limited or expanded upon through the specific policies of the Significant Natural Areas (4.1.3) and Natural Areas (4.1.4).
  4. City infrastructure, where *essential* and authorized under an *EA*, may be permitted within the Natural Heritage System, where the *EA* demonstrates to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the GRCA, the provincial government and/or the federal government, as applicable, that:
    - i) there will be no negative impacts on the natural features and areas to be protected, or their ecological and hydrologic functions;
    - ii) works will result in a net ecological benefit to the Natural Heritage System and/or *water resource system*;
    - iii) works will be located as far away from *natural features and areas* as possible;
    - iv) the area of construction disturbance will be kept to a minimum; and
    - v) disturbed areas within the area of construction will be re-vegetated or restored with site-appropriate indigenous plants wherever opportunities exist.
  5. If, through the preparation and review of a *development* application, it is found that *natural heritage features and areas* have not been adequately identified or new information has become available, the applicant may be required by the City to prepare a *scoped EIS* of the *natural heritage features and areas*, and *functions* in consultation with the City, and where appropriate the provincial government and the GRCA. If the *natural heritage features and areas* meet the criteria for protection policies in Sections 4.1.3 or 4.1.4, the appropriate natural heritage policies shall apply.
  6. Where two or more components of the Natural Heritage System overlap, the policies that provide the most protection to the *natural heritage feature or area* shall apply.
  7. Permitted *development* and *site alteration* within and/or adjacent to *natural heritage features and areas* (as outlined in Sections 4.1.3 and 4.1.4) shall be required to demonstrate, through an *EIS* or *EA* to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the GRCA, the provincial government and/or the federal government, as applicable,

that there will be no *negative impacts* on the *natural heritage features and areas* to be protected, or their *ecological* and *hydrologic functions*.

8. Where *essential transportation infrastructure, essential linear infrastructure, stormwater management facilities and structures, and/or trails* are permitted within *minimum or established buffers* under policies in Sections 4.1.3 and 4.1.4, the following shall apply:
  - i) **works are to be located as far away from the *feature* boundary within the *minimum or established buffer* as possible;**
  - ii) **the area of construction disturbance shall be kept to a minimum; and**
  - iii) **disturbed areas of the *minimum or established buffers* shall be re-vegetated or restored with site-appropriate indigenous plants wherever opportunities exist.**
9. Where *essential transportation infrastructure, essential linear infrastructure, stormwater management facilities and structures, and/or trails* are permitted within *natural heritage features and areas* under policies in Sections 4.1.3 and 4.1.4, the following shall apply:
  - i) **the area of construction disturbance shall be kept to a minimum; and**
  - ii) **disturbed areas shall be re-vegetated or restored with site-appropriate indigenous plants wherever opportunities exist.**
10. Legally existing uses, existing utilities, facilities and *infrastructure* and their *normal maintenance* are recognized and may continue within the Natural Heritage System.
11. An expansion of a legally existing building or structure may be permitted within the Natural Heritage System without an amendment to this Plan provided that it can be demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the City and the GRCA, where applicable, through an *EIS*, that the objectives of the designation can be met and that the proposed expansion will not have a *negative impact* on the *natural heritage features and areas* or *ecological functions* for which the area is identified. Existing uses will be discouraged from expanding further into Significant Natural Areas and *minimum or established buffers*. Such expansions shall be minor in proportion to the size and scale of the building or use and shall not result in further intensification of the use.
12. *Development or site alteration* within the Natural Heritage System without prior approval by the City, which result in reduction in the extent of *natural heritage features and areas* or their associated *ecological functions*, will not be recognized as a new existing condition. *Restoration* of the disturbed area shall be required to the satisfaction of the City. If the unapproved *development or site alteration* is carried out in conjunction with a *development* application, *restoration* will be required prior to or as a condition of approval of any permitted *development*.
13. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, the following additional uses may be permitted on lands identified for the Emma Street to Earl Street pedestrian bridge as described in the Emma Street to Earl Street Pedestrian Bridge Schedule B

Municipal Environmental Assessment Report, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the GRCA and/or the MECP, that there will be no *negative impacts* on the *Significant Wetland* or its *ecological* and *hydrologic functions*, the *Significant Woodland* or its *ecological* and *hydrologic functions*, Significant Wildlife Habitat or its *ecological functions*, and their *established buffers*:

- i) essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance; and
- ii) essential transportation infrastructure and their normal maintenance.

#### 4.1.3 Significant Natural Areas

This section outlines specific objectives, criteria for designation and policies for Significant Natural Areas and their *buffers*. Specific policies related to Natural Heritage System management and stewardship are provided in Section 4.1 and 4.3.

##### 4.1.3.1 General Policies: Significant Natural Areas

1. *Development* or *site alteration* shall not be permitted within Significant Natural Areas including their *established or minimum buffers* as designated on Schedule 1, except in accordance with the general policies in 4.1.2 and the Significant Natural Areas policies in 4.1.3.
2. In accordance with the applicable policies in 4.1.2 and 4.1.3, *development* or *site alteration* may be permitted within the *adjacent lands* to Significant Natural Areas provided that it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* that there will be no *negative impacts* to the protected *natural heritage features and areas* or their associated *ecological functions*.

##### 4.1.3.2 Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)

###### Objectives

- a) To protect Significant *Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)* identified by the provincial government for their life science or earth science values related to *natural heritage features and areas*, scientific study or education and significance within the province.
- b) To promote the value and importance of *ANSIs* within the City through education and stewardship.

###### Criteria for Designation

1. Provincially Significant Earth Science *ANSIs* as identified by the provincial government;
2. Provincially Significant Life Science *ANSIs* as identified by the provincial government;
3. Regionally Significant Earth Science *ANSIs* as identified by the provincial government; and

4. Regionally Significant Life Science *ANSI*s as identified by the provincial government.

#### Policies

##### Provincially and Regionally Significant Earth Science *ANSI*s

5. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within a provincially or regionally significant Earth Science *ANSI* and *established buffer*, except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
6. *Buffers* to a provincially and regionally significant Earth Science *ANSI* will be determined through an *EIS* or *EA* to the satisfaction of the City and the provincial government.
7. *Development* and *site alteration* may be permitted *adjacent* to a provincially and regionally Significant Earth Science *ANSI* where it has been demonstrated, through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City and the provincial government, that there will be no *negative impacts* on the geological features, or the interpretative and scientific value for which the *ANSI* was identified.

##### Provincially and Regionally Significant Life Science *ANSI*

8. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within a provincially or regionally Significant Life Science *ANSI* or *established buffers*, except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
9. *Buffers* to provincially and regionally significant Life Science ***ANSI's*** will be determined through an *EIS* study to the satisfaction of the City and the provincial government.
10. *Development* and *site alteration* may be permitted *adjacent* to a provincially and regionally Significant Life Science *ANSI* where it has been demonstrated, through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City and the provincial government, that there will be no *negative impacts* on the *natural heritage features and areas* or on their *ecological functions* for which the *ANSI* was identified.

#### 4.1.3.3 Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species

*Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species* is protected under the *Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)*. Further, habitat for species listed as *Endangered* and *Threatened* on the Species at Risk List for Ontario is protected under the *Endangered Species Act, 2007, S.O. 2007, c. 6, as amended (ESA)*. The *ESA* is implemented and enforced by the provincial government. It is the provincial government which ultimately confirms the presence and extent of, or changes to, *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species*. The specific locational data relating to such habitat is considered sensitive and is retained by the provincial government.

*Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species* does not represent a designation under the Official Plan. Habitat for these *species* is largely protected through other designations in the Natural Heritage System. In addition, in order to ensure consistency with the *PPS* and to facilitate implementation of the *ESA*, where *Habitat of Endangered*

*Species and Threatened Species* is approved by the provincial government, the following policies shall apply.

#### Objectives

- a) To protect the Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species.
- b) Where appropriate, to work with the provincial government to help implement measures, including mitigation, to support the long-term sustainability of these species.

#### Criterion for Designation

1. The Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species as approved by provincial government.

#### Policies

2. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted in *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species*, including *established buffers*, except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements.
3. The *established buffer* is to be determined through an EIS or EA, to the satisfaction of the City, and where appropriate in consultation with the provincial government.
4. *Development and site alteration* may be permitted in *Adjacent Lands* to the *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species*, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City and provincial government, and in consultation with the GRCA where appropriate, that there will be no *negative impacts* to the *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species*.

#### 4.1.3.4 Significant Wetlands

#### Objectives

- a) To protect Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs) and Locally Significant wetlands (LSWs) and their established buffers.
- b) To recognize the important role that Significant Wetlands play in maintaining the ecological health of the Natural Heritage System, including moderating the flow of water, contributing to groundwater recharge, improving water and air quality, storing carbon, and providing habitat for a broad range of species.
- c) To work with various government agencies, (e.g. the GRCA and the provincial government) to protect *Significant Wetlands* through integrated land use planning, site design, and implementation of best management practices.

#### Criteria for Designation

1. *Provincially Significant Wetlands* (PSWs) as identified by the provincial government, and a 30 metres *minimum buffer*.

2. Locally Significant Wetlands (LSWs), and a 15 metres *minimum buffer*.

#### Policies

3. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within *Significant Wetlands*, or *established buffers* except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
4. The *established buffer* will be determined through an *EIS* and may be greater than the minimums identified on Table 4.1.
5. *Significant Wetland features* or *ecological functions* that are impaired during the *development* process will require mitigation, including remedial measures to restore wetland *features* and *functions*.
6. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, the following additional uses may be permitted within the *established buffers* to *Significant Wetlands*, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with the GRCA and/or the provincial government, that there will be no *negative impacts* on the *Significant Wetland* or its *ecological* and *hydrologic functions*:
  - i) **essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance; and**
  - ii) **stormwater management facilities and structures and their *normal maintenance*, where *low impact development* measures have been implemented to the extent possible outside the *buffer* and provided they are located a minimum distance of 15 metres from a PSW and 7.5 metres from a LSW.**
7. Notwithstanding the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, trails within *Significant Wetlands* are subject to the following additional limitations and the requirements of 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9. The formalization of existing ad hoc trails through formal trails and walkways may be permitted within *Significant Wetlands* and their *established buffers* where:
  - i) **they are considered *essential* to the City's trail system or integral to the scientific, educational or passive recreational use of the property;**
  - ii) **the environmental impacts of the proposed trails have been assessed and mitigated through design that minimize impacts to the *natural heritage features and areas*, and *ecological functions*; and**
  - iii) **where appropriate, they consist primarily of boardwalks and viewing platforms and are accompanied with educational signs.**

#### 4.1.3.5 Fish Habitat and Permanent and Intermittent Streams

##### Objectives

- a) To protect, improve or restore *Fish Habitat* and permanent and *intermittent streams*.

##### Criteria for Designation

1. Cold and Cool Water *Fish Habitat* as identified by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNDMNRF)/GRCA and a 30 metre *minimum buffer*.
2. Warm water and undetermined *Fish Habitat* as identified by the MNDMNRF/GRCA and a 15 metre *minimum buffer*.
3. Permanent and *intermittent streams*, as identified by the City and/or the MNDMNRF/GRCA and a 15 metre *minimum buffer*.

##### Policies

4. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within *Fish Habitat* and permanent and *intermittent streams* or their *established buffers*, except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
5. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, the following additional uses may be permitted within *Fish Habitat* and permanent and *intermittent streams* or their *established buffers*, subject to the requirements under 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9:
  - i) **essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance;**
  - ii) **essential transportation infrastructure and their normal maintenance;**
  - iii) **flood and erosion control facilities or other similar works and their *normal maintenance*; and**
  - iv) **stormwater management facilities and structures and their *normal maintenance*.**
6. These additional uses may only be permitted in accordance with *provincial and federal requirements* where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS*, *EA* or *subwatershed plan*, to the satisfaction of the City that there will be *no negative impacts* on *Fish Habitat* and permanent and *intermittent streams* or their related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions*.
7. The *established buffer* is to be determined through an *EIS* or *EA* and may be greater than the recommended *minimum buffer*.
8. *Buffers* shall be measured from the bankful channel of *Fish Habitat* and permanent and *intermittent streams*.
9. Construction within or across *Fish Habitat* and permanent and *intermittent streams* shall:



- i) adhere to applicable provincial and federal fisheries timing windows so as to avoid or minimize impacts on fish, wildlife and water quality; and
- ii) implement the best management practices related to construction.

10. Opportunities to restore *Fish Habitat* and permanent and *intermittent streams* shall be encouraged and supported.
11. Where *Fish Habitat* is undetermined, an *EIS*, *EA* or *subwatershed plan*, shall assess and determine, to the satisfaction of the City, the presence and type of *Fish Habitat* and the level of protection required.
12. The City will continue to investigate the feasibility of removing/modifying structural barriers to fish passage in the Speed and Eramosa Rivers and their tributaries in order to permit natural stream processes, improve *Fish Habitat* and the *restoration* of natural stream morphology.

#### 4.1.3.6 Significant Woodlands

##### Objective

- a) To protect, maintain and enhance *Significant Woodlands* for the ecological, social, economic and environmental services they provide including but not limited to enhancing biodiversity, providing *wildlife habitat*, moderating temperatures, erosion control and pollution filtration.

##### Criteria for Designation

1. *Woodlands* (not identified as *cultural woodlands* or *plantations*) of 1 hectare or greater in size, and a 10 metre *minimum buffer*.
2. *Woodlands* 0.5 hectare in size or greater consisting of Dry-Fresh Sugar Maple Deciduous Forest and a 10 metre *minimum buffer*, or
3. *Woodland* types ranked as S1 (Critically Imperiled), S2 (Imperiled) or S3 (Vulnerable) by the provincial government Natural Heritage Information Centre, and a 10 metre *minimum buffer*.

##### Policies

4. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within *Significant Woodlands* and *established buffers* except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
5. All *Significant Woodlands* require a *minimum buffer* of 10 metres from the drip line of the trees at the *woodland* edge, except where existing development precludes it. The *established buffer* is to be determined through an *EIS*, and may be greater than the 10 metre *minimum buffer*.
6. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, *essential linear infrastructure* and, stormwater management facilities and structures, and their *normal maintenance*,

may be permitted in the *established buffers to Significant Woodlands*, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* study, to the satisfaction of the City that there will be no *negative impacts* on the *feature* or its *ecological* and *hydrologic functions*.

7. Notwithstanding the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, trails within *Significant Woodlands* are subject to the following additional limitations and the requirements under 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9. Formalization of existing ad hoc trails through construction of formal trail(s) and walkway(s) may be permitted within *Significant Woodlands* and their *established buffers* where:

- i) they are considered *essential* to the City's trail system or integral to the scientific, educational or *passive recreational activities* of the *property*;
- ii) the environmental impacts of the proposed trails have been assessed and mitigated through design that minimizes impacts to the *natural heritage features and areas*, and *ecological functions*; and
- iii) they are accompanied with educational signs.

#### 4.1.3.7 Significant Valleylands

##### Objectives

- a) To protect *Significant Valleylands* associated with the Speed and Eramosa Rivers, including the remnant representative valley features and apparent valleys associated with the river system and their tributaries.
- b) To support flood protection, erosion control, and *passive recreational activities* within *Significant Valleylands*.

##### Criteria for Designation

1. Undeveloped areas within the regulatory floodplain areas, *riverine flooding hazards*, *riverine erosion hazards*, as identified by the GRCA.
2. The remnant portions of the Speed and Eramosa Rivers, identified by the City that are relatively undisturbed and represent the quality and diversity of the physical expression of the river system on the landscape and measured to the uppermost break in slope associated with the valley and including the terraces on the valley slopes.

##### Policies

3. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within *Significant Valleylands* and *established buffers* except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
4. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2 the following additional uses may be permitted within *Significant Valleylands* and *established buffers*, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or

EA, to the satisfaction of the City, and where applicable the GRCA, that there will be no *negative impacts* on the natural characteristics of the valley features or its *ecological* or *hydrologic functions*, nor will there be increased susceptibility to natural hazards:

- i) **essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance;**
- ii) **essential transportation infrastructure and their normal maintenance;**
- iii) **flood and erosion control facilities or other similar works;**
- iv) **renewable energy systems; and**
- v) **stormwater management facilities and structures and their *normal maintenance* in accordance with the *Water Resource System* and *Fish Habitat* and Permanent and *Intermittent Streams* policies of this Plan.**

5. Where the *Significant Valleylands* are disturbed, the City promotes the *restoration/naturalization* of the *Significant Valleylands* aimed at improving water quality and quantity, ensuring bank and slope stabilization, and enhancing *wildlife habitat*.

#### 4.1.3.8 Significant Landform

##### Objectives

- a) To identify and protect the significant portions of the *Paris Galt Moraine* within the city that play a role in contributing to:
  - i) **important environmental services including those provided by the *water resource system*, *wildlife habitat* and linkages, and supporting biodiversity; and**
  - ii) **the city's geologic and aesthetic uniqueness.**
- b) To protect *vulnerable* surface water and groundwater resources, maintain and enhance the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, and the related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems within the *Paris Galt Moraine*.

##### Criterion for Designation

1. *Hummocky Topography* of the *Paris Galt Moraine* that exhibits slope concentrations where the slope is 20% or greater, and located in association with closed depressions identified by the GRCA, and in close proximity to other Significant Natural Areas of the Natural Heritage System.

##### Policies

2. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within the *Significant Landform* except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
3. *Development* and *site alteration* may be permitted on *Adjacent Lands* to *Significant Landform* where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* to the satisfaction of

the City, in consultation with the GRCA where appropriate, that there will be *no negative impacts* to the *Hummocky Topography* of the *Significant Landform*, or to its *ecological* or *hydrologic functions*.

4. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, the following additional uses may be permitted within the *Significant Landform* subject to the requirements under 4.1.2.9, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the GRCA, where appropriate, that there will be *no negative impacts* to the *Hummocky Topography* of the *Significant Landform*, or to its *ecological* or *hydrologic functions*:

- i) **essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance;**
- ii) ***essential transportation infrastructure* and its *normal maintenance*, provided the *Hummocky Topography* is maintained outside the right-of-way to the greatest extent possible;**
- iii) **municipal water supply wells, underground water supply storage and associated small scale structures (e.g. pumping facility); and**
- iv) ***essential* stormwater outlets for appropriately treated and managed stormwater discharge in accordance with policy 4.1.3.8.6 and the Stormwater Management policies of this Plan.**

5. *Essential linear infrastructure* and underground water supply storage shall be designed to ensure that:

- i) **the *Hummocky Topography* of the *Significant Landform* will be maintained or restored to the greatest extent possible;**
- ii) **hydrological regimes will be maintained or restored, and**
- iii) **connectivity within the Natural Heritage System will be maintained.**

6. *Essential* stormwater management outlets permitted within *Significant Landform* shall:

- i) **meet any applicable requirements of comprehensive environmental study(ies) (such as a *subwatershed plan*) to be completed as part of the Clair Maltby Secondary Plan;**
- ii) **be designed to ensure that:**
  - a) **grading and alteration to the Hummocky Topography is minimized and restored to pre-existing topographic conditions to the greatest extent possible;**
  - b) **pre-development run-off volumes based on pre-development topography are maintained;**
  - c) **best management practices and/or low impact development approaches are implemented to ensure a high level of contaminant and sediment removal in accordance with comprehensive and site specific environmental studies; and**
  - d) **where feasible, winter bypass relief systems to alternate receivers are used to minimize potential chloride (i.e., salt) loadings or alternate winter**

management strategies are used in accordance with the comprehensive and site specific stormwater and/or environmental studies; and

- iii) **require the implementation of a monitoring and contingency plan for potential impacts to groundwater quality and quantity on receiving lands associated with this use within the *Significant Landform*.**

7. Notwithstanding policy 4.1.3.8.6 ii b) above, stormwater runoff volumes from the *development* area exceeding the pre-*development* runoff volumes may be permitted to be released to and recharge within the Significant Landform where there are limiting physical site characteristics, and in accordance with City and Provincial requirements for water resources and stormwater management including comprehensive and site specific stormwater and/or environmental studies.
8. Where a *Significant Landform feature* also provides the function of an *Ecological Linkage*, the *Ecological Linkage* policies shall also apply.
9. For the purposes of 4.1.1.17, the boundaries of *Significant Landform* must be confirmed on a site-specific basis by a professional geoscientist (P. Geo.), or a qualified professional with equivalent expertise, using topographic mapping completed by an Ontario Land Surveyor (at a contour interval of 1m or less).
10. Modifications to the boundaries of the *Significant Landform* may be made without an amendment to this Plan provided it is demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* to the satisfaction of the City, that:
  - i) **alternate areas of *Hummocky Topography* that are at least of equal hectareage will be protected as *Significant Landform*. Such areas may be within *Ecological Linkages*, but must be outside of other Significant Natural Areas;**
  - ii) **the alternate areas identified for protection are in close proximity to other Significant Natural Areas of the Natural Heritage System and are adjacent to and maintain linear continuity of the *Significant Landform*;**
  - iii) **the modification(s) does not result in loss of connectivity within the Natural Heritage System;**
  - iv) **the alternate areas of landform identified for protection consist of *Hummocky Topography* of the *Paris Galt Moraine*; and**
  - v) **the modified boundaries of the *Significant Landform* have been confirmed in accordance with the requirements of 4.1.1.17 and 4.1.3.8.9.**

For the purposes of 4.1.3.8.10 i), alternate areas of *Hummocky Topography* shall be located on the subject property, unless the *EIS* or *EA* is part of a comprehensive *development* application involving multiple properties, in which case the alternate areas may be located on any one or more of those properties.

**If it can be demonstrated to the City's satisfaction that there are no alternate areas of *Hummocky Topography* within *Ecological Linkages* or outside of other Significant**

Natural Areas, the alternate areas identified for protection may overlap with other Significant Natural Areas in accordance with the provisions of 4.1.3.8.9.

All lands identified as alternate landform pursuant to provisions of 4.1.3.8.10 shall be deemed to be *Significant Landform* and shall be subject to all policies relating to *Significant Landform*.

Once an *EIS* or *EA* is accepted by the City, the modified *Significant Landform* boundaries will be deemed to be consistent with the policies of this Plan and have the effect of modifying the designations and mapping on Schedules 2, 3, 4 and 4D.

#### 4.1.3.9 Significant Wildlife Habitat (including Ecological Linkages)

Significant Wildlife Habitat captures a range of ecologically important habitats that contribute to the quality and diversity of the Natural Heritage System. Ecological Linkages are a component of Significant Wildlife Habitat and are intended to facilitate the movement of flora and fauna between Significant Natural Areas and/or protected Habitat of Significant Species.

*Ecological Linkages* are designated on Schedule 2 and are identified on Schedule 4 separately from other components of Significant Wildlife Habitat. *Ecological Linkages* are 100 metres in width except where existing narrower *linkages* have been approved or identified on Schedule 4. Schedule 4E illustrates all confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat (excluding *Ecological Linkages*) based on existing information.

##### Objectives

- a) To protect and enhance ecologically important habitats that occur within the city.
- b) To recognize, protect and enhance *ecological linkages* between and among Significant Natural Areas and/or protected Habitat for Significant Species.

##### Criteria for Designation

1. *Wildlife Habitat* that is the most ecologically important in terms of *function*, representation or amount in contributing to the quality and diversity of the Natural Heritage System, and falls into one or more of the following categories:
  - i) **seasonal concentration areas, including deer wintering and waterfowl overwintering areas identified by MNDMNRF MNR;**
  - ii) ***rare vegetation communities* or specialized habitat for wildlife; and**
  - iii) **habitat for species of conservation concern (excluding Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species), specifically: globally significant species, federally significant species and provincially significant species.**
2. Ecological linkages.

## Policies

3. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within Significant Wildlife Habitat (including *Ecological Linkages*) or the *established buffers*, where applicable, except for uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
4. *Development* and *site alteration* may be permitted on *adjacent lands* to Significant Wildlife Habitat (including *Ecological Linkages*) where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* to the satisfaction of the City, and GRCA where applicable, that there will be no *negative impacts* to Significant Wildlife Habitat or its *ecological functions*.
5. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, the following additional uses may be permitted within Significant Wildlife Habitat (including *Ecological Linkages*) and its *established buffers*, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with the GRCA and/or MNDMNR's technical guidance that there will be no *negative impacts* to the Significant Wildlife Habitat or to its *ecological functions*:
  - i) **Essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance;**
  - ii) **flood and erosion control facilities and their *normal maintenance*; and**
  - iii) **water supply wells, underground water supply storage and associated small scale structures (e.g. pumping facility).**
6. The extent of the *habitat* and *buffers* for Significant Wildlife Habitat will be established through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with the GRCA where appropriate, with consideration for the MNDMNR's technical guidance, and the local and regional context.
7. Additional areas of Significant Wildlife Habitat (i.e., in addition to those areas shown on Schedule 4 and Schedule 4E, including *Ecological Linkages*) may be identified through an *EIS* or *EA* based on consideration for the MNDMNR's technical guidance. These additional areas will be subject to the applicable policies.

## Ecological Linkages

In addition to the Significant Wildlife Habitat policies above, the following policies also apply specifically to *Ecological Linkages*.

8. *Ecological Linkages* may incorporate lands that do not otherwise meet the criteria for protection in accordance with Significant Natural Areas or Natural Areas policies.
9. Connectivity between Significant Natural Areas and/or protected Habitat for Significant Species shall be maintained, and where appropriate, enhanced, with *Ecological Linkages*.
10. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2 and the policies in 4.1.3.9.5, the following uses may be permitted within *Ecological Linkages*, subject to the requirements under 4.1.2.9, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* to

the satisfaction of the City and in consultation with the GRCA where appropriate, with consideration for the **MNDMNR**'s technical guidance that the functionality and connectivity of the *Ecological Linkage* will be maintained or enhanced:

- i) **essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance;**
- ii) **essential transportation infrastructure and their normal maintenance; and**
- iii) **stormwater management facilities and structures and their *normal maintenance*.**

11. The location of *Ecological Linkages* may be modified and/or width refined, without an amendment to this Plan provided it is demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the GRCA where appropriate, that:

- i) **the *Ecological Linkage* is designed based on the most current conservation biology principles;**
- ii) **proposed changes to the location or width of the *Ecological Linkage* will maintain or enhance functionality and connectivity between Significant Natural Areas and/or protected Habitat for Significant Species; and**
- iii) **where a proposed refinement to the width of an *Ecological Linkage* would result in a width less than 50 metres:**
  - a) the *Ecological Linkage* is adjacent to land uses such as open space, passive recreational parkland or areas of planned naturalization or restoration, including new Restoration Areas, which provide a demonstrated supporting role to the linkage function;
  - b) the length of the refined area of the *Ecological Linkage* is limited to the greatest extent possible; and
  - c) the *Ecological Linkage* provides a direct linear connection and incorporates any remnant natural heritage features and areas to the greatest extent possible.

12. Studies that assess *Ecological Linkages* should confirm their configuration (i.e., location and width) based on the scale at which they are intended to *function*, the nature of adjacent land use and the significance, sensitivity and ecological requirements of the species whose movements they are intended to support.

13. Where *Ecological Linkages* are located such that wildlife will need to cross a road, these areas shall also be identified as wildlife crossings and mitigative measures may be required in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.1.5 (Wildlife Crossings).

#### 4.1.3.10 Restoration Areas

Restoration Areas are identified on Schedule 4 and are generally located on public lands, and identify potential areas where *restoration* may be directed.



## Objectives

- a) To identify opportunities for *restoration* throughout the City, including opportunities to increase and/or sustain open meadow landscapes for pollinators, birds and other wildlife to ensure diversity within the Natural Heritage System.
- b) To identify areas where the planting of indigenous vegetation be focused to support the *restoration* of natural habitats.
- c) **To provide opportunities to increase the City's *tree canopy cover***, including areas where tree compensation can be directed.

## Criteria for Designation

1. Existing and new stormwater management areas abutting the Natural Heritage System.
2. Areas within City parkland (including portions of the Eastview Community Park) and GRCA lands which are not intended for active uses.
3. Isolated gaps within the Natural Heritage System.

## Policies

4. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted within Restoration Areas except for the uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2.
5. In addition to the uses permitted by the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, stormwater management facilities and their *normal maintenance*, *renewable energy* systems and *essential linear infrastructure* subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8 may be permitted.
6. The primary use of the lands within the Restoration Areas will be *restoration* and existing or approved stormwater management facilities and their *normal maintenance*.
7. Opportunities for *restoration* on public and private lands abutting the Natural Heritage System beyond those identified in Schedule 4 will be encouraged.
8. Outside active stormwater management facilities, Restoration Areas may be maintained, restored or managed to provide habitat for birds, butterflies, and other insects that play an important role in pollination.
9. New Restoration Areas may be added without an amendment to this Plan where new stormwater management facilities are approved in accordance with the provisions of this Plan and are located adjacent to the Natural Heritage System.
10. The City will undertake a study to prioritize and develop a management plan for Restoration Areas in the city.

### 4.1.4 Natural Areas

Natural Areas include three categories of features that are considered less ecologically significant than Significant Natural Areas, but that still warrant protection within the

Natural Heritage System. The three feature categories are: *Other Wetlands*, *Cultural Woodlands*, and Habitat for Significant Species.

Unmapped Natural Areas or all or parts of Natural Areas included in the overlay designation shown on Schedules 2 and 4 require further study to determine the appropriate level of protection in accordance with the policies of this Plan. Natural Areas included in the overlay designation shown on Schedules 2 and 4 include *Other Wetlands* and *Cultural Woodlands*. Habitat for Significant Species (excluding *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species*) is not identified within the Natural Areas overlay on the schedules of this Plan and must be identified in accordance with 4.1.4.

#### 4.1.4.1 General Policies: Natural Areas

1. *Development or site alteration* shall not be permitted within unmapped Natural Areas or Natural Areas included in the overlay designation shown on Schedules 2 and 4 until an *EIS* or *EA* that determines which Natural Heritage System policies, if any, apply and is approved as part of a complete *development* application to the satisfaction of the City.
  - i) Where unmapped Natural Areas or all or parts of Natural Areas included in the overlay designation on Schedules 2 and 4 meet one or more of the criteria for designation as Significant Natural Areas, the appropriate policies of 4.1.3 will apply, and the areas identified for protection, including any *established buffers*, will be deemed to be designated Significant Natural Areas.
  - ii) Where unmapped Natural Areas or all or parts of a Natural Areas included in the overlay designation on Schedules 2 and 4 meet one or more of the criteria for designation as Natural Areas, the appropriate policies under 4.1.4 will apply, and the areas identified for protection, including any *established buffers*, will be deemed to be designated Natural Areas.
  - iii) Where unmapped Natural Areas or all or parts of a Natural Areas included in the overlay designation on Schedules 2 and 4 do not meet either i) or ii) above, the Natural Areas overlay designation will be deemed removed, and the underlying land use designation will apply.
2. In accordance with the applicable policies in 4.1.3 and 4.1.4 *development or site alteration* may be permitted within the *adjacent lands* of Natural Areas provided it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* that there will be no *negative impacts* on the protected *natural heritage features and areas* or their associated *ecological functions*.

#### 4.1.4.2 Other Wetlands

##### Objective

- a) To protect *Other Wetlands* **that contribute to the city's biodiversity or the ecological and hydrologic functions** of the Significant Natural Areas.

##### Criteria for Designation

1. Unevaluated *wetlands* 0.2 to 0.5 hectares in size that meet one or more of the following criteria:
  - i) located within a *floodplain* or riparian community;
  - ii) identified as a bog or fen;
  - iii) providing Habitat for Significant Species (as per policies under 4.1.4.4);
  - iv) part of an ecologically functional corridor or *linkage* between Significant Natural Areas; or
  - v) part of a seep or spring or is hydrologically linked to a *Significant Wetland*.

#### Policies

2. *Development* and *site alteration* may be permitted within *Other Wetlands* in accordance with the underlying designation where it has been demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the City and the GRCA and/or the provincial government where appropriate, where appropriate, through an *EIS* or *EA*, that the wetland does not meet one or more of the criteria in 4.1.4.2.1.
3. For *Other Wetlands* that meet the above criteria, *established buffers* are to be determined through an *EIS* or *EA*, but should be at least 15 metres from the limits of the *feature* wherever possible.
4. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, the following additional uses may be permitted within the *established buffers* to *Other Wetlands* identified for protection, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA* to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the GRCA, that there will be no *negative impacts* on the *Other Wetlands* or their *ecological* or *hydrologic functions*:
  - i) **essential linear infrastructure and their normal maintenance; and**
  - ii) **stormwater management facilities and structures and their *normal maintenance*.**
5. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, the construction of new trails and walkways, and formalization of existing trails may be permitted within *Other Wetlands* and their *established buffers* where:
  - i) **they are considered *essential* to the City's trail system or integral to the scientific, educational or *passive recreational activities* of the property;**
  - ii) **no reasonable alternative location exists;**
  - iii) **the environmental impacts of the proposed trails have been assessed and mitigated through design that minimize impacts to the *feature* and its *functions*; and**
  - iv) **they consist primarily of boardwalks and viewing platforms and are accompanied with educational signs.**

#### 4.1.4.3 Cultural Woodlands

*Cultural Woodlands* are defined in the Glossary and where known are identified on Schedule 4C. These *woodlands* are generally considered of less ecological value than those categorized *Significant Woodlands*, however the City recognizes the environmental benefits and services they provide.

##### Objectives

- a) To promote the protection and management of *Cultural Woodlands* where appropriate, in order to encourage their succession to a mixed *woodland* community.
- b) To protect *Cultural Woodlands* that support the *ecological functions* of the Natural Heritage System.
- c) To protect healthy non-invasive trees within *Cultural Woodlands*.
- d) To recognize that *Cultural Woodlands* contribute to environmental services such as moderating temperatures, erosion control and pollution filtration.
- e) To compensate for loss of trees from *Cultural Woodlands*, where *development* and *site alteration* is permitted.

##### Criteria for Designation

1. Cultural Woodlands that are:

- i) **equal to or greater than 1 hectare in size, and**
- ii) **not dominated by non-indigenous, *invasive species*.**

##### Policies

- 2. *Development* and *site alteration* and *essential linear infrastructure* may be permitted in accordance with the underlying designation within all or part of a *Cultural Woodland* and its *established buffer*, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9, where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with the GRCA and/or the provincial government where appropriate, that the *woodland* or part thereof does not meet the criteria in 4.1.4.3.1.
- 3. *Development* and *site alteration* within or adjacent to a *Cultural Woodland* shall also require a Tree Inventory and Tree Preservation Plan in accordance with Section 4.2.4.
- 4. Where *development* is permitted in all or part of a *Cultural Woodland* that does not meet the criteria in 4.1.4.3.1 healthy non-invasive trees should be protected to the fullest extent possible.
- 5. *Established buffers* to *Cultural Woodlands* will be determined through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City.
- 6. Stormwater management facilities and structures may be permitted in the *established buffers* to protected *Cultural Woodlands* where it has been demonstrated through an

*EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City, that there will be no *negative impacts* to healthy, non-invasive vegetation within the *woodland*.

7. In addition to the General Permitted Uses of Section 4.1.2, new trails and walkways, and formalization of existing trails may be permitted within *Cultural Woodlands* subject to an *EIS*.
8. A Vegetation Compensation Plan, in accordance with the policies of 4.1.6.4, shall be required for the replacement of all healthy, non-invasive trees measuring over 10 cm dbh that are proposed to be removed as part of *development* or *site alteration*.

#### 4.1.4.4 Habitat for Significant Species

A number of *federally, provincially and locally significant species* (excluding provincially *endangered or threatened species*) have been documented and are known to breed within the city. The habitat requirements of these species are variable and best determined based on site specific investigations. Significant Natural Areas are intended to provide habitat for the majority of the significant species known to occur in the city. However, some significant species occupy habitat outside the designated Significant Natural Areas. The City requires that this habitat be considered through the *development* approvals process to help support the maintenance of biodiversity.

The presence of significant species and their habitats shall be verified through comprehensive or *scoped EIS* or *EAs*. Where areas do not qualify as Significant *Wildlife Habitat*, or any other Significant Natural Areas, the policies in this section will apply.

#### Objectives

- a) To identify and protect, where appropriate, the habitat of globally, federally, provincially and locally significant plant and wildlife species (excluding *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species* and Significant *Wildlife Habitat*).
- b) To ensure that where the existing protected areas within the Natural Heritage System do not provide habitat for the given species, that suitable habitat is available at the local or regional scale.

#### Criteria for Designation

1. Wildlife Habitat that:
  - i) **Supports species considered:**
    - a) globally significant;
    - b) federally significant;
    - c) provincially significant; *and/or*
    - d) locally significant, and;
  - ii) **contributes to the quality and diversity of the Natural Heritage System but not to the extent that it is determined to be Significant *Wildlife Habitat* or *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species*.**

2. Habitats for plant species shall be included only where the species is growing naturally in the wild (i.e. not planted for horticultural, landscaping or agricultural purposes).

#### Policies

3. *Development, site alteration and essential linear infrastructure* may be permitted within all or portions of the Habitat for Significant Species and any *established buffers*, subject to the requirements of 4.1.2.8 and 4.1.2.9, and where it has been demonstrated through an *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City and the GRCA and/or the provincial government where appropriate, that there will be no *negative impacts* on the habitat or its *ecological functions*.
4. Notwithstanding policy 4.1.4.4.3 *development, site alteration and essential linear infrastructure* may be permitted where it is demonstrated that:
  - i) **the species is common and relatively widespread at the regional scale or the reasons for the species' decline cannot be mitigated by local habitat protection (e.g., disease); and**
  - ii) **all reasonable efforts to protect the habitat *in situ* have been explored but are not feasible in the context of the proposed *development*.**
5. Where Habitat of Significant Species is to be protected, alternatives to *in situ* protection (i.e., habitat *restoration* or transplanting) may be considered where appropriate.
6. The status of species considered locally significant by the City based on its significant species lists for Wellington County may be revised and updated from time to time through periodic scientific analysis and peer review and/or consideration of data collected through an *EA* or *EIS*.

#### 4.1.5 Wildlife Crossing Locations

##### Objective

- a) To minimize and mitigate impacts to wildlife, property damage and threats to human safety (e.g., deer collisions) at locations where wildlife are known or likely to cross roadways.

##### Criteria

1. Confirmed locations where deer and amphibians cross roadways within or abutting City boundaries.
2. Areas where habitat is found on both sides of the roadway where wildlife is likely to cross.

##### Policies

3. At known, confirmed or potential wildlife crossing locations or at locations determined through detailed study in conjunction with development or site alteration applications:

- i) the City will implement species-appropriate mitigation measures to minimize the impacts to wildlife and property damage; and
  - ii) the City will require mitigation measures identified through the *EIS* or *EA*, to the satisfaction of the City, to be implemented through the related development.
- 4. Where the City is undertaking public infrastructure improvements, where warranted species-appropriate mitigative measures will be implemented to minimize the incidence of human-wildlife conflict (e.g., culverts under roads to accommodate amphibian and reptile migration).
- 5. Where warranted, the City will proactively post signage to warn vehicular traffic of the potential for wildlife crossing such as deer.
- 6. The City will develop wildlife crossing guidelines that identify appropriate mitigation measures.

#### 4.1.6 Urban Forest

The City's *Urban Forest*, includes *plantations* and smaller wooded areas less than one 1 ha, *hedgerows* and individual trees that are not included in the City's Natural Heritage System.

These wooded areas and trees provide various benefits and services to the city including reduction of air pollution, moderation of the urban heat island effect, carbon sequestration, shade, habitat for urban adapted wildlife and mental health benefits.

It is also recognized that in some cases wooded areas in the urban matrix are degraded (e.g., dominated by *invasive species*) and that new *development* may provide opportunities for enhancement and *restoration* of portions of these *features*, and/or retention of mature and healthy non-invasive trees as part of the proposed *development* or *site alteration*.

#### Objectives

- a) To ensure that opportunities for protection of trees outside the City's Natural Heritage System are fully considered through the planning process.
- b) To recognize that the *Urban Forest* provides important *ecosystem services* that benefit current and future generations by:
  - i) identifying opportunities for protection, enhancement and restoration; and
  - ii) supporting initiatives that provide for ongoing management and stewardship of the Urban Forest.
- c) To maintain and increase *tree canopy cover* within the city, with a target of 40% by 2031.

#### 4.1.6.1 Policies

1. Healthy non-invasive trees within the *urban forest* shall be encouraged to be retained and integrated into proposed *development*.
2. Plantations and hedgerows will be required to be identified through an Ecological Land Classification (ELC) in conjunction with proposed *development* applications.
3. Destruction, injury or removal of trees on private property, will be regulated by the **City's Private Tree Protection By-law** or its successor.
4. Where the City is undertaking infrastructure work, healthy non-invasive trees within the *urban forest* will be retained to the fullest extent possible. Where trees are required to be removed, relocation or replacement plantings will be provided by the City.
5. Development and implementation of woodlot management plans may be required prior to the conveyance of *woodlands* to the City.

#### Plantations

6. *Development* and *site alteration* may be permitted within all or part of a *plantation* where it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the City, that the *plantation* or part thereof:
  - i) **does not meet the criteria for a Significant Natural Area (e.g., Significant Woodland) within the Natural Heritage System; and**
  - ii) **that the plantation does not support an *Ecological Linkage* within the Natural Heritage System.**
7. *Development* and *site alteration* within a *plantation* shall also require a Tree Inventory and a Tree Preservation Plan in accordance with Section 4.3.4.

#### Hedgerows and Trees

8. *Development* and *site alteration* may be permitted to impact *hedgerows* and individual trees provided it has been demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the City, that the *hedgerows* and trees cannot be protected or integrated into the urban landscape.
9. Tree Inventory and Tree Preservation Plans shall be required for all new *development* and *site alterations*.
10. Heritage Trees may be identified by the City in accordance with the Cultural Heritage Policies of this Plan.

#### Vegetation Compensation Plan

11. Compensation for trees proposed for removal shall be required in accordance with the **City's Private Tree Protection By-law** or its successor.



12. A Vegetation Compensation Plan for the replacement of trees shall be prepared and **implemented to the satisfaction of the City in accordance with the City's Tree Technical Manual.**
13. The Vegetation Compensation Plan shall identify where the replacement vegetation will be planted. Where replanting is not feasible on the subject property, the planting may be directed off-site to lands identified in consultation with the City, including lands within the Natural Heritage System and may include:
- i) **Established buffers,**
  - ii) **Significant Valleylands,**
  - iii) **Significant Landform,**
  - iv) **Ecological Linkages, or**
  - v) **Restoration Areas.**
14. All replacement vegetation should be indigenous species and compatible with the site conditions within which they are proposed. In some cases, re-vegetation may consist of a combination of trees, shrubs and herbaceous species, or may consist exclusively of indigenous herbaceous species and grasses where the *restoration* objective is to establish a meadow habitat.
15. The vegetation compensation plantings do not replace the normal landscape planting requirements as part of the approval of any *development* or *site alteration*.

#### 4.1.7 Natural Heritage Stewardship and Monitoring

##### Objective

- a) **To manage the City's Natural Heritage System** and *Urban Forest* through stewardship, monitoring and partnerships.

##### Policies

##### 4.1.7.1 Invasive Species

- 1. Management and control of non-indigenous and *invasive species* will be undertaken on City owned and managed properties.
- 2. Plantings on municipal properties shall be indigenous species where feasible and appropriate, except where harsh environmental conditions would limit their survival.
- 3. Management and control of non-indigenous, *invasive species* is encouraged on lands owned by other public agencies and utilities.
- 4. Plans prepared in conjunction with *development* and *site alteration* applications will require indigenous plants, trees and shrubs except where harsh environmental conditions would limit their survival.

5. Indigenous species will be encouraged on private lands and particularly on those *adjacent* to the Natural Heritage System.

#### 4.1.7.2 Deer

1. Deer wintering habitat for the safety of deer and residents, will be monitored and addressed, as appropriate, in conjunction with the MNDMNRF.
2. The City in conjunction with the MNDMNRF will explore the development of a deer management program.

#### 4.1.7.3 Land Stewardship

1. Public agencies, community organizations, and private landowners are encouraged to **protect and enhance the City's Natural Heritage System** and the *Urban Forest*.
2. The City will work with the GRCA and other public and private organizations to promote stewardship and leverage funding to support land stewardship activities.
3. Opportunities for plant rescue activities for plants, other than those identified for habitat protection in accordance with the Significant Natural Area and Natural Area policies will be encouraged. Such rescue activities may only occur with the consent of the land owner and only in situations where the plant is within an area approved for *development* in accordance with the Significant Natural Area and Natural Area policies of this Plan, and under the supervision of a professional in the field of Botany.
4. **Encroachment into the City's Natural Heritage System will be discouraged through** education and appropriate provisions.
5. The City will promote stewardship of the Natural Heritage System and the *Urban Forest*.

#### 4.1.7.4 Pollinator Habitat

1. The City recognizes the role that *pollinator habitat* plays in supporting ecosystem functions.
2. Opportunities to protect, maintain and enhance *pollinator habitat* within city parks, Restoration Areas and Ecological Linkages, lands *adjacent* to stormwater management facilities and open space areas will be encouraged.

#### 4.1.7.5 Ecological Monitoring

1. A City-wide environmental monitoring program will be developed and implemented to assess the effectiveness of the policies, decisions and programs in meeting the objectives of the Natural Heritage System and the *Urban Forest*.
2. Opportunities for collaborating with the GRCA and the provincial government will be incorporated into the environmental monitoring program (e.g. fisheries, *threatened species*).

3. Short-term, site-specific monitoring may be required as a condition of the planning approval process and the results will be integrated into the city-wide monitoring program, where applicable.

## 4.2 Watershed Resource System and Watershed Planning

The ongoing availability of natural resources is essential for the sustainability of the city. Recognizing that *watersheds* are the most important scale for protecting the *quality and quantity of water*, *watershed planning* will inform the protection of the *water resource system* and decisions related to planning for growth. The *water resource system*, together with the Natural Heritage System, and the effective management of stormwater, including the use of *green infrastructure*, provide essential ecosystem services, and support adaptation and resilience to climate change.

### Objectives

- a) To use *watershed planning* to inform the identification, evaluation and protection of the natural environment.
- b) To protect, improve or restore the quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater resources through municipal initiatives and community stewardship.
- c) To evaluate and prepare for the *impacts of a changing climate* to water resource systems at the watershed level.
- d) To practice and encourage effective management of stormwater drainage to maintain or enhance the *water resource system*.
- e) To use stormwater management to minimize erosion and changes in water balance, prepare for the *impacts of a changing climate*, and in regulating the quantity and quality of stormwater run-off to receiving natural watercourses, wetlands and recharge facilities.

### 4.2.1 Water Resource System

1. The City shall ensure the long-term protection of the *water resource system*, which is comprised of *key hydrologic features*, *key hydrologic areas*, and their functions. The *water resource system* is a policy-based system. Through *subwatershed studies*, the City will map the *water resource system*.
2. There is extensive overlap between the *water resource system* and the Natural Heritage System. The *key hydrologic features*, *key hydrologic areas*, and their functions that are protected through the *water resource system* policies of this Plan, include those which may not be directly connected to, or included within, the Natural Heritage System.
3. The *water resource system* policies build on the Source Protection policies of this Plan to further protect the *quality and quantity of water* **within the city's** *subwatersheds*.

4. *Development and site alteration* shall be restricted in or near the *water resource system* to protect municipal drinking water supplies and *designated vulnerable areas*, **and sustain the area's natural ecosystem. Mitigative measures and/or alternative** development approaches may be required to protect, improve or restore the *water resource system*.
5. The City will protect, improve or restore the *water resource system* by:
  - i) ensuring that all *development and site alteration* meets provincial water quality and quantity objectives, through consultation with the provincial government and the GRCA; and
  - ii) planning for the efficient and sustainable use of water resources, including practices for water conservation and efficiency.

#### 4.2.2 Watershed Planning

1. The City will ensure that *watershed planning* is undertaken to support a comprehensive, integrated, and long-term approach to the protection, enhancement, or restoration of the *quality and quantity of water* within a *watershed*.
2. The City will use *watershed planning* as a basis for environmental, land use and infrastructure planning. *Watershed planning* informs the Natural Heritage System and *water resource system* and may serve as a comprehensive *Environmental Impact Study* framework but will not replace the need for detailed *Environmental Impact Studies* required in support of *development* applications.
3. The City will work with the GRCA, the provincial government and/or the federal government, as applicable, and other stakeholders to develop and implement *watershed planning*.
4. Subwatershed studies will:
  - i) **inform the identification of *water resource systems* consisting of key *hydrologic features*, *key hydrologic areas*, and their functions;**
  - ii) **protect enhance, or restore the *quality and quantity of water*;**
  - iii) **inform and assist in the land use planning process, including decisions on allocation of growth;**
  - iv) **inform planning for water, wastewater and stormwater *infrastructure*;**
  - v) **inform integrated and long-term planning, which can be a foundation for considering cumulative impacts of development;**
  - vi) **minimize potential *negative impacts*, including cross-jurisdictional and cross-*watershed* impacts;**
  - vii) **evaluate and prepare for the *impacts of a changing climate* to the *water resource system* at the subwatershed level;**

- viii) maintain the *water resource system*, Natural Heritage System or related ecological or hydrologic functions and linkages between these systems;
  - ix) identify necessary restrictions on *development* and *site alteration* to protect municipal drinking water supplies and *designated vulnerable areas*; protect, improve or restore the *water resource system*; and sustain the area's natural ecosystem;
  - x) ensure stormwater management practices minimize stormwater volumes and contaminant loads, and maintain or increase the extent of vegetative and pervious surfaces;
  - xi) establish the basis for stormwater management plans, to augment *water resource system* and Natural Heritage System protection, *restoration* and enhancement, where applicable, and the requirements for major municipal *infrastructure*; and
  - xii) provide guidance for monitoring, mitigation measures and alternative development approaches within the *watershed* with the intended purpose of maintaining and enhancing the health and quality of the *water resource system*, the Natural Heritage System and related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems within the subwatershed.
5. Planning studies and *development* applications will take into account the recommendations of *subwatershed studies*.
6. The City will establish a city-wide environmental monitoring program that:
- i) supports watershed planning;
  - ii) establishes monitoring and assessment protocols;
  - iii) assesses baseline conditions, and short and long term impacts on the *water resource system*, Natural Heritage System or related *ecological* or *hydrologic functions* or linkages between these systems; and
  - iv) assists in identifying mitigation measures to address *negative impacts* to the *water resource system* and the Natural Heritage System.
- The program will be established in collaboration with the GRCA, the provincial government and/or the federal government, where appropriate.
7. The findings and recommendations of *subwatershed studies* and *EIS* may be used as a baseline for the monitoring and implementation of mitigation measures.
8. Through the *development* review process, the City will encourage *development* proponents to prepare educational materials, including signage, that assist in **protecting the City's Natural Heritage System and *water resource system***.

#### 4.2.3 Water Resource Protection and Efficiency

1. Reduction in water consumption will be encouraged through upgrading/retrofitting of existing buildings and facilities. The City may require a Water Conservation Efficiency Study in conjunction with new *development*.

2. Landscaping and maintenance practices that minimize water consumption and reduce the use of potable water for irrigation associated with *development* are encouraged.
3. The use of potable water for outdoor watering is discouraged.
4. The City will increase the use of low maintenance and drought tolerant landscaping at municipal facilities.
5. Alternative water supply and demand management systems such as rainwater harvesting and grey water reuse is encouraged throughout the city and in all new *development*.

#### 4.2.4 Source Protection

Source protection planning is designed to protect existing and future sources of municipal drinking water thereby safeguarding human health and the environment. The Source Protection Plan, as amended, places restrictions on land uses and activities within Wellhead Protection Areas, Intake Protection Zones and Issues Contributing Areas. To implement the policies of the Source Protection Plan, the City has placed restrictions on **land uses and activities that have the potential to impact the City's water quality** and supply and implements risk management measures.

1. The entire city is a recharge area for municipal drinking water supply. To protect this valuable water resource, the City will require, as appropriate, conditions of *development* approval that:
  - i) **protect wetlands and other areas that make significant contributions to *groundwater* recharge;**
  - ii) **ensure that stormwater management systems protect water quality and quantity;**
  - iii) **require impact studies and risk management plans to assess the potential of proposed *development* to affect the quantity or quality of *groundwater* resources;**
  - iv) **require that contaminated properties be restored to the appropriate condition in compliance with applicable Provincial legislation and regulations;**
  - v) **place restrictions on land use in areas of greatest risk to contamination of *groundwater* resources for activities identified as a significant drinking water threat by prohibiting the following land uses. For the purpose of interpretation of this provision, the terms future, new or existing are as per the applicable definitions within the Source Protection Plan:**

**Within Wellhead Protection Areas A, the following uses are prohibited:**

- a. **new lots that rely on servicing by onsite sewage systems;**
- b. **the storage of greater than 2,500 kilograms of commercial fertilizer, new or expanded manufacturing and wholesale warehousing facilities with the storage of greater than 2,500 kilograms of commercial fertilizer;**

- c. new or expanded manufacturing or wholesale warehousing facilities with storage of greater than 2,500 kilograms of pesticide or the storage of greater than 250 kilograms of pesticide for retail sale or for extermination purposes;
- d. future storage of road salt greater than 5000 tonnes;
- e. new handling and storage of fuel in conjunction with a new or expanded retail gas station or new or expanded bulk fuel storage facility excluding bulk fuel storage associated with a municipal emergency generator facility;
- f. new or expanded storage of the dense non-aqueous phase liquids identified as a significant drinking water threat under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*; and
- g. new or expanded storage of the organic solvents identified as a significant drinking water threat under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

Within Wellhead Protection Areas B where the vulnerability equals ten (10), the following uses are prohibited:

- a) future storage of road salt of greater than 5,000 tonnes.

**vi) require risk management plans for specific land uses and prescribed drinking water threat activities as set out within the Source Protection Plan**

2. Require the assessment and mitigation of impacts of the establishment of transport pathways associated with *Planning Act* applications in Wellhead Protection Areas A and B where the vulnerability equals ten (10).
3. The **City's Wellhead Protection Areas, Intake Protection Zones and Issues Contributing Areas** extend into the County of Wellington and the Region of Halton. The City will work co-operatively with the upper and lower tier municipalities within Wellington County and Halton Region to implement source protection policies to ensure the long-term protection of the water resources of all these municipalities.
4. The City may require that technical studies be prepared by a qualified professional to assess and mitigate the potential impacts of a proposed *development* application **within the City's wellhead protection areas as part of a complete application. These** studies may include but are not limited to a Disclosure Report, detailed Hydrogeological Study, Environmental Screening for contaminated sites, Waste Survey Report and/or a Spill Prevention and Contingency Plan.
5. Schedule 7 (a and b) sets out the vulnerable areas in which drinking water threats prescribed under the *Clean Water Act, 2006* are or would be significant. The Source Protection Plan contains detailed schedules which must be referenced for the implementation of policies. Any land use or activity that is or would be a significant drinking water threat is required to conform with all applicable Source Protection Plan policies, and, as such, may be prohibited, restricted or otherwise regulated by those Source Protection Plan policies.

## 4.3 Environmental Study Requirements

### Objectives

- a) To ensure *EIS*, *EAs* or other comparable environmental studies are carried out to assess the potential impacts of *development* and *site alteration* on the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, and the related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems.
- b) To ensure that *development* or *site alteration* does not result in *negative impacts*, in the short term or long term to the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, and the related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems.
- c) To provide a mechanism for monitoring the potential impacts and establish strategies and mitigation measures to minimize *negative impacts* on the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, and the related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and *linkages* between these systems.
- d) To support the GRCA and the Provincial and Federal governments with respect to legislation, regulations and policies regarding *natural heritage features and areas*, the *water resource system* and the related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems.
- e) To implement the *EIS/EA* process in the planning and implementation of municipal *infrastructure* in a manner that assesses impacts, considers all reasonable alternatives and avoids or minimizes impacts on the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, and the related *ecological* and *hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems.

### 4.3.1 General Policies

- 1. Where *development* or *site alteration*, is proposed within or adjacent to *natural heritage features and areas*, and/or the *water resource system* or may negatively impact their related *ecological* or *hydrologic functions*, the proponent shall prepare an *EIS* in accordance with the provisions of this Plan.
- 2. The mapping associated with the Natural Heritage System (as provided in Schedules 4, 4A through 4E), or the *water resource system* may be refined or updated through new or more detailed information brought forward through *Environmental Impact Studies* and/or subwatershed plans in accordance with the provisions of this Plan.
- 3. The scope of an *EIS* must be determined in consultation with the City, and as applicable, the GRCA and provincial and/or federal government.
- 4. A scoped *EIS*, that entails a more narrowly defined assessment may be required by the City where development or site alteration is:
  - i) **minor in nature or small scale and provided *negative impacts* are anticipated to be negligible;**



- ii) located in a previously disturbed area; or
  - iii) located in an area where recent previous studies have been prepared that provide sufficient detailed information.
- 5. Consultation with the GRCA is required where any GRCA regulated lands or *wetlands* may be impacted by proposed *development* or *site alteration*.
- 6. The City shall not permit *development* or *site alteration* within *the* Natural Heritage System or *the water resource system* or on *adjacent lands* to *natural heritage features and areas*, until the required *EIS* and Environmental Implementation Report (EIR) has been reviewed and approved by the City and where applicable the GRCA and the provincial and/or federal government.
- 7. Proposed *development* or *site alteration* shall not be approved where it is in conflict with the provisions of this Plan.
- 8. Environmental studies include:
  - i) **EIS;**
  - ii) **EIR;**
  - iii) **EA; and**
  - iv) **Detailed EIS completed in conjunction with Secondary Plans.**
- 9. An *EIS* and EIR shall be carried out by professional(s) qualified in the field of environmental and hydrological sciences and shall be acceptable to the City, in **consultation with the City's Environmental Advisory Committee, the GRCA and** provincial ministry or agency, as applicable.
- 10. Prior to commencement of the study, terms of reference, acceptable to the City, the GRCA, and the provincial and/or federal government, as applicable.
- 11. *EIS* and EIRs shall be completed in accordance with Guidelines prepared by the City, as updated from time to time and approved by the City.
- 12. Additional studies may be required to be submitted in conjunction with an *EIS* and/or EIR as determined by the City and in accordance with the complete application provisions of this Plan.

#### 4.3.2 Environmental Impact Studies (EIS)

- 1. The *EIS* shall as a minimum address the following:
  - i) **a description of and statement of the rationale for the *development* and *site alteration* and where appropriate, alternatives to the proposal;**
  - ii) **a description of the proposed *development* or *site alteration*, including a detailed location map and property survey showing proposed buildings, existing land uses and buildings, existing vegetation, fauna, site topography, drainage, hydrology, soils, hydrogeological conditions, habitat areas and other applicable matters;**

- iii) a description of adjacent land use and the existing regulations affecting the *development* proposal and *adjacent lands* ;
- iv) a description of the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system*, and related *ecological and hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems;
- v) a description of all *natural heritage features and areas* and all components of the *water resource system*, and their *ecological and hydrologic functions* that might directly or indirectly be *negatively impacted*;
- vi) a description of the potential negative impacts that might reasonably be caused to the natural heritage feature or area, the *water resource system*, and related *ecological and hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems. The description shall also include a statement of the *significance* of the *natural heritage feature or area* and/or component of the *water resource system*;
- vii) a description of alternatives to the proposed *development* or *site alteration* that has the potential to impact a *natural heritage feature or area* and/or water resource system, including an assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of each;
- viii) a description of the constraints to *development* and *site alteration* and mitigative measures necessary to prevent, mitigate or remedy any potential *negative impacts*;
- ix) where appropriate, measures to provide for the enhancement of the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system* and related *ecological and hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems;
- x) a description of any short and or long term monitoring that will be undertaken by the proponent to determine if *negative impacts* to the Natural Heritage System, the *water resource system* or related *ecological or hydrologic functions* and linkages between these systems are occurring which may require remediation measures; and
- xi) any other information required by the City, the GRCA, the provincial government and/or the federal government that is considered necessary to assess the potential impact of the proposed *development* or *site alteration*.

2. The *EIS* supplements and provides more detail than the broader watershed and *subwatershed plans*.

#### 4.3.3 Environmental Implementation Report

1. The City will require, as a condition of *development* or *site alteration*, and prior to final decision on any *development* or *site alteration*, that an Environmental Implementation Report (EIR) shall be prepared and submitted to the City for approval. This EIR will serve as a summary document containing information, including but not limited to the following:

- i) a description of how all the conditions of the decision have been met;

- ii) how development, site alteration and infrastructure address the Natural Heritage System and water resource system policies; and
- iii) any other requirements to protect the overall natural environment of the area.

#### 4.3.4 Tree Inventory and Tree Preservation Plan

1. Tree Inventory and Tree Preservation Plans shall as a minimum include:

- i) a Tree Inventory measuring all trees over 10 cm diameter at breast height (dbh), including the size, species composition and health, and indigenous shrubs in accordance with the City's tree inventory guidelines;
- ii) a Tree Preservation Plan identifying healthy indigenous and non-invasive trees to be protected, including those that may be transplanted (e.g. smaller specimens);
- iii) the protective measures required for tree protection during construction; and
- iv) measures for avoiding disturbance to any breeding birds during construction.

#### 4.4 Public Health and Safety

Natural and human-made hazards pose threats to human health, safety and well-being. *Natural hazards* are naturally occurring processes that create unsafe conditions for *development* generally identified as flooding, erosion and unstable soils, and *hazardous forest types for wildland fire*. Human-made hazards are the result of human activities on the landscape and include contaminated sites and *mineral aggregate operations*. *Development* on or adjacent to former *landfill sites* or potentially contaminated sites must be carefully managed to reduce risks to human and environmental health.

Natural and human made hazards may result in constraints to *development* on affected and *adjacent lands*. Precautionary and proactive policy that directs and manages *development* within or adjacent to these areas is intended to ensure safety and prevent loss of life, reduce property damage, limit social disruption and minimize public and private expenditures.

##### 4.4.1 Floodplains

*Development* or *redevelopment* is not permitted within the *regulatory floodplain* because of inherent dangers, such as loss of life, property damage and social disruption, should flooding occur, except in special circumstances where the general prohibition of new *development* or *redevelopment* in *floodplain* areas of historic communities is not practical. The One Zone area is used in those instances where the City prohibits *development* within the entire *floodplain* area. The One Zone areas are identified in association with rivers and creeks throughout the City where buildings/structures generally do not currently exist within the *floodplain*.

Two Zone and Special Policy Area provisions may be selectively applied where *development, redevelopment* and rehabilitation of buildings and structures in these areas is considered vital to the continued economic and social viability of the City. The Province, in co-operation with the Grand River Conservation Authority and the City, has established Two Zone and Special Policy Areas within the city. In Two Zone and Special Policy Areas, the *floodway* and *flood* fringe areas are clearly delineated and the policies allow for *development* and *redevelopment* provided it meets the specific area *flood* proofing requirements.

#### Objectives

- a) To minimize conditions which may be hazardous to human life or may cause significant property damage due to flooding.
- b) To prevent the creation of new hazards caused by *development* within *floodplains* in new growth areas of the city and ensure existing hazards are not aggravated.
- c) To recognize existing *development* within the *floodplain*, and where *flooding hazards* will not be aggravated, provide for infill and *redevelopment* within the approved Two-Zone and Special Policy Areas.

#### Policies

1. Lands adjacent to rivers and streams within the city may be subject to flooding conditions. The areas subject to flooding are defined by the *Regulatory Flood* and delineated by the Grand River Conservation Authority as identified One Zone, Two Zone and Special Policy *floodplain* areas on Schedule 3.
2. The One Zone policy for *floodplain* management will be applied to all *floodplains* except where a Two Zone policy or Special Policy Area is designated through this Plan.
3. *Development* within *floodplain* areas shall be consistent with the *floodplain* and riverine *flooding hazard* policies and regulations of the Grand River Conservation Authority, as amended from time to time as well as the provisions of this Plan.
4. *Development* shall generally be directed to areas outside *hazardous lands* adjacent to rivers, streams and inland lake systems which are impacted by *flooding hazards* and/or *erosion hazards* except as provided for in the Two Zone and Special Policy Area policies.
5. *Development* within a *floodway* shall not be permitted regardless of whether the area of inundation contains high points of land not subject to flooding, except as provided for in the Two Zone and Special Policy Area policies.
6. This Plan recognizes special circumstances in the older, established areas of the city. Where the Two Zone and Special Policy Area policies have been approved by the Province, the Grand River Conservation Authority and the City, *development* and *redevelopment* may be allowed within portions of the *floodway* and the *flood fringe*, subject to the provisions of this Section.

7. The following uses shall not be permitted within the *Regulatory Floodplain* including the Two Zone and Special Policy Areas:
- i) institutional uses associated with hospitals, *nursing homes*, pre-school, school nurseries, *child care centres* and schools where there is a threat to the safe evacuation of the sick, the elderly, persons with disabilities or the young during an emergency as a result of flooding, the failure of *floodproofing* measures and/or protection works, and/or erosion;
  - ii) *essential* emergency service such as that provided by fire, police and ambulance stations and electrical substations which would be impaired during an emergency as a result of flooding, the failure of *floodproofing* measures and/or protection works, and/or erosion; and
  - iii) uses associated with the disposal, manufacture, treatment or storage of *hazardous substances*.
8. Existing *essential* services, such as, fire, police and ambulance services that wish to expand or renovate will be encouraged to relocate to a site outside of the *floodplain* area.
9. The City and the Grand River Conservation Authority will give consideration to a program of structural improvements, as well as other *flood* control works, to reduce the risk of *flood* within the *floodplains*.
10. Council shall maintain its Emergency Response Plan to ensure a prompt response and the coordination of all required services in the event of a *flood* emergency.
11. The City will continue to co-operate with the Grand River Conservation Authority in the operation of the Grand River *watershed flood* warning system.
12. The *floodlines*, that delimit the *floodplains* of this Plan, may be revised by amendment to this Plan where more current mapping becomes available or where *flood* control or other works alter or eliminate the *flood* prone area.
13. Notwithstanding policy 4.4.1.12, minor refinements to the *regulatory floodlines* can be made without an amendment to this Plan.

#### One Zone Floodplain

14. No *development* is permitted within the One Zone Floodplain areas of the City.
15. Notwithstanding policy 4.4.1.14, minor additions or alterations to existing residential, industrial, commercial and institutional buildings or structures and non-habitable accessory buildings or structures may be permitted in accordance with the Grand River Conservation Authority regulations made under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, and the provisions of this Plan.
16. The following passive uses may be permitted in the One Zone
- i) outdoor recreation, excluding buildings and structures;
  - ii) open space and conservation areas;

- iii) wildlife sanctuaries;
- iv) nurseries and forestry; and
- v) *urban agriculture*, excluding buildings and structures.

17. This Plan does not imply that One Zone Floodplain lands are open to the general public or that such lands will be purchased by the City, or any other public agency.

#### Two Zone Floodplain

The Two Zone *floodways* of the Speed and Eramosa Rivers are defined as a component of the Significant Natural Areas designation. For a more specific definition of their extent, reference can be made to Schedule 3 where the *floodway* is illustrated.

18. No *development* is permitted within the *floodway*; however, existing buildings/structures within the *floodway* will be recognized as *legal non-conforming*.

19. The *floodway* may be used for:

- i) outdoor recreation, including small, municipal ancillary buildings and structures (e.g. picnic shelters) provided that damage potential is minimized and proposed structures will not affect the hydraulic characteristics of the *floodplain*;
- ii) open space and conservation areas;
- iii) wildlife sanctuaries;
- iv) nurseries and forestry; and
- v) *urban agriculture*, excluding any buildings and structures.

20. This Plan does not imply that *floodway* lands are open to the general public or that such lands will be purchased by the City or any other public agency.

21. *Floodway* lands will be zoned in an appropriate hazard category in the implementing *Zoning By-law*.

22. In spite of policies 4.4.1.18 and 4.4.1.19, the use of lands described as Part of Lots 1 and 2, Concession 2, Division "D", more particularly described as Parts 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, Reference Plan 61R-5491, being lands located on the north side of Woodlawn Road East and along the west side of the Speed River, shall be extended to include three additional land uses as follows: a private road; a day use parking area at the existing grade; a dry land access road bed to service the senior citizen's residential project located to the east.

23. The Two Zone *flood fringe* for the Speed and Eramosa Rivers is defined as the lands that lie outside the *floodway* but within the *regulatory floodlines* as identified on Schedule 3.

24. *Development/redevelopment* may be permitted within the *flood fringe* subject to the use, building and/or structure being *floodproofed* to the *regulatory flood level* as required by the Grand River Conservation Authority.

25. The permitted uses established for the Land Use designations on Schedule 2 may be permitted within the *flood fringe* subject to the Two Zone and Special Policy Area policies and the general prohibitions outlined in policy 4.4.1.7 within the *regulatory floodplain*. These lands will be zoned in the appropriate categories of the implementing *Zoning By-law*.

#### Special Policy Area (S.P.A.) Floodplain

26. **Within the 'Special Policy Area (S.P.A.) Floodplain', identified on Schedule 3 of this Plan**, the City, the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Province of Ontario have agreed to accept a higher *flood* risk than would normally be acceptable. This higher *flood* risk permits the *development* of a limited amount of new buildings and structures on these lands.

27. **The permitted uses within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain' are** established by the land use designations shown on Schedule 2, subject to the prohibited uses outlined above in the General Floodplain policies. In addition, policy 4.4.1.7 is applicable **within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain'**.

28. *Development/redevelopment* is not permitted within the floodway.

29. **Within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain' hotels and motels may only be permitted if the use can be floodproofed** to the *regulatory flood level* and *safe access* can be provided.

30. **Within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain' service stations, gas bars and other uses involving the manufacture, disposal, consumption or storage of chemical, flammable, explosive, toxic, corrosive or other dangerous materials shall not be permitted.**

31. **Within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain' parking facilities shall be designed to the satisfaction of the City and the Grand River Conservation Authority so as to minimize *flood* damage and potential *flood* flow interference.**

32. The City's implementing *Zoning By-law* will outline specific use and building regulations for lands **within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain'**.

33. ***Floodproofing* shall be required for all forms of building activity within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain' to the satisfaction of the City and the Grand River Conservation Authority.** The following will give guidance to the *floodproofing* requirements:

- i) any new building or structure shall be designed such that its structural integrity is maintained during a *regulatory flood*. In spite of the lower minimum levels specified by the policies of this subsection, every attempt should be made to *floodproof* buildings and structures to the *regulatory flood level*;
- ii) various forms of *floodproofing*, as specified by the Province, may be used to achieve the necessary *floodproofing* requirements of this Plan; and
- iii) the replacement of a building or structure on the footprint of a previous structure which has been destroyed or demolished by fire or natural causes

will be permitted, provided the building or structure is not located within the *floodway*.

Floodproofing Requirements for Residential Uses **within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain'**

34. In addition to the requirements of policy 4.4.1.33, the following policies apply to the *renovation* of, *intensification* of, *conversion* to, *development* and *redevelopment* of residential uses

1. *Renovation* of existing residential buildings may be permitted provided any new *habitable floor space* is no lower than the elevation of the existing ground floor level.
2. *Residential intensification*, comprising the building of a new single/semi/duplex on an existing vacant lot, or adding an *additional residential dwelling unit* to an existing single/semi or the creation of a new lot by *consent* for a single/semi/duplex dwelling, may be permitted provided that the new building or structure is *floodproofed* to an elevation no lower than one metre below the *regulatory flood level*; and:
  - i) the *habitable floor space* is constructed to an elevation equal to, or greater than the ground floor elevation of adjacent buildings, but in no case lower than one metre below the *regulatory flood level*;
  - ii) mechanical, electrical and heating equipment will be located no lower than one metre below the *regulatory flood level*;
  - iii) basements will only be permitted in instances where the elevation of the basement floor is greater than the elevation of one metre below the *regulatory flood level*. In instances where this basement floor level elevation cannot be achieved, a crawl space of a maximum height of 1.2 metres may be permitted to facilitate servicing; and
  - iv) access is available to the site at an elevation no lower than one metre below the *safe access level*.
3. Conversion of a non-residential building to a residential use may be permitted provided the building is *floodproofed* to an elevation no lower than one metre below the *regulatory flood level*:
  - i) the *habitable floor space* elevation of any new *residential unit* is located at an elevation no lower than one metre below the *regulatory flood level*;
  - ii) mechanical, electrical and heating equipment will be located no lower than one metre below the *regulatory flood level*; and
  - iii) access is available to the site at an elevation no lower than one metre below the *safe access level*.
4. *Development/redevelopment* of new residential units, excluding forms of *residential intensification* noted in policy 4.4.1.34.2 may be permitted provided that the new building and related structures are *floodproofed* to the *regulatory flood level*; and:



- i) the *habitable floor space* of any new residential unit is constructed to an elevation equal to or greater than the *regulatory flood level*;
- ii) windows, doors and other building openings for any new residential unit will be located above the *regulatory flood level*;
- iii) mechanical, electrical and heating equipment for any new residential unit will be located above the *regulatory flood level*;
- iv) access is available to the site at an elevation no lower than one metre below the *safe access level*; and
- v) unenclosed parking facilities shall be located at or above an elevation of the *100 year flood level* and enclosed facilities shall be *floodproofed* to the *regulatory flood level*.

Floodproofing Requirements for Non-Residential Uses **within the 'S.P.A. Floodplain'**

35. In addition to the requirements of policy 4.4.1.33 the *renovation of, conversion to and development/redevelopment* of non-residential uses may be permitted provided that:

- i) the building or structure is *floodproofed* to a minimum elevation no lower than one metre below the *regulatory flood level*; and
- ii) the minimum elevation of any floor area is at or above the *100 year flood level*.

**Other General Policies Applicable to the Two Zone Floodplain and the 'Special Policy Area Floodplain'**

36. Prior to a building permit being issued by the City for construction within the *flood fringe of the Two Zone Floodplain or the 'Special Policy Area Floodplain'*, a permit from the Grand River Conservation Authority, pursuant to regulations made under the *Conservation Authorities Act* will be required.

1. Building permit applications will be administered in phases, including a foundation permit and a building permit.
2. Upon completion of any foundation, the City will require a certificate from an Ontario land surveyor or a professional engineer, verifying that the *habitable floor space* elevation is located above the required *flood level*, prior to issuance of the building permit.
3. Upon completion of the building or structure, the City will require a letter of compliance by a professional engineer, verifying that the *floodproofing* measures have been implemented as required, and are in conformity with the policies of this Plan.

37. Within the *Special Policy Area* as identified on Schedule 3 and Schedule C of this Plan, any change or modification to policies, land use designations or boundaries applying to the *Special Policy Area* lands, must be approved by the Ministers of Municipal

Affairs and Housing and Natural Resources and Forestry prior to the City approving such changes or modifications.

#### 4.4.2 Erosion Hazards and Hazardous Sites

The City promotes *safe development* conditions throughout the City. There may be situations within the City where the topography, soil or bedrock composition can compromise safety if not taken into account at the building/property development design stage.

The City's Natural Heritage System identified on Schedule 4 incorporates those *erosion hazards*, steep slopes and unstable soils that are delineated and mapped by the Grand River Conservation Authority. Additional *erosion hazards* and steep slopes may be identified according to the policies of this Section.

##### Objectives

- a) To identify situations where human life safety and the protection of property may be jeopardized due to erosion, steep slopes or *hazardous sites*.
- b) To promote proper design for *development* that reduces the potential for building/property damage or the creation of unsafe conditions.

##### Policies

1. *Development* will generally be directed outside *erosion hazards*, steep slopes or *hazardous sites*.
2. *Development* within *erosion hazards*, steep slopes or *hazardous sites* may only be permitted where a site-specific Geotechnical Report, Soils Stability and Geotechnical Analysis, or engineering assessment based on established provincial guidelines or engineering standards and an appropriate factor of safety against slope failure or slipping establishes a more precise hazard limit, and where it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the City and the Grand River Conservation Authority, where applicable, that:
  - i) there is no reasonable alternative to avoiding the hazard;
  - ii) the proposed *development* is not subject to erosion or flooding;
  - iii) there is no impact on existing and future slope stability;
  - iv) the risk of creating new *hazards* related to flooding or erosion or aggravating existing *hazards* is negligible;
  - v) the potential of increased loading forces on the top of the slope is addressed through appropriate structural design;
  - vi) the potential for surficial erosion is addressed by a drainage plan;
  - vii) vehicles and people have a way of safely entering and exiting the areas during times of flooding, erosion and other emergencies; and
  - viii) no adverse environmental effects will result.

3. The Geotechnical Report or Soils Stability and Geotechnical Analysis shall identify the slope hazard and the design/engineering works required to ensure slope stability, positive stormwater drainage and public safety and shall be prepared by a qualified geotechnical engineer, to the satisfaction of the City and the Grand River Conservation Authority, where applicable.
4. Setbacks from *erosion hazards*, steep slopes or *hazardous sites* will be determined through required technical studies to the satisfaction of the City and the Grand River Conservation Authority, where applicable, in accordance with regulations made under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, as amended from time to time.
5. Certain lands in low-lying areas of the City may have unstable soils, such as organic (muck) soils or peat. These unstable soil land areas are usually associated with wetland areas. *Development* shall not be permitted in these areas except as permitted by the provisions of the Natural Heritage System Section of this Plan. For lands outside the Natural Heritage System, hazards associated with unstable soils shall be addressed in accordance with policies 4.4.2.2, 4.4.2.3 and 4.4.2.4.
6. Updated or more detailed mapping of *erosion hazards*, steep slopes or *hazardous sites* may be prepared from time to time by the Grand River Conservation Authority and will be incorporated through amendment to this Plan.
7. The extent of *hazardous sites* may be required to be field verified and staked as part of study in support of *development*, to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the Grand River Conservation Authority, as applicable. Once confirmed in the field, and approved by the City, boundaries of *erosion hazard*, steep slopes and unstable soils shall be required to be accurately surveyed and illustrated on all plans submitted in support of *development*. Such boundary interpretations will not require an amendment to this Plan. Minor refinements to the boundaries may be made on the basis of **Grand River Conservation Authority's criteria for identification** without an amendment to this Plan.
8. Areas within the built up portion of the City with slopes greater than 20% may also be required to prepare a Soils Stability and Geotechnical Analysis or engineering assessment by a qualified geotechnical engineer, that ensures slope stability, positive storm drainage and public safety are addressed, to the satisfaction of the City and the Grand River Conservation Authority.

#### 4.4.3 Hazardous Forest Types

The City promotes safe *development* conditions throughout the City. There may be situations within the City where *hazardous forest types for wildland fire* may compromise safety if not appropriately mitigated at the building/property development design stage. *Hazardous forest types for wildland fire* are identified in policy and are not mapped on Schedule 3.

## Objectives

- a) To direct *development* away from *hazardous forest types for wildland fire*.
- b) To reduce the risk to public safety, infrastructure and property from wildland fire.

## Policies

1. *Development* shall generally be directed to areas outside of lands that are unsafe for *development* due to the presence of *hazardous forest types for wildland fire*.
2. Development may, however, be permitted in lands with hazardous forest types for wildland fire where the risk is mitigated in accordance with wildland fire assessment and mitigation standards.

### 4.4.4 Landfill Constraint Area

The former Eastview Landfill site and lands containing landfill or affected by abandoned *landfill sites* are identified as a Landfill Constraint Areas on Schedule 3. Should additional former *landfill sites* be identified, the policies of this section shall apply.

## Objectives

- a) To identify former *landfill sites* and to establish policies that acknowledge the potential adverse environmental effects of these sites while encouraging remediation and re-use, where feasible.
- b) To restrict or control *development* on lands containing landfill (solid waste) or adjacent to these areas.
- c) To ensure surface and *groundwater* resources are protected from contamination from existing or former *landfill sites*.

## Policies

1. Notwithstanding the designated land use identified on Schedule 2, future *development* may be restricted or controlled on lands on, or adjacent to lands identified as Landfill Constraint Areas.
2. Lands which were used for waste disposal within the past twenty-five years require an approval from the Minister of the Environment, pursuant to Section 46 of the *Environmental Protection Act* to enable the land to be used for another purpose. Adequate technical assessment must accompany a request for such approval to demonstrate that the future use will neither pose a health and safety hazard nor adversely affect the natural environment. Required approvals pursuant to the *Planning Act* will not be issued unless a Section 46 approval is granted.
3. Where *development* is proposed within 500 metres of the fill area of the Eastview Landfill site:

- i) the Ministry of the Environment shall be consulted regarding actions necessary to identify and mitigate any potential adverse environmental effects; and
  - ii) where appropriate, evidence shall be provided to the City that *development* can safely take place. This applies to, but is not limited to the construction of buildings, structures, underground utilities and services, as well as hard surface paving.
4. Where necessary, *development* proposals will incorporate measures, including technical controls, buffering or rehabilitation, as required by the City, to prevent any adverse environmental effects emanating from a *landfill site*.
  5. *Development* and land uses on the Eastview Sanitary Landfill Site shall be in compliance with the Eastview Sanitary Landfill Site Closure Plan (May 2003) and the Certificate of Approval pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act*.
  6. **Portions of the Eastview Landfill Site may be incorporated into the City's Open Space and Parks.**

#### 4.4.5 Potentially Contaminated Properties

Potentially contaminated sites are properties where the environmental condition may have potential to cause *adverse effects* on human health, ecological health or the natural environment. To reduce potential risks associated with these sites, it is important to identify these properties and ensure that they are suitable or have been made suitable for the proposed land use(s) in accordance with provincial legislation, regulations and standards.

The policies in this section should not be interpreted as a commitment on the part of the City to identify all contaminated properties. Rather, these policies should be regarded as an effort to responsibly use available information in the *development* application review process to help ensure that *development* takes place only on properties where the environmental conditions are suitable for the proposed use of the property.

#### Objectives

- a) To encourage and facilitate safe *redevelopment* of contaminated sites
- b) To establish requirements for the assessment of known and potentially contaminated properties.
- c) To establish requirements for the remediation of known contaminated properties.
- d) To ensure that contaminated properties are remediated to appropriate Provincial generic or risk-based standards allowing *development* only to take place on properties where the environmental conditions are suitable for the proposed use.
- e) To promote the *redevelopment*, restoration and revitalization of land and buildings located on potentially contaminated sites.

- f) To identify known and potentially contaminated properties that are eligible for financial assistance for environmental site assessment(s) and remediation through the City's Brownfields Redevelopment Community Improvement Plan.
- g) To protect, improve or restore the quantity and quality of the City's *groundwater* resources.

## Policies

1. The following list represents current or past activities on a property that may cause or that may have caused environmental contamination:
  - i) activities involved with the elimination of waste and other residues, including but not limited to *landfill sites* and waste management sites;
  - ii) industrial and commercial activities involving the treatment, storage, disposal or use of *hazardous substances*, including but not limited to petroleum (fuel and oil), pesticides, herbicides, metals, chemicals and solvents; and
  - iii) sites formerly used for transportation or utility purposes.
2. To assist in the determination of the potential for site contamination, the City may require proponents of *development* to document previous uses of a property or properties that are subject to a *development* application and/or properties that may adversely impact a property or properties that are the subject to a *development* application.
3. The City may require proponents of *development* to submit an environmental screening for contaminated sites including a Phase I and/or Phase II Environmental Site Assessment for a property or properties that are subject to a *development* application. The environmental site assessment(s) will be prepared:
  - i) in accordance with provincial legislation, regulations and standards and signed by a qualified person as defined by provincial legislation and regulations, as amended from time to time; or
  - ii) to the City's satisfaction.
4. The City will use all available information during the *development* application review process to identify potentially contaminated properties and to help ensure that *development* takes place only on properties where the environmental conditions are suitable or have been made suitable for the proposed use of the property.
5. Prior to any *development* approval being given on a property identified by the City as potentially contaminated, the City will:
  - i) require as a condition of *development* approval, written verification to the satisfaction of the City from a Qualified Person as defined by provincial legislation and regulations, that the property or properties in question are suitable or have been made suitable for the proposed use in accordance with provincial legislation, regulations and standards, including where required by

the City or provincial legislation and/or regulations, filing of a Record of Site Condition (RSC) signed by a Qualified Person in the Environmental Site Registry, and submission to the City of written acknowledgement from the provincial government specifying the date that said RSC was filed in the Environmental Site Registry; or

- ii) establish conditions of approval for *development* applications to ensure that satisfactory verification of suitable environmental site condition is received as per policy 4.4.5.5 i).
6. The City may use the holding provisions of this Plan to ensure that satisfactory verification of suitable environmental site condition is received as per policy 4.4.5.5 i).
7. Where the City determines that an independent peer review of the Environmental Site Assessment(s) is required, the City shall retain a qualified professional to undertake this review at the expense of the proponent.
8. It is the intent of the City that all RSCs filed in relation to Policy 4.4.5.5 i) meet the generic soil and water quality standards for potable *groundwater* conditions as set out by the provincial government in the document entitled Soil, Ground Water and Sediment Standards for Use Under Part XV.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, as amended from time to time, and where a risk assessment approach is used for the purposes of filing a RSC in relation to Policy 4.4.5.5 i), the risk assessment must demonstrate **that the City's raw drinking water sources for its drinking water system** are adequately protected such that there is no potential for an *adverse effect*.
9. Where the City is deeded land for public highways, road widenings, parkland, stormwater management, *easements* or for any other use, the City may require, as a condition of the transfer, verification to the satisfaction of the City from a Qualified Person as defined by provincial legislation and regulations, that the property or properties in question are suitable or have been made suitable for the proposed use in accordance with provincial legislation, regulations and standards, including where required by the City or provincial legislation and/or regulations, filing of a RSC signed by a Qualified Person in the Environmental Site Registry, and submission to the City of written acknowledgement from the provincial government specifying the date that said RSC was filed in the Environmental Site Registry.
10. The policies of this section are not intended to apply to the closure of *landfill sites* or other facilities that are required to meet closure conditions of a Certificate of Approval issued under the *Environmental Protection Act*.
11. The City will continue to encourage investigation, remediation and *redevelopment* of **contaminated sites through implementation of the City's Brownfield Redevelopment Community Improvement Plan**.

#### 4.4.6 Noise and Vibration

It is the policy of the City to minimize land use conflicts between *sensitive land uses* and uses that create noise and vibration. The guidelines of the Ministry of Environment will be

applied to promote compatible development between *sensitive land uses* and uses that create noise and vibration.

Specific land uses including but not limited to: rail yards, railways, highways, *transportation corridors* and *employment areas* may create noise and vibration. The following policies apply to both proposed new stationary sources of noise or vibration in proximity to *sensitive land uses* and to new *sensitive land uses* in proximity to an existing source of noise or vibration.

#### Objective

- a) To minimize and mitigate land use conflicts caused by noise and vibration between *sensitive land uses* and railways, highways, *employment areas* and stationary sources in accordance with all applicable Provincial and City regulations and guidelines.

#### Policies

1. The City may require a Noise Impact Study or Vibration Study for *development* applications that propose to establish or expand *sensitive land uses* in proximity to existing or planned sources of noise or vibration including *transportation corridors*, certain industrial facilities or aggregate operations.
2. Any *development* application to establish or expand a use that generates a stationary source of noise or vibration that could impact existing or planned *sensitive land uses* may be required to undertake a Noise Impact Study or Vibration Study.
3. Where required, a Noise Impact Study shall:
  - i) **be prepared by qualified professional(s);**
  - ii) **identify the total noise impact on the site from all sources;**
  - iii) **demonstrate whether noise control measures are needed to meet all applicable guidelines and standards; and**
  - iv) **be prepared to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with the Ministry of the Environment.**
4. As a condition of *development* approval, and where a Noise Impact Study shows a need, a *development* proponent shall have a detailed Acoustical Design Study prepared and submitted to the City for approval. In the review of acoustical design studies, the City may consult with the Ministry of the Environment and the owners or operators of the adjacent *transportation corridor* or stationary source. The City may require conditions to a subdivision or *development* agreement to address the recommendations of the Acoustical Design Study.
5. Consideration will be given to adequate vibration attenuation required to buffer *sensitive land uses* including residential, residential care and other institutional uses within 75 metres of a railway line.



6. A Vibration Study, prepared by a qualified professional(s), will be submitted with all *development* applications that may be impacted by vibration. The study shall be submitted to the City and shall indicate any vibration impact and the mitigation measures to be applied.
7. Where the Vibration Study identifies a need, attenuation measures acceptable to the City shall be provided for in a subdivision or *development* agreement. In the review of vibration studies, the City may consult with the Ministry of the Environment.
8. In addition to any noise and vibration impact mitigation measures, other mitigation and buffering measures such as setbacks, intervening berms and security fencing may be required as a condition of subdivision approval or other *development* approval.
9. Where a noise or vibration level excess may marginally persist in spite of attenuation measures, provision will be made in any subdivision agreement or other *development* agreement or offer to purchase contract for the preparation of a warning clause regarding the existence of potential impact of noise and vibration.
10. New technologies may provide opportunities for innovative noise and vibration abatement techniques not yet available on the market. The City encourages the use of new, proven and innovative techniques, where feasible.
11. Guelph Junction Railway will be consulted on *development* applications that may be impacted by normal railway operations. *Development* approval conditions will be required to meet the noise and vibration requirements of the Guelph Junction Railway, where applicable.

#### 4.5 Mineral Aggregate Resources

The City recognizes that mineral aggregates are valuable non-renewable resources that are required for most types of construction. Within the corporate boundaries of the City there are limited *deposits of mineral aggregate resources* remaining. These limited deposits are however, generally small, isolated and/or already constrained by existing and approved land uses and therefore do not warrant protection from incompatible *development*. However, the City encourages the recovery and use of these resources, where feasible, in conjunction with *development* of the lands.

There are high quality aggregates in areas outside the City boundary that are being extracted and will continue to be extracted in the future. The County of Wellington and Region of Halton Official Plans both identify and protect *mineral aggregate resources* in proximity to the city. The City will work with the Province, neighbouring municipalities and the mineral aggregate industry to ensure that *mineral aggregate operations* are planned in a manner that maintains, restores and, where possible, improves natural heritage systems, water resources systems including the quality and quantity of water, public **health and the City's cultural heritage resources**.

#### Objectives

- a) To encourage the recovery of *mineral aggregate resources* in conjunction with *development*.
- b) To ensure that *mineral aggregate operations* in neighbouring municipalities protect the natural environment and the public health and safety of Guelph and will not impact existing or planned development.

## Policies

1. The City supports and encourages the recovery of *mineral aggregate resources* in conjunction with *development*, where feasible.
2. Several existing *mineral aggregate operations* are located in proximity to the city. The City will work with the licence holders, neighbouring municipalities and the Province to ensure that these sites are operated in a manner that protects City interests including matters of water supply, public health, safety and environmental impact.
3. The City will monitor, review and comment on applications for new or expanded *mineral aggregate operations* in neighbouring municipalities that are in proximity to the city. The following matters will be considered:
  - i) the impact on adjacent land uses, residents and public health and safety;
  - ii) the impact on the physical environment;
  - iii) the impact on the capabilities for other land uses to be established by the policies of this Plan;
  - iv) the impact on the transportation system;
  - v) the impact on any existing or potential *groundwater* resource areas and on any existing or potential drinking water sources;
  - vi) the possible effect on the water table or surface drainage patterns;
  - vii) the manner in which the operation is proposed to be carried out including the estimated time for completion of the extraction work;
  - viii) the nature of rehabilitation work and that the proposed after use of the property is compatible with surrounding existing and planned land uses;
  - ix) the effects on natural heritage features and cultural heritage resources; and
  - x) any other matters deemed relevant by the City.
4. Asphalt plants, concrete plants, aggregate transfer stations and similar related uses not associated with *mineral aggregate operations* shall not be permitted within the City of Guelph.
5. *Wayside pits and quarries, portable asphalt plants and portable concrete plants* used on public authority contracts are allowed without the need for an Official Plan Amendment, rezoning or development permit in all areas, except those areas of existing development or particular environmental sensitivity which have been determined to be incompatible with extraction and associated activities.

6. The City encourages the recycling and reuse of aggregates where appropriate.

#### 4.6 Climate Change

It is widely acknowledged that human activities are a significant contributor to global climate change. Foremost among these activities is the emission of greenhouse gasses when energy is generated from fossil fuels. Climate change is predicted to have significant negative impacts on human health and safety, property, the natural and cultural environment and the economy.

Addressing climate change requires two complementary sets of strategies: mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation involves actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and actions to **reduce or delay climate change. Guelph's approach to mitigation is embedded throughout the City's Community Energy Initiative (CEI)** and throughout this Plan including policies addressing the Natural Heritage System, transportation, urban structure, urban design and land use.

Adaptation involves actions to minimize vulnerabilities to the *impacts of a changing climate* and includes planning and strategic decisions that anticipate changes in temperature, precipitation, severe weather and increased variability in these both globally and locally. Among other issues, climate adaptation is particularly important to infrastructure planning, *flood* protection, emergency management and planning for secure access to water and food.

##### Objective

- a) Prepare for the impacts of a changing climate.
- b) To increase community resiliency to climate change.

##### Policies

1. The City will establish policies and undertake programs to achieve net zero carbon emission by 2050.
2. The City shall work with partners in the community and other levels of government to prepare a comprehensive climate change adaptation strategy.
3. The City will implement urban design and development standards to reduce the *impacts of a changing climate* on public works and *infrastructure* including roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems and energy distribution systems.

#### 4.7 Community Energy

This Plan, in conjunction with the Community Energy Initiative (CEI), uses an integrated systems approach to create an over-arching vision and structure that demonstrates low carbon energy opportunities, viable sustainable transportation routes and nodes, potential for expanding open space and *employment areas* and appropriate housing densities. This integrated approach is essential to achieving many of the long-terms goals of this Plan including climate change mitigation.

The CEI establishes progressive targets for both energy conservation and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Community energy, energy efficiency, environmental design and increasing the supply of energy through *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems* will all contribute to achieving these goals. The CEI also recognizes that **water conservation is a key contributor to meeting the City's energy goals. Policies** regarding water conservation are addressed in Section 4.3 Water Resource System and Watershed Planning.

#### 4.7.1 Corporate Leadership

##### Objectives

- a) To reduce the amount of energy used in the city.
- b) To demonstrate corporate leadership in energy conservation, innovation and renewable energy generation and distribution.
- c) To develop tools that assist in integrating land use, transportation and energy planning.

##### Policies

1. The City will establish policies and undertake programs to achieve a net zero carbon **community by 2050 and achieve one hundred percent of the City's energy needs** through renewable sources by 2050.
2. Working with community partners, the City will plan to achieve the goals of the CEI by integrating land use, energy and transportation planning to address the four following interconnected areas of focus:
  - Local Renewable and Alternative Energy Generation;
  - Local Sustainable Transmission – *District Energy*;
  - Building End-Use Efficiency; and
  - Transportation – Urban Form/Density.
3. The City will consider how municipally funded investments contribute to meeting the goals of the CEI.
4. The City will support energy efficiencies by ensuring that municipal facilities are designed to demonstrate leadership in energy efficiency.
5. The City will aim to conserve energy through implementing programs including but not limited to those that:
  - i) **establish minimum energy efficiency standards for new municipal facilities and major renovations to existing buildings;**
  - ii) **support infrastructure renewal and operational efficiencies within water and wastewater treatment and conveyance;**

- iii) undertake marketing and education initiatives;
  - iv) make suggestions for changes to the *Ontario Building Code* and regulations that accelerate and support energy efficiency standards in all built forms; and
  - v) establish green purchasing and sustainable green fleet procedures.
- 6. The City will set targets for, plan for, implement and monitor improvements in energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions associated with municipal assets.
- 7. The City will explore, develop and implement an integrated energy mapping tool that considers built form; the type, mix, density and distribution of land uses; the transportation system; energy supply planning and opportunities for *district energy*. It is anticipated that this tool will assist in understanding the interrelationships between land use, transportation and energy systems. It can be used to inform planning and contribute to achieving the goals of the CEI and this Plan.
- 8. The City will monitor its ongoing progress toward achievement of its community energy and climate change objectives including but not limited to:
  - i) CEI related investment in our economy;
  - ii) the reliability and cost of diverse energy, water and transportation services available to Guelph's residents and businesses; and
  - iii) energy and water use and greenhouse gas emissions.

#### 4.7.2 Local Renewable and Alternative Energy Generation

The CEI establishes progressive targets for renewable and low or no carbon energy sources. To meet these targets, the City must enable and encourage *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems* such as a combined heat and power systems or cogeneration systems which increase efficiencies by minimizing transmission losses and by using otherwise wasted heat for domestic water and space heating.

The *Green Energy and Green Economy Act* (GEGEA) streamlined approvals for most renewable energy projects and *exempts* them from *Planning Act* approvals. *Exempt* projects are managed through a Provincial approval process. Policies of this Plan that relate to *exempt* projects are not intended to prevent, restrict or regulate these systems or projects other than where certain provisions of the *Planning Act*, *Ontario Heritage Act* or other legislation under the City's jurisdiction are deemed to apply.

#### Objective

- a) To encourage and facilitate local generation through *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems*.

## Policies

1. The City will encourage the development of *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems* including combined heat and power plants subject to the policies of this Plan.
2. The City will establish policies and undertake programs that target meeting:
  - i) **all of Guelph's total energy needs from renewable sources by 2050; and**
  - ii) **at least 30% of Guelph's electricity requirements with Combined Heat and Power by 2031.**
3. The City will work jointly with the Province and public and private partners to investigate the feasibility, implications and suitable locations for *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems*.
4. When consulted on *exempt* energy projects, the City will consider the goals of the CEI, **the goals and objectives of this Plan and the City's wider strategic objectives** in determining its position.
5. Prior to the development of *non-exempt Renewable Energy Systems* or *Alternative Energy Systems*, and in addition to any other requirements of this Plan, studies may be required to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the City how the proposal addresses potential impacts including: the natural environment, noise and vibration, water quality and quantity, cultural and natural heritage resources, shadows, land use compatibility and public health and safety.

### 4.7.3 Local Sustainable Transmission - District Energy

A typical centralized energy generation facility that is far from the community it serves is inefficient since much of the energy is lost to the atmosphere as heat and to long distance transmission. *District Energy* systems address these areas of inefficiency. A *district energy* system ties together distributed energy generation through a local supply loop. For Guelph, this is envisioned as a thermal *district energy* system that distributes hot water from local thermal generation plans, such as combined heat and power system or biomass boilers to thermal energy users.

A *district energy* system depends on having heat users that are: close to the plant, of sufficient density and mix of customer types to balance the demand for heat throughout the day. Existing or planned areas of the city with these characteristics are candidates for establishing *district energy* systems. Alongside natural gas and electricity, *district energy* **is a key component of the City's vision for an energy distribution architecture that allows** fuel choices for the majority of residents and businesses to optimize cost and availability and reduce environmental impacts long into the future.

## Objective

- a) To facilitate efficient energy generation and distribution systems including *district energy*.

## Policies

1. The City will support the application of *district energy* through:
  - i) developing guidelines and technical standards to assess the feasibility of and implement *district energy* using a combination of *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems*, including combined heat and power;
  - ii) considering combined heat and power systems and *district energy* through secondary planning processes;
  - iii) exploring initiatives including public-private partnerships for the implementation of *district energy*; and
  - iv) planning for high density and mixed-uses in appropriate locations that improve the viability of *district energy*.
2. The City will work with appropriate partners to develop *district energy* systems where feasible including but not limited to areas within Downtown, the University of Guelph, Guelph General Hospital and the Hanlon Creek Business Park.
3. Where the feasibility of *district energy* has been demonstrated, the City in consultation with appropriate partners may identify potential *district energy* areas. New *development* in these potential *district energy* areas shall be designed to be *district energy* ready subject to the City establishing *District Energy Ready* Guidelines.
4. Where a *district energy* system is in place, new *development* will be encouraged and may be required to connect to the *district energy* system and new municipal buildings will connect to the *district energy* system.
5. As part of a *development* application, the City may require the submission of a study, developed in consultation with the City, to determine the feasibility of a *district energy* system.
6. The optimization of electrical and natural gas infrastructure is encouraged to support the energy supply system thereby ensuring reliability and system efficiency.
7. Utility providers are encouraged to adapt to emerging technologies such as the incorporation of smart power grids, smart metering and advanced telecommunications.
8. The City encourages utilities including *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems* to be located within shared corridors to minimize land requirements; increase the efficiency of utility construction and maintenance; and to minimize future disruption and costs.
9. Existing and future utility corridors shall be protected from incompatible development that would preclude or negatively affect their intended use.

### 4.7.4 Building End-Use Energy Efficiency

#### Objectives

- a) To reduce energy demand within the built environment.

- b) To promote sustainable development through conservation, efficiency and design.
- c) To promote urban and building design that facilitates efficient delivery of energy and optimizes opportunities for walking, cycling and transit use.

## Policies

1. All new *development* shall achieve the energy performance criteria of the *Ontario Building Code*. The City will use the *development* approvals process, implementation tools included in Chapter 10 of this Plan such as community improvement and site plan control, to ensure that new residential, commercial and institutional development include sustainable design features which, among other objectives, strive to achieve an improvement of 1.5% per year over the 2012 *Ontario Building Code* energy efficiency requirements.
2. Applications for Official Plan amendments, *Zoning By-law* amendments or *plans of subdivision* may be required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, how the *development* supports the goals and targets of the Community Energy Plan through the completion of the Sustainability Checklist and the submission of appropriate studies. Such studies may include, but are not limited to, an Energy Conservation Efficiency Study, a Renewable/Alternative Energy Feasibility Study and *District Energy* Feasibility Study.
3. The City will encourage and support energy efficient *development* by:
  - i) promoting street and lotting patterns that are oriented to maximize opportunities for solar gain;
  - ii) working with the development industry to determine, understand, publicize and implement the techniques required to achieve the energy targets for buildings established by the Community Energy Plan;
  - iii) encouraging and facilitating designs that incorporate or allow for efficient future use of *renewable energy systems, alternative energy systems* or *district energy systems*;
  - iv) encouraging and promoting designs that use Energy Star, *LEED* Building Standards or equivalent building rating systems that reference Canada's Natural Resources EnerGuide rating system for new *development* and retrofits;
  - v) encouraging opportunities to reduce the need for building cooling through green or reflective roofs where appropriate, insulation, reduced or efficient glazing and effective shade landscaping;
  - vi) encouraging designs that support and facilitate energy efficient transportation, including active transportation, transit and energy conserving vehicles and transportation programs;
  - vii) supporting the use of reclaimed, environmentally friendly and locally sourced building materials, where appropriate;



- viii) investigating tools to achieve higher levels of energy efficiency than required by the *Ontario Building Code*, particularly in higher density built forms and larger buildings, e.g. apartments;
  - ix) supporting and promoting a building energy *performance labelling* scheme for all buildings; and
  - x) establishing a monitoring program to measure energy efficiency to assist the City in meeting the Community Energy Plan goals and targets.
4. The City will investigate tools and incentives to encourage the retrofit of existing buildings to improve energy efficiency.

#### 4.8 Cultural Heritage Resources

*Cultural heritage resources* are the roots of the community. They may include tangible features, structures, sites or landscapes that either individually or as a part of a whole are of historical, architectural, scenic or archaeological value. *Cultural heritage resources* may also represent intangible heritage such as customs, ways of life, values and activities. These resources may represent local, regional, provincial or national heritage interests and values. They include *built heritage resources*, *cultural heritage landscapes* and *archaeological resources*.

*Cultural heritage resources* paint the history of the city and provide identity and character while instilling pride and contributing to economic prosperity.

##### Objectives

- a) To maintain and celebrate the heritage character of the city, including *built heritage resources*, *cultural heritage landscapes* and archaeological resources.
- b) To identify, evaluate, *list*, *conserve* and protect *cultural heritage resources* through the adoption and implementation of policies and programs including partnerships amongst various public and private agencies and organizations.
- c) To enhance the culture of conservation city-wide by promoting cultural heritage initiatives as part of a comprehensive environmental, economic and social strategy where *cultural heritage resources* contribute to achieving a sustainable, healthy and prosperous city.
- d) To ensure that all new *development*, *site alteration*, building alteration and additions are contextually appropriate and maintain the integrity of all in situ *cultural heritage resources* or *adjacent protected heritage property*.
- e) To promote and foster the preservation, rehabilitation and adaptive re-use or restoration of *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* so that they remain in active use.
- f) **To promote public and private awareness, appreciation and enjoyment of the City's *cultural heritage resources* through public programs and activities, heritage tourism and guidance on appropriate conservation practices.**

- g) To maintain a municipal register of properties of *cultural heritage value or interest* in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- h) To identify, designate and conserve built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes in accordance with Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- i) To identify, designate and conserve Heritage Conservation Districts under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- j) To identify, evaluate and *conserve heritage trees* which satisfy the criteria for determining *cultural heritage value or interest* as prescribed by regulation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- k) To identify, evaluate and conserve archaeological resources and areas of archaeological potential in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

#### 4.8.1 Policies

1. *Cultural heritage resources* shall be *conserved* in accordance with this Plan and all other relevant legislation.
2. *Built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* may be designated and/or listed on the Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties.
3. A register of *property* situated in the city that is of *cultural heritage value or interest* shall be maintained and kept up to date by the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, according to Section 27 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties* (or *Heritage Register*) will *list designated cultural heritage resources* and *non-designated built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscape resources*.
4. The City recognizes that properties within the city that have been identified in the Couling Building Inventory may also have *cultural heritage value or interest*. The properties identified in the Couling Building Inventory may be considered by Council for *listing* in the *Heritage Register* and designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
5. Guidelines for Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessments, Cultural Heritage Conservation Plans and Cultural Heritage Reviews may be established by the City. Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessments and Cultural Heritage Conservation Plans will be used when evaluating development and redevelopment in association with designated and non-designated properties in the Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties. Cultural Heritage Reviews will be used to assess non-designated properties listed on the Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties.
6. *Built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* are required to be maintained with appropriate care and maintenance that conserves their *heritage attributes* in accordance with:
  - i) **the City's Property Standards By-law, the Tree By-law and the Site Alteration By-law; and**

ii) **prescribed federal and provincial standards and guidelines.**

7. The ongoing maintenance and care of individual *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* and the properties on which they are situated together with associated features and structures is required in accordance with City standards and by-laws and, where appropriate, the City will provide guidance on sound conservation practices.
8. Proper *conservation* and maintenance of *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* should be recognized and encouraged as a viable and preferred means of reducing energy consumption and waste.
9. Harmful disruption or disturbance of known *archaeological sites* or *areas of archaeological potential* should be avoided. Under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, it is illegal to alter a known archaeological site(s) without an archaeological license.
10. The City will encourage *property* owners to seek out and apply for funding sources available for *conservation* and restoration work.
11. The City may establish financial incentives to promote the *conservation* of *cultural heritage resources*.
12. The City will ensure the *conservation* and protection of *cultural heritage resources* in all planning and *development* matters including *site alteration*, transportation, servicing and infrastructure projects.
13. The City may require, as a condition of approval of a *development* proposal within which a *cultural heritage resource* is situated or which is adjacent to a *protected heritage property*, the provision of one or more performance assurances, performance security, property insurance and/or maintenance agreements, in a form acceptable to the City, in order to conserve the *cultural heritage resource*.
14. It is preferred that *cultural heritage resources* be *conserved* in situ and that they not be relocated unless there is no other means to retain them. Where a *cultural heritage resource* cannot be *conserved* in situ or through relocation and approval for demolition or removal is granted, the City in consultation with Heritage Guelph will require the proponent to provide full documentation of the *cultural heritage resource* for archival purposes, consisting of a history, photographic record and measured drawings, in a format acceptable to the City.
15. The proponent shall provide and deliver to the City all or any part of the demolished *cultural heritage resource* that the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, considers appropriate for re-use, archival, display, or commemorative purposes, at no cost to the City. The City may use or dispose of these *artifacts* as it deems appropriate in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* and any applicable regulations or guidelines.
16. Council may pass by-laws providing for the acquisition by purchase, lease or otherwise of any real *property* or part thereof, designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

17. The City may dispose by sale, lease, or otherwise of any real *property* or interest therein acquired under policy 4.8.1.16, upon such terms and conditions as Council, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, may consider appropriate.
18. The predominant *built heritage resources* in the periphery of the city are the farmsteads. While there have historically been strong cultural, economic, social and political links between the City of Guelph and its rural neighbours, it is the farming history which sets this area apart from the more heavily urbanized parts of the city. In many cases, the farmsteads are linked to pioneer settlers and other important persons, technologies, architectural styles and developments, or represent the historical development of Guelph and Wellington County. Many are intact examples of early settlement patterns in Wellington County, which survive as a testament to the prosperity and history of this area. These *built heritage resources* are most deserving of preservation and careful incorporation into *developments* in accordance with the provisions of this Plan.
19. The farmhouse at 80 Simmonds Drive will be incorporated into the design of the main public square for the lands located along the west side of Victoria Road, providing opportunity for the use of this building as a public facility (community centre or library) or alternatively, to be retained as a residential use.

#### 4.8.2 Heritage Designation

1. Council, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, may designate by by-law, properties of *cultural heritage value or interest* in accordance with Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Properties of *cultural heritage value or interest* **must, in Council's opinion, meet** one of the prescribed criteria as established by regulation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Such properties shall be *listed* as *designated properties* in the *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties*.
2. *Development, redevelopment, and site alteration* affecting a *designated property* or other *protected heritage property*, where the works are likely to affect the *property's heritage attributes*, shall not be permitted unless written consent is received from the City.
3. Applications for any *alteration* affecting or likely to affect the *heritage attributes* of a *designated property* or other *protected heritage property* shall be required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, through a *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* and/or a *Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan* how the *heritage attributes* will be *conserved*, protected and integrated, where appropriate, into the *development* plans.
4. *Development, redevelopment and site alteration of designated properties* or other *protected heritage property* **shall be designed to integrate the property's heritage attributes** into the proposed design and ensure compatibility with the heritage attributes and values through such measures as:

- i) maintaining the original location and orientation to the street and lot pattern;
  - ii) conserving the *cultural heritage landscape* or setting;
  - iii) ensuring the height, bulk, form, massing, materials, fenestration and/or facade treatments do not detract from the *heritage attributes*; and
  - iv) maintaining the general scale and pattern of the streetscape.
5. *Development, redevelopment and site alteration of designated properties* or other *protected heritage property* shall ensure that the proposed *development, redevelopment or site alteration* conserves or enhances the context in which the cultural heritage resource is situated.
6. *Heritage attributes* shall be *conserved*, unless it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, that the *heritage attributes* or the designation of the property no longer meet the criteria for determining *cultural heritage value or interest* established by provincial regulation. The repeal of a heritage designation will be undertaken in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act* and its regulations or guidelines.

#### 4.8.3 Heritage Conservation Districts

1. Council, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, may initiate for examination any area of the city for possible designation as a *Heritage Conservation District*, in accordance with Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
2. Prior to the designation of a *Heritage Conservation District*, the City shall:
  - i) identify its intent to define and investigate an area;
  - ii) undertake a study of the area to determine if the area should be *conserved as a Heritage Conservation District*;
  - iii) examine and make recommendations on the boundaries of the study area;
  - iv) evaluate the area's cultural heritage value or interest;
  - v) recommend the objectives, policies and contents of the *Heritage Conservation District Plan*; and
  - vi) determine development control measures that will be required to *conserve* the cultural heritage of the area and any other matters deemed necessary.
3. Pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act*, and in consultation with Heritage Guelph, Council may, by by-law designate any area within the city as a *Heritage Conservation District*.
4. Once approved by Council, a Heritage Conservation District Plan will guide public infrastructure, development and site alteration within the Heritage Conservation District.
5. Properties within an approved *Heritage Conservation District* shall be listed in the *Heritage Register*.

#### 4.8.4 Development and Site Alteration Adjacent to Protected Heritage Property

1. *Development and site alteration* may be permitted on *adjacent lands* to *protected heritage property* where the proposed *development and site alteration* has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, that the *heritage attributes* of the *protected heritage property* will be *conserved*. *Mitigation or avoidance* measures may be required to *conserve* the *heritage attributes* of the *protected heritage property* affected by the adjacent *development or site alteration*.
2. *Development or site alteration* on *adjacent lands* to a *protected heritage property* shall require a *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* to evaluate and demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with Heritage Guelph, that the *heritage attributes* of the *designated heritage property* will be *conserved*.
3. *Development and site alteration* on *adjacent lands* to *protected heritage property* shall be designed to avoid or mitigate impact on the identified heritage attributes of the protected heritage property, and should be designed to be compatible with the immediate context on the street.
4. *Adjacent lands* guidelines may be developed by the City to guide the consideration of *development* adjacent to *designated heritage properties* or other *protected heritage property* and to set out the detailed requirements for a *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment*.
5. Architectural design guidelines may be developed by the City to guide *development and site alteration* adjacent to *designated heritage properties* or other *protected heritage property*.

#### 4.8.5 Heritage Register

1. A *Heritage Register* shall be maintained and kept up to date by the City that *lists designated and non-designated properties* that Council believes to be of *cultural heritage value or interest*.
2. Council, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, may remove *non-designated properties* from the *Heritage Register*, provided it has been demonstrated to the satisfaction of Council, through a *Cultural Heritage Review* or an appropriate alternative review process, that the *property* is no longer of *cultural heritage value or interest*.
3. Properties may be added to the *Heritage Register* where Council, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, believes the *property* to be of *cultural heritage value or interest*.
4. *Non-designated built heritage resources* or *cultural heritage landscapes* listed in the *Heritage Register* shall not be demolished or removed without the owner providing at least 60 days notice in writing to the City of the intent to demolish in conjunction with an application for a demolition permit. Council, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, will assess requests for demolition to determine the significance of the *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* affected. Council may refuse to issue the

demolition permit and determine that the *property* is of sufficient *cultural heritage value or interest* that it should be designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

5. Council, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, may determine that a *property listed* in the *Heritage Register* has no *cultural heritage value or interest*, and in such instances, demolition may be permitted.
6. *Built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* that have been *listed* in the *Heritage Register* shall be considered for *conservation in development* applications initiated under the *Planning Act*, unless the applicant demonstrates to Council in consultation with Heritage Guelph, through a *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment*, *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* or *Cultural Heritage Review*, that the *built heritage resource* or *cultural heritage landscape* is not of *cultural heritage value or interest* and, therefore, does not meet the criteria for designation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
7. Where a *non-designated built heritage resource* or *cultural heritage landscape* is *listed* in the *Heritage Register*, the City may require, as a condition of approval of a *development* application under the *Planning Act*, a building permit, a partial demolition or change of use, that the proponent enter into agreements to *conserve* and/or permit to be designated, by the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, the *built heritage resource* or *cultural heritage landscape*.
8. The City may require the proponent to prepare a *Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan* as a condition of approval for a *development* application, a building permit, including partial demolition, and/or a change of use that has the potential to impact a *non-designated built heritage resource* or a *cultural heritage landscape listed* in the *Heritage Register*.

#### 4.8.6 Archaeological Resources

1. The City recognizes that there are archaeological remnants of precontact and early historic habitation within the City. The Archaeological Master Plan – Planning Report (January 2001) identified lands that have the potential for the discovery of *archaeological resources*. Additional areas may be identified by the City on the basis of the definition for *areas of archaeological potential* as defined in this Plan and in relevant provincial standards and guidelines as amended.
2. Where *archaeological resources* or *areas of potential archaeological resources* have been identified or have the potential to be present on lands proposed for *development* or *site alteration*, the City shall require the preparation of an *Archaeological Assessment* by a consultant archaeologist holding a valid professional license as per Section 48 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
3. *Development* and *site alteration* shall only be permitted on lands containing *archaeological resources* or *areas of potential archaeological resources* if it has been demonstrated that the significant *archaeological resources* have been conserved by removal and documentation, or by preservation on site. Where significant

*archaeological resources* must be preserved on site, only *development* and *site alteration* which maintains the integrity of the archaeological resource may be permitted.

4. *Development* and *site alteration* shall not commence on lands containing *archaeological resources* or *areas of potential archaeological resources* until an *Archaeological Assessment*, prepared to the satisfaction of the Province and the City, has been completed that:
  - i) identifies the affected areas of archaeological potential and *archaeological resources*;
  - ii) assesses the archaeological significance of the subject land;
  - iii) recommends *conservation* and/or preservation measures required to retain the heritage value, attributes and integrity of the resource; and
  - iv) meets the Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, as amended, of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and its regulations.
5. Indigenous governments and communities including the Six Nations of the Grand River and the Mississaugas of the New Credit shall be notified at such time that City of Guelph Council commences an archaeological management plan and shall be engaged in the process.
6. Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the New Credit shall be provided notification in regards to the identification of burial sites and significant archaeological resources relating to the activities of their ancestors.
7. The City shall prepare an Archaeological Management Plan to ensure the conservation and responsible management of *archaeological resources*.

#### 4.8.7 Heritage Guelph

1. Heritage Guelph **is the City's municipal heritage committee, and will be consulted, as appropriate, on matters associated with the identification, evaluation, *listing*, *conservation*, restoration, protection and enhancement of *cultural heritage resources*.**
2. Heritage Guelph will advise and assist Council in the identification and prioritization of *cultural heritage resources* within the City in accordance with the criteria for determining *cultural heritage value or interest* established by Provincial regulation.
3. Heritage Guelph will provide advice to Council on the designation of properties under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and the delineation and designation of *Heritage Conservation Districts* under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
4. Heritage Guelph will provide advice on *cultural heritage value or interest* on all matters referred to it by Council.
5. All properties identified on the Couling Building Inventory that have not been *listed* on the *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties* (e.g. buildings, structures, landscapes, monuments, installations or visible remains constructed prior to 1927, but



not limited to those constructed prior to 1927) shall be considered as potential *built heritage resources* until considered otherwise by the Heritage Guelph.

6. The City will promote good communication between Heritage Guelph and City departments, local heritage groups and applicable government agencies.
7. The City, in conjunction with Heritage Guelph, will encourage and foster public education, awareness, participation in, and appreciation of the *conservation of cultural heritage resources* by installation of plaques, *conservation* awards, publication of literature, assistance to the media and other means considered appropriate by Council.
8. The City may use government or non-government funding programs to assist in the implementation of the heritage *conservation* policies of this Plan.
9. The City shall coordinate its heritage *conservation* plans and programs with other levels of government.

#### 4.8.8 Heritage Trees

1. The City shall identify, evaluate and *conserve heritage trees* which satisfy one of the criteria for determining *cultural heritage value or interest* as prescribed by regulation under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
2. Where *heritage trees* have been identified by the City, they will be protected through appropriate measures under the *Ontario Heritage Act* while having regard to the health of the tree and public safety.

#### 4.8.9 Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment

1. The City may require a *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* or a *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* as part of a complete *development* application for the following *development* application types if the subject *property* has been designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* or has been *listed* as a non-designated *property* in the *Heritage Register*:
  - Official Plan Amendment (when combined with a *Zoning By-law* Amendment or a Plan of Subdivision)
  - *Consent*
  - *Zoning By-law* Amendment
  - Plan of Subdivision
  - Minor Variance
  - Site Plan Control
2. A *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* or a *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph.

3. The *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* shall include, but is not limited to the following:
    - i) a description of the proposed *development, redevelopment* or *site alteration*, including a location map showing proposed buildings, existing land uses, site survey, architectural drawings, detailed conceptual façade renderings, interior architectural details where the *heritage attributes* are identified within a building or structure and other details as specified by the City;
    - ii) a detailed description of the *built heritage resource(s), cultural heritage landscape features, heritage attributes*, sources of research and conclusions regarding the significance of the *cultural heritage resource* with respect to their *cultural heritage value or interest*;
    - iii) a description of the existing regulations if any, affecting the proposal (e.g. *flood* or *fill* regulation);
    - iv) a description of *cultural heritage resources* and *heritage attributes* that may be directly or indirectly affected by the proposal;
    - v) a description of the impacts that may reasonably be caused to the *cultural heritage resource* or *heritage attributes* and how the impacts may affect the value or interest of the resource or attribute;
    - vi) an evaluation of alternative *conservation* and avoidance or *mitigation* measures and their effectiveness in conserving the *cultural heritage resource* or *heritage attributes*. Such evaluation shall be based on established principles, standards and guidelines for *heritage conservation* and include an assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of each;
    - vii) an implementation and monitoring plan shall be required and include a reporting structure for the implementation of the recommended actions as *development* and *site alteration* proceeds; and
    - viii) any other information required by the Province or the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph that is considered necessary to evaluate the proposal.
  4. The Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment shall be conducted by professional(s) qualified in the field of cultural heritage resources and in accordance **with the City's** Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment Guidelines.
  5. Heritage Guelph may assist in the review of Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessments or Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessments and provide recommendations to Council. The conservation and/or designation of any cultural heritage resource identified through the assessment may be a condition of a development approval by the City.
- #### 4.8.10 Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment
1. The requirements for a *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* may be scoped to the satisfaction of City staff and Heritage Guelph.

2. A *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* may be prepared in instances where the proponent can demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, in consultation with Heritage Guelph, that a particular proposal can proceed without *negative impact* on any *cultural heritage resources* or *heritage attributes*.
3. The *Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* shall be conducted by a professional(s) qualified in the field of cultural heritage resources and according to the **City's** Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment Guidelines.
4. Heritage Guelph may assist in the review of Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessments or Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessments and provide recommendations to Council. The conservation and/or designation of any cultural heritage resource identified through the assessment may be a condition of a development approval by the City.

#### 4.8.11 Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan

1. A *Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan* shall be required as part of, or separate from, the *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment*, and shall describe the recommended actions necessary to prevent, change and/or *mitigate*, remedy or *avoid* expected impacts upon *the cultural heritage resources* or *heritage attributes*. The *Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan* may also describe how the *heritage attributes* will be integrated into or commemorated within the new *development*.

#### 4.8.12 Cultural Heritage Review

1. A *Cultural Heritage Review* is required when requests are made to modify a description of non-designated properties listed in the Heritage Register or to list or remove non-designated properties in the Heritage Register.
2. A *Cultural Heritage Review* will be conducted in accordance with the *Cultural Heritage Review* Guidelines.

#### 4.8.13 Implementation Policies

1. Pursuant to the *Planning Act*, the *Municipal Act*, the *Building Code Act* and other relevant legislation, the City may pass by-laws or implement other tools to ensure and facilitate the *conservation* of *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes*, including but not limited to the following:
  - i) **Using a range of implementation tools to achieve the objectives for *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes*, including Site Plan Control to require exterior design drawings which address matters such as: the character, massing, scale, appearance and design features of buildings; relationship of the proposed building to adjacent buildings and the street; interior walkways; stairs; elevators, etc. that are accessible to the general public; and impacts on the design elements within the municipal right-of-way.**

- ii) Regulating *development* so that it is sympathetic in height, massing, location and character with *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes*, where character includes, but is not limited to, form and massing, materials, fenestration, facade treatments, building orientation, existing scale and pattern and existing landscape and streetscape qualities.
- iii) Controlling demolition of built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes in a defined area.
- iv) Providing financial incentives to encourage the retention and *conservation* of *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes*.
- v) Considering reductions or alternatives to standards (e.g. minor variances, parking and building height) as part of a *development* application.
- vi) Entering into *cultural heritage conservation easement agreements* with the owner of any real *property* pursuant to the provisions of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for the purpose of:
  - a) conserving, protecting and maintaining the heritage features of the property in perpetuity;
  - b) preventing any demolition, construction, alteration, addition or any other action which would adversely affect the heritage features of the property; and
  - c) establishing criteria for the approval of any development affecting the cultural heritage resource.

## 5 Movement of People and Goods – An Integrated Transportation System

The transportation system will be designed to serve the existing and proposed land use pattern and to facilitate efficient, safe, convenient and energy efficient movement of goods and people throughout the city. The Official Plan recognizes the relationship between land use and all modes of transportation.

Transport accounts for 30% of energy used and 45% of greenhouse gas emissions in Guelph. The Community Energy Plan recommends reducing energy from transportation through measures such as improving public transportation and using *transit-supportive development* and a *compact urban form* to reduce auto trips.

An integrated transportation system contributes to a *complete community*. A balanced, integrated transportation system will contribute to vibrant streets designed to ensure pedestrians and cyclists comfortably and safely co-exist with motor vehicles, thus improving health and quality of life.

### Objectives

- a) To provide a transportation system, involving all transport modes, to move people and goods safely, efficiently and economically while contributing positively to the social, cultural and natural environments of the city.
- b) To ensure that the transportation system is accessible and meets the needs of all members of the community.
- c) To ensure that the transportation system is planned, implemented and maintained in a financially sustainable manner.
- d) To encourage and support walking and cycling as healthy, safe and convenient modes of transportation all year round and ensure that the design of pedestrian and cycling networks are integrated with other modes of transportation.
- e) To place a priority on increasing the capacity of the existing transit system and facilitate its efficient expansion, where necessary and feasible, to areas that have achieved, or are planned to achieve, *transit-supportive* residential and employment densities.
- f) To aim to increase non-auto *mode shares*.
- g) To develop and maintain an appropriate hierarchy of roads to ensure the desired movement of people and goods within and through the city.
- h) To work in co-operation with Federal, Provincial and other local governments, to create a transportation system that accommodates current and anticipated regional transportation movements.
- i) To reduce the amount of energy used for transportation.

## 5.1 Transportation System

1. The City will plan, implement and maintain a transportation system to facilitate:
  - i) increasing non-auto *mode shares* for average daily trips to 15% for transit, 15% for walking and 3% for cycling; and
  - ii) reducing the amount of energy used for transportation by 25% from 2007 levels by 2031.
2. The City shall maintain the existing transportation system and ensure its continued sustainability while at the same time planning for new *infrastructure* development.
3. *Transportation infrastructure* planning, land use planning and transportation investment will be coordinated and integrated to implement the growth objectives and planned urban structure of this Plan.
4. It is the policy of the City to limit new *development* to areas where adequate transportation facilities can be provided without undue financial burden to the Municipality.
5. Public transit will be an integral component in planning for new development areas.
6. The City, in consultation with the Province and nearby municipalities shall plan, develop and implement inter-city transit projects in conjunction with Provincial transportation projects to achieve a balanced transportation system.
7. A *multi-modal* approach will be used in planning and implementing transportation improvements and in encouraging the increased use of non-auto travel modes.

## 5.2 Barrier Free Transportation

1. The City's transportation system shall be developed to be inclusive of the needs of persons with disabilities, seniors, children and those with reduced mobility by:
  - i) ensuring that new transit facilities, transit stops and vehicles are accessible and use barrier free design principles in accordance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*;
  - ii) ensuring that sidewalks are accessible and accommodate people with impaired or reduced mobility;
  - iii) encouraging the use of voice signals at crosswalks;
  - iv) modifying existing transportation facilities over time to enhance accessibility;
  - v) requiring minimum off-street parking spaces for persons with disabilities through the *Zoning By-law*; and
  - vi) taking accessibility considerations into account in the design of the transportation system.

### 5.3 Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

1. *TDM* is an essential part of an overall integrated and sustainable transportation system. *TDM* measures shall be evaluated in all transportation related studies and new *development* plans including the degree to which they contribute towards the achievement of the transportation objectives of this Plan.
2. *TDM* measures may include, but are not limited to:
  - i) including provisions for *active transportation* in association with *development* and capital projects including secure bicycle storage facilities and pedestrian and cycling access to the road network;
  - ii) supporting transit through reduced parking standards for some land uses or locations, where appropriate, and making provisions for parking spaces for car share vehicles through the *development* approval process where appropriate; and
  - iii) encouraging carpooling programs, preferential parking for carpoolers, transit pass initiatives and flexible working hours.
3. The City will encourage shorter trip distances primarily through the development of a more *compact urban form* with additional opportunities for mixed-use development and *live/work* opportunities.
4. The City will promote *TDM* measures that promote *active transportation*, public transit and increased vehicle occupancy where appropriate.

### 5.4 Active Transportation – Walking and Cycling

*Active transportation* which includes pedestrian movement, cycling and any non-motorized **modes of transportation is a component of achieving the City's transportation, sustainability, community energy and healthy community objectives.**

1. The City supports walking and cycling as priorities when designing the transportation **system with a focus on connecting land uses to meet the community's mobility needs.**
2. The City supports the ongoing enhancement of a pedestrian and bicycle system that is convenient, safe and pleasant, serves both commuter and recreational purposes and provides access throughout the city.
3. *Active transportation* measures will be promoted in accordance with the following provisions:
  - i) ensure that streets, spaces and public facilities are designed to be safe and comfortable for pedestrians and cyclists;
  - ii) require, provide and maintain *infrastructure* that maximizes safe and convenient passage for pedestrians and cyclists through the city;
  - iii) ensure that bikeways and pedestrian walkways are integrated into and designed as part of new road and other *infrastructure* projects in the City. Special consideration will be given to matters such as bike lanes, physically

separated bikeways and provisions for a comfortable pedestrian environment which may include shade trees, street furniture, bicycle racks, lighting, signed and safe street crossings and other traffic controls;

- iv) require minimum provisions for on-site parking and storage for bicycles and other personal transportation devices in the *Zoning By-law* for uses such as employment and commercial, schools, high and medium density residential *development* and transportation terminals;
  - v) implement design and maintenance standards which can reduce the risk of collisions and injuries;
  - vi) provide for unobstructed pedestrian movement by using ramped sidewalk facilities and by providing crossings at reasonable intervals across major barriers such as rivers and railway lines, and priority crossing at high activity signalized intersections, wherever possible; and
  - vii) provide linkages between *intensification areas*, adjacent neighbourhoods and transit stations.
4. The City will prepare a Bicycle Transportation Plan that will identify a Bicycle Network of off-road and on-road bicycle facilities as well as other network improvements.
5. The City will implement the Bicycle Transportation Plan through the *development* process as well as City projects and will give further consideration to the incorporation of improvements and expansions to the Bicycle Network when undertaking road infrastructure works or when *development* proposals are being considered.
6. If rail lines within the city become abandoned or opportunities for multiple-use of rail corridors become available, the City will actively promote the provision of bicycle and pedestrian paths along these corridors, where appropriate.
7. In new *developments*, including *employment areas* and where public transit service is intended, sidewalks shall be provided on both sides of all streets wherever feasible with the exception of the following situations:
- i) residential streets with a right-of-way less than 18 metres where sidewalks shall be required on only one side of the street;
  - ii) rear laneways, where no sidewalks will be required;
  - iii) roads where a rural cross-section is being maintained and paved shoulders are provided; or
  - iv) adjacent to the Natural Heritage System where a trail with a high level of service may be provided instead of a sidewalk.

## 5.5 Public Transit

1. The City shall continue to increase connectivity and integration between public transit and other modes of travel through measures such as installing bicycle racks on buses, including bicycle parking at transit terminals, designing for pedestrian and cyclist **access to terminals and providing for “park and ride” opportunities.**



2. To ensure that public transit is an attractive, energy efficient and convenient means of travel the City will:
  - i) plan for a *compact urban form* by promoting mixed and *transit-supportive* land uses, *urban intensification*, a strong Downtown and urban structure of nodes and corridors as identified on Schedule 1;
  - ii) consider public transit as a high priority for *transportation infrastructure* planning, second only to *active transportation*;
  - iii) ensure the creation of a road network that permits reasonable walking distances to and from transit stops for a majority of residences, jobs and other activities in the area;
  - iv) ensure that the phasing of new *development* allows for the provision of transit service in the early phases of new development so that using transit is a viable option for the first occupants;
  - v) require *development* proponents to plan for the provision of transit in an integrated and comprehensive manner including the location of transit routes and facilities, where appropriate; and
  - vi) consider the impacts on transit when planning the locations for higher density housing, commercial and employment centres.
3. In addition to *transit-supportive* land use development, a high level of service, reliability and amenities are needed to attract riders. The City will promote greater use of transit by:
  - i) maintaining efficient transit service through improvements to travel time, reliability, overall routes and regularity of service, especially for those routes that link areas of population and employment concentrations;
  - ii) providing transit priority measures to lessen delays on transit vehicles caused by traffic congestion and traffic control signals, where appropriate;
  - iii) ensuring that bus stops are provided at regular intervals, generally within 400 metres of every residence and business, to promote accessibility to all areas;
  - iv) providing adequate facilities to improve rider amenities such as bus stop shelters and routes and schedule information; and
  - v) facilitating access to public transit for persons with disabilities by providing special equipment and services where warranted, designing stops, shelters and terminals for accessibility and taking other actions that facilitate improved access to transit services.
4. In the review of *development* applications that involve major traffic generators and of facilities potentially used by transit riders, the City may require the provision of on-site or off-site facilities, such as transit user amenities or road improvements that will facilitate public transit service as appropriate.

## 5.6 Road Network

An efficient road network will accommodate all modes of travel including vehicular traffic at a reasonable level of service.

1. Road right-of-ways will be planned and designed to enable safe and comfortable use by all users including pedestrians, cyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities.
2. The design and development of new transportation facilities will be subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan.
3. Generally, private roads shall be discouraged. Where permitted they shall generally be designed to be publicly accessible.
4. A variety of design mechanisms and operational techniques will be used by the City to **promote the efficient utilization of the City's road grid system; for example,** requirement for shared driveways in commercial strips and synchronized traffic signals.
5. Where necessary, traffic calming measures shall be incorporated into the design of the **street network in accordance with the City's Neighbourhood Traffic Management Policy,** or successor thereto.

## 5.7 Functional Hierarchy of Roads

The functional hierarchy of roads is identified on Schedule 5.

### 5.7.1 Expressway

1. Expressways are Provincial highways that are intended to move very large volumes of traffic over medium to long distances within and through the city. They are designed as high speed, multi-lane, divided roadways with access restricted to grade-separated interchanges.
2. **Expressways include "staged expressways" where the right-of-way is protected,** but only two lanes and/or controlled access may be provided at grade, normally at signalized intersections for an interim period of time.

### 5.7.2 Arterial Roads

1. Arterial roads are intended to move moderate to large volumes of traffic over moderate distances within the city and to collect traffic and direct it to the Provincial highway system.
2. Arterial roads are designed for medium speed, having capacity for 2 to 6 lanes, usually undivided, with access generally restricted, wherever possible, to at-grade road intersections with other arterial and collector roads.
3. Arterial roads are meant to accommodate a high level of transit service.

4. Direct access from local roads and individual properties shall be limited to avoid interference with the primary function of the roadway.
5. On-street parking may be permitted in certain instances in conjunction with street-oriented development to achieve urban design objectives and functions of this Plan. In these instances, special design provisions will be incorporated within the street right-of-way to ensure safe passage of traffic for pedestrians, cyclists, transit users and motorists while also permitting motor vehicle movement.
6. The desirable right-of-way width shall range from 26 metres to 36 metres with additional widths as required at intersections and to incorporate on-street parking or transit priority measures.
7. It is recognized that arterial roads of less than 26 metres presently exist and widening to achieve the desirable minimum may not be practical.

#### 5.7.3 Collector Roads

1. Collector roads are intended to move low to moderate volumes of traffic within specific areas of the city and collect local traffic for distribution to the arterial or Provincial highway system.
2. Collector roads are designed for moderate speed, having capacity for 2 to 4 lanes, usually undivided.
3. Direct access to private property may be controlled to avoid traffic hazards.
4. Parking may be permitted in instances where parking needs have been identified and can be safely accommodated in conjunction with abutting land uses.
5. The desirable right-of-way width shall range from 23 metres to 26 metres with additional widths as required at intersections and to incorporate transit priority measures and on-street parking.
6. It is recognized that collector roads of less than 23 metres exist and widening to achieve the desirable minimum may not be practical.

#### 5.7.4 Local Roads

1. Public roads not otherwise identified in the functional hierarchy shall be considered local roads.
2. Local roads will provide for low volumes of traffic and access to abutting private property.
3. Local roads are designed for low speed, having capacity for two lanes of undivided traffic, with through traffic discouraged.
4. Parking may be permitted, where appropriate.

## 5.8 Road Design

1. The City will ensure any impacts on the Natural Heritage System and *cultural heritage resources* are addressed in the design process for road capital projects in accordance with the provisions of this Plan.
2. The City shall have regard for and, when necessary, will require measures to mitigate any *negative impacts* on *cultural heritage resources*, especially the character of landscapes, streetscapes, tree lines, bridges, views and points of scenic interest and the prevailing pattern of settlement, when considering the construction of new roads and road improvements, including road re-alignment and road widening.
3. The road system in new development areas will be connected to the existing road network and facilitate linkages between existing and future developments and will ensure continuity of sidewalks, bicycle facilities and bus routes. Road network design will minimize travel distances for pedestrians, cyclists and transit and shall generally be in the form of a modified grid.
4. The City will promote the creation of an arterial-collector grid road system in the *greenfield area* of the city to assist in the dispersion of traffic and to provide appropriate walking distances to transit services on the main roads.
5. The design of roads will incorporate streetscape and design elements determined through the road design processes that are consistent with the Urban Design policies of this Plan where appropriate based on the planned function of the road.
6. To control future land uses that would increase traffic unnecessarily on the arterial-collector grid and at intersections, the City will:
  - i) **restrict strip commercial development along arterial roads; and**
  - ii) **locate *service commercial* development in designated areas along only one side of the arterial road.**
7. The City will require the submission of Traffic Impact Studies for *development* proposals that are considered as significant traffic generators along arterial and collector roads to determine whether the *development* would compromise the planned function of the road.
8. The design and construction of roads will incorporate trail components located within the road right-of-way as recommended in the Guelph Trail Master Plan (2005) or any successor thereto, where appropriate.
9. The City shall consider road designs that are innovative in terms of environmental considerations and that support pedestrians, cycling and transit.
10. When developing road cross section designs as part of alternative development standards, the City will consider all modes of transportation and how to develop a strong pedestrian realm in accordance with the Urban Design objectives of this Plan.

11. Main Streets may be identified Downtown or in areas of existing or planned high density including *Intensification Corridors* and Community Mixed-use Nodes. Where identified, specific road segments may be designed as Main Streets to reflect their planned function as focal points for shopping, offices and community interaction and will be developed based on the adjacent land use context. Main Streets will provide a safe, functional and attractive pedestrian, cycling and transit-oriented environment that is balanced with an acceptable level of motor vehicular traffic. If necessary, the City may accept a level of service which is less than optimum for vehicular traffic in return for a more pedestrian, cycling and transit-oriented environment. On-street parking will be permitted, where appropriate, and a strong pedestrian realm will be developed in accordance with the Urban Design policies of this Plan.
12. The City will consider the impact on existing utility *infrastructure* and opportunities for enhancement or replacement as part of road improvement or maintenance projects through discussion with utility providers.

## 5.9 Trucking and Goods Movement

1. The City will coordinate with the Province, Wellington County and neighbouring municipalities on the planning and design of an efficient goods movement system that minimizes community and traffic impacts.
2. Truck use will be regulated through a permissive truck route system and regulations, **pertaining to heavy trucks, which is contained in the City's Traffic By-law**, as amended from time to time.
3. It is the policy of the City to minimize the impact of trucks upon residential areas.
  - i) **Truck routes may be used to restrict through truck traffic on certain residential streets. In the consideration of this restriction, truck routes, if provided, will be designed to maximize accessibility to commercial and industrial areas of the city.**
  - ii) **The City will restrict the location of land uses, activities and home occupations that generate truck traffic.**

## 5.10 Railways

1. The City recognizes the importance of the rail system and supports and encourages the enhanced role of rail transportation for goods and passenger movement.
2. The City will facilitate the provision of rail freight service to *employment areas*, where feasible, including the continued support of the City-owned Guelph Junction Railway Company.
3. The City will support the future use of the Guelph Junction Railway for potential passenger rail service as illustrated on Schedule 5.
4. The City will encourage the continued provision of passenger rail service.

5. To minimize road/rail conflict wherever possible, the City has identified the following location for a road/rail grade separation:
  - i) **Silvercreek Parkway and CNR grade separation as part of the reconnection of Silvercreek Parkway south of Paisley Road.**
6. Proponents of *development* in proximity to a railway:
  - i) **must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that applicable safety requirements can be satisfied;**
  - ii) **meet the requirements of the Noise and Vibration policies of this Plan; and**
  - iii) **implement other mitigation and buffering measures such as setbacks, intervening berms and security fencing as may be required as a condition of subdivision approval or other *development* approval.**
7. Where *development* cannot reasonably achieve standard safety measures, the City, in consultation with the affected railway, may consider a site specific risk management approach to meeting safety and security requirements.

## 5.11 Parking

1. The City will ensure that adequate parking facilities are provided to meet the parking demands generated by various land uses.
2. The City shall specify off-street parking requirements and may establish maximum parking requirements in the *Zoning By-law*, where appropriate.
3. Off-street parking areas and facilities shall be provided through zoning and site plan requirements.
4. The City may acquire, develop and operate parking facilities.
5. Cash-in-lieu of required parking may be considered in accordance with the *Planning Act*.
6. Reduced parking requirements may be considered as part of a Parking Study, particularly within Downtown, Community Mixed-use Nodes and *Intensification Corridors*, or for *affordable housing*, or where high levels of transit exist or are planned.
7. The City may develop zoning regulations for shared parking arrangements between multiple facilities to optimize the staggered nature of demand for parking on a time-of-day, weekday/weekend and monthly basis.
8. The City may encourage managing the supply of parking as a *TDM* measure.

## 5.12 Transportation Networks

**The City's road network is integrated into the Provincial Highway system and ties into the County/Township transportation network. Provincial Highways 6 and 7 are both major**

routes to and through the City while Wellington Road 124 is an important regional connection.

1. The City will work with Wellington County, the Region of Waterloo, the Region of Halton and the Provincial and Federal Governments, as appropriate, to co-ordinate *transportation infrastructure* planning and implementation within the City and surrounding areas. This coordination will include participation in *Environmental Assessment* processes and undertaking joint transportation planning studies.
2. Schedule 5 identifies future transportation projects identified through *Environmental Assessments* and council approved studies. *Development* in proximity to these proposed improvements will be designed and integrated such that it does not preclude or negatively affect the proposed transportation network improvement.
3. All *development* proposals adjacent to or in the vicinity of a Provincial Highway within **the Ministry of Transportation's permit control area are subject to approval of the Ministry of Transportation**. Any areas in the city that are identified for future development that **are located within the Ministry of Transportation's permit control area** will be subject to provincial policies, standard and requirements. These requirements are in addition to the road design standard requirements of the City. Direct access to provincial highways will be discouraged and often prohibited.
4. The Transportation Master Plan will be updated on regular intervals, generally every 5 years. Studies on specific aspects of the transportation system may be completed from time to time by various government levels and may address specific elements of the transportation system. Information from these studies will help to inform the updates **to the City's Transportation Master Plan**.

### 5.13 Road Widenings and Intersection Improvements

Table 5.1 lists right-of-ways that are planned for widening. Table 5.2 lists intersections that are planned to be improved or widened to accommodate on-street parking. As a condition of *development* approval, the City may require that a portion of lands be dedicated to the City for road widening or intersection improvement without compensation. However, these tables are not intended to specify that such roads will necessarily be widened or intersections improved.

1. Land for possible road widening and intersection improvements as described in Tables 5.1 and 5.2, will be dedicated to the City at no expense, as a condition of approval for the following:
  - i) a draft plan of subdivision;
  - ii) a consent by the Committee of Adjustment; and
  - iii) a site plan approval.
2. Generally, road widenings will be taken equally from each side of the right-of-way to ensure uniform road widths unless otherwise specified in Table 5.1.

3. Road widenings in excess of the ultimate widths listed in Table 5.1 may be required at intersections listed in Table 5.2 for traffic operation and safety improvements such as sidewalks, bike lanes, daylight triangles, turn lanes, channelization, transit priority measures, grade separations, on-street parking or where topographic challenges exist.
4. Where an approved *Environmental Assessment* identifies a right-of-way width that is different than the ultimate widths listed in Table 5.1, the larger width may be applied.
5. Where existing development, road alignments, topographic features or other factors make it impractical to obtain the desired road widening, or road intersection improvements, road right-of-way alterations will be designed to minimize the impact on abutting properties.
6. Plans for future widenings, intersection improvements or road alterations will have consideration for land use, environmental and visual streetscape matters.



Table 5.1 Road Widening Dedications

	ROAD	ULTIMATE RIGHT-OF- WAY	WIDENING SPECIFICATION
1.	Alice Street	15 m	5 m south side between Morris Street and Huron Street
2.	Arkell Road	30 m	5 m both sides from Gordon Street to Victoria Road
3.	Cardigan Street	15 m	5 m east side, London Road East to Marcon Street
4.	Church Lane	12 m	3 m both sides, Norfolk Street to eastern end of lane
5.	Clair Road	30 m	5 m both sides, Hanlon Expressway to east City Limit
6.	College Ave	30 m	2–5 m both sides, Hanlon Expressway to Victoria Road
7.	Crimea Street	20 m	2 m south side, Edinburgh Road to Alma Street
8.	Downey Road	36 m	8 m both sides, from 100 m south of Teal Drive to Forestell Road
9.	Dufferin Street	20 m	4 m west side, London Road to Kerr Street
10.	Eastview Road	30 m	5 m both sides, Mountford Drive to east City Limit
11.	Edinburgh Road	26 m	2–3 m both sides, College Avenue West to Suffolk Street West
		30 m	2–5 m both sides, Suffolk Street West to Woodlawn Road
		26 m	2-5 m both sides, Rodgers Road to Gordon Street
12.	Elizabeth Street	24 m	Up to 2 m, both sides, Arthur Street South to Garibaldi Street

	ROAD	ULTIMATE RIGHT-OF- WAY	WIDENING SPECIFICATION
		30 m	2–5 m both sides, Garibaldi Street to York Road
13.	Elmira Road	36 m	5 m east side, Massey Road to Woodlawn Road  8 m west side, Speedvale Avenue West to Massey Road
14.	Emma Street	20 m	5 m south side, Speed River to Delhi Street
		20 m	2–5 m both sides, Delhi Street to Stevenson Street North
15.	Eramosa Road	23 m	1-2 m, both sides, Woolwich Street to Metcalfe Street
		30 m	2–5 m both sides, Metcalfe Street to Meyer Drive
		26 m	3 m both sides, Meyer Drive to Victoria Road North
		30 m	2-5 m both sides, Victoria Road North to north City Limit
16.	Exhibition Street	18 m	5 m east side, Division Street to Verney Street
		15 m	2–5 m both sides, Verney Street to Speedvale Avenue West
17.	Fife Road	30 m	4 m both sides, Wellington Street West to west City Limit
18.	Forestell Road	30 m	5 m both sides, west City Limit to Phelan Drive
19.	Gordon Street	30 m	5 m west side, Wellington Street to Speed River
		24 m	Up to 2 m, both sides, Speed River to College Avenue

	ROAD	ULTIMATE RIGHT-OF- WAY	WIDENING SPECIFICATION
		26 m	1–3 m both sides College Avenue to Stone Road
		30 m	3–5 m both sides, Stone Road to Clair Road
		30 m	5 m both sides, Clair Road to Maltby Road
20.	Grange Road	30 m	5 m both sides, Victoria Road North to Watson Pkwy North
21.	Grange Street	20 m	3 m both sides, Arthur Street North to Victoria Road North
22.	Hyland Road	20 m	2–3 m both sides, Eleanor Court to eastern end of Hyland Road
23.	Janefield Avenue	26 m	6 m east side, College Avenue West to Scottsdale Drive
24.	Kathleen Street	15 m	5–10 m west side, Division Street to Speedvale Avenue West
25.	Laird Road	36 m	4 m both sides from Downey Road to Hanlon Expressway
26.	Maltby Road	30 m	5 m both sides, west City Limit to east City Limit
27.	Neeve Street	20 m	1 m both sides, C.N.R. to York Road
28.	Nicklin Road	26 m	2 m east side, Brentwood Drive to Woodlawn Road
29.	Paisley Road	23 m	2 m both sides, Edinburgh Road North to Silvercreek Pkwy
		30 m	5 m both sides, Silvercreek Pkwy to west City Limit
30.	Palmer Street	15 m	2–3 m both sides, Queen Street to Stevenson Street

	ROAD	ULTIMATE RIGHT-OF- WAY	WIDENING SPECIFICATION
31.	Queen Street	20 m	2–3 m both sides, Arthur Street to Palmer Street
32.	Raglan Street	19.8 m	1.5 m south side, Edinburgh Road South to Omar Street
33.	Raymond Street	20 m	5 m east side, Bristol Street to 70 m south
34.	Regent Street	23 m	3 m east side, Rose Street to Grange Street
35.	Roland Street	20 m	3–5 m both sides, Waterloo Avenue to Bristol Street
36.	Silvercreek Pkwy	30 m	5 m both sides, Wellington Street to north City Limit
37.	Speedvale Avenue	30 m	2–5 m both sides, West City Limit to East City Limit
38.	Stevenson Street	26 m	3 m both sides, York Road to Lane Street
		30 m	5 m both sides, Lane Street to Eramosa Road
39.	Stone Road	36 m	3–8 m south side, College Ave West to Victoria Road South
		36 m	5 m both sides, Victoria Road South to Watson Parkway South
40.	Suffolk Street	18.3 m	3 m north side, Edinburgh Road North to North Street
41.	Surrey Street	20 m	2.2 m on south side between Grant Street and Wyndham Street South
42.	Victoria Road	30 m	2–5 m both sides, Woodlawn Road East to York Road
		26 m	3 m both sides, York Road to Eramosa River

	ROAD	ULTIMATE RIGHT-OF- WAY	WIDENING SPECIFICATION
		30 m	2–5 m both sides, Eramosa River to Stone Road East
		36 m	8 m both sides from Stone Road East to the south City Limit
43.	Watson Road	30 m	5 m both sides, Watson Pkwy North to C.N.R.
		30 m	5 m both sides, C.N.R. to Watson Pkwy South
44.	Watson Pkwy.	30 m	5 m both sides, south City Limit to north City Limit
45.	Wellington Street	36 m	10 m south side, Imperial Road South to west City Limit
46.	Woodlawn Road	36 m	2–8 m both sides, Hanlon Expressway to west City Limit
		30 m	2 m both sides, Hanlon Expressway to Woolwich Street
		30 m	5 m south side, Woolwich Street to Victoria Road North
47.	Woolwich Street	24 m	Up to 2 m both sides, London Road to Speedvale Avenue
		30 m	5 m both sides, Speedvale Avenue to north City Limit
48.	Wyndham Street	30 m	3 m both sides, Wellington Street East to York Road
49.	York Road	30 m	2–5 m both sides, Victoria Road South to Watson Road South
		24 m	Up to 2 m both sides Wyndham Street South to Victoria Road

Table 5.2: Intersection Improvements

ROAD	INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT
Alma Street	At Paisley Road
Arkell Road	At Gordon Street At Victoria Road
Arthur Street	At Elizabeth Street
Clair Road	At Laird Road At Victoria Road
College Avenue	At Edinburgh Road At Gordon Street At Victoria Road
Dawson Road	At Speedvale Avenue West At Woodlawn Road
Delhi Street	At Speedvale Avenue East
Downey Road	At Laird Road At Forestell Road
Dunlop Drive	At Watson Parkway
Eastview Road	At Watson Parkway At Victoria Road
Edinburgh Road	At College Avenue At Gordon Street At London Road West At Suffolk Street At Willow Road At Water Street At Waterloo Avenue At Woodlawn Road

ROAD	INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT
Elizabeth Street	At Arthur Street At Stevenson Street At Victoria Road At York Road
Eramosa Road	At Metcalfe Street At Meyer Drive
Forestell Road	At Downey Road
Grange Road	At Victoria Road At Watson Parkway
Gordon Street	At Arkell Road At Edinburgh Road At Wellington Street At James Street At Maltby Road At College Avenue
James Street	At Gordon Street
Kathleen Street	At Speedvale Avenue W.
Laird Road	At Clair Road At Downey Road
London Road	At Edinburgh Road At Woolwich Street
Maltby Road	At Gordon Street At Southgate Drive At Victoria Road
Metcalf Street	At Eramosa Road
Meyer Drive	At Eramosa Road

ROAD	INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT
Nicklin Road	At Woodlawn Road
Niska Road	At Pioneer Trail
Paisley Road	At Alma Street At Silvercreek Parkway At Yorkshire Street
Pioneer Trail	Niska Road
Regal Road	At Woodlawn Road
Southgate Drive	At Maltby Road
Silvercreek Parkway	At Paisley Road At Willow Road At Speedvale Avenue W. At Woodlawn Road
Speedvale Avenue	At Dawson Road At Delhi Street At Kathleen Street At Silvercreek Parkway At Woolwich Street At Watson Parkway
Starwood Drive	At Watson Parkway
Stevenson Street	At Elizabeth Street At York Road At Guelph Junction Railway crossing
Stone Road	At Victoria Road At Watson Parkway
Suffolk Street	At Edinburgh Road



ROAD	INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT
Victoria Road	At Eastview Road At Grange Road At Elizabeth Street At York Road At College Avenue At Maltby Road At Stone Road At Arkell Road At Clair Road
Waterloo Ave	At Edinburgh Road
Watson Parkway North	At Eastview Road At Grange Road At Speedvale Avenue At Starwood Drive At Watson Road North
Watson Parkway South	At Stone Road At Dunlop Drive At Watson Road South
Watson Road North	At Watson Parkway North
Watson Road South	At Watson Parkway South At York Road
Willow Road	At Edinburgh Road At Silvercreek Parkway

ROAD	INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT
Woodlawn Road	At Dawson Road At Edinburgh Road At Nicklin Road At Regal Road At Silvercreek Parkway At Woolwich Street
Woolwich Street	At London Road At Speedvale Avenue At Woodlawn Road
Wyndham Street S.	At York Road At Wellington Street
Water Street	At Edinburgh Road
Wellington Street	At Gordon Street At Wyndham Street
York Road	At Elizabeth Street At Stevenson Street At Victoria Road At Watson Road At Wyndham Street
Yorkshire Street	At Paisley Road

## 6 Municipal Services and Infrastructure

The provision of *infrastructure*, including drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and waste management, electrical and telecommunication services all support *development*. Provision of these services will be financially viable and manage demand and optimize existing *infrastructure* in order to reduce the need for new facilities. The City is not responsible for providing all of these services, but plays a collaborative role in ensuring that these are provided efficiently. In addition, this Chapter includes provisions for controlling the spread of termites and for controlling *site alteration*.

### Objectives

- a) To encourage the efficient use of municipal services and utilities.
- b) To ensure full municipal services are provided for all forms of *development*.
- c) To ensure *groundwater* resources, on which Guelph's water supply is based and **which sustain the area's natural environment**, are respected, protected and conserved.
- d) To promote the retention, repair and upgrading of *infrastructure* in the older parts of the City.

### 6.1 Policies

- 1. The City will ensure the provision of *infrastructure* and utilities in a fiscally sustainable manner in accordance with recognized standards for urban *development*.
- 2. The City will ensure there is an adequate supply of serviced land and *intensification* opportunities to meet future *development* needs.
- 3. The provision and extension of full municipal services and utilities to all new *development* will be required. Full municipal services shall include facilities for:
  - i) **sanitary sewage disposal;**
  - ii) **water supply;**
  - iii) **stormwater management;**
  - iv) **solid waste management;**
  - v) **electrical power; and**
  - vi) **transportation networks including public transit and pedestrian and cycling networks.**
- 4. The City will plan for the inclusion of *district energy infrastructure* within municipal right-of-ways where appropriate.
- 5. Where feasible, electrical and cabled services within new *development* shall be located underground. Upon replacement, providers are encouraged to relocate electric and cabled services underground.

6. Prior to permitting a *development* proposal, the City shall ensure there is adequate provision for overall *municipal water*, wastewater treatment, and solid waste and stormwater management facilities to accommodate the *development*.
7. The City will coordinate with utility providers to facilitate the efficient provision of services.
8. City Council may pass by-laws and enter into agreements, including financial arrangements with property owners for the installation of municipal services.
9. The City will consider the use of alternative development standards to provide municipal services where the effectiveness and efficiency of the service is retained, and when *development* cost savings and energy efficiencies may be realized.
10. The City will guide the direction, location, scale and timing of *development* to ensure compact, orderly *development* and to minimize the cost of municipal services and related *infrastructure*.
11. The City will ensure full utilization of existing municipal services and utilities and conservation measures as appropriate.
12. The City will ensure that *infrastructure* is provided in a coordinated, efficient, integrated and cost-efficient manner to meet current and projected needs, including:
  - i) the optimization of existing *infrastructure*, where feasible, before giving consideration to new *infrastructure* or facilities; and
  - ii) ensure best management practices are utilized to protect the quantity and quality of groundwater sources during the installation of new municipal *infrastructure*; and
  - iii) the strategic location of *infrastructure* to support effective and efficient delivery of emergency management services.
13. The City will ensure that sewage and water service systems are financially viable and **comply with regulatory requirements, can be sustained by the City's water resources,** and protect human health and the natural environment.
14. **The City's servicing requirements for planned development and projected growth will** be monitored to ensure that the sustainable water and wastewater system capacities are not exceeded and to provide sufficient lead time for the planning, design, approval, financing and construction of new facilities as required.
15. The City will specify procedures for the allocation of water supply and wastewater treatment capacity for *development* applications approved under the *Planning Act*. Such procedures will include reserve capacity allocations for the following:
  - i) residential infill and intensification development within the built-up area;
  - ii) residential *development* within the *greenfield area*; and
  - iii) non-residential *development* in both the existing *built-up* and *greenfield area*.

16. The City will discourage non-residential *development* that requires high volumes of water use and/or wastewater discharge if the *development* has the potential to **compromise the City's ability to service existing and planned levels of population and employment**, or where the *development* would require unduly costly water and/or wastewater system upgrades.
17. The City will develop guidelines for non-residential water consumption and wastewater discharge to assist in the evaluation of *development* applications.
18. Where the City has permitted non-residential *development* that requires high volumes of water use and/or wastewater discharge, the allocation of water supply and wastewater treatment capacities will be subject to review and approval by the City. As a condition of *development* approval, the applicant/owner will be required to enter into a consumption and discharge agreement with the City. The agreement will specify the terms and conditions that are to be met by the applicant/owner in order to receive the requested capacity allocation.
19. *Development* on private services is prohibited except as provided for in policy 6.1.20 and 6.1.21 to support protection of the environment and to minimize potential risks to human health and safety and to avoid potential *negative impacts* on the City's *water resources system* and *natural heritage features*.
20. The City will not permit *development* on *partial services* except where necessary to address a failed *individual on-site water service* or *individual on-site sewage services* on an existing lot of record and only where municipal services are not available, planned or feasible provided that site conditions are suitable for the long-term provision of such services with no *negative impacts*.
21. The City may permit individual *on-site sewage services* and/or *individual on-site water services* where municipal sewage and/or municipal water services are not available, planned or feasible to support the conservation of a *cultural heritage resource* provided that the site conditions are suitable for the long-term provision of such services with no *negative impacts*.

## 6.2 Water Supply

The City relies primarily on *groundwater* resources for its potable water including the Arkell Spring Grounds, located in Puslinch Township which is a significant source of supply for the city. Numerous municipal wells within the city boundary and immediately adjacent **to the city also contribute to the city's overall water supply. These policies outline the City's** approach to supplying safe high-quality drinking water. Additional policies can be found in Section 4.3 Watershed Planning and Water Resources.

### Objectives

- a) To provide a safe, high quality water supply to meet the needs of residents and businesses, now and in the future through an emphasis on conservation, protection and sustainable *development*.

- b) To promote water conservation and efficiency measures to sustain the City's valuable water resources.

#### Policies

1. The City will implement water supply and water servicing master plans that identify how growth on lands designated for urban use will be serviced. Implementation elements of these plans will include:
  - i) identifying current and future water demand and supply areas;
  - ii) investigating sources of long-term potable water supply;
  - iii) identifying major water supply *infrastructure* improvements (including servicing capacity calculations) required to accommodate population growth as projected by this Plan; and
  - iv) developing programs and policies to conserve water and to reduce requirements for additional water supply and treatment, including the implementation of the Water Conservation Efficiency Strategy (2009) or successor thereto.

### 6.3 Wastewater Treatment

The treated effluent from the City's wastewater treatment facility discharges to the Speed River which consists of a riverine ecosystem as well as a source of water for municipalities further downstream from Guelph.

#### Objective

- a) To protect, maintain or restore the quality and quantity of water upstream and downstream of the City's wastewater treatment facility.

#### Policies

1. The City will continue to implement a wastewater treatment strategy that promotes proactive industrial wastewater management practices, encourages wastewater reduction and **on-going upgrades to the City's wastewater treatment facility to protect** and improve the water quality of the Speed River.
2. The City will implement the Wastewater Treatment Master Plan (2009) to ensure continued optimization of the wastewater plant and the incorporation of new technologies from time to time. The Plan will generally be updated at 5 year intervals.
3. The City will facilitate a reduction in energy consumption for the construction and servicing requirements of subdivisions and other *development* by requiring gravity feed sanitary sewers.

## 6.4 Stormwater Management

### Objectives

- a) To protect, maintain, enhance and restore the quality and quantity of the *water resource system* through sound stormwater management.
- b) To use *watershed planning* to inform the design of stormwater management such that *Subwatershed Studies* and Stormwater Management Master Plans serve to guide site-specific *development*.
- c) To ensure that planning for stormwater management includes preparing for the *impacts of a changing climate* through the effective management of stormwater, including the use of *green infrastructure*.
- d) To implement stormwater management practices, such as *Low Impact Development* and *green infrastructure*, that:
  - i) **maintain pre-development hydrologic conditions;**
  - ii) **protect the quality and quantity of water;**
  - iii) **minimize erosion and flooding; and**
  - iv) **protect the Natural Heritage System, the water resource system and related ecological and hydrologic functions and linkages between these systems.**
- e) To recognize stormwater runoff as an important resource rather than a waste product.

### Policies

The City will use *watershed planning* to address stormwater from urban development. Stormwater will be managed through a hierarchy of plans including *Subwatershed Studies* and stormwater management plans. Information gathered through *watershed planning* will set the criteria for site-specific development. Additional policies addressing the relationship of *Subwatershed Studies* to stormwater management are found in Section 4.2 Water Resource System and Watershed Planning.

- 1. All *development* shall occur in accordance with *Subwatershed Studies* and/or Stormwater Management Master Plans, as applicable, as approved by the City of Guelph and the GRCA.
- 2. Where *Subwatershed Studies* have not been completed or approved, the City may, in limited situations, consider *development* proposals where:
  - i) **a stormwater management plan is prepared to address impacts to the quality and quantity of water, water balance, major and minor conveyance system (both on and off-site), grading and drainage, erosion and sediment control; and**
  - ii) **an EIS is prepared to address potential negative impacts of the proposed development on the Natural Heritage System and/or the water resource**

*system*, including but not limited to impacts to water temperature, base flow, wetland water balance, wildlife and *fish habitat*, and identify mitigation measures.

3. *Development* shall require the preparation of a detailed Stormwater Management and Engineering Report in accordance with policies 6.4.1 or 6.4.2 above, to the satisfaction of the City and the GRCA, where applicable, that addresses the following matters and other issues as may be required by the City:
  - i) demonstrates how the design and construction of the stormwater management design will protect, improve or restore the *water resource system*;
  - ii) demonstrates how the proposed stormwater management design will be consistent with and implement the recommendations of the applicable *Subwatershed Study* or Stormwater Management Master Plans;
  - iii) includes geotechnical and hydrogeologic information to identify soil infiltration rates, depths to the seasonal high water table and deeper regional *aquifers* beneath the site and in the surrounding area;
  - iv) provides an assessment of potential impacts to the *water resource system* that may result from the proposed stormwater management design; and
  - v) demonstrates that *pre-development* stormwater flows from the site match *post-development* stormwater flows for design storm events; and
  - vi) demonstrates how new development will be based on best management practices for salt management and snow storage including the provision of designated snow storage areas and the management of associated melt water.
4. The City will require the use of on-site infiltration measures, as appropriate, within the stormwater management design.
5. The City encourages the use of *Low Impact Development*, such as rainwater harvesting, green roofs, bioretention, permeable pavement, infiltration facilities and vegetated swales, and *green infrastructure* in the design and construction of new *development* where site conditions and other relevant technical considerations are suitable.
6. The City encourages approaches to stormwater management that include a combination of lot level, conveyance and end-of-pipe stormwater controls to maintain the natural hydrologic cycle, protect the *quality and quantity of water* and minimize erosion and flooding impacts.
7. All *development* shall be required to demonstrate consistency with the requirements of this Plan, the Stormwater Management Master Plan (2012) and the Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual (2003), or successor thereto, to achieve a stormwater management design that has the highest level of use, aesthetics, environmental benefits and ease of maintenance.



8. Stormwater management facilities may be permitted in all land use designations on Schedule 2. The City will generally discourage detention and retention facilities in municipal parks except where identified in the Stormwater Management Master Plan (2012). Detention and retention facilities are not permitted in *natural heritage features* or in *buffers* to *natural heritage features*, except as provided for under the Natural Heritage System policies of this Plan. The City recognizes that controlled discharge from stormwater facilities to receiving wetlands and watercourses is required to ensure that the *quality and quantity of water* of the receiver is maintained or enhanced.
9. Watercourses regulated by the GRCA shall be left in an open and natural state unless approval to alter the watercourse is obtained from the GRCA. The enclosure of open watercourses or their channelization into open concrete channels shall be prohibited.
10. The City will explore opportunities to restore *permanent and intermittent streams* that have been enclosed or channelized to open and natural watercourses.
11. Approvals from the City, GRCA, the provincial government and/or the federal government, as applicable, shall be required prior to the alteration of any watercourse, the design and construction of any stormwater management facility or *site alteration*.

## 6.5 Solid Waste Management

### Objectives

- a) To provide solid waste management facilities to accommodate the needs of existing and projected residents and businesses.
- b) To show environmental leadership in using a waste management system that facilitates, encourages and promotes the minimization of waste generation.

### Policies

1. The City will provide solid waste management facilities to handle the waste generated by residents and businesses of Guelph. Waste management involves a comprehensive three-stream system of waste handling.
2. The City will implement the Solid Waste Management Plan (2008) that outlines mechanisms to address waste minimization, diversion and disposal targets with an **overall goal of reducing the City's ecological footprint. The plan will be updated from time to time, generally at 5 year intervals.**
3. The City strongly encourages three stream waste separation city-wide in all buildings to improve diversion of waste from landfill.
4. All waste management systems will be located and designed in accordance with Provincial Legislation and standards and the policies of this Plan.

## 6.6 Site Alteration

### Objective

- a) To preclude premature or undesirable alterations of the natural landscape prior to *development*.

### Policy

1. The City will regulate *site alteration* prior to *development*, through the *Site Alteration By-law*, in an effort to: maintain significant landforms; preserve topsoil; minimize impacts on watercourses; minimize flooding or ponding; and preserve vegetation.

## 6.7 Termite Control

### Objective

- a) To prevent the spread of termites and ultimately eradicate them within the City.

### Policies

1. The City will enforce the Termite Control By-law in areas that are infested with termites and in areas that are in proximity to infested areas. The by-law, among other matters, authorizes the Termite Control Officer to prescribe methods to eradicate termites from building refuse and soil as well as measures for the safe disposal of this material and methods for new construction.
2. As a condition of *development* approval or issuance of a demolition permit, the City may require that building refuse and soil be disposed of in a manner that minimizes the threat of spreading termite infestation.

## 6.8 Electrical Transmission Lines and Pipelines

### Objective

- a) To ensure that any future high voltage transmission lines or major pipelines are located to protect the health and safety of the community.

### Policies

1. The location of new electrical transmission lines, associated facilities and pipelines will be evaluated in accordance with the *Environmental Assessment Act* and will minimize any adverse social, land use, visual, environmental or safety impacts.
2. Future high voltage transmission lines and major pipelines will be encouraged to locate along existing utility corridors or other right-of-ways, such as roads and railways, in order to minimize the fragmentation of properties.
3. Future high voltage transmission lines and major pipelines will avoid existing and future residential areas, areas within the Natural Heritage System and Open Space and Parks designated lands, to the extent possible.

## 7 Community Infrastructure

*Community infrastructure* includes the services that are integral to the social, health, educational, cultural and recreational needs of the city. These services contribute to the quality of life for existing and future residents of all ages, abilities, interests, cultural background or income level.

### 7.1 Community Facilities

#### Objective

- a) To promote the maintenance and development of sustainable neighbourhoods by providing community facilities that supports a high quality of life standard for all residents.

#### Policies

1. The City will encourage the adequate provision of community facilities in conjunction with new residential growth. For the purposes of this Plan, community facilities include, but are not limited to such things as municipal recreational facilities, institutional health care facilities, schools, police, fire, library and museum services, religious and educational facilities.
2. Community facilities should be strategically located to support the effective and efficient delivery of emergency management services. Where feasible, community facilities should be co-located to promote cost-effectiveness and facilitate service integration.
3. The City recognizes that, because a significant portion of community facility provision **is not within the jurisdiction of the City's administration, coordination between the City** and public boards and agencies is essential. This Plan promotes dialogue and informed decision making between all agencies and boards active within the Guelph community.
4. Regarding the provision of school facilities within the community, this Plan promotes **the adequate distribution and supply of school spaces to meet the community's** educational needs.
5. Within new growth areas of the city, this Plan encourages the provision of new schools within a reasonable time of the construction of new housing in the area.
6. The City may require residential development proposals to be phased where it is determined, in consultation with the School Board(s) there is not an adequate supply of school spaces within the community.
7. Community facilities in the older established areas of the city add to the stability of neighbourhoods and should be retained.
8. **The City will develop a cultural policy that clarifies the City's role in providing and** facilitating access to cultural facilities and experiences.

9. Cultural facilities, including museums, art galleries, performing arts facilities, private facilities and managed historical sites are supported as an integral part of the social and cultural fabric of the city.
10. New cultural facilities that serve the city or larger region are encouraged to locate Downtown.

## 7.2 Affordable Housing

The City recognizes the importance of housing, including *affordable housing*, in meeting **the needs of the city's existing and future residents.**

### Objectives

- a) To encourage and support the development of *affordable housing* throughout the city by planning for a range of housing types, forms, tenures and densities.
- b) To actively participate in, encourage and promote *affordable housing* opportunities funded by Provincial and/or Federal programs in conjunction with the *Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (Service Manager)* to ensure a supply of new *affordable housing* within the city.
- c) To encourage and support education and awareness programs with private, public and local community stakeholders to highlight the economic and social advantages of *affordable housing*.
- d) To recognize the role of existing housing and *additional residential dwelling units* in providing choices for a full range of housing, including *affordable housing*.
- e) To protect the existing supply of affordable rental housing by regulating demolitions and the *conversion* of existing rental properties to *condominiums* or *co-ownership* housing.
- f) To promote innovative housing types and forms to ensure *affordable housing* for all socio-economic groups throughout the city.
- g) To establish and implement minimum targets for *affordable housing* through new *development* applications.
- h) To ensure that an adequate supply, geographic distribution and range of housing types including *affordable housing* and supporting amenities, are provided to satisfy the needs of the community and to support an affordable lifestyle.

### 7.2.1 Affordable Housing Targets

1. An *affordable housing* target will be implemented through new *development* applications city-wide. The *affordable housing* target will be implemented through the use of various planning tools (e.g., planning policy, development approvals, financial incentives, partnerships, community education and monitoring).

2. The annual *affordable housing* target requires that an average of 30% of new residential *development* constitute *affordable housing*. The target is to be measured city-wide. The target consists of 25% affordable ownership units, 1% affordable *primary rental* units and 4% affordable purpose built secondary rental units (which includes *additional residential dwelling units*).
3. The City will support the *Service Manager* in the achievement of the development of *social housing*.

#### 7.2.2 General Policies

1. The City will develop a housing strategy that will set out a plan, including policies for the Official Plan and implementation strategies, to meet the needs of all residents, including the need for *affordable housing* – both home ownership and rental housing. The housing strategy will include the planning and development of a range of housing types and densities to support the achievement of the *intensification target* and *density targets*.
2. As part of the *development* approval process, City Council may require the identification of lands for *affordable housing*.
3. City Council shall consider giving priority to *development* applications that provide the type, size and tenure of housing required to meet the social and economic needs of the **City's residents**.
4. City Council may establish alternative development standards for *affordable housing*, *residential intensification*, *redevelopment* and new residential *development* which minimizes the cost of housing and facilitates *compact urban form*. This may include setting maximum unit sizes or reducing parking requirements.
5. City owned land that is surplus to City needs and appropriate for residential *development* shall be given priority for sale or lease for the development of *affordable housing*.
6. Investment in new *affordable housing* shall be encouraged through a coordinated effort from all levels of government and appropriate partnerships with non-government organizations and through the implementation of a range of strategies including effective taxation, regulatory and administrative policies and incentives.
7. The City shall identify, promote and where appropriate, participate in *affordable housing* opportunities funded by senior levels of government and presented by non-government organizations.
8. The City may require the submission of an Affordable Housing Report as a part of a *development* application, demonstrating to the satisfaction of the City how the application addresses *affordable housing* needs and the *affordable housing* target including the provision of a range of *affordable housing* prices.

9. *Affordable housing* will be provided throughout all areas of the city to ensure an adequate supply, range and geographic distribution of all housing types.
10. *Affordable housing* is encouraged to locate where served by transit, and other services such as, shopping, parks and other community facilities. Housing proposed in Downtown and Mixed-use designations is strongly encouraged for *affordable housing* because of the availability of nearby services and opportunity to support an affordable lifestyle.
11. The City will undertake a review of municipal implementation tools that could be used to support and implement *affordable housing*.
12. The City recognizes that since *social housing* is not within the jurisdiction of the City's administration, coordination between the City and the *Service Manager* is necessary. This Plan promotes dialogue and informed decision making between the City and the *Service Manager*.

#### 7.2.3 Retention of Existing Housing

1. **The City's existing housing stock represents a significant component of *affordable housing*.** To promote its retention, in instances where it is not required for *intensification* efforts, the housing should be maintained and updated to reflect current building standards and energy conservation efforts.
2. The City will use the provisions of the *Property Standards By-Law* under the *Municipal Act* and Demolition Control provisions of the *Planning Act* to protect and promote the continued useful life of existing housing.

#### 7.2.4 Retention of Existing Rental Housing

1. The retention of the existing rental housing stock will be promoted as an important *affordable housing* source providing choice for residents who prefer to rent rather than own.
2. The following provisions will be implemented to promote the retention, maintenance and upkeep of the existing rental housing stock:
  - i) **the *condominium conversion* policies as outlined in Section 7.2.5;**
  - ii) **the demolition control provisions of this Plan;**
  - iii) **the use of the City's *Property Standards By-law* for maintenance and upkeep; and**
  - iv) **the promotion of the use of senior government rehabilitation programs.**

#### 7.2.5 Condominium/Co-ownership Housing Conversion from Rental

1. A *condominium/co-ownership* conversion will refer to any change in the tenure status of an existing residential housing development from rental to *condominium* or *co-ownership* housing tenureship. Existing rental housing refers to projects containing any

*dwelling units* occupied by residential tenants or last occupied by residential tenants and currently vacant.

2. The conversion of rental accommodation to *condominium* or *co-ownership* housing tenureship will be considered on the merits of each proposal.
3. Conversion of rental accommodation to *condominium* or *co-ownership* housing may only be permitted where a Rental Conversion Report has been submitted demonstrating to the satisfaction of the City that no adverse impacts will result on the supply or range of rental housing provided, including its geographic distribution. Applicants may include a supplementary *vacancy rate* survey supplementing the *vacancy rates* reported by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).
4. The City will discourage the conversion of existing rental units to *condominium* or *co-ownership* housing when the *vacancy rate* for rental accommodation is below 3%, and will prohibit such conversions when the *vacancy rate* is below 1.5%. The *vacancy rate* shall be defined as the average *vacancy rate* of the latest two vacancy surveys conducted in Guelph by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The City may conduct supplementary *vacancy rate* surveys and modify the *vacancy rates* reported by CMHC in accordance with its own findings.
5. The City will utilize agreements setting out the specific conditions and standards for a *condominium* or *co-ownership* housing conversion.
6. When considering applications for *condominium* or *co-ownership* housing conversion, Council will have regard for:
  - i) **The number of units included in the conversion application;**
  - ii) **The number of rental units under construction at the time of application for conversion; and**
  - iii) **The impact of the conversion on the rental housing market (i.e., anticipated changes in *vacancy rates*).**

#### 7.2.6 Affordable Housing Implementation Policies

A variety of tools and techniques may be used to assist in the development of new *affordable housing*.

1. The City will undertake a review of municipal tools for the implementation of *affordable housing* to develop an appropriate approach for the City to meet identified *affordable housing* targets. The implementation strategy will include administration, communication and monitoring approaches.

#### Administration

2. In conjunction with the *Service Manager*, the City shall actively identify and promote *affordable housing* opportunities within the City to facilitate proponents of *affordable housing* in receiving funding from senior levels of government for the development of new *affordable housing*.

3. *Social housing* will be developed in conjunction with the *Service Manager*.
4. The City will support and assist the *Service Manager* in the preparation of a housing strategy to meet the housing needs of the most vulnerable in the city. The City will support and facilitate the provision of affordable rental housing through the Guelph Non-Profit Housing Corporation.
5. The City **will explore the feasibility of developing a 'land banking' program whereby** lands may be held in public ownership until senior government *affordable housing* funding becomes available.

#### Communication

6. The City, in conjunction with the *Service Manager*, will continue to promote and educate the public on current federal/provincial housing and financial assistance programs.
7. The City will promote and where appropriate establish on-going partnerships with both federal/provincial governments for surplus land and/or buildings.
8. The City will continue to advocate to senior levels of government for additional funding and tax incentives for low-income households and clearer legislative authority to implement *affordable housing*.

#### Monitoring

The City will develop and maintain an *affordable housing* monitoring system. Monitoring will include details on the *affordable housing* developments planned and constructed over the year and will set the new *affordable housing benchmark* prices for ownership and rental housing for the upcoming year. The information collected may be used to inform the prioritization and assignment of *development proposals in the City's Development Priorities Plan*.

9. The *affordable benchmark* price for ownership and rental housing will be monitored and established annually to reflect changing market conditions.
10. The *affordable housing* target will be reviewed as part of the Five Year Official Plan review.
11. The City will annually monitor:
  - i) the number and types of *affordable housing* produced through new residential *development* and *intensification* efforts;
  - ii) the number and types of *affordable housing* lost through demolition and *condominium conversion*;
  - iii) ownership and rental house prices;
  - iv) rental vacancy rates; and
  - v) achievement of the *affordable housing* targets of this Plan.



12. Based on monitoring results, priorities may be set among the various *affordable housing* needs.

### 7.3 Open Space System: Trails and Parks

**The City's open space system accommodates a variety of recreational pursuits while having regard for and complementing the City's natural areas.** The open space system consists of parks, trails and open space areas that are not part of but may be interconnected with or supportive of the Natural Heritage System and conservation lands as illustrated on Schedule 6. The open space system plays an important role in defining the character of the City and promoting community health and wellness.

This Plan sets out policies that protect and enhance the open space system for current and future generations.

#### Objectives

- a) To develop a connected open space system of trails and parks that provides residents with exposure to, awareness of and interaction with nature and contributes to community health and wellness.
- b) To develop a cohesive and comprehensive city-wide trail system that will connect people and places through a network that is off-road, wherever possible, and supported by on-road links where necessary.
- c) To create a hierarchy of open space, trails and parks based on size, function and population to be served.
- d) To provide a sufficient open space system of parks and trails to meet the active and passive recreational needs of residents that is accessible to all residents.
- e) To accommodate the unique and growing park and trail needs created by *residential intensification* with an emphasis on walkability.
- f) To reduce parkland deficiencies within City neighbourhoods.
- g) **To encourage the use of the City's parks as 'living community centres'** that provide animated spaces serving as activity hubs for neighbourhoods and the community at large in accordance with the Recreation, Parks and Culture Strategic Plan.
- h) To protect and enhance, trails, parks and open spaces for current and future generations.
- i) **To create and promote tourism attractions in the City's open space system.**
- j) To encourage indigenous biological diversity, naturalization and environmental enhancement in appropriate open space and park locations.
- k) To ensure that *urban forestry* is a key component of park design.

- I) To plan for appropriate interconnections, protection and enhancement opportunities between the open space system and the Natural Heritage System.

### 7.3.1 Trail Network

**The City's Trail Network is based on the Guelph Trail Master Plan which provides the vision** for a comprehensive network of off-road trails and on-road links that connect people and places throughout Guelph and potentially to neighbouring municipalities. The Trail Network is comprised of interconnected parks, recreation areas and other open spaces.

1. The City will continue to pursue the development of a Trail Network as set out in Schedule 6 and in accordance with the Guelph Trail Master Plan.
2. Where privately owned lands are shown on Schedule 6, this Plan does not imply that these lands are open to the general public or that these lands will be purchased by the City or any other public agency in the future.
3. Under most circumstances, trail development should be restricted to public lands; private lands will not be considered until a mutually agreeable arrangement between the City and the land owner has been prepared.
4. This Plan recognizes that all lands owned by the University of Guelph and the Homewood Corporation are under private ownership.
5. The following measures may be used to assist in realizing the objective of creating a publicly accessible linked Trail Network:
  - i) **acquiring land to complete the system through purchases, leases, *easements*, rights-of-way, dedications and any other applicable means;**
  - ii) **developing, for open space and park purposes, those City-owned lands that are located within the proposed system;**
  - iii) **integrating abandoned railway properties into the Trail Network as they become available;**
  - iv) **supporting measures by the Grand River Conservation Authority, or any other public agency, to improve the river banks; and**
  - v) **requiring, as part of a *development* proposal, lands to be reserved for future public open space, park and trail linkages, where applicable.**
6. The City will work to improve and expand on the Trail Network, add missing links and overcome physical barriers. Amendments to the Trail Network as illustrated on Schedule 6 will not be required for route revisions provided that the continuity of the network can be maintained.
7. The City may develop sections of the Trail Network to alleviate identified park deficiencies.

8. To improve attractiveness, continuity, accessibility and utility the City will develop linkages between parks at different levels of the park hierarchy. Such linkages may consist of:

- i) an environmental corridor, *ecological linkage* or open space area;
- ii) a walkway, right-of-way or *easement*;
- iii) a defined route that makes use of the street system;
- iv) walkways/trails through existing or proposed parks;
- v) abandoned, existing or proposed utility corridors;
- vi) abandoned or underused railway lines; and
- vii) storm drainage channels or natural drainage systems.

### 7.3.2 Park Hierarchy

Complemented by the City Trail Network, this Plan sets out a hierarchy of parks; differentiated primarily on the basis of function, size, amenity and population served. The Park Hierarchy consists of Urban Squares, Neighbourhood Parks, Community Parks and Regional Parks.

#### Urban Squares

Urban Squares will primarily be developed in areas of significant *intensification* in the city to address increased demands for recreation, parks and cultural opportunities.

1. Urban Squares are smaller in scale than Neighbourhood Parks and provide opportunities for passive recreation and social interaction.
2. The Urban Design Section of this Plan contains policies for the design of Urban Squares.

#### Neighbourhood Parks

Neighbourhood Parks will primarily cater to the needs and interests of the residents living within its general vicinity for unorganized, unstructured and spontaneous leisure activities. Neighbourhood Parks contain a mixture of passive areas, low to intermediate sports facilities, informal and formal play areas and may contain natural areas.

3. It is the policy of the City to maintain a minimum city-wide average rate of Neighbourhood Parks provision of 0.7 hectares /1000 population.
4. The following criteria will be considered in the provision of Neighbourhood Parks:
  - i) that the site is located within a five to ten minute walk from the residential area served (service radius of about 500 metres) and is unobstructed by major barriers;
  - ii) that the site, where feasible and desirable, is located adjacent to school sites;

- iii) that the site contains adequate street frontage for visibility and safety;
- iv) that the site can be linked, where feasible, to the trail network;
- v) that the site contains sufficient table land (approximately 80 percent of site) and is well drained, except where the site takes advantage of a specific *natural feature*; and
- vi) that the site has a minimum size of 1.0 hectare so that a variety of outdoor recreation activities may be accommodated.

### Community Parks

Community Parks are designed primarily to provide specialized recreation facilities for use by a wide segment of the population and serve more than one neighbourhood. In addition, these parks may also serve a Neighbourhood Park function.

5. Community Parks may be developed to provide facilities for active recreation at an intermediate and/or major level such as sportsfields, recreation and/or community centres. Community Parks may contain natural areas, beaches, trails, picnic areas, public recreation facilities and passive areas.
6. The City will maintain a minimum city-wide average rate of Community Parks of 1.3 hectares /1000 population.
7. The following criteria will be considered in the development of Community Parks:
  - i) that the site has direct access to an arterial or collector road and is accessible by public transit;
  - ii) that the site contains sufficient parking to meet anticipated demand;
  - iii) that the site contains sufficient table land to accommodate the needs of the active recreation facilities proposed for development;
  - iv) that the site can be linked, where feasible, to the overall trail network; and
  - v) that the site consists of between 10-20 hectares in size, depending upon the nature of the facilities proposed. However, a very specialized facility may be developed on a smaller site.

### Regional Parks

Regional parks are designed primarily to provide facilities or features that attract visitors from the local community and from the broader region. Regional parks may include: civic centres, botanical gardens, wildlife sanctuaries, natural reserves, scenic portions of waterway systems, museums, major historic sites, golf courses, university facilities, major sports and community recreational facilities.

8. The City will encourage the provision of Regional Park facilities at the rate of 1.3 hectares /1000 population.
9. The following criteria will be considered in the development of Regional Parks:
  - i) that the site has significant frontage on an arterial road;

- ii) that the site is accessible by public transit;
- iii) that the site contains sufficient parking for visitors and staff;
- iv) that the site can be linked or integrated into the trail network, where possible; and
- v) that the site normally is greater than 25 hectares.

#### 7.3.3 Public Consultation on Parkland Design

1. The general public and area residents will be consulted and engaged in the design and development process for park master plans as appropriate.

#### 7.3.4 Parkland Deficiencies

1. The City will work to reduce identified parkland deficiencies, where feasible, through the following measures:
  - i) by conducting further studies to determine which parks have potential for expansion and where such expansion is most desirable;
  - ii) by acquiring additional land to enlarge existing small parks, where appropriate;
  - iii) by acquiring vacant infill sites to create new small parks;
  - iv) by acquiring redundant school properties or parts thereof;
  - v) by improving the quality and usefulness of existing parks through better design and development;
  - vi) by encouraging and working with the local School Boards to upgrade the design and development of some of their open space areas;
  - vii) by developing portions of certain community or regional parks to meet neighbourhood needs;
  - viii) by identifying the Downtown as a high priority area for future park development within the river corridors and for the establishment of urban squares; and
  - ix) by enhancing connections between park and open space areas.

#### 7.3.5 Parkland Dedication

1. The City will require parkland dedication as a condition of *development, consent* or subdivision proposals in an amount up to:
  - i) 2% of the land for commercial or industrial purposes;
  - ii) 5% of the land or one hectare for each 300 *dwelling units* for residential purposes; and
  - iii) 5% of the land in all other cases.

2. Council may pass and update a by-law in accordance with the *Planning Act* outlining the rates of parkland dedication that are to be applied as a condition of the *development* approval process of land for residential and non-residential purposes.
3. *Natural heritage features* and *natural hazard lands* as outlined in this Plan will not be accepted as parkland dedication.
4. Urban squares and parks held in private ownership will not be considered part of parkland dedication.
5. Where a parkland dedication is required by this Plan, the City will ensure that the land is suitable for development as a park. Generally, the parkland acquired should satisfy the following criteria:
  - i) that the site satisfies the *development* criteria for the type of park proposed;
  - ii) that the site is not susceptible to major flooding, poor drainage, erosion, steep slopes or other environmental or physical conditions that would interfere with its potential development or use as an active public recreation area. Sites subject to these conditions may be integrated, where possible, into the development of municipal park areas by serving as pedestrian walkways, as part of a linear trail system, as passive recreation areas, or as natural areas;
  - iii) that the site is oriented to take advantage of favourable topography, vistas and mature stands of trees where possible and desirable; and
  - iv) that the lands be dedicated in a condition suitable for parkland development in accordance with the standards of the City.
6. Cash-in-lieu of parkland dedication may be required in the following circumstances:
  - i) where the application of the rate of parkland dedication would render the remaining portion of the development site unsuitable or impractical for *development*;
  - ii) where the amount of parkland dedication would be insufficient to accommodate the development of a desirable range of recreation facilities;
  - iii) where existing municipal parkland is available in sufficient quantity and quality to accommodate further *development* in the particular area; or
  - iv) where more suitable parcels of land are available for municipal park purposes in other locations.
7. Where cash-in-lieu of the parkland dedication is received by the City, priority will be placed on using the funds to meet the neighbourhood requirements in which the development is located. If the neighbourhood has sufficient parkland, the funds collected may be applied to other areas.
8. Parkland dedication requirements pursuant to the *Planning Act* may be used, whenever necessary and feasible, for the *conservation* of significant *cultural heritage resources*.

### 7.3.6 Other Agencies

The City is not the only provider of open space within the community. In order to enhance **the City's open space, parks and trails systems**, the City will work closely with the local School Boards, the Conservation Authority, the Province, public utilities and institutions, private organizations and individual property owners.

1. Where appropriate, the City may consider the following measures:

- i) encourage other agencies to provide parks and amenity areas for public use;
- ii) enter into joint use/management and development agreements with respect to the development of specific recreation facilities that are available to the general public;
- iii) provide linkages between municipal parks and open space areas and recreation facilities provided by other agencies or private organizations;
- iv) ensure that adequate private outdoor parks, open space, indoor and outdoor recreational facilities and amenities are provided as part of the regulations pertaining to the *development* of residential and non-residential uses in order to ensure a satisfactory living and working environment; and
- v) where parks standards may not be met in existing *built-up areas*, the City shall endeavour to increase the supply of parks through bequests, donations and partnerships with other public agencies.

2. School sites provide an important park resource within the community. The City will continue to co-operate with the local School Boards in obtaining new school sites and integrating such sites with municipal parks. More specifically, the City will pursue the following:

- i) where feasible, municipal parks will be developed in conjunction with elementary or secondary school sites;
- ii) where there is a shortage of Neighbourhood Parks or Community Parks and there are undeveloped school sites within the neighbourhood, or larger community, the City may enter into an agreement with the respective School Board regarding the development of the land for park purposes;
- iii) where municipal parks are obtained adjacent to a new school site, such parks shall be of a size, configuration, condition and location and have appropriate access so that they can function properly as a Neighbourhood Park or Community Park in the event that the school property is not developed;
- iv) where schools are not to be provided in a new residential neighbourhood, the City may provide additional Neighbourhood Parks at the rate of 0.7 hectare/1000 population; and
- v) where a school is to be closed by a local School Board and the neighbourhood in which the school is located is deficient in parks as a result, the City will consider the acquisition of the site and building, where

appropriate, to maintain the desired ratio of neighbourhood and/or community parkland and facilities.

#### 7.3.7 Recreation, Parks and Culture Strategic Master Plan

1. **The City's Recreation, Parks and Culture Strategic Master Plan identifies the needs and priorities** related to recreation, parks and cultural services, programs, and facilities within the City and how to implement these priorities.
2. The City will monitor and review the implementation of the Recreation, Parks and Culture Strategic Master Plan to ensure that the goals and objectives are being achieved and that they remain an accurate reflection of the community's needs and interests for recreational services.



## 8 Urban Design

Good urban design is fundamental to the creation of enduring, attractive and valued environments which are memorable and flexible and can evolve to accommodate changes in use over time. Adaptable and well-designed infrastructure networks, buildings and open spaces result in communities and places that remain viable and attractive for many generations, supporting civic and economic activity and a high quality of life. To achieve a *complete community*, the urban design policies contained in this Plan apply to all development within the city.

The urban design policies of this Plan apply to all land uses and public *infrastructure*.

### Objectives

- a) To create neighbourhoods with diverse opportunities for living, working, learning and playing.
- b) To build compact neighbourhoods that use land, energy, water and *infrastructure* efficiently and encourage walking.
- c) To showcase natural attributes as defining features that are an integral component **of the City's image, character** and Indigenous heritage by making them highly visible and accessible, especially lands along the Speed and Eramosa Rivers.
- d) **To engage in "place-making"** - developing infrastructure, spaces and buildings that are permanent and enduring, memorable and beautiful, adaptable and flexible, and valued.
- e) To *conserve and celebrate the City's cultural heritage resources* through the reuse of *built heritage* and *cultural heritage landscape* assets and ensuring that adjacent development responds to and respects these assets.
- f) To ensure that the design of the built environment promotes excellence in urban design by respecting the character of the existing distinctive areas and neighbourhoods of the city.
- g) To create a diversity of inviting and accessible gathering places that promote a full range of social, cultural and economic interaction.
- h) To establish a pattern of interconnected streets and pedestrian networks in which buildings frame and address public spaces.
- i) To allow for a range of architectural styles and promote expressions that bring interest and diversity in urban form and architectural design while responding appropriately to the local context and achieving *compatibility*.
- j) To design space that is accessible to all, regardless of abilities.
- k) To improve conditions for greater personal security within publicly accessible spaces by designing them to be attractive and comfortable to the public, increasing the potential for informal surveillance and reducing opportunities for crime.

- l) To preserve and enhance the identified and protected *public views* and *public vistas* of built and natural features.
- m) To design for a choice of mobility including walking, cycling, transit and driving.
- n) To require urban design that reduces energy and water demand through such measures as, but not limited to, orientation of streets and buildings and the implementation of active and passive *renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems* and water conservation strategies.

## Policies

### 8.1 Sustainable Urban Design

1. The design of site and building development will support energy efficiency and water conservation through the use of *alternative energy systems* or *renewable energy systems*, building orientation, sustainable building design, low impact stormwater infiltration systems, drought-resistant landscaping and similar measures.
2. New *development* shall be integrated with the existing topography where possible to maintain the physical character of the area and minimize the amount of grading and filling required.
3. New residential neighbourhoods shall be designed to ensure that most residents live within a 5 to 10 minute walk of amenities and transit stops.

### 8.2 Public Realm

1. A clearly identifiable *public realm* should be established in all residential areas consisting of an interconnected network of streets, parks, school sites, community trails and open spaces.
2. New residential *developments* shall be designed to be integrated and connected to surrounding existing neighbourhoods; providing full pedestrian and vehicular access including access to transit.
3. *Development* proposals shall extend, establish or reinforce a modified grid-like street network that:
  - i) connects with the existing urban fabric of streets, open spaces and developed areas;
  - ii) is highly interconnected;
  - iii) responds sensitively and creatively to natural and other established features;
  - iv) integrates with the pedestrian and bicycle networks;
  - v) supports the integration of viable transit service; and
  - vi) is designed to maximize opportunities for solar gain while respecting the built form policies of this Plan.

4. Block lengths shall be reasonably short especially within Community Mixed-use Nodes and *Intensification Corridors* and shall optimize connectivity for pedestrians and encourage walking. Longer blocks shall have adequately sized mid-block pedestrian links.
5. New cul-de-sacs may be permitted only when warranted by natural site conditions or to preserve *cultural heritage resources* in situ.
6. **Reverse lotting and 'window roads' (i.e. single loaded local roads flanking arterial and collector roads) should be avoided.**
7. Road design will balance the provisions for a safe, accessible, functional and attractive pedestrian-oriented environment with an acceptable level of motor vehicle traffic. To achieve a pedestrian oriented *public realm* and streetscape, a variety of techniques may be implemented, depending on the function and context of the road, including:
  - i) **widening sidewalks to allow for a comfortable pedestrian environment as well as retail displays, outdoor café seating, benches and shade street trees;**
  - ii) **reduced lane widths;**
  - iii) **provision of landscaped boulevards;**
  - iv) **provision of on-street parking;**
  - v) **provision of transit priority measures and bicycle infrastructure;**
  - vi) **provision of regular intersections of roads to allow for the creation of a modified grid system; and**
  - vii) **use of alternative road geometrics and materials at pedestrian crossing areas.**
8. The City will maintain a program of tree replacement within its right-of-ways in all areas of the city.
9. The planting of trees, shrubs and groundcover in street medians and shoulders shall be designed to allow for their long term health through the implementation of best practices for planting and maintenance. Planting in street medians and shoulders will generally be undertaken with low maintenance, drought resistant and salt tolerant plant species.
10. The City will coordinate street infrastructure elements such as lighting, parking areas, landscaping, transit shelters, trash containers, bicycle racks and signage to enable the continuity in character and function of the streetscape.
11. New *development* shall be designed to contribute to a pedestrian-oriented streetscape. This may be achieved through the use of strategies that are appropriate for the proposed *development* **and the site's context such as:**
  - i) **locating built form adjacent to, and addressing, the street edge;**
  - ii) **placing principal building entrances towards the street and corner intersections;**

- iii) maintaining or extending a continuous building façade or streetwall along the street;
- iv) providing for active uses that provide an interface with the *public realm* that enhances the liveliness and vibrancy of the street (e.g. seating, cafés, patios, displays);
- v) incorporating weather protection measures such as canopies, awnings, building projections or colonnades, where possible;
- vi) ensuring that street elements are coordinated with those within the public street right-of-way; and
- vii) ensuring that the placement of above-ground utilities do not visually detract from a cohesive streetscape through such strategies as clustering utilities in appropriate locations or containing them in other streetscape features.

### 8.3 Landmarks, Public Views, and Public Vistas

1. The City may identify existing landmarks or locations for new landmarks and require measures for their protection and retention. In general, signature buildings will be required at corner locations or at the apex of T-intersections to serve as new neighbourhood landmarks.
2. Key *public views* to the Church of Our Lady shall be identified and protected. *Public views* and *public vistas* to other *cultural heritage resources* or *natural heritage features* may be identified for protection. The City may initiate studies from time to time to identify significant *public views* and *public vistas*.
3. Parks, schools, places of worship and other community facilities should be established in visually prominent, central and accessible locations to serve as neighbourhood focal points or gathering places. These focal features should have good access to all forms of transportation, be created to a high standard of design and include uses serving the local community.
4. Opportunities to provide *public views* of Significant Natural Areas are strongly encouraged.
5. Reverse lotting onto Significant Natural Areas and other components of the *public realm* should be avoided.
6. Buildings should be oriented to maintain *public vistas* of Significant Natural Areas on lands adjacent to the site.
7. Streets should create view corridors and *public vistas* of Significant Natural Areas, the river valleys and park facilities.

### 8.4 Gateways

1. The City may identify certain desirable locations for gateway features and may require distinctive urban design forms at these locations. Gateways shall define a sense of entrance and contribute to community image and identity.

2. Major gateways will be located in visually prominent sites located at major entry points into the city.
3. Minor gateways are to be located at prominent intersections which are neighbourhood-scaled gateways or at secondary entry points into the city.
4. The following roads, where they intersect the City boundary, are considered major gateways:
  - i) Gordon Street;
  - ii) Woodlawn Road West;
  - iii) Victoria Road North;
  - iv) Woolwich Street;
  - v) Eramosa Road;
  - vi) York Road;
  - vii) Wellington Street West; and
  - viii) Stone Road East.
5. In addition to the City identified major gateways, the City will work with the Province to recognize and design the Hanlon Expressway (Highway 6) corridor as a significant city gateway through standards such as landscaping and lighting. *Development* abutting the Hanlon Expressway shall also recognize its function as a gateway through high-quality building design, appropriate signage and landscaping.
6. *Development* at gateways shall be required to meet a high standard of design, recognizing their role as a gateway and be appropriately oriented to the *public realm*.
7. Where a commercial or mixed-use development is located at the intersection of major streets, the *development* or *redevelopment* of each corner property are considered minor gateways and development will incorporate neighbourhood-scale gateway features. Generally this shall be accomplished through high-quality built form and may include pedestrian linkages into the site at the intersection.
8. Gateways to new neighbourhoods should create a sense of entrance and arrival contributing to community image and identity. Elements contributing to gateway features and design may include: trees and other landscaping, feature lighting, paving and public art.

## 8.5 Built Form: Low Rise Residential Forms

1. To create visual interest and diversity in the built environment, a wide variety of architectural designs are encouraged. However, new buildings proposed within older, established areas of the city are encouraged to be designed to complement the visual character and architectural/building material elements found in these areas

2. Dwellings should be sited with a consistent setback to provide human scale streets. Designs should incorporate features such as prominent entrances and front porches to encourage social interaction and allow for views along the street.
3. To ensure garages do not dominate the streetscape in new *development* and to **promote "eyes on the street"** the *Zoning By-law* shall limit their width such that garages do not generally exceed half the width of the house. Furthermore, the *Zoning By-law* shall limit garage door projection so that most garage doors are recessed and do not project ahead of the front wall of the house.
4. Rear lane development is generally encouraged. On narrow lots and particularly along arterials and within mixed-use areas, residential *developments* shall generally incorporate rear lanes to help create attractive streetscapes and minimize the impact of driveways on the pedestrian realm.
5. The retention of vegetation in front yards along residential streets is encouraged.

#### 8.6 Built Form: All Built Forms other than Low Rise Residential Forms

1. New buildings shall address the street. Buildings will enhance the rhythm and frequency of the immediate vicinity, and where appropriate will have entrances and windows that face the street.
2. The principal entrances of commercial and mixed-use buildings shall be oriented toward and/or visible from the street and provide direct user entrances from adjacent streets and walkways. Blank facades facing a street, open space or park shall not be permitted.
3. Commercial, employment and mixed-use buildings should be consistently located close to the street edge and sidewalk.
4. Corner buildings shall address both streets by providing two articulated façades facing the street.
5. Buildings adjacent to the street edge and at sites with high public visibility shall be designed to take into account their high public visibility by incorporating elements such as increased height, roof features, building articulation and high quality finishes and windows.
6. Intersections of major streets shall be emphasized by placing buildings in close proximity to the intersection and ensuring that building entrances are visible from that intersection.
7. Buildings will be designed to completely screen roof-top mechanical equipment from public view.
8. Long building facades that are visible along a public street will incorporate recesses, projections, windows or awnings, colonnades and/or landscaping along the length of the facade to reduce the mass of such facades.

9. The design of all commercial buildings and storefronts shall be in keeping with the character and identity of the community and its immediate context. This may require alternative or enhanced standard of corporate or franchise design. Buildings shall reflect the community and immediate context through features such as facade articulation, massing, architectural style, vertical windows, appropriate signage, building materials and exterior finishes.
10. **Where appropriate, a building's first storey shall generally be taller in height to accommodate a range of non-residential uses.**
11. Large buildings will incorporate architectural elements which will reduce the visual effects of flat roof lines.
12. Industrial buildings which incorporate an office component should be designed to locate the office at the street front of the building and are encouraged to have a minimum height of 2 storeys.
13. Generally, a minimum building height of 2 storeys will be encouraged to provide definition to streets and open spaces. Regulations for minimum building heights may be incorporated into the *Zoning By-law* for non-residential uses at key locations such as sites fronting onto arterial or collector roads, identified Main Streets and at intersections.
14. Site and building design should support and facilitate future *intensification* and *redevelopment* including strategies for building expansions. For example, ensuring that upper storey volumes can be infilled to create additional floor area.

#### 8.7 Built Form: Buildings in Proximity to Residential and Institutional Uses

1. Where commercial, employment or mixed-use development is located in proximity to residential and institutional uses the following urban design strategies will be employed to ensure *compatibility*:
  - i) using building massing and placement to reduce the visual effects of flat roof lines, blank facades or building height by means such as appropriately stepping back, terracing or setting back buildings;
  - ii) appropriately locating noise-generating activities within a building or structure and away from sensitive receptors;
  - iii) incorporating screening and noise attenuation for roof-top mechanical equipment and other noise generating activities situated in proximity to sensitive receptors;
  - iv) providing perimeter landscape buffering incorporating a generously planted landscape strip, berming and/or fencing to delineate property boundaries and to screen the commercial or employment use from the adjacent use; and

- v) designing exterior lighting and signage to prevent light spillage onto the adjacent property.

## 8.8 Built Form: Mid-rise Buildings

1. The following policies apply to mid-rise building forms, which generally means a building between four (4) and six (6) storeys:
  - i) mid-rise buildings shall be designed to frame the street they are fronting while allowing access to sunlight to adjacent properties;
  - ii) mid-rise buildings shall be designed to ensure that servicing and automobile parking are appropriately located and screened. Generally, this means that parking is provided underground or at the rear or side of the building;
  - iii) pedestrian access shall be provided to the principal entrance from the *public realm*;
  - iv) where buildings front onto a public street and are greater than 30 metres in length, building entrances should be located at regular intervals;
  - v) where buildings are taller than four (4) storeys, building length may be restricted through the *Zoning By-law* to reduce impacts such as shadowing; and
  - vi) shadow, view and microclimatic studies may be required to determine potential impacts arising from mid-rise buildings.

## 8.9 Built Form: High-rise Buildings

1. The following policies apply to tall building forms, which generally means buildings above six (6) storeys:
  - i) to ensure tall buildings act as landmarks, they shall incorporate a distinctive bottom (e.g., a podium), middle and top. Interesting architectural features and roof treatments should be considered for all rooftops of tall buildings;
  - ii) parking should be provided primarily below grade with limited visitor surface parking. Structured parking above-grade may be permitted, where appropriate;
  - iii) built-form studies addressing building massing, shadows, views and microclimatic studies (e.g., wind) may be required to determine the potential impacts to the surrounding neighbourhood arising from tall buildings;
  - iv) floor plate sizes of the tower portion (e.g., storeys five (5) and above) of the building may be limited to encourage slender and elegant tall building designs; and
  - v) the tower portion (e.g., storeys five (5) and above) of the building shall be carefully placed to ensure adequate spacing between towers to allow for solar access and privacy.



## 8.10 Built Form: Vehicle-oriented Uses

Vehicle-oriented uses include uses that facilitate the use and storage of private automobiles, such as vehicle service centres, vehicle repair and sales facilities, service stations and drive-through facilities.

1. Where vehicle-oriented uses are permitted, *development* shall be designed through a combination of site planning, landscaping and built form to:
  - i) conform to the applicable policies of this Plan;
  - ii) reinforce the street edge;
  - iii) contribute to a high quality *public realm* and streetscape; and
  - iv) ensure a clear separation of vehicular and pedestrian traffic to ensure ease of use and safety of movement for pedestrians.
2. Drive-through facilities, where permitted, will be regulated by the *Zoning By-law*. The *Zoning By-law* may restrict which zoning categories permit drive-through facilities. In addition to policy 8.10.1, drive-throughs, where permitted, shall be designed to:
  - i) locate stacking and drive-through lanes in rear or side yards and away from intersections. Stacking and drive-through lanes shall not be located between the building and the fronting street to minimize the impact on pedestrians;
  - ii) provide adequate landscaping adjacent to stacking and drive-through lanes where they are adjacent to other properties and parking areas; and
  - iii) avoid the location of drive-through lanes adjacent to a use that would be negatively affected by noise, light and activity levels associated with these facilities.
3. Service stations, where permitted, shall be:
  - i) limited to one service station per intersection excluding the Community Mixed-use Centres where service stations shall not be permitted at the intersection of arterial roads, collector roads and arterial with collector roads;
  - ii) designed to reinforce street edges by locating the principal building at or near the street edge with direct pedestrian access into the building from the street edge;
  - iii) designed to ensure that the principal building does not present a blank façade to the street by appropriately incorporating elements such as: clear glazing; openings; and architectural treatment, materials and detailing;
  - iv) designed to address building massing, materials and scale as well as issues specific to service station uses including canopies, pumps and islands for gas bars, ancillary buildings and structures, signage and lighting; and
  - v) where a car wash is permitted, designed so that the car wash building will be oriented away from the street edge while still maintaining appropriate setbacks, landscaping and allowing for adequate automobile queuing.

### 8.11 Transition of Land Use

1. To achieve *compatibility* between different land uses, *development* will be designed to create an appropriate transition through the provisions of roads, landscaping, spatial separation of land uses and *compatible* built form.
2. Where proposed buildings exceed the built height of adjacent buildings, the City may require the new buildings to be stepped back, terraced or set back to reduce adverse impacts on adjacent properties and/or the streetscape.

### 8.12 Parking

1. Building placement in combination with landscaping shall be used to screen surface parking areas. Surface parking areas should generally be located at the rear or side of buildings and not between the front of a building and the street. Where permitted adjacent to the *public realm*, surface parking areas shall be designed in a manner that contributes to an attractive *public realm* by providing screening and landscaping. Generously sized landscape strips incorporating combinations of landscaping and/or decorative fencing or walls should be provided adjacent to the street edge to provide aesthetically pleasing views into the site while screening surface parking areas.
2. Underground or structured parking is encouraged to reduce or eliminate the need for surface parking.
3. Surface parking areas shall not be permitted immediately adjacent to the corners of an intersection.
4. Walkways should be provided directly from parking areas and municipal sidewalks to the main entrance(s) of the building(s). These walkways should be well articulated, safe, accessible and integrated with the overall network of pedestrian linkages in the area to create a comfortable walking environment. Landscaping should enhance the walkway.
5. Large surface parking areas should be divided into smaller and defined sections through the use of appropriately-sized landscaped strips, islands and/or pedestrian walkways.
6. Bicycle parking shall be provided and conveniently located in close proximity to building entrances. Sheltered bicycle parking should be integrated into the built form.
7. Above-grade parking structures shall be designed to provide well-articulated facades facing streets. Street-related uses on the ground level of the parking structure should be provided where appropriate and feasible to contribute to an active pedestrian realm and screen the parking structure.
8. Surface parking areas adjacent to ground-related residential uses should be separated by a landscape strip incorporating combinations of landscaping and/or decorative fencing or walls.

9. The *Zoning By-law* may establish the maximum length of frontage along arterial roads that may be used for surface parking. This provision may provide different standards for various land uses.
10. For underground and above-grade parking structures, driveway access and ramp locations shall be located to reduce conflicts with pedestrians and minimize negative impacts on the streetscape.
11. In the Industrial, Corporate Business Park and Institutional/Research Park designations, surface parking for employees should be located in the rear or side yard. Only very limited parking, such as visitor parking may be permitted in the front yard.
12. Surface parking areas are encouraged to be designed to support *redevelopment* and retrofitting and to enable the transition to structured or underground parking as site development evolves.

### 8.13 Access, Circulation, Loading and Storage Areas

1. Shared driveways are encouraged for employment, commercial and mixed-use sites to reduce access points and reduce conflicts with pedestrians.
2. Major driveway entrances to large employment, commercial and mixed-use sites should be defined by landscaping on either side of the driveway and/or by landscaped medians.
3. Private roads and internal driveways required for site circulation shall be designed to be comfortable for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. They should be physically defined by raised curbs and, where appropriate, landscaped where they intersect with a parking area or driveway. Internal driveways or roads will be used to divide large sites into a grid of blocks and roadways to facilitate safe pedestrian and vehicular movement. Internal driveways will be designed to interconnect with adjacent properties to create an overall cohesive and integrated circulation network.
4. Well-articulated and distinct pedestrian walkways should be placed along a building street frontage and linked to public boulevards, public sidewalks, transit stops, trail systems and other pedestrian systems.
5. Pedestrian systems shall incorporate landscaping, pedestrian scale lighting and be defined by distinct materials and/or raised walkways.
6. Loading bays, waste service areas and building utilities/mechanical equipment should be located within a building. If permitted outside a building, they shall not be located immediately adjacent to an intersection, will be directed away from a public street, park, river, public open space or residential area or adequately screened if this is not possible.
7. Where outdoor storage is permitted, it shall not be located between a building and a street edge or a building and the intersection of streets.

## 8.14 Signage

1. Signs, display areas and lighting should be *compatible* in scale and intensity to the proposed activity and tailored to the size, type and character of a development or the space to be used.
2. Signs on *cultural heritage resources*, including within *Heritage Conservation Districts* or within *cultural heritage landscapes* shall be *compatible* with the heritage character of the property, district or landscape and may be regulated in accordance with the provisions of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, as applicable.
3. Signage should be incorporated into the building facade design.
4. Commercial signage should be displayed at a consistent height on building facades such as at the top of the ground floor. Signage shall generally not be permitted on the top of buildings or poles.

## 8.15 Display Areas

1. Where outdoor display areas are associated with a large building, the use of landscape elements such as plantings, decorative fencing and architectural elements such as façade extensions and canopies shall be incorporated for effective integration with the overall development.
2. Outdoor display areas adjacent to street edges should generally be avoided but may be permitted for vehicle sales subject to the regulations of the *Zoning By-law*. However, well-designed, pedestrian-scaled outdoor display areas that contribute to a comfortable and safe *public realm* may be permitted in areas of high pedestrian traffic provided that safety and accessibility are not compromised.

## 8.16 Lighting

1. Lighting of buildings and sites shall be provided at levels sufficient for building identification and safety.
2. All building and site lighting shall be oriented and shielded to minimize the infringement of light and the creation of glare on adjacent properties or public roads. Outdoor lighting should incorporate energy efficiencies such as sensors and timers and direct light away from the night sky. However, lighting of prominent buildings, monuments and other built features to accentuate civic and architectural design may be permitted.
3. Adequate pedestrian-scaled lighting to accent walkways, steps, ramps, transit stops and other features should be provided.

## 8.17 Landscaping and Development

1. Landscaping shall:
  - i) **create visual interest by framing important views and focal points;**

- ii) stabilize slopes and, where appropriate, naturalize areas of a site;
- iii) complement built form; and
- iv) contribute to the creation of a high-quality *public realm*.

2. The selection of plant material:

- i) should be of an appropriate quantity, size, shape, colour and texture that complement and contrast the built form and reflect the site's size and context;
- ii) shall provide seasonal interest;
- iii) shall be appropriate to site conditions (e.g. salt and wind tolerant when adjacent to roadways);
- iv) is encouraged to be of indigenous stock and from locally grown sources;
- v) adjacent to Natural Heritage System, should be indigenous and non-invasive to help prevent the degradation of the existing ecosystem through unwanted seed dispersal;
- vi) shall provide for a diversity of species to minimize potential issues of significant plant losses due to disease, insects and/or fungal infestations;
- vii) is encouraged to promote naturalization and reduce the use of sod; and
- viii) is encouraged to provide shade where appropriate.

3. Where possible existing trees should be retained on-site and where appropriate suitable new trees should be planted on-site, in the street right-of-way or in other City-approved locations.

4. Where appropriate, trees should be used to help define the image of neighbourhoods, streets and parks.

5. Where required, buffer strips shall consist of plant material that, at maturity, will form a visual barrier, in combination with other strategies such as fencing.

## 8.18 Safety

1. Sidewalks and community trails should be visible, accessible and aligned along well-used public spaces.

2. New *development* should be designed in a manner that:

- i) provides opportunity for informal surveillance of outdoor spaces ("eyes on the street"), including public parks, streets and parking areas;
- ii) clearly marks the transition or boundary between public and private spaces;
- iii) includes materials that allow for the built environment to be effectively and efficiently maintained;
- iv) provides adequate lighting in accordance with Sections 8.14, 8.15 and 8.16 of this Plan; and

- v) provides for multiple walking routes, where appropriate.

### 8.19 Accessible Design

1. The City as an employer and provider of services is committed to barrier free access. Accordingly, the City will:
  - i) take a leadership role in achieving and setting an example to the business, institutional and volunteer sectors in terms of physical access, integration, employment equity, communications, recreation, transportation, housing and education;
  - ii) establish and implement processes that identify barriers and gaps in existing services and facilities;
  - iii) adhere to the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act* and the Standard of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act; and
  - iv) continue to improve the level of accessibility of municipal services, parks and facilities by complying with the Facility Accessibility Design Manual (2005) or successor thereto, in all design, *development* and operation of new and renovated municipal services and facilities.
2. Accessibility standards and designs will be implemented through *development*, including transportation and parking in accordance with the ***Accessibility for Ontarians' Disability Act*** and the *Ontario Building Code*.
3. The City will encourage the modification of new and existing private buildings and facilities, including parking, to improve the level of accessibility in accordance with the **City's Facility Accessibility Design Manual**.
4. The City will implement the standards of the Facility Accessibility Design Manual (2005) or successor thereto, in the design, construction and renovation of all City facilities.
5. The City will design and provide municipal *infrastructure* and set development standards that promote the provision of a universally accessible environment.

### 8.20 Urban Squares

1. Urban Squares, such as plazas, courtyards and piazzas, are publicly-accessible open space with sitting areas and shade trees that allow for passive use, special events and social interaction. They are often predominantly hard-surfaced. Urban squares may be included within Community Mixed-use Nodes, along Intensification Corridors and within Downtown. Urban Squares will be framed by buildings with ground-floor uses that provide activity throughout the day.
2. Large *development* projects may include a single, large scale urban square and/or a series of smaller urban squares.
3. Hard and soft landscape elements and features within the urban square shall be designed to define and articulate activity areas, circulation, entry points, seating and

gathering areas, as well as the relationship between adjacent buildings and the streetscape.

4. Urban squares may be dedicated to the City as parkland or may remain in private ownership. Where an urban square is to remain in private ownership it shall be built and maintained by the landowner to the satisfaction of the City. An *easement* with the City may be required to ensure that the urban square is open and accessible to the public at all times or as identified in the *easement* agreement.

## 8.21 Public Art

1. The City will promote the provision of public art in publicly accessible areas. Public art is encouraged to be incorporated into buildings, *infrastructure* or landscapes to contribute to interesting and memorable places for residents and visitors alike. Public art can be used to commemorate important persons or events. Public art may include statues, paintings, murals, fountains, sculptures, banners, plaques and memorials, which enhance or contribute to a sense-of-place.
2. Development that attracts significant pedestrian traffic is strongly encouraged to include public art in the design of the building and/or site.
3. The installation of public art as part of public infrastructure projects will be considered, where appropriate.
4. The City will develop a policy for public art sited on or staged in municipally owned public space.

## 8.22 Development Adjacent to River Corridors

1. *Development* on lands adjacent to the river corridor should face, focus and feature the river in context with the natural characteristics of the property and surrounding built form.
2. *Development* proposals shall orient ground level building facades towards the Speed River in Downtown. This is to be accomplished by:
  - i) **requiring building designs to have entrances and windows which face the river;**
  - ii) **locating parking areas to not be visually apparent from the river's edge; and**
  - iii) **restricting the location of loading bays, garbage service areas and storage areas and blank walls from facing the river. Landscaping and screening may be used to provide a visual buffer where these functions cannot be relocated.**
3. The City will encourage improvements to riverfront lands that are available for public use (e.g. improved pedestrian and cycling amenities) along with the retention or restoration of *natural heritage features*, the *water resource system* and *cultural heritage resources*, where possible.

4. Identified *public views* and *public vistas* to the Speed and Eramosa Rivers and landmarks within these river corridors shall be retained and enhanced.
5. Continuous public accessibility along the Speed and Eramosa River corridors shall be promoted through the conveyance of land through the *development* process and other appropriate methods of public acquisition.
6. Buildings and landscapes shall be designed in a manner that ensures physical access to the river. Special building placement and design considerations may be required to protect as well as to optimize *public views*, *public vistas* and access to the river.

### 8.23 Urban Design Implementation

1. The City will continue to highlight the importance of urban design in all matters related to the planning and development of the City and to set out a course of action aimed at achieving good urban design on a broad and consistent basis through measures such as but not limited to:
  - i) **implementing and updating the Urban Design Action Plan;**
  - ii) **urban design guidelines;**
  - iii) **architectural control and design review;**
  - iv) **Urban Design briefs;**
  - v) **municipal development engineering standards;**
  - vi) **subdivision approval;**
  - vii) **the Zoning By-law;**
  - viii) **urban design review panel(s); and**
  - ix) **site plan control.**
2. Where appropriate, the Zoning By-law will be used to implement the urban design policies of this Plan and include regulations that promote compatibility in built form and appropriate infill projects.
3. The City may prepare and update urban design guidelines to assist in the interpretation and definition of urban design elements as outlined in this Plan. Detailed urban design guidelines may be prepared for the city as a whole, or for specific areas, land uses and/or built form typologies.



# 9 Land Use

This Chapter establishes the objectives, policies and permitted uses for each of the land use designations identified on Schedule 2. The land use designations and policies provide direction for *development* and the basis for decision-making involving applications under the *Planning Act*.

Secondary Plans, adopted through amendment to this Plan, may require more detailed policies and land use schedules for the areas to which they apply.

Schedule 2 establishes the pattern of land use in the City by establishing the following Land Use Designations:

RESIDENTIAL

- Low Density Residential
- Medium Density Residential
- High Density Residential
- Rolling Hills Estate Residential

EMPLOYMENT

- Industrial
- Corporate Business Park
- Institutional Research Park
- Mixed Business

COMMERCIAL and MIXED-USE

- Commercial Mixed-use Centre
- Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2)
- Neighbourhood Commercial Centre
- Service Commercial
- Mixed Office / Commercial

NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM

- Significant Natural Areas
- Natural Areas

OTHER

- Major Institutional
- Open Space and Parks
- Major Utility
- Special Study Area
- Reserve Lands

## 9.1 All Land Use Designations excluding Natural Heritage System

The following permitted uses and policies apply to all land use designations excluding Natural Heritage System.

### 9.1.1 Permitted Uses

1. The following uses may be permitted in all land use designations excluding the Natural Heritage System subject to the applicable policies of this Plan:

- i) public and private *infrastructure*;
- ii) urban agriculture; and
- iii) municipal parks and municipal recreation facilities.

2. All *development* and *site alteration* proposed adjacent to the Natural Heritage System shall be subject to the Natural Heritage System provisions.

### 9.1.2 Public and Private Infrastructure

1. The following public and private *infrastructure* may be permitted in all land use designations, unless otherwise limited by the provisions of this Plan:

- i) all electric power facilities (e.g. transmission lines, transformer and distribution stations) provided that such development satisfies the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and any other relevant Acts or regulations;
- ii) utilities and services necessary for the supply and distribution of *municipal water* and sewage, public roads, bridges and railway lines, subject to the *Environmental Assessment Act*, where applicable, and the provisions of this Plan;
- iii) any *infrastructure*, building or facility of the City of Guelph, provided that such development satisfies the provisions of the *Environmental Assessment Act*, where applicable;
- iv) the facilities and *infrastructure* lines of any privately owned utility but not including uses such as, administrative offices, sales outlets, studios, garages, depots or yards; and
- v) non-exempt renewable energy systems and alternative energy systems for generation.

2. Notwithstanding policy 9.1.2.1, *non-exempt renewable energy systems* and *alternative energy systems* may only be permitted within residential designations provided the energy generated directly serves those nearby residential uses (e.g., a combined heat and power plant with an associated *district energy* system).

3. The implementing *Zoning By-law* may establish zoning categories in which the uses listed in policy 9.1.2.1 may not be permitted.

4. Public and private *infrastructure* listed in policy 9.1.2.1 shall only be permitted if:

- i) the facilities are in conformity with the objectives and policies of the land use designations where they are proposed;
  - ii) the facilities are *compatible* in scale, magnitude, function and character with the residential environment where proposed adjacent to or within a designation permitting residential uses;
  - iii) the facilities do not have an adverse impact on residential and other *sensitive land uses* with regard to traffic and parking, or cause disturbances such as noise, odour, air or water pollution, dust or vibration;
  - iv) the facility is designed and located to mitigate impacts through appropriate measures such as setbacks, screening, landscaping and enclosing structures; and
  - v) the facility does not adversely fragment or bisect a residential area, or adversely impact the development potential of adjacent areas, which have been designated for future *development*.
5. Where there is some question as to the *adverse effects* a proposed land use may have on the environment, the City will consult with appropriate authorities to be satisfied that any such effect or risk of effects can be appropriately mitigated through Federal or Provincial legislative requirements and associated regulations prior to permitting such use. City Council will not permit uses or *development* when such consultation indicates that the use represents a significant health or safety risk to the public, employees or the environment.

### 9.1.3 Urban Agriculture

#### Objectives

- a) To encourage *urban agriculture* throughout the city in appropriate locations.
- b) To support a local food system including the cultivation of food within the urban environment.

#### Policies

- 1. *Urban agriculture* including community gardens may be permitted in all land use designations with the exception of Natural Areas and Significant Natural Areas unless otherwise limited by the provisions of this Plan and will be subject to City by-laws and guidelines.
- 2. New *livestock-based agricultural operations* or the expansion of existing *livestock-based agricultural operations* will not be permitted within any land use designation.
- 3. Notwithstanding policy 9.1.3.2, this Plan does not restrict livestock-based instruction, research and animal care on any lands used by the University of Guelph.
- 4. The City recognizes that as *development* occurs on the outskirts of the developed area of the city that existing agricultural and rural uses will gradually disappear. The City

recognizes agriculture as a valuable activity and encourages existing *agricultural uses* to continue until these lands are required for *development*.

5. The City is supportive of a local food system that includes access to healthy foods at a **neighbourhood level, the Guelph Farmers' Market, temporary farmers' markets and** community gardens.
6. The City promotes the use of underutilized sites and long-term development parcels for *urban agriculture* where appropriate and feasible, without limiting the potential for future *development*.
7. Locations for community gardens may be identified as part of the *development* approvals process. The City encourages the provision of space for community gardens, including roof top gardens, in addition to community amenity area requirements for new multiple residential development sites.
8. The City will encourage community gardens by facilitating the use of parks and underutilized public lands for community gardens according to City guidelines.
9. The City may partner with community stakeholders to develop mechanisms to promote *urban agriculture* and to mitigate or remove barriers to *urban agriculture*.
10. The City may collaborate with appropriate stakeholders and local partners to develop strategies that advance a healthy, sustainable, secure, resilient, accessible, economically vibrant and equitable food system. Such strategies may address the following among other topics:
  - i) **planning for locations for food production, processing, distribution, storage and waste management;**
  - ii) **planning for food security; and**
  - iii) **pursuing opportunities for education and community building around local food.**

## 9.2 Residential Uses

### 9.2.1 General Policies for Residential Uses

1. *Affordable housing* is encouraged wherever residential uses are permitted.
2. The City shall provide for the creation of *additional residential dwelling units* and specific regulations for *additional residential dwelling units* will be established in the Zoning Bylaw.

### 9.2.2 Special Needs Housing

1. *Special needs housing* shall be permitted within land use designations where residential uses are permitted.
2. The City in conjunction with the County, Provincial and Federal governments will support the development and retention of *special needs housing* throughout the city.

3. *Group homes* shall be permitted in all areas of the city where residential uses are allowed in accordance with the policies of this Plan, and provided that:
  - i) Adequate residential amenities and services are available nearby; and
  - ii) In instances where a *group home* is located within a residential designation, it is of a size and land use character, which is similar to, or *compatible* with the existing area.
4. The *Zoning By-law* will specifically define the various types of *special needs housing* and will establish regulations regarding such matters as minimum distance separation between facilities, minimum standards for occupancy and site development.
5. Where an amendment to the *Zoning By-law* is required to permit *special needs housing*, such amendments will consider:
  - i) The nature of the proposed use and its *compatibility* with the immediate neighbourhood;
  - ii) The objective of community integration;
  - iii) The existing *Zoning By-law* regulations;
  - iv) Specific performance standards such as dwelling type, buffering, minimum amenity area and minimum floor space; and
  - v) Access to community facilities such as education, public transit and recreation.

#### 9.2.3 Lodging Houses

1. *Lodging houses* may be permitted within land use designations permitting residential uses as outlined on Schedule 2 provided that:
  - i) Adequate residential amenities and services are available nearby; and
  - ii) In instances where a *lodging house* is located within a residential designation, it is of a size and land use character which is similar to, or *compatible* with the built form of the existing area.
2. The implementing *Zoning By-law* will specifically regulate *lodging houses* and the appropriate zones in which they may be permitted.

#### 9.2.4 Additional Residential Dwelling Units within a Separate Building on the Same Lot as the Primary Dwelling and Garden Suites

1. *Additional residential dwelling units* within a separate building on the same lot as the primary *dwelling* and *garden suites* may be permitted within land use designations permitting residential uses as alternative forms of housing in conjunction with detached, semi-detached and townhouse forms of housing.
2. The following criteria will be used as the basis for permitting *additional residential dwelling units* within a separate building on the same lot as the primary *dwelling* and *garden suites*:

- i) the use is subordinate in scale and function to the primary *dwelling* on the lot;
  - ii) the use can be integrated into its surroundings with negligible visual impact to the streetscape;
  - iii) the use is situated on an appropriately-sized housing lot;
  - iv) the use is *compatible* in design and scale with the built form of the primary *dwelling unit*;
  - v) the orientation of the use will allow for optimum privacy for both the occupants of the new additional residential dwelling units within a separate building on the same lot as the primary *dwelling* or *garden suite* and the primary *dwelling* on the lot; and
  - vi) any other siting requirements related to matters such as servicing, parking and access requirements, storm water management and tree preservation can be satisfied.
3. *Additional residential dwelling units* within a separate building on the same lot as the primary *dwelling* will be regulated by the provisions of the implementing *Zoning By-law* and shall be subject to site plan control.
  4. *Garden suites* will be regulated in accordance with the Temporary use By-law provisions of this Plan and shall be subject to site plan control.

#### 9.2.5 Home Occupations

1. Home occupations will be permitted within designations of this Plan permitting residential uses.
2. A home occupation may be permitted as an ancillary activity within a *dwelling unit*. A home occupation may be permitted as a subordinate activity to a residential use subject to the following *development* criteria, which will regulate the scale and extent of such activities:
  - i) only persons residing within the *dwelling unit* will be permitted to operate the home occupation;
  - ii) the home occupation shall be *compatible* with adjoining residential properties and shall preserve the amenity of the overall residential neighbourhood;
  - iii) the home occupation shall not change the principal character or external appearance of the dwelling and property involved; and
  - iv) no aspect of the home occupation shall be visible from outside the property.
3. The implementing *Zoning By-law* will provide regulations for the development of home occupations.

### 9.3 Residential Designations

The following objectives and policies apply to the Residential designations identified on Schedule 2:

- Low Density Residential
- Rolling Hills Estate Residential
- Medium Density Residential
- High Density Residential.

#### Objectives

- a) To ensure that an adequate amount of residential land is available to accommodate the anticipated population growth over the planning horizon.
- b) To facilitate the development of a full range of housing types, affordability, densities and tenure to meet a diversity of lifestyles and the social needs, health and well-being of current and future residents, throughout the city.
- c) To encourage and support *special needs housing* throughout the city.
- d) To provide for higher densities of residential *development* in appropriate locations to ensure that *transit-supportive densities, compact urban form, walkable communities* and energy efficiencies are achieved.
- e) To ensure *compatibility* between various housing forms and between residential and non-residential uses.
- f) To maintain the general character of built form in existing established residential neighbourhoods while accommodating *compatible* residential infill and *intensification*.
- g) To direct new residential *development* to areas where municipal services and *infrastructure* are available or can be provided in an efficient and cost effective manner.
- h) To encourage the distribution of local *convenience commercial* uses and institutional uses in appropriate locations within residential areas.
- i) To ensure new *development* is *compatible* with the surrounding land uses and the general character of neighbourhoods.
- j) To promote innovative housing types and forms in order to ensure accessible, affordable, adequate and appropriate housing for all socio-economic groups.
- k) To ensure that existing and new residential *development* is located and designed to facilitate and encourage convenient access to employment, shopping, institutions and recreation by walking, cycling or the use of transit.

- l) To support home occupations throughout the city where residential uses are permitted.
- m) To encourage conservation and rehabilitation of older housing to maintain housing stock and the character of the established residential neighbourhoods.

### 9.3.1 General Policies

#### 9.3.1.1 Development Criteria for Multi-Unit Residential Buildings and Intensification Proposals

The following criteria will be used to assess *development* proposals for multi-unit residential *development* within all residential designations and for *intensification* proposals within existing residential neighbourhoods. These criteria are to be applied in conjunction with the applicable Urban Design policies of this Plan.

1. Building form, scale, height, setbacks, massing, appearance and siting are *compatible* in design, character and orientation with buildings in the immediate vicinity.
2. Proposals for residential lot infill will be *compatible* with the general frontage of lots in the immediate vicinity.
3. The residential *development* can be adequately served by local convenience and neighbourhood shopping facilities, schools, trails, parks, recreation facilities and public transit.
4. Vehicular traffic generated from the proposed *development* will not have an unacceptable impact on the planned function of the adjacent roads and intersections.
5. Vehicular access, parking and circulation can be adequately provided and impacts mitigated.
6. That adequate municipal *infrastructure*, services and amenity areas for residents can be provided.
7. Surface parking and driveways shall be minimized.
8. *Development* shall extend, establish or reinforce a publicly accessible street grid network to ensure appropriate connectivity for pedestrians, cyclist and vehicular traffic, where applicable.
9. Impacts on adjacent properties are minimized in relation to grading, drainage, location of service areas and microclimatic conditions, such as wind and shadowing.
10. The *development* addresses public safety, identified *public views* and accessibility to open space, parks, trails and the Natural Heritage System, where applicable.
11. The *conservation* and integration of *cultural heritage resources*, including identified key *public views* can be achieved subject to the provisions of the *Cultural Heritage Resources* Section of this Plan.



#### 9.3.1.2 Non-Residential Uses in Residential Designations

1. Within the residential designations of this Plan, a variety of small-scale non-residential uses may be permitted that are complementary to and serve the needs of residential neighbourhoods. Such non-residential uses include:
  - i) schools;
  - ii) places of worship;
  - iii) child care centres;
  - iv) municipal open space, parks, trails and recreation facilities; and
  - v) *convenience commercial* uses limited to a maximum *gross floor area* of 400 square metres on a property.
2. Non-residential uses shall be developed in a manner that is *compatible* with adjoining residential properties and which preserves the amenities of the residential neighbourhood.
3. In addition to the Urban Design policies of this Plan, non-residential uses shall:
  - i) be located on an arterial or collector road;
  - ii) be located on the property in a manner which minimizes the impact of traffic, noise, signs and lighting on adjoining residential properties;
  - iii) have adequate landscaping and screening to promote *compatibility* with adjacent activities;
  - iv) have sufficient off-street parking, circulation and access points; and
  - v) have adequate municipal services.

#### 9.3.1.3 Schools

1. Potential school sites are identified by the local school boards and are shown by symbol on Schedule 2 where applicable. The location of proposed schools will be subject to the following provisions:
  - i) the symbols used to identify potential school sites do not represent a specific land use designation or location;
  - ii) minor shifts in location may occur without amendment to this Plan;
  - iii) the symbol does not represent a commitment by a local school board to construct a school facility;
  - iv) the determination of whether a school site is required, its exact location and land area shall generally be determined as part of the City's draft plan of subdivision approval process; and
  - v) where it is determined that a school is not required, the underlying land use designation will apply, without amendment to this Plan.

### 9.3.2 Low Density Residential

This designation applies to residential areas within the city which are currently, or planned to be, predominantly low-density in character.

#### Permitted Uses

1. The following uses may be permitted subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) **detached, semi-detached and duplex dwellings; and**
  - ii) **multiple unit residential buildings, such as townhouses and apartments.**

#### Height and Density

The following height and density policies apply within this designation:

2. The maximum height shall be three (3) storeys within the *delineated built-up area*. The maximum height shall be four (4) storeys within the *designated greenfield area*.
3. The maximum *net density* is 35 units per hectare within the *delineated built-up area*. The maximum *net density* within the *designated greenfield area* and for sites located on arterial roads within the *delineated built-up area* is 60 units per hectare. This policy applies to multiple unit residential buildings such as townhouses and apartments.

### 9.3.3 Medium Density Residential

The use of land within the Medium Density Residential Designation will be medium density housing forms.

#### Permitted Uses

1. The following uses may be permitted subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) **multiple unit residential buildings, such as townhouses and apartments.**

#### Height and Density

2. The minimum height is two (2) storeys and the maximum height is six (6) storeys.
3. The maximum *net density* is 100 units per hectare and not less than a minimum *net density* of 35 units per hectare.

### 9.3.4 High Density Residential

The predominant use of land within the High Density Residential Designation shall be high density multiple unit residential building forms.

#### Permitted Uses

1. The following uses may be permitted subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) **multiple unit residential buildings generally in the form of apartments.**

## Height and Density

2. The minimum height is three (3) storeys and the maximum height is ten (10) storeys.
3. The maximum *net density* is 150 units per hectare and not less than a minimum *net density* of 100 units per hectare.
4. Within *strategic growth areas*, the maximum *net density* is 250 units per hectare.

### 9.3.5 Rolling Hills Estate Residential

This designation applies to lands containing low density estate residential uses on large lots that are serviced by private individual on-site water and wastewater services. The extension of municipal services is not anticipated to occur within this designation within the horizon of this Plan.

#### Permitted Uses

1. The following use may be permitted on existing lots of record subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) **detached dwellings**
2. Notwithstanding the servicing policies of this Plan, *additional residential dwelling units* may be permitted on existing lots of record with private individual on-site water and wastewater services, if demonstrated capacity is available.
3. Where municipal sewage and municipal water services are extended and are available, the permitted uses and policies of the Low Density Residential designation, Section 9.3.2 of this Plan, shall apply.

## 9.4 Commercial and Mixed-use Designations

The Commercial and Mixed-use designations are intended to provide a range of uses to meet the needs of daily living. The commercial policies of this Plan are supportive of the dispersal of commercial uses throughout the city while discouraging the creation of strip development. Commercial centres are intended to be *transit-supportive* developments linked to surrounding neighbourhoods by sidewalks and trails. The Commercial Mixed-use Centres and Mixed-use Corridors are intended to develop over time into distinct areas with centralized public spaces that provide a range of uses including, retail and office uses, *live/work* opportunities and medium to high density residential uses.

#### Objectives

- a) To ensure that an adequate supply of commercial land is provided throughout the city at appropriate locations to meet the needs of residents and businesses.
- b) To promote a distinct identity and character for commercial and mixed-use development through high standards of urban design.

- c) To promote the continued economic vitality, *intensification* and revitalization of existing designated commercial and mixed-use areas.
- d) To create mixed-use areas that are pedestrian oriented and *transit-supportive*.

#### 9.4.1 Market Impact Studies

1. Subject to the policies of Section 1.3, proposals to establish new commercial or mixed-use areas or to expand the areas identified on Schedule 2 shall require an amendment to this Plan.
2. Market **Impact Studies** shall be required to assess the impact on the City's commercial policy structure when proposals are made to:
  - i) establish or expand a Commercial Mixed-use Centre or Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) beyond the designation limit boundaries on Schedule 2;
  - ii) to exceed the commercial floor area limitations within a Commercial Mixed-use Centre established in policy 9.4.3.14 or the number of large retail uses in policy 9.4.3.13; and
  - iii) to extend or enlarge a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre to provide more than the maximum permitted commercial *gross floor area* established in policy 9.4.5.3 and 9.4.5.4
3. An appropriate Market Impact Study shall demonstrate that:
  - i) the proposal can be justified without detriment to the overall function or economic vitality of Downtown or the key component functions that contribute to Downtown's overall vitality;
  - ii) the achievement of the City's Strategic Goals, the Urban Design policies and the Commercial and Mixed-use policies and objectives of the Official Plan will not be compromised; and
  - iii) the ability of existing designated commercial or mixed-use lands to achieve their planned function will not be compromised.
4. A Market Impact Study shall include:
  - i) an assessment of the current market situation and the future potential for the expansion of commercial facilities in light of projected population and employment growth;
  - ii) an evaluation of the economic feasibility of the proposal on the basis of current market demand or retail market opportunity;
  - iii) an indication of the scale of any adverse effects on the economic viability of Downtown, the key functions that contribute to Downtown's overall vitality and on any existing or planned designated commercial or mixed-use lands provided for in this Plan; and
  - iv) an assessment of the implications of the proposal relative to the City's approved Commercial Policy Review Study and the objectives and implementing policies of this Plan.

5. The City may retain, at the applicant's expense, a qualified consultant to provide professional assistance to the City in determining the terms of reference for a Market Impact Study and/or to provide a peer review of the applicant's submission.

#### 9.4.2 Commercial Function Studies

1. Commercial function studies shall be required as part of a complete application for development proposals for Commercial Mixed-use Centres, Neighbourhood Commercial Centres and Mixed-use Corridors (1 and 2) that propose to:
  - i) provide commercial *gross floor area* at less than .15 FSI; or
  - ii) reduce the commercial *gross floor area* existing at the time of the application by more than 25 per cent; or
  - iii) provide less than 6500 square metres of commercial *gross floor area* cumulatively of all buildings within the designation for lands designated Commercial Mixed-use Centre.
2. A Commercial Function Study shall address:
  - i) The availability of commercial floor space within the designation to meet daily and weekly needs of the surrounding community especially for food store, food-related store and/or drug store.
  - ii) Opportunities for additional commercial floor space to be provided elsewhere and thereby sustain the local provision of commercial floor space within that designation or in the immediate area;
  - iii) Impacts on the ability of residents and employees in the area to use active transportation options to access commercial shopping areas and commercial services; and
  - iv) Role of the commercial space in creating a community focal point.
3. The City may retain, at the applicant's expense, a qualified consultant to provide professional assistance to the City to provide a peer review of the applicant's submission.

#### 9.4.3 Commercial Mixed-use Centre

The following Commercial Mixed-use Centres are designated on Schedule 2:

- Woodlawn/Woolwich
- Paisley/Imperial
- York/Victoria
- York/Watson Parkway/Starwood
- Gordon/Clair
- Silvercreek Junction

## Objectives

- a) To promote Commercial Mixed-use Centres as areas that support a mix of uses including concentrations of commercial, residential and complementary uses serving the immediate neighbourhood and the wider community.

## Policies

1. The Commercial Mixed-use Centres identified on Schedule 2 of this Plan are comprised of one or several individual developments on one or more properties on both sides of an intersection of major roads within the designation. These areas are intended to serve both the needs of residents living and working in nearby neighbourhoods and employment districts and the wider City as a whole.
2. The intent of the Commercial Mixed-use Centre designation is to create a well-defined focal point and to efficiently use the land base by grouping complementary uses in close proximity to one another providing the opportunity to satisfy several shopping and service needs at one location. Implementing *Zoning By-laws* may include mechanisms, such as minimum height and density requirements and maximum parking standards, to promote the efficient use of the land base.
3. *Development* will be comprehensively planned and integrated with the overall Community Mixed-use Node and in accordance with any applicable concept plans or urban design studies as per the policies of Section 3.11.
4. Where residential uses are incorporated into Commercial Mixed-use Centres, they are intended to be developed as mixed-use buildings or multiple-unit residential buildings.
5. Properties within the Commercial Mixed-use Centre will be integrated through internal access roads, entrances from public streets, access to common parking areas, open space, grading and stormwater management systems. Furthermore, it is intended that individual developments within the Community Mixed-use Centre will be designed to be integrated into the wider community by footpaths, sidewalks and bicycle systems and by the placement of smaller buildings amenable to the provision of local goods and services in close proximity to the street line near transit facilities.
6. Commercial Mixed-use Centres are strongly encouraged to incorporate Main Street type development in strategic locations. *Main Street areas*, as identified through concept plans as per Section 3.11, will be planned and designed to reflect the following:
  - i) multi-storey buildings fronting onto the main street;
  - ii) ground floor retail and service uses are strongly encouraged;
  - iii) office uses at ground floor should be limited;
  - iv) residential uses should be provided primarily above commercial uses in addition to some free-standing residential buildings;

- v) rhythm and spacing of building entrances and appropriately sized storefronts to encourage pedestrian activity;
  - vi) urban squares, where appropriate; and
  - vii) on-street parking.
7. The City will require the aesthetic character of site and building design to be consistent with the Urban Design policies of this Plan and any applicable urban design guidelines while recognizing the unique context of individual Commercial Mixed-use centres. Measures may be incorporated into *development* approvals to ensure consistency.
  8. The boundaries of the Commercial Mixed-use Centre designation are intended to clearly distinguish the Commercial Mixed-use Centre as a distinct entity from adjacent land use designations. Proposals to expand a Commercial Mixed-use Centre beyond these boundaries or to establish a new Commercial Mixed-use Centre shall require an Official Plan Amendment supported by a Market Impact Study in accordance with the policies of this Plan.
  9. Proposals for development of a Commercial Mixed-use Centre at less than 6500 square metres of commercial *gross floor area* cumulatively of all buildings within the designation will require an amendment to this Plan supported by a Commercial Function Study in accordance with the policies of this Plan.
  10. Proposals to decrease the existing commercial *gross floor area* by more than 25 per cent or to provide commercial *gross floor area* at less than .15 FSI will require a Commercial Function Study in accordance with the policies of this Plan.
  11. *Development* within the Commercial Mixed-use Centre designation is subject to the policies of Section 3.6 of this Plan.

#### Permitted Uses

12. The following uses may be permitted in Commercial Mixed-use Centres, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) commercial, retail and service uses;
  - ii) live/work uses;
  - iii) small-scale professional and medically related offices;
  - iv) entertainment and recreational commercial uses;
  - v) community services and facilities;
  - vi) cultural, educational and institutional uses;
  - vii) hotels;
  - viii) multiple unit residential; and
  - ix) urban squares and open space.
13. Vehicle repair and vehicle service stations shall only be permitted as accessory uses.

14. The permitted uses can be mixed vertically within a building or horizontally within multiple-unit buildings or may be provided in free-standing individual buildings. Where an individual development incorporates a single use building in excess of 5,575 square metres (60,000 sq. ft) of *gross floor area*:

- i) the site shall also be designed to provide the opportunity for smaller buildings amenable to the provision of local goods and services to be located near intersections and immediately adjacent to the street line near transit facilities;
- ii) smaller buildings shall comprise a minimum of 10% of the total *gross floor area* within the overall development; and
- iii) large free-standing building(s) should be integrated with smaller buildings to create a Main Street-type environment or located on peripheral sites within the designation, which are directly linked to the Main Street.

15. No individual Commercial Mixed-use Centre shall have more than four (4) freestanding individual retail uses exceeding 5,575 square metres (60,000 sq. ft) of *gross floor area*.

#### Height and Density

16. The Commercial Mixed-use Centres incorporate land containing existing uses as well as vacant land required to meet the identified needs of the City. To promote a mixture of land uses within each Commercial Mixed-use Centre, commercial development will be limited to the following total *gross floor area* cumulatively of all buildings within the designation:

Mixed-use Centre	Total Commercial Gross Floor Area
Gordon/Clair	57,900 sq. m
Woodlawn/Woolwich	75,600 sq. m
Paisley/Imperial	63,500 sq. m
York/Victoria	16,300 sq. m
York/Watson Parkway/Starwood	39,700 sq. m
Silvercreek Junction	as per section 9.13.2.5.5

17. The maximum height is ten (10) storeys. Within *strategic growth areas*, the maximum height is fourteen (14) storeys. The implementing zoning bylaw will establish regulations for height transitions, stepbacks, and angular planes.

18. The minimum commercial gross floor is 6500 square metres cumulatively of all buildings within the designation.



19. For freestanding residential and residential within mixed-use buildings:

- i) the maximum *net density* is 150 units per hectare and the minimum *net density* is 100 units per hectare.
- ii) within *strategic growth areas*, the maximum *net density* is 250 units per hectare and the minimum *net density* is 100 units per hectare.

#### 9.4.4 Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2)

The Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) designation is intended to serve both the needs of residents living and working within the corridor, in nearby neighbourhoods and employment districts and the wider city as a whole.

##### Objectives

- a) To promote the continued economic viability, *intensification*, diversity of uses and revitalization of the Mixed-use Corridor.
- b) To promote a distinctive and high standard of building and landscape design for Mixed-use Corridors.
- c) To ensure that the development of Mixed-use Corridors occurs in a cohesive, complementary and coordinated manner.

##### Policies

1. The Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) designation promotes the *intensification* and revitalization of commercial corridors to efficiently use the land base by grouping complementary uses in close proximity to one another providing the opportunity to satisfy several shopping and service needs and residential use at one location. Implementing *Zoning By-laws* may include mechanisms such as minimum density requirements, heights and maximum parking standards to promote the efficient use of the land base.
2. The Mixed-use Corridor designation is divided into Mixed-use Corridor 1 and Mixed-use Corridor 2 on Schedule 2 with specific height and density permissions which reflect site characteristics.
3. Where new *development* occurs within the corridor, adjacent lands will be integrated with one another in terms of internal access roads, entrances from public streets, access to common parking areas, grading, open space and urban squares and stormwater management systems.
4. Furthermore, individual developments within the Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) will be designed to be integrated into the wider community by footpaths, sidewalks and the Bicycle Network and by the placement of multi-storey buildings amenable to the provision of local goods and services in close proximity to the street line near transit facilities.
5. *Development* within the Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) will address the adjacent arterial or collector road and will be planned and designed to:

- i) **front multi-storey buildings onto arterial or collector roads;**
  - ii) **provide for ground floor retail and service uses; and**
  - iii) **provide for a rhythm and spacing of building entrances and appropriately sized store fronts to encourage pedestrian activity.**
6. The City will require the aesthetic character of site and building design to be consistent with the Urban Design policies of this Plan and shall incorporate measures into the approval of *Zoning by-laws* and Site Plans used to regulate development within the Mixed-use Corridor designation to ensure such consistency.
7. The boundaries of the Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) designation are intended to clearly distinguish the area as a distinct entity from adjacent land use designations. Proposals to expand a Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) beyond these boundaries shall require an Official Plan Amendment supported by a Market Impact Study.
8. Development proposals that would decrease the existing commercial *gross floor area* of a commercially zoned site within the Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) designation by more than 25 per cent or that would provide commercial *gross floor area* at less than .15 FSI on a commercially zoned site will require a Commercial Function Study in accordance with the policies of this Plan.

#### Permitted Uses

9. The following uses may be permitted in the Mixed-use Corridor (1 and 2) designation, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
- i) **commercial, retail and service uses;**
  - ii) **office;**
  - iii) **entertainment and recreational commercial uses;**
  - iv) **cultural and educational uses;**
  - v) **institutional uses;**
  - vi) **hotels;**
  - vii) **live/work;**
  - viii) **medium and high density multiple unit residential buildings and apartments;**  
**and**
  - ix) **urban squares and open space.**
10. The permitted uses can be mixed vertically within a building or horizontally within multiple-unit mall buildings or may be provided in free-standing individual buildings. Where an individual development incorporates a single use building in excess of 5,575 square metres (60,000 sq. ft.) of *gross floor area*, the site shall also be designed to provide the opportunity for smaller buildings amenable to the provision of local goods and services to be located near intersections and immediately adjacent to the street line near transit facilities. These smaller buildings shall comprise a minimum of 10% of the total *gross floor area* within the overall development.

## Height and Density

11. The maximum height for the Mixed-use Corridor 1 designation is ten (10) storeys and the maximum height for the Mixed-use Corridor 2 designation is six (6) storeys.
12. For freestanding residential and residential within mixed-use buildings, the maximum *net density* is 150 units per hectare and the minimum *net density* is 100 units per hectare for the Mixed-use Corridor 1 and Mixed-use Corridor 2 designations.
13. For properties designated Mixed-use Corridor 1 within the Stone Road and Silvercreek Parkway *strategic growth areas*:
  - i) the maximum *net density* is 250 units per hectare for freestanding residential and residential within mixed-use buildings,
  - ii) the minimum *net density* is 100 units per hectare for freestanding residential and residential within mixed-use buildings, and
  - iii) the maximum height is fourteen (14) storeys.

The implementing zoning bylaw will establish regulations for height transitions, stepbacks, and angular planes.

### 9.4.5 Neighbourhood Commercial Centre

Neighbourhood Commercial Centres are identified on Schedule 2 of this Plan.

#### Objectives

- a) To establish local convenience and neighbourhood commercial uses within a convenient walking distance of residential areas.
- b) To ensure Neighbourhood Commercial Centres are developed in a cohesive and coordinated manner that is *compatible* with the surrounding residential neighbourhood.
- c) To primarily serve the shopping needs of residents living and working in nearby neighbourhoods and employment districts.
- d) **To be connected to surrounding neighbourhoods through the City's pedestrian trails, walkways and by transit.**

#### Policies

1. The Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designations on Schedule 2 recognize the existing centres within the city and identify the general location of new Neighbourhood Commercial Centres.
2. To prevent the creation of strip commercial development comprising a series of Neighbourhood Commercial Centres located adjacent to one another along a major street, it is the general requirement of this Plan that designated Neighbourhood

Commercial Centres have a minimum distance separation from one another of 500 metres.

3. A Neighbourhood Commercial Centre shall have a maximum total commercial *gross floor area* of 6,500 square metres (70,000 square feet) of *gross floor area*.
4. Notwithstanding policy 9.4.5.3, the existing Neighbourhood Commercial Centres listed below will be permitted to provide a maximum of 10,000 square metres (108,000 square feet) of commercial *gross floor area*:
  - Speedvale Avenue at Stevenson Street
  - Victoria Road at Grange Street
  - Kortright Road at Edinburgh Road
  - Harvard Road at Gordon Street
  - Kortright Road at Gordon Street
  - Wellington Street at Imperial Road.
5. A Neighbourhood Commercial Centre shall only be extended or enlarged to provide more than the permitted maximum commercial *gross floor area* by amendment to this Plan and shall require a Market Impact Study.
6. The maximum *gross floor area* of an individual retail use within a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre shall be 3,250 square metres (35,000 square feet).
7. The City will require the aesthetic character of site and building design to conform to the Urban Design policies of this Plan and applicable guidelines, and will incorporate measures into the approval of *Zoning By-laws* and Site Plans to ensure conformity.
8. Where new *development* occurs within a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre, adjacent lands will be integrated in terms of internal access roads, entrances from public streets, access to common parking areas, open space, urban squares, grading and stormwater management systems.
9. *Development* within the Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designation will be designed to be connected to the wider community by footpaths, sidewalks and bicycle systems and by the placement of buildings in close proximity to the street line near transit facilities.
10. Applications for the purpose of establishing or expanding a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designation will be required to satisfy the following criteria:
  - i) **located with direct access to an arterial or collector road, preferably at an arterial or collector road intersection;**
  - ii) **the location will contribute to the creation of a compact, well-defined node oriented to a major intersection and does not promote the creation of 'strip commercial' development along a major street;**

- iii) designed in a manner that is *compatible* with the building design and use of surrounding properties;
- iv) the location shall minimize the impact of traffic, noise, signs and lighting on adjacent residential areas;
- v) adequate site area will be provided for parking, loading and all other required facilities; and
- vi) adequate landscaping, screening and buffering will be provided to preserve the amenities and appearance of surrounding properties.

11. Development proposals that would decrease the existing commercial *gross floor area* within a Neighbourhood Commercial Centre by more than 25 per cent or that would provide commercial *gross floor area* at less than .15 FSI will require a Commercial Function Study in accordance with the policies of this Plan.

#### Permitted Uses

12. The following uses may be permitted in Neighbourhood Commercial Centres, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:

- i) commercial, retail and service uses;
- ii) small-scale offices;
- iii) community services and facilities;
- iv) live/work;
- v) multiple unit residential within mixed-use buildings; and
- vi) urban squares.

13. Vehicle sales and vehicle repair uses shall not be permitted.

14. *Development* will be planned and designed to maintain the principal commercial function. Residential uses are not permitted on the ground floor.

#### Height and Density

15. The maximum height is six (6) storeys.

16. For residential development, the maximum *net density* is 100 units per hectare.

17. Notwithstanding Policy 9.4.5.16, the maximum *net density* for residential development for the Willow Road and Dawson Road Neighbourhood Commercial Centre is 150 units per hectare.

#### 9.4.6 Service Commercial

##### Objectives

- a) To ensure an adequate supply of *service commercial* uses throughout the city at appropriate locations.

- b) To concentrate highway-oriented and *service commercial* uses within well-defined designated areas, generally along arterial roads.
- c) To discourage the creation of new strip *service commercial development*.
- d) To promote a high standard of building and landscape design for *service commercial* uses and to ensure that pedestrian and vehicular circulation do not conflict.

## Policies

1. The Service Commercial designation on Schedule 2 of this Plan is intended to provide a location for highway-oriented and *service commercial* uses that do not normally locate within Downtown because of site area or highway exposure needs and which may include commercial uses of an intensive nature that can conflict with residential land uses.
2. To promote continued commercial viability of Downtown and planned Mixed-use and Commercial areas; the City will limit the range of *retail commercial* uses that may locate within the Service Commercial designation.
3. *Development* proposals within Service Commercial designations will be considered only in instances, where adequate vehicular access, off-street parking and all municipal services can be provided.
4. In some circumstances *development* may not necessarily be provided with direct access to arterial roads. The City shall encourage integration between adjacent *service commercial* uses in terms of entrances to public streets, internal access roads, common parking areas, grading, open space, stormwater management systems and municipal *infrastructure* provision where feasible.
5. The City will require the aesthetic character of site and building design to conform to the Urban Design policies of this Plan and applicable guidelines and will incorporate measures into the approval of *Zoning By-laws* and Site Plans to ensure conformity.
6. This Plan will promote the retention of *service commercial* uses within the well-defined areas as identified on Schedule 2 by:
  - i) **discouraging the further establishment of new commercial strips and the conversion of lands, located outside of those areas designated Service Commercial on Schedule 2 to commercial use; and**
  - ii) **promoting the retention of Service Commercial designations along only one side of arterial roads in the city.**
7. Where *service commercial* uses are adjacent to designated residential areas, design mechanisms, including those outlined in the Urban Design policies of this Plan shall be applied to reduce potential incompatibilities. These design mechanisms may be specified in the implementing *Zoning By-law* and Site Plans and may include building location, buffering, screening and landscaping requirements.

## Permitted Uses

8. The following uses may be permitted within the Service Commercial designation subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:

- i) **service commercial uses; and**
- ii) **complementary uses such as small-scale offices, convenience uses, institutional and commercial recreation or entertainment uses.**

9. Complementary uses may be permitted provided they do not interfere with the overall form, function and development of the specific area for *service commercial* purposes.

### 9.4.7 Mixed Office/Commercial

#### Objectives

- a) To allow for a variety of freestanding small-scale commercial, office, residential or mixed-use buildings.
- b) To ensure that a *compatible* transition in built-form is provided between uses in this designation and surrounding residential properties.
- c) To allow for a range of *compatible* business uses adjacent to residential areas.
- d) To promote the continued use, revitalization and *intensification* of these areas for a mix of uses.

#### Policies

- 1. The Mixed Office/Commercial designation as identified on Schedule 2 defines areas where a variety of small-scale commercial, office and mixed-uses including residential may be permitted.
- 2. While a variety of commercial uses may be permitted by the Mixed Office/Commercial designation, office, *convenience commercial*, *retail commercial* and personal service uses that serve the needs of the surrounding neighbourhoods are specifically promoted.
- 3. Commercial buildings incorporating residential units, either above or behind the ground floor commercial space or freestanding residential buildings are encouraged.
- 4. The Mixed/Office Commercial designation located peripheral to Downtown includes a variety of small-scale commercial and office operations or mixed commercial-residential uses. This Plan promotes the continued use and revitalization of these distinctive areas.
- 5. New commercial, office or mixed-use *development* within the Mixed Office/Commercial designation will be subject to the following criteria:
  - i) **building design should have a street orientation, promote continuity in the streetscape and adhere to the Urban Design policies of this Plan;**

- ii) building, property and ancillary structures are designed to be *compatible* with surrounding properties in terms of form, massing, appearance and orientation;
- iii) adequate parking, loading and access are provided; and
- iv) adequate municipal services are provided.

#### Permitted Uses

6. The following uses may be permitted within the Mixed Office/Commercial designation subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:

- i) **convenience commercial and small-scale retail commercial;**
- ii) **small-scale office;**
- iii) **personal service; and**
- iv) **detached, semi-detached, townhouses and apartments.**

#### Height and Density

7. The maximum height is four (4) storeys.

8. Residential *development* may be permitted to a maximum *net density* of 100 units per hectare.

### 9.5 Employment Designations

The Employment policies apply to the following four designations on Schedule 2:

- Industrial
- Corporate Business Park
- Institutional/Research Park
- Mixed Business

The lands designated for employment on Schedule 2 provide an adequate supply and diversity of employment opportunities to the year 2051. To ensure adequate land continues to be available to meet future employment needs, *conversion* of lands within *employment areas* to other uses may only be permitted in accordance with the policies of Section 3.8 of this Plan.

#### Objectives

The following objectives apply to all Employment designations.

- a) To ensure that necessary *infrastructure* is provided to meet current and future employment needs when required.
- b) To ensure all *employment areas* are accessible and well served by transit, trails and sidewalks.



- c) To require high urban design standards in accordance with the Urban Design policies of the Plan, particularly adjacent to arterial and collector roads and provincial highways.
- d) To encourage renewable and alternative energy, *district energy* and to achieve conservation or efficiencies of energy and water within and between employment uses and, where possible, surrounding land uses.
- e) To increase the overall density of jobs and promote efficient use of land through compact built form.
- f) To support a range and mix of employment uses that will contribute to the achievement of the density targets for *employment areas*.

#### 9.5.1 General Policies

The following general policies apply to all Employment designations:

1. Industries which require high volumes of water use should demonstrate through a Water Conservation Efficiency Study that water consumption will be reduced through on-site processing or recycling.
2. The *Zoning By-law* may restrict industries which require high volumes of water use to protect service capacity needs of planned growth.
3. The pattern and design of streets and sidewalks should facilitate accessibility, walking, cycling and transit use and should be connected within and outside the *employment areas*.
4. Where employment uses are adjacent to designated residential uses, design mechanisms, including those outlined in the Urban Design policies of this Plan shall apply to reduce potential land use incompatibilities.
5. Where residual heat, energy or water is produced in an employment process, it is encouraged to be reused on site or off site in conjunction with other land uses or through existing or planned *district energy* systems.
6. *Development* along the Hanlon Expressway (Highway 6) and at gateways to the City will be developed in accordance with the Urban Design policies of this Plan and area specific guidelines that may be prepared from time to time.

#### 9.5.2 Industrial

##### Objectives

- a) To ensure sufficient serviced industrial land is available to attract a diversified range of industrial uses.
- b) To ensure the efficient use of existing industrial land and promote *redevelopment* of under-used or *brownfield sites*.

- c) To promote and provide for the needs of, and facilitate the establishment of small-scale industries, incubator-type establishments and the expansion of existing industries.
- d) To promote and implement high urban design standards and landscaping to ensure attractive industrial *developments*.
- e) To prevent the establishment of offensive trades and nuisances that will hinder the orderly development of the community and be detrimental to the environment.

## Policies

1. To ensure an adequate supply and variety of serviced industrial land is available to meet the requirements of industrial development the City may:
  - i) **purchase, develop, and market lands for industrial use; and**
  - ii) **provide for industrial designations in the various geographic locations of Guelph to minimize journey to-work trips and create a diversified economy.**
2. To encourage the *development* of attractive industrial areas, and to preserve sites along arterial roads for those industries that desire or require visibility, the City will:
  - i) **direct such uses as contractors' yards, repair and servicing operations, transportation terminals and utility yards to locate along local or collector roads that are not located within an *industrial park*;**
  - ii) **maintain higher development standards along arterial roads or within an *industrial park* for such matters as: parking, loading areas, outside storage, landscaping, buffer strips and setback requirements; and**
  - iii) **recognize a variety of categories of industrial zones in the *Zoning By-law*.**
3. Land designated Industrial south of Clair Road West on Schedule 2 of this Plan shall generally be characterized by larger, free-standing industrial buildings displaying appropriate design standards and sensitivity to natural setting and existing adjacent uses.
4. Where industrial and residential or other *sensitive land uses* are proposed in proximity to one another, the City shall use Ministry of the Environment guidelines to require appropriate planning/land use regulatory measures that will promote *compatibility* between these two land use types. Measures that can assist in creating *compatible* environmental conditions for these basic land uses may include, but not be limited to the requirement for minimum separation distances, sound proofing measures, and odour and particulate capture devices.
5. Industrial land within the Hanlon Creek Business Park (lands located to the west of the Hanlon Expressway and in proximity to Laird Road) will be subject to the following land use *compatibility* considerations. Where a *development* application is proposed which would permit industrial and residential (or other sensitive uses) to be located in proximity to one another and may have an adverse effect, the City may require that one or more of the following measures be used to promote land use *compatibility*:

- i) Provincial government guidelines will be applied to ensure adequate separation distances;
  - ii) a Noise Impact Study may be required, in compliance with the provincial government and prepared by a recognized acoustical consultant. This study will be prepared to the satisfaction of the City. Where appropriate, noise mitigation measures and warning clauses will be included in the recommendations;
  - iii) appropriate conditions of *development* approval be imposed to mitigate identified *compatibility* issues;
  - iv) appropriate regulations be included in the implementing *Zoning By-law*. These regulations may include but are not limited to, minimum building setbacks, maximum building heights, loading space locations, waste, refuse and composting facility locations, outdoor storage locations, requirements for buffer strips, fencing and berms; and
  - v) impose a Holding Zone to ensure that conditions encouraging land use *compatibility* are implemented.
6. Attractiveness and consistency of image are of prime importance for the built form in gateway locations which are highly visible and adjacent to the Hanlon Expressway. In this regard the City may prepare specific urban design guidelines to provide direction with respect to design principles for *development* in this area.
7. Generally, the following *development* criteria are applicable to lands designated industrial adjacent to the Hanlon Expressway:
- i) **building elements and/or landscaping should be used to screen views to parking and loading areas; and**
  - ii) **outdoor storage shall not be visible from the Hanlon Expressway.**
8. Vertical warehousing, second floor offices and other related uses above the first storey are encouraged to reduce land consumption and increase employment densities.
9. Legally existing industrial establishments not located within areas designated Industrial on Schedule 2 of this Plan shall be recognized as legal conforming uses, subject to the zoning provisions in effect at the time of passing of this Plan. When these industries require expansion or the site is to be *redeveloped* for another land use activity, these industrial establishments will be encouraged to relocate into one of the designated industrial areas of the city.

#### Permitted Uses

10. The following uses may be permitted within the Industrial designation subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
- i) **industrial uses, including the manufacturing, fabricating, processing, assembly and packaging of goods, foods and raw materials;**
  - ii) **warehousing and bulk storage of goods;**

- iii) laboratories;
- iv) computer and data processing;
- v) research and development facilities;
- vi) printing, publishing and broadcasting facilities;
- vii) repair and servicing operations;
- viii) transportation terminals;
- ix) contractors' yards; and
- x) complementary uses (such as corporate offices, open space and recreation facilities, restaurants, financial institutions, public and institutional uses and utilities) which do not detract from, and are *compatible* with, the development and operation of industrial uses.

11. Complementary uses may be permitted within the Industrial designation by a *Zoning By-law* amendment.

12. Commercial uses will not be permitted within the Industrial designation.

13. Factory sales outlets may be permitted as an accessory use provided only those items that are substantially manufactured or assembled on site are sold. The sales outlet must be entirely located on the site on which the items for sale are manufactured or assembled.

### 9.5.3 Corporate Business Park

#### Objectives

- a) To provide lands which can be used for office, administrative and/or research and development facilities.
- b) To permit a limited range of commercial uses that serve employment uses.
- c) To outline *development* criteria that will promote the sensitive integration of corporate business uses at the gateways to Guelph.
- d) To ensure that *development* is sensitive to adjacent Natural Heritage System and designated residential areas.
- e) To require high urban design standards to ensure attractive and consistent built form.
- f) To encourage the use of renewable and alternative energy within Corporate Business Parks.

#### Policies

1. The Corporate Business Park designation on Schedule 2 of this Plan is intended to **provide areas where employment opportunities can be provided in the "knowledge-based" technology field.**

2. High standards of urban design and built form will be required for *development* proposals within the Corporate Business Park designation, which shall recognize and address:
  - i) the prominence of the Corporate Business Park in association with the southern gateway locations to Guelph;
  - ii) the environmental sensitivity of *natural heritage features* that are found in proximity to the Corporate Business Park lands; and
  - iii) the need to promote *compatibility* in land use and design between the Corporate Business Park lands and residential uses in the south end of Guelph.
3. *Development* proposals within the Corporate Business Park designation will be subject to the Urban Design policies of this Plan including gateway policies.
4. Buildings should have a consistent setback from the public right-of-way to create an attractive and consistent streetscape. The implementation of this provision is particularly applicable along arterial and collector roads.
5. Building elements and/or landscaping should be used to screen views to parking and loading areas facing a public street.
6. Where Corporate Business Park and residential uses are in proximity to one another, the City shall require appropriate planning/land use controls to enhance *compatibility* between these land use types in accordance with the provincial government guidelines. Measures that can assist in enhancing *compatibility* include but are not limited to minimum separation distances, sound proofing, odour and particulate control, landscaping and berming. Such measures will be implemented through means of the *Zoning By-law*, Site Plan Control, and/or the use of urban design guidelines.
7. Corporate Business Park designated land west of the Hanlon Expressway has a high level of visibility from the Hanlon Expressway. By virtue of its visual prominence, excellent access, proximity to Highway 401, and distinctive natural setting, *development* of this area should occur in a manner which establishes a park or campus like setting with extensive landscaping and a high standard of urban design in accordance with the following provision:
  - i) **architectural detail, building massing, landscaping and site design shall collectively result in establishing an attractive entrance or gateway feature for the City in this location. Design and building control shall also be used to maintain sensitivity to nearby designated residential or natural areas. In this regard the City may prepare specific urban design guidelines to provide direction with respect to design principles.**
8. Corporate Business Park designated land east of the Hanlon Expressway has a high level of visibility from Gordon Street. By virtue of its visual exposure and access to Gordon Street, proximity to Highway 401, and distinctive natural setting, *development* of this area should occur in a manner which establishes a park or campus like setting

with extensive landscaping and a high standard of urban design in accordance with the following provision:

- i) architectural detail, building massing, landscaping, and site design shall collectively result in establishing an attractive entrance or gateway feature for the City of Guelph in this location. Design and building control shall also be used to maintain sensitivity to nearby designated residential or natural areas. In this regard the City will prepare specific urban design guidelines to provide direction with respect to design principles.

#### Permitted Uses

9. The following uses may be permitted in the Corporate Business Park designation subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:

- i) office and administrative facilities;
- ii) manufacturing;
- iii) warehousing;
- iv) hotel and convention facilities;
- v) research and development facilities;
- vi) associated ancillary retail uses that are an integral component of the primary uses; and
- vii) complementary or accessory uses may be permitted. Such uses may include restaurants, financial institutions, medical services, fitness centres, open space and recreation facilities and *child care centres*.

10. The implementing *Zoning By-law* will establish the zoning categories and appropriate regulations to permit and control uses within the Corporate Business Park designation.

11. Uses are permitted within enclosed buildings including multi-tenant buildings or malls.

12. Outdoor storage shall not be permitted.

13. The Corporate Business Park lands located west of the Hanlon Expressway shall be appropriately zoned to accommodate larger and/or more intensive users, within single purpose buildings, multi-tenant buildings or groupings of buildings in accordance with the following provision:

- i) permitted uses may include research and development facilities, trade and convention facilities, computer, electronic and data processing enterprises, office and administrative facilities, manufacturing and warehousing within an enclosed building, hotel and complementary service commercial uses such as financial institutions and restaurants which are developed as part of a larger building complex. Other complementary uses may be permitted without amendment to this Plan provided that the proposed use is consistent with the planned function of the designation. Permitted complementary uses will be controlled by means of specialized zoning categories and regulations of the implementing *Zoning By-law*.

14. Corporate Business Park lands located east of the Hanlon Expressway shall be appropriately zoned to accommodate smaller or less intensive users than the corporate land users found west of the Hanlon. Lot sizes will generally be 4 hectares (10 acres) or smaller for single purpose buildings, groupings of buildings, or mall type buildings in accordance with the following:

- i) **permitted uses will include research and development facilities, computer, electronic and data processing enterprises, corporate office and administrative facilities, assembly and light manufacturing of product lines requiring on-going research and development and the following service commercial uses: commercial school, courier service, day care centre, financial establishment, hotel, office, office supply, medical office, postal service, print shop, public hall, recreation centre, research establishment, restaurant, telecommunication service, veterinary service. Other complementary uses may be permitted without amendment to this Plan provided that the proposed use is consistent with the planned function of the designation.**

#### 9.5.4 Institutional/Research Park

##### Objective

- a) To recognize an area where land may be used for major institutional uses, research activities and a limited range of commercial activities.

##### Policies

1. Architectural detail, building massing, landscaping and site design shall ensure an attractive streetscape that is pedestrian oriented.
2. Buffering will be provided and maintained between the Institutional Research Park designation lands on the south side of Stone Road and the residential area to the south. This buffering may be accomplished by a combination of building setbacks, berming and landscaped screening.

##### Permitted Uses

3. In addition to the uses permitted by the Major Institutional designation of this Plan, the following uses may be permitted on lands designated as Institutional/Research Park, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) **research and development facilities;**
  - ii) **computer, electronic and data processing enterprises;**
  - iii) **offices;**
  - iv) **assembly and manufacturing of product lines requiring on-going research and development support; and**
  - v) ***service commercial uses, such as restaurants and banks.***

4. In addition to uses specified in policy 9.5.4.3, certain commercial uses may be permitted within the Institutional/Research Park designation in the vicinity of the Stone Road and Gordon Street intersection. Commercial activities shall include *service commercial* uses such as hotel, motel, convention services, recreation and cultural facilities, offices and restaurants.
5. Outdoor storage and uses of a noxious nature shall not be permitted.

#### 9.5.5 Mixed Business

##### Objectives

- a) To provide a flexible land use framework permitting a mix of business land use activities.
- b) To promote reinvestment, *intensification* and the efficient use of existing business lands and buildings for business purposes.
- c) To provide opportunities for smaller-scale entrepreneurial enterprises and land use activities that support the needs of business, employees and neighbourhood residents.
- d) To promote business land uses that minimize land use compatibility impacts on surrounding industrial uses.
- e) To restrict the range of *retail commercial* activities permitted within the Mixed Business land use designation.
- f) To promote business land uses which minimize land use compatibility impacts affecting the surrounding residential neighbourhood.

##### Policies

1. A land use *compatibility* analysis will be required where industrial and *sensitive uses* are proposed in proximity to one another in accordance with subsection 9.5.2.4 of this Plan.
2. New *development* shall meet the required off-street parking, circulation and loading requirements applicable to the proposed land use.
3. This Plan promotes streetscape improvements and new *development* proposals are to be implemented in accordance with the Urban Design policies of this Plan.
4. Conditions may be imposed on site plan approvals requiring landscaped buffers, screening of outdoor storage, parking, bicycle-supportive amenities, loading and refuse areas. Increased setbacks and buffering measures will be required where business land uses are adjacent to existing residential or *sensitive land uses*.



## Permitted Uses

5. The following uses may be permitted on lands designated as Mixed Business, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) uses permitted in the Industrial designation that are of a small to medium scale;
  - ii) uses permitted in the Corporate Business Park designation that are of a small to medium scale;
  - iii) office;
  - iv) convenience commercial, commercial recreation or entertainment uses;
  - v) a use that primarily relies on business from tourists and inter-urban traffic such as a hotel, gas bar, restaurant with the exception of drive-through restaurants which shall not be permitted; and
  - vi) a use that requires a location convenient to industry as it primarily provides service to industry such as machinery sales and service, electrical supplies.
6. Outdoor storage adjacent to existing residential or other sensitive land uses shall not be permitted.
7. Uses of a noxious nature shall not be permitted.
8. The **'Mixed Business' land use designation is intended to provide areas where a mix of business land uses can be provided and small to medium sized entrepreneurial and incubator businesses are encouraged.** Individual uses permitted under 9.5.5.5.i) and 9.5.5.5. ii) that provide greater than 1500 square metres of *gross floor area* shall generally be directed to locate in an appropriate Industrial or Corporate Business Park designation to minimize land use compatibility impacts on surrounding sensitive land uses (residential, institutional or park). The specific range of permitted land uses and appropriate regulations will be defined in the implementing *Zoning By-law*. The range of land uses will be restricted when adjacent to existing *sensitive land uses* (residential, institutional or park).
9. *Retail commercial* uses that support the Mixed Business use and do not directly compete with the retailing activities found in Downtown and other planned commercial areas may be permitted.
10. New *sensitive land uses* (residential, institutional or park) that detract from the primary business land use function of the Mixed Business land use designation will not be permitted. This policy applies to all forms of residential use and uses where significant outdoor activities occur.

## 9.6 Major Institutional

The Major Institutional designation recognizes and allows for large-scale institutional uses such as the University of Guelph, Conestoga College, Guelph General Hospital and continuum-of-care facilities.

## Objectives

- a) To recognize and support large scale institutional land uses as an important component of the community and its economic base.
- b) To ensure that institutional, educational, health care and social services are provided at suitable locations to meet the needs of residents in the city and surrounding region.
- c) To encourage the provision of a full range of continuum-of-care facilities in appropriate settings to serve the residents of Guelph and surrounding region.

## Policies

1. The establishment of new Major Institutional areas not designated on Schedule 2 shall require an amendment to this Plan. When considering such amendments, the following factors shall be taken into account:
  - i) the site's location relative to arterial or collector roads;
  - ii) the *compatibility* of the proposed *development* with the height, massing and scale of institutional buildings or residential buildings in the immediate vicinity;
  - iii) the design and layout of the proposed buildings or structures to preserve as much open space as possible;
  - iv) the proximity of the site to existing or planned public transit routes; and
  - v) the adequacy of municipal services to the proposed area.
2. Pedestrian and cyclist connections to and through lands designated as Major Institutional are encouraged.

## Permitted Uses

3. The following uses may be permitted in the Major Institutional designation, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) public buildings;
  - ii) universities, colleges;
  - iii) social and cultural facilities;
  - iv) correctional and detention facilities;
  - v) hospitals;
  - vi) special needs housing;
  - vii) residential care;
  - viii) health care facilities; and

- ix) complementary uses, such as *convenience commercial* and personal service uses, residences, day care facilities, parks and recreation facilities and non-livestock based agriculture.
4. Complementary uses may be permitted provided that they do not conflict with or interfere with the satisfactory operation and development of the lands for institutional purposes.
- i) For *convenience commercial* and personal service uses, these facilities will be oriented and designed to primarily serve the needs of those persons directly associated with the 'Major Institutional' use. These uses shall not be located in a manner that will attract or serve the general public.
  - ii) For residential uses, these activities will be designed for, and used by those persons directly associated with the 'Major Institutional' use.

## 9.7 Open Space and Parks

Open space and parks provide health, environmental, aesthetic and economic benefits that are important elements for a good quality of life. Lands designated Open Space and Parks are public or private areas where the predominant use or function is active or *passive recreational activities*, conservation management and other open space uses.

### Objectives

- a) To develop a balanced distribution of open space, active and passive parkland and recreation facilities that meet the needs of all residents and are conveniently located, accessible and safe.
- b) To co-operate and partner with other public, quasi-public and private organizations in the provision of open space, trails and parks to maximize benefits to the community.
- c) **To assist in protecting the City's *urban forests*, the Natural Heritage System and *cultural heritage resources*.**

### Policies

- 1. Where any land designated Open Space and Parks is under private ownership, this Plan does not imply that such land is open to the general public or that the land will be purchased by the City or any other public agency.
- 2. Where lands designated Open Space and Parks are in private ownership and a *development* application is made requesting a change to a land use other than Open Space and Parks, due consideration shall be given by Council to the following:
  - i) **Council will consider the acquisition of the subject lands, having regard for the following:**
    - a) the provision of adequate open space, parks and recreational areas, particularly in the vicinity of the subject lands;

- b) the existence of cultural heritage resources or natural heritage features on the site;
  - c) the recreational service that is provided by the existing use and the benefits and costs accruing to the City through the public acquisition of the property;
  - d) the possibility of any other government agency purchasing or sharing in the purchase of the subject lands; and
  - e) the ability of the City to purchase the lands and the priority of the lands in relation to the City's overall open space and parks acquisition plan.
- ii) **If acquisition of lands is not deemed appropriate, Council shall consider other arrangements to retain the lands in an Open Space and Parks designation by such means as management agreements or easements, where applicable.**
3. Where the City or any other government agency does not wish to purchase the subject lands, and suitable alternative arrangements to secure the lands in an Open Space and Parks designation have not been derived, due consideration shall be given by Council to amending the Official Plan. When considering such amendments, the City may require a comprehensive study be conducted to determine the most desirable function and use of the lands. In spite of the above, there is no public obligation either to redesignate or purchase any areas designated Open Space and Parks.
4. When developing major recreation facilities such as indoor swimming pools, arenas or major parks or open space areas, consideration shall be given to locating such facilities in association with major community shopping, educational or cultural facilities.
5. Where appropriate, the City may implement practices that naturalize portions of City parks and incorporate indigenous vegetation.

#### Permitted Uses

6. The following uses may be permitted in the Open Space and Parks designation, subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan:
- i) **public and private recreational uses and facilities;**
  - ii) **parks;**
  - iii) **golf courses;**
  - iv) **conservation lands;**
  - v) **cemeteries; and**
  - vi) **complementary uses.**
7. Complementary uses are uses that are normally associated with the main recreational use, are *compatible* with, and do not detract from or restrict, the primary function of the Open Space and Parks designation. Such complementary uses may include, but are not necessarily restricted to horticulture, restaurants, club houses, pro shops, public halls and other accessory buildings.

## 9.8 Major Utility Designation

The Major Utility designation recognizes utility uses that are operated by the City or under agreement with the City, serve a city-wide function and may not be appropriate within an industrial designation.

### Objectives

- a) To provide effective and efficient utility services to all areas of the city.
- b) To protect public health and safety and to minimize environmental impacts.
- c) To prevent nuisance effects from utility facilities and sites.

### Policies

1. Facilities shall be operated by the City or under agreement with the City.
2. The expansion of a major utility use or establishment of a new facility beyond the boundaries of the Major Utility designations outlined on Schedule 2 shall require an amendment to this Plan in conjunction with the necessary approvals under the *Environmental Assessment Act* or other applicable legislation. The processes followed and materials developed to satisfy Provincial requirements shall be considered to satisfy the requirements of the amendment process for this Plan.
3. The City will ensure that any land use or *development* or *redevelopment* proposal in the vicinity of a Major Utility designation is *compatible* with the adjacent utility operation.
4. Appropriate separation distances between a major utility facility and adjacent land uses shall be maintained as required by policies and guidelines as approved by the Province.
5. The City may require special design considerations and development conditions for *development* proposals in the vicinity of Major Utility designations of this Plan.

### Permitted Uses

6. The following uses may be permitted in the Major Utility designation, subject to the provisions of this Section and the applicable provisions of this Plan:
  - i) **water and wastewater treatment facilities;**
  - ii) **transfer stations;**
  - iii) **electrical transformer stations and associated facilities;**
  - iv) **facilities for waste reuse, recycling, reclamation, recovery, composting or anaerobic digestion; and**
  - v) **municipal works yards.**

## 9.9 Special Study Areas

The Special Study Areas designation applies to the following areas as identified on Schedule 2:

- 2054 Gordon Street (Springfield Golf Course)
- Beverley Street (former IMICO site)
- Dolime Quarry Annexed Lands

### Objectives

- a) To set out requirements for determining future land uses for lands designated Special Study Area.

#### 2054 Gordon Street (Springfield Golf Course)

1. The future land use for the property located within the designated *greenfield area* of the City at 2054 Gordon Street will be determined through the Clair-Maltby Secondary Plan.
2. The existing golf course is permitted as an interim use until such time as the lands are redesignated for urban development use through the Clair-Maltby Secondary Plan and *development* occurs.
3. The completion of the Clair-Maltby Secondary Plan is a priority for the City.

#### Beverley Street

4. A planning study will be prepared to consider the future land use of property located at 200 Beverley Street. The planning study will address the *brownfield* status of the property and other relevant planning and technical considerations and may be coordinated with a development application.

#### Dolime Quarry Annexed Lands

5. A comprehensive planning process such as or similar to a secondary plan process including an environmental impact study are required to be completed prior to *development* within the Dolime Quarry annexed lands. The comprehensive planning process such as or similar to a secondary plan process will confirm the specific residential designations appropriate for the lands. The requirements for Planning Act applications will be identified and confirmed through the comprehensive planning process such as or similar to a secondary plan process.

## 9.10 Natural Heritage System

1. The Natural Heritage System is comprised of Significant Natural Areas, Natural Areas and Natural Areas Overlay as identified on Schedule 2.
2. The objectives, permitted uses and policies for the Natural Heritage System are addressed in Section 4.1 Natural Heritage System.

## 9.11 Secondary Plans

### Objectives

- a) To identify areas that have undergone detailed Secondary Plans.
- b) To provide more detailed planning objectives and policies to direct and guide future development within specific areas of the city.

### Policies

- 1. *Development* within the approved Secondary Plan area will be subject to the general policies of this Plan in addition to the detailed policies of the Secondary Plan. However, where the Secondary Plan provides more detail, the provisions of the Secondary Plan shall prevail.

### Permitted Uses

- 2. Uses as permitted by the Secondary Plan.

## 9.12 Site Specific Policies

The policies in this Section are reflective of unique circumstances in consideration of the general land use policies noted in previous Sections of this Plan and were subject to previous site specific planning approvals. The site specific policies are categorized by general geographic districts in the city (divided to the east, west and south areas as delimited by the Speed and Eramosa Rivers) and are listed by alphabetical address for each area.

### 9.12.1 East Guelph

#### 1. 199 Alice Street

In addition to the provisions of policy 9.3.1.2 Non-residential Uses in Residential Designations, there are several properties within the St. Patrick's Ward area (the neighbourhood to the east of the Downtown) that will continue to support a variety of business land uses in addition to any permitted residential land uses. The intent of this policy is to provide for a range of compatible business land uses where adjacent to residential areas. The specific range of permitted land uses will be defined in the implementing Zoning By-law for the properties known municipally as 199 Alice Street, 60 Ontario Street and 320 York Road. New sensitive land uses (residential, institutional or park) may also be permitted on these properties provided that they are compatible with surrounding land uses and the site has been cleaned-up or decommissioned as appropriate.

#### 2. 165 Dunlop Drive

This Plan recognizes that an abattoir, meat packing and processing plant shall be permitted on lands located at 165 Dunlop Drive.

3. 300 Elizabeth Street

In addition to the uses permitted by the Low Density Residential designation for the lands located at 300 Elizabeth Street, the property may also be used for office and personal service uses.

4. 127, 128 and 135 Ferguson Street

In addition to the uses permitted by the Low Density Residential designation, a club and compatible uses normally associated with the main use and its associated parking shall be permitted on the property municipally known as 127, 128 and 135 Ferguson Street.

5. 180 Gordon St

In spite of the provisions of policies 9.3.4.2 and 9.3.4.3, the minimum height is two (2) storeys and the maximum height is four (4) storeys; and the maximum *net density* is 59 units per hectare and not less than a minimum *net density* of 35 units per hectare.

6. 122 Harris Street

In addition to the uses permitted by the Low Density Residential designation, a religious use and compatible uses normally associated with the main use shall be permitted on the property municipally known as 122 Harris Street.

7. 120 Huron Street

Within the Mixed Office Commercial designation at 120 Huron Street:

- a) In spite of Policy 9.4.7.7, the City may permit a maximum building height of five (5) storeys.
- b) In spite of Policy 9.4.7.8, the City may permit a maximum density of 133 residential units per hectare.

8. 176 Morris Street

In addition to the use provisions of the Low Density Residential designation, a live theatre and accessory uses may be permitted on the property located at 176 Morris Street.

9. 5 Ontario Street

In addition to the use provisions of the Low Density Residential designation, a free-standing office may be permitted on the property located at 5 Ontario Street.

10. 60 Ontario Street

- see '199 Alice Street' for policy.



11. 205-213 Speedvale Avenue East

In spite of Sections 9.3.2.2 and 9.3.2.3, the provisions of the Low Density Residential land use designation, an apartment development may be permitted on lands municipally known as 205-213 Speedvale Avenue East with a maximum net density of 45 units per hectare and a maximum building height of 4 storeys.

12. 697 Victoria Road North

The Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designation at the northeast corner of Victoria Road North and Wideman Boulevard and known municipally as 697 Victoria Road North may also be used for an auto gas bar use.

13. 3 Watson Road

In addition to the uses permitted by the Industrial designation, the use of lands located at 3 Watson Road may be extended to include the following commercial activities: an office, showroom and shop for a tradesman or home improvement contractor including wholesale and retail sales of related goods and services.

14. 635 Woodlawn Road East

In spite of the provisions of Policy 9.3.5.3, the development of an apartment block shall be permitted on lands municipally known as 635 Woodlawn Road East at not less than a minimum *net density* of 96 units per hectare.

15. 320 York Road

- see '199 Alice Street' for policy

9.12.2 West Guelph

1. 133 and 135 Bagot Street

In spite of the provisions of the High Density Residential designation, the development of a semi-detached dwelling may be permitted at 133-135 Bagot Street.

2. 95 Crimea Street

In addition to the uses permitted by the Industrial designation, the property located at 95 Crimea Street may also be used for the following institutional and commercial activities: a religious establishment, a school and a *day care centre*.

3. 265 Edinburgh Road North

In spite of the provisions of policy 9.3.3.2, the minimum height is two (2) storeys and the maximum height is seven (7) storeys.

4. 355 Elmira Road North

In addition to the Industrial uses permitted by the land use designation for property located at 355 Elmira Road North, the following commercial uses may be permitted:

bank, restaurant or cafeteria, barber shop or beauty salon, recreation or entertainment establishment, and catering service.

#### 5. 87 Silvercreek Parkway North

In addition to the use provisions of the Low Density Residential designation, a free-standing office and life-skills training centre for persons with disabilities may be permitted on the property located at 87 Silvercreek Parkway North.

#### 6. "Silver Creek Junction"

These **policies apply to the area highlighted and noted as "Silver Creek Junction" on Schedule A – Silver Creek Land Use Plan.**

In addition to the general Urban Design objectives and policies of Chapter 8, the following urban form statement, objectives and policies apply to the Silver Creek Junction lands.

##### 9.12.2.6.1 Urban Form Statement – Silver Creek Junction

The area contains the former LaFarge lands, an abandoned brownfield site, straddling Silvercreek Parkway between the CNR and Goderich and Exeter (GEXR) rail-lines south of Paisley Road, abutting the Hanlon Expressway. Redevelopment of these lands shall be **focused around the creation of a central, urban "village market square" straddling Silvercreek Parkway** which will assist in creating a neighbourhood composed of a mix of land uses.

The public village market square feature will be complemented by a cohesive, mixed-use redevelopment scheme permitting a range of land uses, including large-format and specialty retail, a range of employment uses, institutional uses, high density residential uses and open space on the surrounding lands. The central village market square area will house a limited range and scale of specialized service commercial uses, mixed-use and live work arrangements that are intended to serve the surrounding employment and residential uses.

The redevelopment scheme on the subject lands shall also incorporate a new neighbourhood-scale public park that links the central village market square to the Howitt Creek valley to the east. The development will also involve the re-alignment of a portion of the existing Silvercreek Parkway through the central part of the lands, to the extent appropriate, to optimize a functional and cohesive layout of a mix of uses proposed. A new local public road east of re-aligned Silvercreek Parkway will also be developed to provide frontage and access for the above-noted neighbourhood park and a series of viable redevelopment blocks for employment and high density residential uses in the area between Howitt Creek and Silvercreek Parkway.

#### 9.12.2.6.2 Urban Form Objectives – Silver Creek Junction

- a) To provide a desirable mix of compatible land uses that include a variety of building types to minimize travel requirements between homes and places of employment or shopping.
- b) To ensure an innovative development, which reflects the city's commitment to environmental sustainability, compact development and energy conservation.**
- c) To enhance the function and naturalization of Howitt Creek and provide pedestrian views and access to this feature.
- d) To provide active and passive recreational opportunities to help fulfill the City's recreational and open space requirements.**
- e) To create a variety of public spaces (streets, squares, and parks and open spaces) that encourage social interaction and provide pedestrian connections throughout the development.
- f) To require high quality built form oriented to all streets, including Silvercreek Parkway, throughout the development.

#### 9.12.2.6.3 Urban Design Policies – Silver Creek Junction

- a) Public streets will be developed to provide a high quality urban environment with reduced setbacks, street trees and other landscape features and on-street parking.
- b) Parking areas, loading and other less desirable design elements will be screened from public streets by buildings or landscaping.
- c) Outdoor storage of goods or materials shall be prohibited with the exception of seasonal projects.
- d) The development will include extensive landscaping and plantings associated with the development shall generally be native trees and ground cover.
- e) Public safety and security will be considered in the development including the optimum visibility of public open spaces, adequate lighting, multiple pedestrian routes and opportunities to control the speed of vehicles.
- f) Reduced parking standards shall be considered for all land use components within the development to encourage alternative transportation alternatives.

#### 9.12.2.6.4 Infrastructure Requirements – Silver Creek Junction

Redevelopment of the former Lafarge lands is dependent upon certain key improvements to public infrastructure, most notably:

1. the construction of a grade-separated crossing of the CN main line by an improved Silvercreek Parkway;
2. the extension of Silvercreek Parkway northward to connect with Paisley Road; and;

3. the construction of a new stormwater management facility on open space lands east of Howitt Creek, to accommodate existing off-site (upstream) storm flows during major storm events.

The site-specific implementing zoning provisions shall include the use of holding "H" provisions to address required infrastructure improvements, including the Silvercreek Parkway/CNR underpass, other required road projects and traffic improvements, the remedial stormwater management facility, related land dedications (i.e. for roads, stormwater management, parks and open space) and the pre-requisite site plan approval and registration of the related agreement on title to the subject lands, prior to the redevelopment of the lands.

#### 9.12.2.6.5 Land Use – Silver Creek Junction

The Silver Creek Junction lands are designated "Mixed-Use Node", "Specialized Corporate Business Park", "High Density Residential" and "Open Space" on Schedule "A" and shall be subject to the following site-specific policies for the applicable designations.

##### 1 Mixed-Use Node:

The Mixed-Use Node is intended provide a wide range of retail, service entertainment and recreational commercial uses as well as complementary uses including open space, institutional, cultural and educational uses, hotels and live work studios. Medium and high density multiple residential development and apartments shall also be permitted in accordance with the policies of Section 9.2.

The policies contained in Sections 9.4.2.1 to 9.4.2.12 shall apply to the Mixed-Use Node.

The Silver Creek Junction Mixed-Use Node is divided into 2 Sub Areas as follows:

##### Sub Area 1:

A maximum of 21,830 sq m (235,000 sq.ft.) of retail gross leasable floor space shall be **permitted in Sub Area 1 only as shown on Schedule "A". This total floor area will be** comprised of either:

- a) a maximum of one (1) large-format retail store comprised of one of a retail establishment, warehouse membership club or home improvement retail warehouse, with a maximum *gross floor area* of 13, 470 sq. m (145,000 sq. ft.) together with retail stores with a maximum *gross floor area* per individual retail store of 5,574 sq. m (60,000 sq. ft.) in a minimum of at least two separate buildings, OR,
- b) A combination of retail stores, with a maximum individual retail store *gross floor area* of 5,574 sq. m (60,000 sq. ft.) in a minimum of at least two (2) separate buildings.

Commercial development to this area shall incorporate a reduced retail parking standard, to be established through the site-specific implementing zoning provisions.

### Sub Area 2:

The maximum of 3,900 sq. m (42,000 sq. Ft.) of service commercial gross leasable floor **shall be permitted in Sub Area 2 only as shown on Schedule "A". Within this gross** leasable floor area a maximum of 929 sq. m (10,000 sq. ft) shall be permitted as retail uses. This area shall be subject to a restricted range of service commercial uses, to be established in the implementing zoning by-law; the policy intention is to focus on true convenience-oriented service uses to serve the neighbourhood such as restaurants, financial institutions and personal services. The range of permitted uses will also allow a mixed-use design with residential or office space permitted above ground floor commercial and live-work arrangements. A minimum building massing equivalent to two **(2) storeys (7.6m) shall be achieved in the buildings adjacent to the central "village market square."** Buildings shall be located close to the street line with primary entrances facing the street and grouped in manner to reinforce the limits and identity of the village market square focal point. Reduced building setbacks shall be encouraged from the public streets, to help define the streetscape and enhance the pedestrian environment.

Commercial development in this area shall incorporate a reduced parking standard, to be established through the site-specific implementing zoning provisions.

### 2 Specialized Corporate Business Park

**Within the "Specialized Business Park" designation on the east side of Silvercreek Parkway** adjacent to Howitt Creek, development shall conform with Section 9.5.3 of this plan and the following:

- a) permitted uses shall include a range of employment activities including offices, research and development facilities, computer establishments and laboratories that are compatible with the adjacent residential uses. Complementary uses such as institutional (schools and religious establishments), a public or private recreational facility or club, as well as high density residential uses shall also be permitted provided that they are limited in scale and do not detract from the primary development of the lands for employment purposes; and,
- b) reduced building setbacks and minimum building heights shall also be required, to help define the streetscape and enhance the pedestrian environment.

### 3 High Density Residential

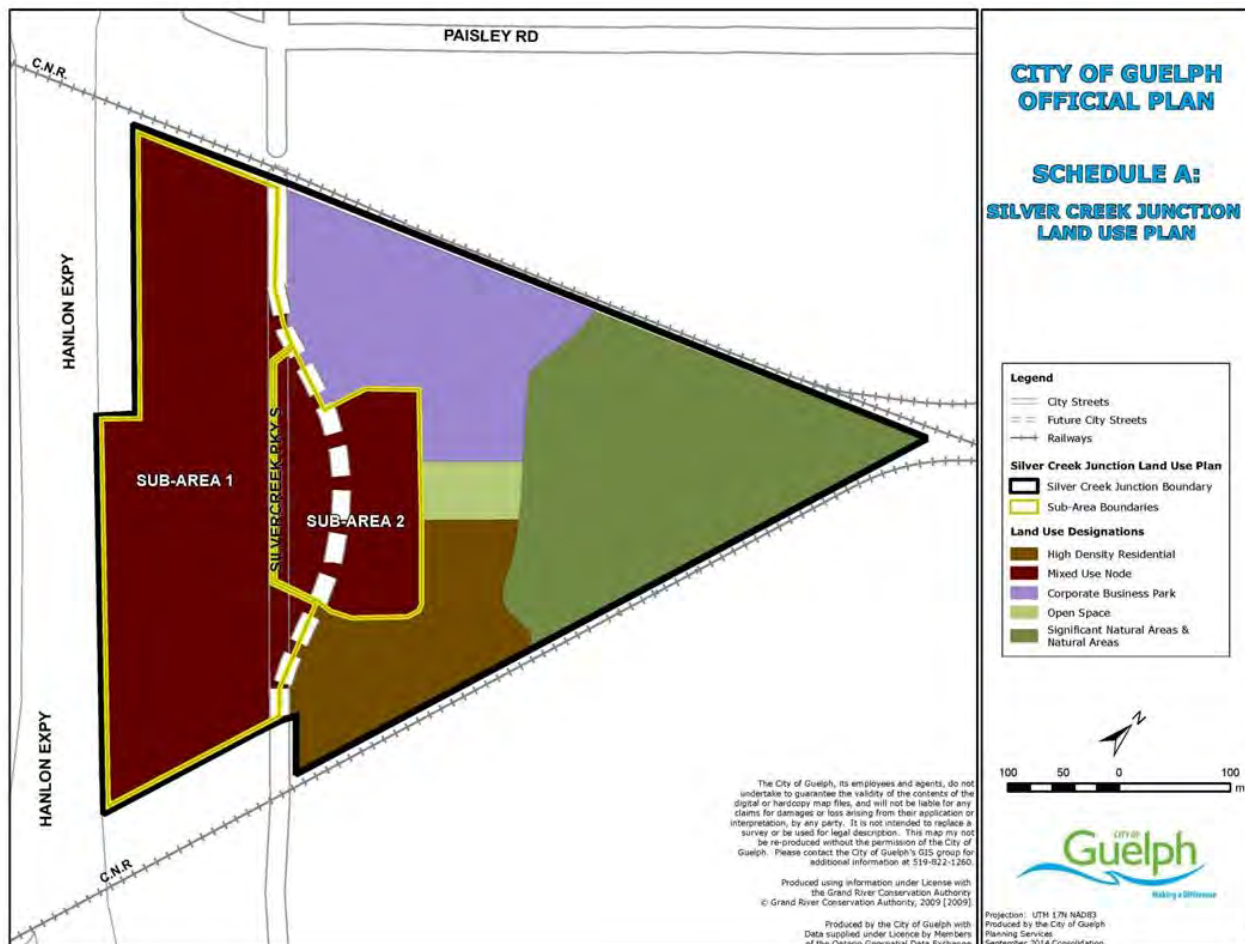
**Within the "High Density Residential" designation on the east side of Silvercreek Parkway** adjacent to Howitt Creek, development shall conform with the Section 9.3.5 of this plan and with the following:

- a) residential development may take the form of individual apartment buildings on separate parcels, or a single cohesive scheme comprising several buildings and may include Nursing or Retirement homes;
- b) development shall generally occur in buildings ranging in height from 3 to 8 storeys, provided that the height and massing of buildings shall be sensitive to the

proximity of these lands to existing low density residential development to the southeast, on the opposite side of the Goderich and Exeter (GEXR) rail line adjacent to the south edge of the site; further floor space indices (FSI) may be used to control the design of the developments; and,

- c) notwithstanding the density provisions of Policy 9.3.5.3, the minimum net density of residential development of the subject lands shall be 175 units per hectare; the intention of this site-specific policy is to require a minimum of 350 residential units to be developed on these lands.

## SCHEDULE "A" SILVER CREEK LAND USE PLAN



7. 240-258 Silvercreek Parkway North

In addition to the permitted uses and policies of the Service Commercial designation, the permitted uses and policies of the Industrial designation apply to property located at 240-258 Silvercreek Parkway North.

8. 80 Waterloo Avenue and 20-28 Birmingham Street

In addition to the permitted uses within the Low Density Residential designation, a social services establishment including diagnostic and treatment services may be permitted on property located at 80 Waterloo Avenue and 20-28 Birmingham Street.

9. 60 Westwood Road

In addition to the use provisions of the Low Density Residential designation, a range of non-convenience, commercially oriented uses may also be permitted within the existing buildings on the property located at 60 Westwood Road. These uses shall be limited to those which maintain the integrity of the property's existing *natural heritage features* and *cultural heritage resources*.

10. 60 Woodlawn Road East

In addition to the use provisions of the High Density Residential designation, a medical office with two (2) or fewer physicians and associated support professionals in a maximum *gross floor area* of 140 square metres to be located outside of the long term care facility in conjunction with the uses permitted on the subject property and a living classroom with a maximum *gross floor area* of 406 square metres to be located in the existing basement area of the Long Term Care Facility for in-situ learning that integrates theoretical and practical education and training for health care workers in the gerontological field, shall be permitted.

11. 512 Woolwich Street

In addition to the use provisions of the Low Density Residential designation, office use to a maximum size of 2,880 square metres *gross floor area* may be permitted on the property located at 512 Woolwich Street.

12. 200-208 Yorkshire Street North and 155 Suffolk Street West

Northwest corner of Yorkshire Street North and Suffolk Street West, this Mixed Office / Commercial Use area is to be used for a variety of retail, convenience, service and commercial office type uses in conjunction with residential units as specified in the following sub-policies:

- i) The lands on the corner known municipally as 200-208 Yorkshire Street North may be occupied by a range of retail, service and commercial uses as specified in the City's *Zoning By-law*. Dwelling units above commercial uses may also be permitted.
- ii) The lands situated to the west of the corner known municipally as 155 Suffolk Street West may be occupied by a select range of commercial uses

that will be limited to the retail, service and storage of glass products, furniture, home improvements, fine art and other low traffic generating uses specified in the *Zoning By-law*. *Dwelling units* shall be permitted when the site has been decommissioned.

### 9.12.3 South Guelph

#### 1. 388 Arkell Road

In addition to the uses permitted in the Neighbourhood Commercial Centre land use designation by policy 9.4.5.12, a school shall also be permitted on the property municipally known as 388 Arkell Road.

#### 2. 180 Clair Road West

In addition to the Corporate Business Park uses permitted for the property located at the southeast corner of Clair Road and Poppy Drive, the lands may also be used for a religious establishment and associated institutional uses.

#### 3. 166-178 College Avenue West

**Notwithstanding the maximum net density and permitted uses in the “High Density Residential” land use designation, the maximum net density shall be 172 units per hectare and a Seniors Day Use and/or Day Care Centre shall be permitted on the subject lands with a maximum total *gross floor area* of 537 square metres.**

#### 4. 262 Edinburgh Road South

In addition to the Medium Density Residential uses permitted, the property located at 262 Edinburgh Road South may be used as a medical clinic.

#### 5. 716 Gordon St

In spite of the provisions of policies 9.3.5.2 and 9.3.5.3, the minimum height is three (3) storeys and the maximum height is eleven (11) storeys; and the maximum *net density* is 311 units per hectare and a maximum of 1,150 bedrooms and net less than a minimum net density of 100 units per hectare.

#### 6. 1077 Gordon St

In spite of the maximum density provisions of Subsection 9.4.6.8, residential *development* may be permitted to a maximum *net density* of 150 units per hectare.

#### 7. 1354 Gordon Street

In spite of policies 9.4.5.15 and 9.4.5.16, the maximum height is eight (8) storeys; and the maximum *net density* is 172.4 units per hectare.



8. 1373-1389 Gordon Street

In spite of the maximum height provisions of policy 9.3.3.2 for the Medium Density Residential designation and policy 9.4.5.15 for the Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designation, the maximum height shall be seven (7) storeys.

9. 1888 Gordon Street

In spite of the provisions of policies 9.3.5.2 and 9.3.5.3, the minimum height is two (2) stories and the maximum height is fourteen (14) stories; and the maximum *net density* is 175 units per hectare and not less than a minimum *net density* of 100 units per hectare.

10. 30 and 65 Hanlon Creek Boulevard

- i) In addition to the uses permitted in the "Industrial" and "Corporate Business Park" land use designations, the corner portion comprising approximately 0.965 hectares of the property municipally addressed as 30 Hanlon Creek Boulevard and legally described as Part of Block 2, 61M-176, and all of the property municipally addressed as 65 Hanlon Creek Boulevard, legally described as Block 1, 61M-176, being located at the main entrance to the Hanlon Creek Business Park are also permitted to be used for *service commercial* uses in free standing or multi-tenant buildings provided that such uses are directly related to, associated with and directly supportive of the corporate business park and industrial uses in the Hanlon Creek Business Park. The *Zoning By-law* will establish the appropriate range of *service commercial* uses which may include: *convenience commercial*, financial establishment, *child care centre*, personal service, restaurant, commercial school, hotel, office supply and print shop. More intensive highway *service commercial* type uses and vehicle related uses shall not be permitted.
- ii) In addition to the uses permitted in the "Industrial" designation, the lands municipally addressed as 30 Hanlon Creek Boulevard located at the main entrance to the Hanlon Creek Business Park and legally described as Block 2, 61 M -17 6, are also permitted to be used for Office uses in free standing or multi-tenant buildings.

11. 132 Harts Lane West

In spite of the maximum density provisions of the High Density Residential designation, the *net density* of residential *development* on Block Number 121 of draft plan of subdivision 23T-14502 shall not exceed 152 units per hectare.

12. 160 Kortright Road West

Notwithstanding policy 9.4.5.6 for the Neighbourhood Commercial Centre designation, the existing Neighbourhood Commercial Centre located at Kortright Road

and Edinburgh Road shall be permitted to provide an individual retail use of a maximum of 5,200 square metres.

13. 12 Poole Street

Notwithstanding the maximum density provisions of the High Density Residential land use designation in Section 9.3.5, an apartment and stacked townhouse development is permitted on the property municipally known as 12 Poole Street with a maximum net density of 192 units per hectare.

## 10 Implementation

The Implementation chapter of this Plan provides a description of the tools that the City can use to achieve its vision and strategic directions and implement the provisions of this Plan. The Plan will be implemented by means of the authority given to the Municipality by the *Planning Act*, the *Municipal Act* and any other statutes, where applicable.

### 10.1 Official Plan Update and Monitoring

1. To ensure the continued relevance and practicality of the Official Plan in relation to changes in demographic, economic, social and technological circumstances, the City shall assess the need to review all or parts of the Official Plan every five years in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning Act*.
2. To assess the effectiveness of the Official Plan and to facilitate the updating of the Official Plan, the City may monitor the various matters including but not necessarily limited to the following:
  - i) **population, employment and land use changes, including growth management targets;**
  - ii) **rate of development;**
  - iii) **housing densities, housing intensification opportunities inventory, housing mix, housing needs and conditions, lot inventories and rental housing vacancy rates;**
  - iv) **municipal assessment and the residential/non-residential assessment balance;**
  - v) **water, sewage and solid waste capacity utilization;**
  - vi) **changes in Federal and Provincial programs, legislation and policies;**
  - vii) **recreation, cultural and other community facilities;**
  - viii) **extent, nature and location of employment and commercial development;**
  - ix) **preservation and integrity of significant natural heritage features and cultural heritage resources;**
  - x) **transportation facilities including pedestrian flow and transit usage rates, traffic volumes and conditions;**
  - xi) **environmental impacts;**
  - xii) **achievement of energy reduction and generation targets; and**
  - xiii) **other issues as required.**
3. The compilation of information noted in policy 10.1.2 will be used as a benchmarking database to assess the sustainability goals, objectives and policies of this Plan.

## 10.2 Secondary Plans

1. Secondary Plans will be prepared for specific areas of the city where it is considered necessary to provide more detailed planning objectives and policies to guide and direct development. Secondary Plans may be prepared for established, partially developed or undeveloped areas of the city. In partially developed or undeveloped areas, Secondary Plans may be prepared to ensure that future subdivision and site *developments* conform to an overall community development concept and approved planning policies. In established neighbourhoods, Secondary Plans are intended to guide future *redevelopment* and renewal activities.
2. Secondary Plans shall be incorporated into the Official Plan by amendment and these amendments shall be subject to the same administrative and public involvement procedures as required for an Official Plan Amendment.
3. Secondary Plans shall be subject to, and implement the provisions of, the Official Plan. However, where the Secondary Plan provides more detail, the provisions of the Secondary Plan shall prevail.
4. Secondary Plans shall generally address the following:
  - i) **patterns of land use, land use designations and density;**
  - ii) **an appropriate range and mix of land uses to meet projected needs and density targets (where applicable);**
  - iii) **connectivity and integration with existing developed or planned development areas of the city;**
  - iv) **urban design;**
  - v) **natural heritage features and systems;**
  - vi) **cultural heritage resources and archaeological resources;**
  - vii) **transportation including transit, pedestrian and bicycle connections;**
  - viii) **servicing strategy;**
  - ix) **policies, including phasing policies and other strategies, to achieve the *intensification target* and *density target* of this Plan;**
  - x) **the water resource system;**
  - xi) **stormwater management plans;**
  - xii) **open space system: trails and parks;**
  - xiii) **fiscal impact analysis;**
  - xiv) **implementation of specific policies of this Plan; and**
  - xv) **any other matters as deemed appropriate.**
5. Secondary Plans will be initiated and undertaken by the City. The City will prepare a detailed terms of reference; including the establishment of boundaries of the study area, to be approved by City Council to guide the secondary planning process.

6. The Clair-Maltby area, with boundaries generally identified on Schedule 2, is the only remaining *greenfield area* in the city that has not been comprehensively planned. The completion of a Secondary Plan for the Clair-Maltby area is a priority for the City and the Secondary Plan will be incorporated into the Official Plan through an amendment upon completion. The Secondary Plan will be prepared by the City in consultation with landowners, stakeholders and the community and approved by City Council.

### 10.3 Community Improvement

The Community Improvement provisions of the *Planning Act* allow municipalities to prepare and adopt community improvement plans for designated community improvement project areas. Once a community improvement plan has been adopted by the City and has come into effect, the City may undertake a wide range of actions for the purpose of carrying out the community improvement plan, including but not limited to, the acquisition and development of land and/or buildings and the provision of grants and loans to owners and tenants of land and their assignees.

#### Objectives

- a) To maintain and improve the quality, safety and stability of the built environment within the community.
- b) To encourage the renewal, rehabilitation, *redevelopment* or other improvement of private and public lands and/or buildings.
- c) To maintain and upgrade municipal physical and community facility infrastructure.
- d) To maintain and upgrade the transportation network to ensure adequate traffic flow, pedestrian circulation, and parking facilities.
- e) To maintain and upgrade public recreational, park and open space facilities.
- f) To encourage the preservation, restoration, adaptive reuse and improvement of historical or architecturally significant buildings.
- g) To encourage maximum use of existing municipal services through the infilling, *intensification* and *redevelopment* of lands and buildings which are already serviced with municipal services.
- h) To improve and maintain the physical and aesthetic qualities and amenities of streetscapes.
- i) To encourage the eventual elimination and/or relocation of incompatible land uses, and where this is not feasible, to encourage physical improvements to minimize the incompatibility.
- j) To improve environmental conditions.
- k) To improve social conditions.
- l) To promote cultural development and the development of cultural facilities.

- m) To encourage and support environmentally sustainable development.
- n) To guide and prioritize the expenditure of public funds on community improvements.
- o) To encourage community partners to maintain, upgrade and/or add community facilities and services.

#### Community Improvement Project Areas

1. The City may from time to time pass by-laws to designate one or more "Community Improvement Project Areas" as provided for by the *Planning Act*. The entire City of Guelph, or any part of the city, may be designated by by-law as a Community Improvement Project Area.
2. Council will consider the following criteria in the designation of Community Improvement Project Areas:
  - a) A significant portion of the building stock, building facades and/or properties in an area are in need of maintenance, preservation, restoration, repair, rehabilitation, *redevelopment*, energy efficiency or renewable energy improvements;
  - b) Deterioration or deficiencies in physical infrastructure including but not limited to sanitary sewer, storm sewer and/or water supply systems, roads, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, streetscapes and/or street lighting, and municipal parking facilities;
  - c) Deterioration or deficiencies in the level of community and social services such as public open space, municipal parks, neighbourhood parks, indoor/outdoor recreational facilities, and public social facilities;
  - d) Vacant lots and/or underutilized properties and buildings which have potential for infill, *redevelopment* or expansion to better utilize the land base;
  - e) Presence of buildings and/or lands of architectural or heritage significance;
  - f) An inappropriate range of housing types and densities including insufficient affordable housing;
  - g) Non-conforming, conflicting, encroaching or incompatible land uses or activities;
  - h) A shortage of land to accommodate widening of existing rights-of-way, building expansion, parking and/or loading facilities;
  - i) Within commercial areas, there are high vacancy rates, deterioration in the appearance of building facades, business signage, streetscapes, public amenity areas and urban design, inadequate parking facilities or inadequate pedestrian accessibility;
  - j) Within industrial areas, there are obsolete industrial buildings/sites, poor accessibility, inadequate parking, loading and outside storage areas;
  - k) Known or suspected environmental contamination;

- l) There is an opportunity to implement the goals of the Community Energy Plan;
  - m) Other significant barriers to the repair, rehabilitation or *redevelopment* of underutilized land and/or buildings; and
  - n) Other significant environmental, social or community economic development reasons for community improvement.
3. Priority for the designation of community improvement project areas and the preparation and adoption of community improvement plans shall be given to:
- a) Those areas where the greatest number of criteria for designation of Community Improvement Project Areas are present; and/or,
  - b) Those areas where one or more of the criteria for designation of Community Improvement Project Areas is particularly acute; and/or
  - c) Those areas where one or more of the criteria for designation of Community Improvement Project Areas exists across the entire municipality or a large part of the municipality.

#### Phasing

4. The phasing of community improvements shall be prioritized to:
- a) Implement those improvements that will most substantially improve the aesthetic, environmental and service qualities of a community improvement project area;
  - b) Reflect the financial capability of the City to fund community improvement projects;
  - c) Take advantage of available senior government programs that offer financial assistance for community improvement efforts; and,
  - d) Coordinate the timing of related capital expenditures from various municipal departments with departmental priorities.

#### Implementation

5. In order to implement a Community Improvement Plan that has come into effect, the City may make full use of the municipal authority granted it under the *Planning Act* and other Provincial and Federal legislation, and more specifically, the City may undertake a range of actions, including:
- a) The municipal acquisition of land and/or buildings and the subsequent:
    - i) Clearance, grading, or environmental remediation of these properties;
    - ii) Repair, rehabilitation, construction or improvement of these properties;
    - iii) Sale, lease, or other disposition of these properties to any person or governmental authority;
    - iv) Other preparation of land or buildings for community improvement.
  - b) Provision of public funds such as grants and loans to owners and tenants of land and their assignees;

- c) Coordination of public and private *redevelopment* and rehabilitation by providing administrative and liaison assistance;
  - d) Application for financial assistance from and participation in senior level government programs that provide assistance to municipalities and/or private landowners for the purposes of community improvement;
  - e) Programs and measures to promote energy efficient *development, redevelopment* and retrofit projects;
  - f) Encouraging the preservation, rehabilitation, renewal and reuse of *cultural heritage resources* and support of heritage conservation through means available under the *Ontario Heritage Act*;
  - g) Continued enforcement of the *Property Standards By-law*, the *Zoning By-law*, the *Sign By-law* and any other related by-laws and policies;
  - h) Continuing to support the Downtown Guelph Business Association (the Business Improvement Area administration pursuant to the *Municipal Act*) in its efforts to maintain a strong and viable Downtown;
  - i) Co-operating with private individuals and corporations, service clubs and other public agencies to maintain, upgrade and/or provide new facilities, services and projects, which contribute to the enhancement of the community.
6. Council shall be satisfied that its participation in community improvement activities will be within the financial capabilities of the City.

#### 10.4 Zoning By-laws

1. *Zoning By-laws*, prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*, will be used to regulate the use of land and the character, location and use of buildings and structures in accordance with the objectives and policies of this Plan. The *Zoning By-law* may be more restrictive than the provisions of this Plan. It is not intended that the full range of uses or densities permitted by this Plan will be permitted by the *Zoning By-law* in all locations.
2. In accordance with the *Planning Act* and upon approval of enabling regulations established by the Province, the City may impose conditions on zoning through the *Zoning By-law* and may require an agreement related to the conditions which may be registered on title.
3. Following adoption of this Plan, any amendments to the *Zoning By-law* shall be in conformity with the objectives and policies of this Plan.
4. Until such time as the comprehensive *Zoning By-law* is revised, the existing *Zoning By-law* shall remain in effect. However, any amendment to the existing *Zoning By-law* shall be required to be in conformity with this Plan.
5. Areas of the city that were annexed into Guelph in 1993 are subject to the applicable township *Zoning By-laws* that were in effect for these areas on April 1, 1993 - for the north portions of the City, the Guelph Township *Zoning By-law* and for the south areas



of the City, the Puslinch Township *Zoning By-law*. These By-laws remain in effect until they are replaced by new *Zoning By-law* zones and regulations that are in conformity with the provisions of this Plan.

6. The *Zoning By-law* will be used, wherever possible, to protect existing or newly identified *natural heritage features* within the city.
7. The *Zoning By-law* may be used, wherever possible, for the protection of *cultural heritage resources*.
8. The *Zoning By-law* may provide for certificates of occupancy for specified uses of land. Such certificates shall be required for the establishment of the specified uses and for any subsequent changes in those uses of land, buildings or structures.
9. Where appropriate, the City may use its *Zoning By-law* to recognize existing legal uses of land that are not in conformity with the provisions of the Official Plan. When determining the suitability of any existing use for consideration in this manner, the City shall be concerned with the following principles:
  - i) that the zoning will not permit any change of use or performance standard;
  - ii) that the use does not constitute a danger to surrounding uses and persons by virtue of their hazardous nature or by the traffic generated;
  - iii) that the use does not pollute the air or water;
  - iv) that any extension or enlargement to an existing building or structure will be permitted only by amendment to the *Zoning By-law*; and
  - v) that any extension or enlargement to existing buildings or structures will be subject to Site Plan Control in accordance with the policies of this Plan.
10. The City, where appropriate, may zone lands in an "urban reserve" or other suitable zone category where:
  - i) there is insufficient information to determine specific zoning categories that would implement the provisions of this Plan; and
  - ii) *development* of lands is considered premature because adequate services are not available.
11. City Council may, by bylaw, delegate approval authority for minor amendments to the *Zoning By-law*. Such minor Zoning By-law amendments may include:
  - i) Removal of a holding (H) symbol, as per Section 10.5;
  - ii) Passing a Temporary Use By-law, as per Section 10.6;
  - iii) Correcting of minor errors and omissions;
  - iv) Minor text amendments to add clarity for the intent of regulations;
  - v) Housekeeping updates to reflect changes to job titles, names of City departments, external agencies and organizations, or other policy documents and legislation;

**vi) Removal of site-specific zoning that is more restrictive than the parent zone;**

A Statutory Public Meeting shall not be required for a minor amendment to the *Zoning By-law* described above unless concerns have been identified by written submission during the commenting period identified in an applicable Notice of Application.

## 10.5 Holding By-law

1. The City may use the holding symbol (H) or any other appropriate symbol pursuant to the provisions and regulations of the *Planning Act* where the use of land is definitely established but a specific *development* proposal is considered premature or inappropriate for immediate implementation.
2. The City may apply a holding (H) symbol in conjunction with the implementing *Zoning By-law* for any land use designation of this Plan in one or more of the following circumstances:
  - i) where municipal services such as sanitary sewers, stormwater management facilities, water supply, parks, schools, community services and facilities and *community infrastructure* have been determined to have insufficient capacity to serve the proposed *development* until necessary improvements are made;
  - ii) where the submission and acceptance of special studies or support studies as required by this Plan are required prior to *development*;
  - iii) to ensure that *natural heritage features* or *cultural heritage resources* are protected in accordance with the policies of this Plan prior to *development*;
  - iv) to ensure that potential *natural hazards* or *development* constraints are safely addressed in accordance with the policies of this Plan prior to *development*;
  - v) where it is necessary to require the phasing of an overall *development* to ensure logical and orderly land use, to minimize negative impacts or to secure commitments consistent with the policies of this Plan;
  - vi) where *development* is contingent upon other related matters occurring first, such as the consolidation of land ownership to ensure orderly *development* and phasing of the project or to secure funding agreements on necessary *infrastructure* or services; and
  - vii) where environmental remediation or mitigation measures are required.
3. The City may remove the holding (H) symbol in the implementing *Zoning By-law* where Council, or their designate, is satisfied that all requirements or conditions of the City have been satisfied to ensure appropriate *development*. The satisfactory completion of conditions may include, but not be limited to, appropriate financial and servicing requirements, approval of studies, and the signing of necessary agreements under the provisions of the *Planning Act*.
4. Where the holding symbol (H) is in effect, the use of land may be restricted to the following:

- i) agricultural uses, excluding livestock-based agricultural uses;
- ii) uses existing at the date of passing of the Holding By-law;
- iii) open space; and
- iv) other uses deemed appropriate by Council, or their designate, and which do not adversely impact the future development potential of the lands and which are compatible with surrounding land uses.

#### 10.6 Temporary Use By-laws

1. Council, or their designate, may pass a Temporary Use By-law to authorize the temporary use of land, buildings or structures for any purpose that is otherwise prohibited by the *Zoning By-law* in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*. Prior to the passing of a Temporary Use By-law, Council, or their designate, shall be satisfied that the proposed temporary use meets the following conditions:
  - i) that it is *compatible* with neighbouring land use;
  - ii) that adequate parking can be provided on-site;
  - iii) that sufficient services such as water, sewage disposal and roads can be provided;
  - iv) that an adverse impact on traffic will not be created;
  - v) that the construction of a permanent building or structure is not required; and
  - vi) that the use is in general conformity with the intent and policies of this Plan.

#### 10.7 Interim Control By-law

1. Council may pass Interim Control By-laws to control the use of land, buildings or structures within designated areas of the city and in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*, in order to prevent or limit *development* until detailed planning studies for the subject lands are completed and approved by Council.

#### 10.8 Plans of Subdivision and Part-Lot Control

1. The City, when considering applications for *plans of subdivision*, will have regard to the provisions of the *Planning Act*. In addition, plans will be considered for approval when they conform to the following criteria:
  - i) the plan conforms to the objectives, targets, policies and land use designations of this Plan;
  - ii) the plan can be supplied with adequate municipal services such as water, sewage disposal, drainage, fire and police protection, roads, utilities, solid waste collection and disposal and other community facilities;
  - iii) the plan will not adversely impact upon the transportation system, adjacent land uses and the Natural Heritage System;

- iv) the plan can be serviced economically without imposing an undue financial burden upon the City;
  - v) the plan has incorporated all necessary studies and assessments to ensure impacts on *natural heritage features* and *cultural heritage resources* are minimized;
  - vi) the plan can be integrated with adjacent lands, subdivisions and streets;
  - vii) the plan is considered to be necessary, timely and in the public interest;
  - viii) the plan is designed in accordance with accepted subdivision design principles as articulated in the Urban Design Policies of this Plan; and
  - ix) the plan is designed to be sustainable, to support public transit and to be walkable.
2. The City shall, as a condition of approval pursuant to the *Planning Act*, require the owner of lands subject to a plan of subdivision to enter into one or more agreements which may be registered against the title of the subject lands.
  3. Council shall use subdivision agreements that maintain acceptable standards of *development* to protect the City and public interest.
  4. Council may pass by-laws to exempt properties from Part Lot Control, subject to the provisions of the *Planning Act*.
  5. If a plan of subdivision or part thereof has been registered for eight years or more and does not conform to the policies of this Plan, the City may use its authority under the *Planning Act* to deem it not to be a *registered plan of subdivision*.
  6. The City may request amendments to an approved draft plan of subdivision at the time an extension to draft plan approval is requested to ensure that the *development* is consistent with the *density targets* of this Plan.

## 10.9 Committee of Adjustment

### 10.9.1 Consents

1. When considering an application for *consent*, the *Committee of Adjustment* shall have regard to the provisions of the *Planning Act*, to the goals, objectives and policies of this Plan and to the provisions of the *Zoning By-law*.
2. The *Committee of Adjustment* shall also consider the following matters when reviewing an application for *consent*:
  - i) that all of the criteria for *plans of subdivision* or *condominium* are given due consideration;
  - ii) that the application is properly before the Committee and that a plan of subdivision or *condominium* has been deemed not to be necessary for the proper and orderly development of the City;

- iii) that the land parcels to be created by the consent will not restrict or hinder the ultimate development of the lands; and
  - iv) that the application can be supported if it is reasonable and in the best interest of the community.
- 3. *Consents* may be permitted for the purpose of boundary adjustments or to convey additional lands to an abutting property.
- 4. The *Committee of Adjustment* shall have regard for any comments provided by agencies and City departments regarding the effect of the proposed *consent* and *development* proposal upon their plans and programs.
- 5. The *Committee of Adjustment* may attach such conditions as it deems necessary to the approval of a *consent*. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to the following:
  - i) the fulfillment of all servicing, grading, easement and financial requirements of the City;
  - ii) the dedication of lands for park purposes or the payment of cash-in-lieu thereof;
  - iii) the dedication of appropriate road widenings or land for intersection improvements where required; and
  - iv) the preparation of development agreements respecting *development* of the lands to include:
    - a) the elevation, location and design of any new dwelling;
    - b) the location and extent of any access point, driveway and legal off-street parking space, grading, drainage and servicing information; and
    - c) any additional requirements imposed at the discretion of the Committee.

#### 10.9.2 Minor Variances

- 1. When considering an application for a minor variance to the use and/or regulation **provisions of the City's *Zoning By-law***, the *Committee of Adjustment* shall give consideration to the provisions of the *Planning Act*. In addition, the Committee will consider the following matters in its decision deliberations:
  - i) that the requested variance is minor in nature;
  - ii) that the intent and purpose of the *Zoning By-law* is maintained;
  - iii) that the general intent and purpose of the Official Plan is maintained; and
  - iv) that the variance is desirable for the appropriate *development* and use of the land, building or structure.
- 2. The *Committee of Adjustment* may attach such conditions, as it deems appropriate and desirable to the approval of the application for a minor variance.

### 10.9.3 Legal Non-Conforming Uses

1. *Legal non-conforming* uses are uses of land, buildings or structures that were lawfully used for a purpose prohibited by a new *Zoning By-law* on the day the new *Zoning By-law* was passed.
2. In reviewing an application concerning a *legal non-conforming* use, property, building or structure, the *Committee of Adjustment* will consider the matters outlined in section 10.9.2 of this Plan, with necessary modifications as well as the requirements of the *Planning Act*, to evaluate the appropriateness of a *development* proposal and the use of property. In addition, the following matters shall be considered:
  - i) **that the use has been continuous;**
  - ii) **that the extension/enlargement is situated only on property originally owned by the *development* proponent on the day the implementing *Zoning By-law* was passed;**
  - iii) **that no new separate buildings will be permitted; and**
  - iv) **that the proposed use is similar or more *compatible* with the uses permitted by the *Zoning By-law* in effect.**
3. The *Committee of Adjustment* may attach conditions in the approval of an application related to a *legal non-conforming* use for such time and subject to such terms and conditions that the Committee considers advisable.
4. Any land use lawfully existing at the date of approval of this Plan that does not conform to the land use designations or policies of this Plan or to the implementing *Zoning By-law* should, as a general rule, cease to exist in the long run. Such land uses shall be considered as *legal non-conforming* uses. In certain circumstances, it may be desirable to permit the extension or enlargement to a building or structure for a *legal non-conforming* use in order to avoid unnecessary hardship. It is the intention of this Plan that any such extension or enlargement shall be processed as either a site-specific amendment to the *Zoning By-law*, or as an application to the Committee of Adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the *Planning Act*.

### 10.10 Site Plan Control

1. Site Plan Control will be used in accordance with the *Planning Act* as a means of achieving well-designed, functional, accessible, and sustainable built form and public spaces. The site plan approval process will:
  - i) **ensure the adequate provision and maintenance of site-specific facilities required by *development*;**
  - ii) **require necessary easements or otherwise control the location of necessary services and utilities;**
  - iii) **ensure that the proposed *development* is functional for the intended use;**
  - iv) **ensure *compatibility* of design between sites;**

- v) minimize any adverse effects of the *development* on adjacent properties;
- vi) secure necessary road widening and lands for intersection improvements from abutting properties in accordance with the policies of this Plan;
- vii) ensure that the site is accessible to persons with disabilities and provides facilities to support transit and cycling;
- viii) ensure that *development* is completed and maintained as approved by Council;
- ix) ensure that *development* is compatible with on-site or adjacent property natural heritage features and cultural heritage resources; and
- x) ensure that *development* contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the City's Community Energy Plan.

2. All lands within the City of Guelph are designated as site plan control areas except:

- i) low density residential, including single detached and semi-detached dwellings and buildings or structures accessory thereto, but not including zero lot line dwellings, *lodging houses*, *additional residential dwelling units* within a separate building on the same lot as the primary *dwelling*, *garden suites*, *group homes* or other *special needs housing*;
- ii) farm related *development* including buildings and structures for agricultural use; and
- iii) buildings or structures used for *flood* control or conservation purposes.

3. Council may identify specific types of *development* that are subject to site plan control, and those which are exempt, in a By-law.

4. Council may require design drawings for buildings to be used for residential purposes containing less than twenty-five *dwelling units* within all areas of the city.

5. The City may require the following to be shown on plans or drawings, to the satisfaction of the City and in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*:

- i) plans showing the location of all buildings and structures to be erected and showing the location of all facilities and works to be provided;
- ii) plan, elevation and cross-section views of buildings and structures;
- iii) the massing and conceptual design of the proposed building(s);
- iv) the relationship of the proposed building to adjacent buildings, street and exterior areas to which members of the public have access;
- v) the provision of interior walkways, stair, elevators and escalators to which members of the public have access from streets, open spaces and interior walkways to adjacent buildings;
- vi) matters relating to exterior design, including without limitation the character, scale, appearance and design features of buildings, and their sustainable design;

- vii) the sustainable design elements on any adjoining City right-of-way including without limitation trees, shrubs, hedges, plantings or other ground cover, permeable paving materials, street furniture, curb ramps, waste and recycling containers and bicycle parking facilities;
  - viii) facilities designed to have regard for accessibility for persons with disabilities;
  - ix) landscaping and buffering;
  - x) grading, drainage and provisions for the disposal of storm, surface and wastewater;
  - xi) vehicle access and off-street circulation, loading and parking;
  - xii) signage and lighting;
  - xiii) pedestrian access, walkways and walkway ramps and bicycle facilities;
  - xiv) facilities for the storage of waste materials; and
  - xv) the character, scale, appearance and design features of the exteriors of those new buildings and structures that may be attached to *built heritage resources* or sited in close proximity to such resources and care shall be taken to permit only those changes that retain, protect, complement and do not otherwise harm distinguishing heritage features.
6. The City will use the Urban Design policies, applicable Urban Design guidelines and the applicable provisions of this Plan in the review and approval of Site Plans.
  7. The City may establish sustainable design, aesthetic and functional design guidelines to assist in the preparation of site plans and the design of buildings.
  8. The City may, as a condition of approval pursuant to the *Planning Act*, require the owner of lands subject to site plan control to enter into one or more agreements which may be registered against the title of the subject lands.

#### 10.11 Development Permit System

1. The Development Permit System is an implementation tool that may be used to ensure the goals, objectives and policies of this Plan are realized. The Development Permit System is intended to be a flexible planning tool which combines zoning, site plan control and minor variance processes into a single process.
2. The City may establish a Development Permit System in accordance with the *Planning Act*.
3. Where such a system is desired, it will be established through amendment to this Plan and address matters such as the area to which the Development Permit System applies, any delegation of Council authority, specific goals, objectives and policies of the Development Permit area, the type of criteria and conditions that may be included in a Development Permit By-law, classes of *development* that may be exempt and/or specific complete application requirements.



### 10.12 Sign By-law

1. The Sign By-law for the City of Guelph shall be reviewed and revised in conformity with the objectives and policies of this Plan. The Sign By-law shall be used to control the visual impact of advertising and sign design and/or placement on the general streetscape of the community and more particularly upon *natural heritage features* and *cultural heritage resources*. The approval of Council may be required before any sign is erected or *altered*.

### 10.13 Property Standards

**The City's *Property Standards By-law*** sets out minimum standards of property maintenance and occupancy for the purpose of setting a basic standard of good appearance for all properties within the community, for encouraging the preservation and maintenance of existing buildings and the removal of buildings that have declined to the point where they cannot be satisfactorily and economically rehabilitated.

1. The *Property Standards By-law*, as adopted by Council, is concerned with the following matters:
  - i) **the health, safety and security of building occupants;**
  - ii) **the physical condition of the interior and exterior of all buildings; and**
  - iii) **the condition of yards, vacant property, parking areas and walkways.**
2. The City shall ensure that the application of the By-law is not detrimental to the conservation of *natural heritage features* or *cultural heritage resources*.
3. The City shall ensure that the By-law is applied in an appropriate and reasonable manner throughout the City. However, in the outlying, non-urbanized areas of the City some tempering of the application of the By-law relative to property maintenance may be undertaken to recognize the unique rural circumstances of the area. In no instances will the By-law's application to matters dealing with health, safety and security of building occupants be compromised.

### 10.14 Demolition Control

1. To prevent the premature demolition of residential buildings within designated areas of the City, Council may prepare, enact and enforce a Demolition Control By-law in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*.
2. Applications to demolish protected, designated or listed heritage buildings and structures shall be considered in accordance with the provisions of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and the policies of this Plan.

### 10.15 Municipal Finance

1. Municipal capital expenditures implementing any aspect of this Plan will be guided by **the City's Capital Budget Forecast, which will be reviewed annually.**

2. Development will be carried forward, having regard for the City's ability to assume the financial burdens involved. Each proposal and each phase of *development* will proceed only after Council has indicated that the City is in a position to assume the financial and other obligations required to provide the necessary services.
3. Future *development* will be monitored to ensure that a balance is maintained between demands for service and the overall fiscal capacity of the City, and that an appropriate relationship is maintained between residential and non-residential assessment.
4. The City may consider alternative means to finance infrastructure projects such as front-end financing or private/public partnerships in accordance with applicable legislation and policy to ensure that development occurs in a timely and fiscally responsible manner. The City may enter into agreements addressing the terms and conditions related to alternative financing.

#### 10.16 Land Acquisition

1. Council may authorize the acquisition including by gift, and holding of real property for the purposes of implementing this Plan and in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*, the *Municipal Act* or any other relevant legislation.

#### 10.17 Pre-consultation and Complete Application Requirements

Having all relevant information and material pertaining to a particular planning application available early in the planning process is essential to making good land use decisions. Requiring this information and material to be provided at the time a planning application is submitted, enables Council to make a well informed decision within the timeframe provided by the *Planning Act* and ensures the public and other stakeholders have access to the information early in the process. Understanding the issues related to development and having the appropriate studies completed early in the planning process can avoid delays and provide **opportunities to resolve potential differences prior to Council's** consideration of the matter.

1. Prior to the submission of an application for an Official Plan Amendment, *Zoning By-law* Amendment, draft plan of subdivision or condominium and/or a site plan approval, applicants are required to pre-consult with City staff. Prior to the submission of any other *development* application, applicants are encouraged to pre-consult with City staff. The pre-consultation process is intended to scope the issues associated with a specific *development* proposal and/or change(s) in land use and set out clear requirements for a complete application. The form and level of pre-consultation will vary based on application type and context and shall be according to the process described in the Pre-consultation By-law.
2. Any application for amendment(s) to the Official Plan or *Zoning By-law*, application for approval of a plan of subdivision or condominium, or application for *consent* to sever will not be deemed complete by the General Manager of Planning Services and the time period within which the Council is required to make a decision will not commence, unless it is accompanied by:

- i) The prescribed information and material as required under the *Planning Act*; and
  - ii) Other Information and material deemed necessary by the General Manager of Planning Services or their designate in accordance with this Plan.
3. In addition to the requirements noted in the applicable sections of the Official Plan, the City may require additional information and material to be submitted as part of a complete application. The following broad categories describe additional information and material that may be required and the type of studies or documents that may be identified during the pre-consultation process as being required to be submitted as part of a complete *development* application:

- i) **Natural Heritage**

The submission of reports, studies and/or drawings, which identify and demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that there will be no negative impacts on *natural heritage features and areas* to their *ecological functions*; and identifies proposed mitigation measures to ensure *ecological functions*, diversity, and connectivity of *natural heritage features and areas* are maintained, restored, and where possible enhanced. Any information and material submitted must recognize linkages between the Natural Heritage System and *water resource system*.

This may include, but shall not be limited to:

- Environmental Impact Study
- Scoped Environmental Impact Study
- Environmental Implementation Report
- Ecological Land Classification
- Flood plain/flood fringe and top of stable slope mapping and mitigation measures as required by the GRCA
- Hydrogeological Study
- Hydrology Study
- Water Budget
- Soil Stability and Geotechnical Analysis
- Tree and/or Vegetation Inventory Report
- Vegetation Compensation Plan
- Topographical Survey/Slope Analysis
- Geotechnical Report

#### Planning Matters

The submission of reports, studies and/or statements that demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, how the proposed *development* and/or change in land use is

consistent with the applicable provisions of the Provincial Policy Statement, conforms to the Official Plan, conforms to any Provincial Plans that are in effect, and provides an integrated approach to land use planning.

This may include, but shall not be limited to:

- Planning Justification Report
- Statement of Conformity and/or Consistency with applicable policies
- Demonstration of how new development contributes to the achievement of Growth Plan density and *intensification targets*
- Employment and/or Residential Lands Needs Analysis
- Employment Lands Conversion Justification Report
- Affordable Housing Report
- Rental Conversion Report
- Conceptual Site Plan Layout
- Detailed Site Plan
- Comprehensive Open Space and Parks Conversion Study

#### Transportation

The submission of reports, studies and/or drawings, which address any change or impact to the transportation network resulting from a proposed *development* and/or change in land use and demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the City, how the proposed *development* can be accommodated by the existing transportation network or where new transportation *infrastructure*, or an expansion to the existing *transportation infrastructure* is necessary, demonstrate that the improved *transportation infrastructure* will be adequate to accommodate all modes of transportation in an efficient manner with minimal impact on surrounding land uses, and the natural and social environment.

This may include but, shall not be limited to:

- Traffic Impact or Transportation Study
- Parking Study
- Transportation Demand Management Plan

#### Servicing and Infrastructure

The submission of reports, studies and/or drawings, which demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that the existing *infrastructure* is sufficient to accommodate the proposed *development* and/or change in land use, or where new *infrastructure* is required or an expansion of the existing *infrastructure* is necessary, demonstrate that the improved *infrastructure* will be adequate to accommodate the proposed *development* and/or change in land use as well as any anticipated users of the *infrastructure*.

**This may include but shall not be limited to:**

- Water and Wastewater Servicing Study
- Storm Water Management/Drainage Report and plan
- Community Services/Facilities Study
- Infrastructure Study
- Salt management and snow storage plan
- Waste Survey Report
- Site Screening for Contaminated Sites

#### Built Form

The Submission of reports, studies, drawings and/or three-dimensional models, which demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that the proposed *development* and/or change in land use is *compatible* with the City's existing built form and will not negatively impact the public realm including, but not limited to, the streetscape and access to open space such as trails and parks.

**This may include, but shall not be limited to:**

- Building Mass Model (physical or computer generated)
- Pedestrian Level Wind Study
- Sun and Shadow Study
- Streetscape Analysis

#### Cultural Heritage Resources

The submission of reports that demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, how a proposed *development* and/or change in land use will not negatively impact the City's *cultural heritage resources*, including *development* proposals on lands adjacent to *protected heritage property*.

**This may include, but shall not be limited to:**

- *Cultural Heritage Review*
- *Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*
- *Scoped Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment*
- *Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan*
- Archaeological Assessment
- Structural Engineering Report
- Cultural heritage Landscape Assessment
- Views and Vistas Impact study

## Development Impacts

The submission of reports, studies and/or drawings that identify and assesses all potential nuisance or safety issues from natural and human made hazards including issues related to potential environmental contamination, which may result from or affect the proposed *development* and/or change in land use and demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that potential nuisances or safety issues can be effectively mitigated.

This may include, but shall not be limited to:

- Noise Impact Study
- Vibration Study
- Acoustical Design Study
- Lighting Plan
- Site Screening Questionnaire
- Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment
- Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment
- Record of Site Condition
- Sensitive Land Use Report

## Financial Impacts

The submission of reports and studies that demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, that a proposed *development* and/or change in land use will not have an unreasonable or unanticipated negative financial impact on the City including, but not limited to, short-term and long-term costs to the City for the provision of municipal *infrastructure* and services required to support the proposed *development* and/or change in land use.

This may include, but shall not be limited to:

- Market Impact Study
- Economic Impact Study
- Infrastructure Cost Assessment
- Long Term Maintenance Cost Assessment

## Sustainability

The submission of reports, studies, and/or drawings that demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the City, how a particular *development* proposal and/or change in land use meets the energy, water, and sustainability policies of this Plan.

This may include, but shall not be limited to:

- Completion of the City's Sustainability Checklist

- District Energy Feasibility Study
  - Renewable Energy Feasibility Study
  - Water Conservation Efficiency Study
  - Energy Conservation Efficiency Study
4. The City will, within 30 days of receiving a *development* application, provide notice to the applicant that the application is complete or, alternatively indicate additional information and material that is required to constitute a complete application. The date of application shall be the date upon which all required information and material is submitted in a form that is satisfactory to the General Manager of Planning Services.
  5. The information and material described in Section 10.18.3 of this Plan that may be required to accompany a *development* application is not intended to preclude the City from requiring additional reports, studies, and or drawings that may be identified during the development review process if circumstances necessitate the need for such information and material as part of the decision making process.
  6. Where appropriate, the City may waive or vary the information and material requirements specified in this Plan, where completion of such studies has occurred for an earlier, relevant planning approval or where the study requirement would result in unnecessary duplication of effort.

#### 10.18 Public Engagement and Notification Policies

1. Council will follow the public notification procedures regarding planning matters that are contained in the *Planning Act* and its regulations.
2. Where mailed information notices concerning a *development* application are distributed to abutting property owners, the names and addresses as described in the latest, revised property assessment rolls will be used for notification.
3. In addition to the public notification requirements of policy 10.19.1, the City will use the following mechanisms to promote public participation and informed decision-making:
  - i) the placing of signage on properties undergoing a planning approval process, (e.g. Official Plan amendment, Plan of subdivision, *Zoning By-law* amendment, *Committee of Adjustment* application); and
  - ii) any other means that Council deems appropriate including electronic communications.
4. **In the preparation of plans in the community, the City will use the document “Guiding Principles for Public Involvement, and the Roles and Responsibilities of City Council, Staff and all Participants” or subsequently established public engagement frameworks to ensure effective decision-making.**

## 11 Secondary Plans

11.1 Downtown Secondary Plan

11.2 Guelph Innovation District Secondary Plan



## 11.1 Downtown Secondary Plan

### Introduction

This Secondary Plan constitutes a part of the City of Guelph *Official Plan* and as such is **intended to guide and regulate development of the city's Downtown, as identified in the attached Schedules**. Users of this plan should refer to the comprehensive *Official Plan* for general city-wide policies applicable to the Downtown.

### 11.1.2 Vision, Principles and Objectives

#### 11.1.2.1 Vision

*Downtown Guelph: a distinct and vital urban centre nestled against the Speed River, comprised of beautiful buildings and public spaces, and surrounded by leafy neighbourhoods, where people live, work, shop, dine, play and celebrate.*

By 2031, Downtown Guelph will have developed beyond its historical pattern into a **distinct urban centre that is Guelph's showcase for high-density, sustainable living**. Several thousand people will live Downtown, in addition to the thousands who work there daily and visit routinely to shop, dine, enjoy culture and be entertained. Streets and squares that are lined with businesses will attract people and be bustling with activity throughout the day and evening.

Downtown Guelph will continue to be the cultural and civic hub for the City and larger region and home to a broad mix of jobs. Knowledge-based businesses will have filled old and new commercial spaces and a post-secondary institution will have established a home in the Downtown, helping to fuel innovation, the creative economy and overall economic vitality. Downtown will host more major festivals. An enhanced and more accessible **farmers' market will anchor an expanded network of food-related enterprises**.

In the historic heart of Downtown, the existing character will have been enhanced and taller buildings will have been strategically located at the periphery, where they have minimal direct impacts on existing neighbourhoods. South of the CN tracks, new buildings will take a variety of forms while embodying the principles of permanence, adaptability **and simple beauty reflected in Downtown's historic buildings**. *Redevelopment* will also have created opportunities for *renewable and alternative energy systems* and excellence in environmental design.

The *redevelopment* of former industrial sites east of the Speed River will have compatibly integrated **high-density living into the eclectic character of St. Patrick's Ward, adding** diverse forms of housing, appropriate work opportunities, street and trail connections and open spaces.

The qualities of the *public realm* throughout Downtown will have been enhanced. **St. George's Square will have been redesigned and programmed as a central gathering place** that complements Market Square and other new open spaces. The main streets of MacDonell and Wyndham will have been made more beautiful and friendlier to pedestrians

and cyclists. The extension of Royal City Park to the south side of Wellington Street will open up the riverfront to the city, establish a green gateway to Downtown and complete an important regional trail and natural corridor connection.

Improvements to transit facilities, streetscapes and trail connections have resulted in many more people choosing to take transit, walk or cycle to and within Downtown instead of driving. The new transit station has drawn more employers to Downtown as well as more residents seeking easy access to destinations throughout Guelph and cities beyond.

Through private *development* coordinated with strategic public investments, all guided by a shared vision and demonstrating design excellence, Downtown Guelph in 2031 is a thriving high-density urban centre and popular destination still minutes from the countryside.

#### 11.1.2.2 Principles

The following core principles flow from the vision for the Downtown and provide the foundation for the Secondary Plan. They serve as a touchstone against which future initiatives and proposals for Downtown will be considered. The principles translate the vision into general objectives and specific targets of the plan, articulating what is important and providing guidance to discussions that will shape the future of the area. Since the principles are inter-related and mutually reinforcing, targets that support more than one principle have been repeated.

##### **Principle 1. Celebrate What We've Got**

Downtown Guelph has many assets, not the least of which is its rich inventory of historic buildings, many constructed of limestone. These buildings, and the streets and open spaces they frame, give Downtown a unique and attractive character. Downtown also overlaps with historic neighbourhoods whose qualities should be protected.

##### Objectives

As Downtown grows and evolves, it will be important to:

- a) Conserve significant heritage structures;
- b) Encourage the sensitive restoration, rehabilitation and/or re-use of historically or architecturally significant buildings;
- c) Maintain the character of distinct heritage areas within Downtown;
- d) Interpret the cultural heritage of Downtown in the design of buildings and public spaces;
- e) Strategically locate and articulate tall buildings to minimize impacts on historic areas and preserve important *public views*;
- f) Ensure new *development* is *compatible* with buildings and neighbourhoods that have heritage value;

- g) **Improve historic public open spaces and streets, including St. George's Square and MacDonell Street and create new spaces for gathering and recreation.**

#### Targets

- i) **Increase the number of cultural heritage resources designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.**
- ii) Increase the number of rehabilitated, restored and reused heritage buildings.

#### Principle 2. Set the Scene for Living Well Downtown

More people living in Downtown will be critical to adding and maintaining economic vitality and creating a vibrant place to live. Along with a variety of housing options in and around the historic core, Downtown will attract more residents by offering diverse employment opportunities, unique shopping, excellent entertainment, arts and culture and important amenities like an easy-to-use public transit system and recreation options.

#### Objectives

To create a vibrant and diverse Downtown neighbourhood that benefits existing and future residents and businesses in and around Downtown, it will be important to:

- a) **Accommodate a significant share of Guelph's population growth to 2031 and beyond;**
- b) **Balance Downtown's employment uses with compact residential *development* and live/work opportunities;**
- c) Ensure Downtown contains a diversity of housing types, sizes and tenures and affordable housing;
- d) Ensure new *development* includes or is supported by commercial amenities and community services for existing and future residents;
- e) Ensure existing and future residents are adequately served by parkland and recreational facilities within walking distance.

#### Targets

- i) **Achieve a minimum Downtown residential population of approximately 8,500 people by 2031.**
- ii) Through population and employment growth, achieve the minimum density target set out in Section 3.5 of the Official Plan.
- iii) Meet or exceed the City-wide target for affordable housing.
- iv) Maintain a minimum ratio of one hectare of parkland and other public open spaces for every 1,000 residents living Downtown.

### Principle 3. A Creative Place for Business

Ensuring the continued economic vitality of Downtown is fundamental to its success.

**Downtown is the city's centre for major office uses, unique shops and restaurants and an increasing number of creative businesses.** While Downtown will continue to compete with other areas of the city for jobs, its special character, mix of uses and accessibility position it to attract a diversity of enterprises that thrive in urban settings.

#### Objectives

To grow and strengthen the Downtown economy, it will be important to:

- a) **Accommodate a significant share of Guelph's employment growth to 2031;**
- b) Reinforce and expand the role of Downtown as a retail, dining and entertainment destination;
- c) Reinforce and expand the role of Downtown as a tourist destination;
- d) Create a setting that reinforces Downtown as a high density major office-related employment centre that attracts provincially, nationally or internationally significant employment uses;
- e) Encourage small and mid-size businesses to locate in Downtown's historic commercial buildings;
- f) **Accommodate commercial businesses that support the food sector of Guelph's economy and the agri-innovation cluster.**

#### Targets

- i) **Increase the number of office jobs Downtown and increase the number of all jobs to a minimum of approximately 7,500 by 2031.**
- ii) Through population and employment growth, reach a minimum density of 150 people and jobs per hectare by 2031.
- iii) **Increase each year, at a rate greater than the city's population growth, the number of Guelph residents visiting Downtown to shop, dine and attend cultural events.**

### Principle 4. We Come Together Here

Many of the jobs Downtown and much of its vibrancy depend on its role as a civic and cultural hub. Being the accessible heart of Guelph and the surrounding area, Downtown is **the natural place for City Hall, the County's Administrative Centre, courthouses, school board offices and a full range of social services, as well as educational institutions.**

#### Objectives

As Downtown accommodates more housing and businesses, it will be important to:

- a) Ensure Downtown remains a focus for investment in institutional and region-wide public services;

- b) Maintain Downtown as the centre of governance and services by the County of Wellington and City of Guelph, and a hub for Provincial judiciary and other services;
- c) Encourage non-governmental organizations that provide social services to locate in Downtown;
- d) Establish post-secondary educational facilities and programs Downtown;
- e) Accommodate a range of cultural facilities and spaces, and encourage cultural events and activities;
- f) Promote Downtown as a cultural destination.

#### Targets

- i) **Increase the number of institutional jobs and institutions Downtown, including at the City, County, Provincial and Federal levels.**
- ii) Increase the number of cultural events that occur Downtown.
- iii) Increase each year, at **a rate greater than the City's population growth**, the number of persons visiting Downtown to shop, dine and experience cultural events.

#### Principle 5. Reconnect with the River

The Speed River is a vital community-wide asset. The riverfront will play a key role in supporting long-term residential *development*, attracting tourists and commerce, accommodating cultural and recreational activities, and generally maintaining a high quality of life in Downtown and the larger city.

#### Objectives

To enhance the river's presence and role, it will be important to:

- a) Ensure new *development* along the river corridor addresses the river;
- b) Create new urban public parks and open spaces along the river;
- c) Improve streetscapes leading to the river for pedestrians and cyclists;
- d) **Establish new linear pedestrian connections to the river's edge from the core of Downtown and St. Patrick's Ward.**

#### Targets

- i) **Establish a continuous riverfront trail and public open space system, interrupted only by streets, between Royal City Park and Goldie's Mill Park.**
- ii) **Build new pedestrian bridges over the river linking St. Patrick's Ward to Downtown.**
- iii) Increase the amount of parkland in Downtown and maintain a minimum ratio of one hectare of parkland and other public open spaces for every 1,000 residents living Downtown.

## Principle 6. Make it Easy to Move Around

In successful downtowns, there are many ways to arrive and move around. Streets serve multiple functions. Public transit plays a critical role in supporting high density employment and residential uses. Although multiple modes will be facilitated, movement within Downtown will focus on walking to ensure the creation of an attractive, high-quality urban environment.

### Objectives

To create a transportation system that works for all urban modes of travel, it will be important to:

- a) Design streets to safely and comfortably accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, transit vehicles, loading and private vehicles, using standards appropriate to Downtown's planned urban context;
- b) Accommodate and support a major transit station and a high level of local and regional public transit service;
- c) Create an environment that encourages walking everywhere Downtown;
- d) Provide facilities within both the *public realm* and private developments that encourage cycling;
- e) Discourage fast-moving vehicular traffic Downtown;
- f) Provide public on-street and off-street parking facilities throughout Downtown to support commercial, institutional and employment uses;
- g) Minimize and mitigate traffic impacts on existing residential neighbourhoods within and surrounding Downtown.

### Targets

- i) **Increase the proportion of people traveling within, to and from Downtown by public transit, bicycle and foot.**
- ii) Establish a continuous riverfront recreation trail and public open space system, interrupted only by streets, between Royal City Park and Goldie's Mill Park.
- iii) **Build new pedestrian bridges over the river linking St. Patrick's Ward to Downtown.**
- iv) Establish pedestrian mews to break up larger blocks and reinforce the walkability of Downtown.

## Principle 7. Embody Guelph's Green Ambitions

Guelph is proud of its commitment to sustainability and recognizes the economic benefits of a 'green city'. Downtown provides an opportunity to embody that commitment with green developments and other initiatives that promote sustainability.

## Objectives

As Downtown redevelops, improves and grows, it will be important to:

- a) Promote energy-efficient buildings, re-use of existing buildings and low impact development;
- b) Encourage and support the development of *district energy* systems;
- c) Promote green roofs and sustainable landscaping practices;
- d) Promote water conservation, the re-use of stormwater and the reduction of stormwater run-off;
- e) Encourage the remediation and *redevelopment* of contaminated lands;
- f) Increase the amount of green space and the number of trees Downtown;
- g) Efficiently use existing municipal *infrastructure*.

## Targets

- i) **Reduce the extent of brownfield land Downtown.**
- ii) Increase energy efficiency overall Downtown and reduce energy consumption per capita by Downtown residents and per square metre by Downtown businesses.
- iii) Decrease overall stormwater running off impermeable surfaces into sewers and increase water infiltration and recycling.
- iv) Reduce the amount of energy consumed from transportation in Downtown.

## Principle 8. Build Beautifully

The legacy of urban planning and architecture in Downtown includes many stellar examples of design excellence. To build upon the legacy without diminishing it and in the process enhance the quality of life in Downtown, requires an ongoing commitment to design excellence on the part of the City, property owners and developers.

## Objectives

As Downtown continues to develop, it will be important to:

- a) Ensure new buildings respect and complement the architecture and materials of surrounding historically significant buildings through policies, standards, guidelines and other means;
- b) **Ensure Downtown's streets, parks, squares and other public** spaces are designed and maintained to the highest standards as attractive and high quality urban environments through policies, standards, guidelines and other means;
- c) Integrate public art into the design of buildings, streetscapes and open spaces;

- d) Promote the development of inspiring, meaningful and memorable places that reinforce Guelph as a historic, beautiful and innovative city.

#### Targets

- i) **Increase the number of cultural heritage resources designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.**
- ii) Increase the number of public art projects in Downtown.
- iii) Enhance the sense of pride among Guelph citizens for the character and beauty of Downtown.
- iv) Increase the number of national or international design competitions held for buildings and open spaces in Downtown.
- v) Enhance the recognition Guelph receives for design excellence through awards and national profiles.

#### 11.1.3 Economic Development

This section contains policies intended to foster economic development Downtown and recognizes that economic vitality is paramount to the success of Downtown. Downtown will continue its significant role in the economic development of the City and the overall positioning of Guelph as a place for investment. Downtown will also be the preferred location for jobs that depend on proximity to urban services and sectors which tend to attract employees who prefer living in a downtown urban setting. Examples include major office *developments*, the information and communication technology sector and post-secondary educational institutions. Residential *development* in Downtown will also support **and attract this type of employment. Downtown's role as a unique tourist destination will** be strengthened, attracting nearby residents as well as visitors. It will also capitalize on **the city's close relationship to food through** an expanded and enhanced farmers market along with other culinary and restaurant uses.

#### Objectives

In addition to supporting the Principles, Objectives and Targets in Section 11.1.2, the general intent of the policies below is to:

- a) Target Downtown as the preferred location for major office uses, key knowledge-based sectors such as the information and communication technology sector and post-secondary institutions.
- b) Support strategic and collaborative economic development partnerships in the local community.
- c) Encourage a supportive business environment by fostering learning and innovation within Downtown.
- d) Attract more Guelph citizens and tourists to Downtown and make Downtown the centerpiece of the City.



- e) Pursue projects that are economic priorities for the Downtown and contribute to the renewal of the City.

#### 11.1.3.1 General Policies

##### 11.1.3.1.1

In addition to population growth, job growth and physical improvements, the City shall recognize through its decision making that increased economic vitality is a critical **measure of Downtown's success.**

##### 11.1.3.1.2

Major offices shall be primarily directed to locate within Downtown.

##### 11.1.3.1.3

The City will promote Downtown as a focal point for tourism at a City-wide, regional and national level.

##### 11.1.3.1.4

Major cultural facilities, tourist-oriented attractions and supportive uses such as hotels shall be encouraged to locate within Downtown.

##### 11.1.3.1.5

The City will promote Downtown as a unique food and culture destination and model for sustainable development as a means to attract business investments.

##### 11.1.3.1.6

The City will continue to work to locate one or more post-secondary education facility Downtown. The City shall also work to facilitate the establishment of other educational institutions Downtown.

#### 11.1.3.2 Downtown Investment

##### 11.1.3.2.1

The City will, through economic development initiatives, promote Downtown as a focal point for private and public investment, as well as tourism.

##### 11.1.3.2.2

The City will continue to invest in *infrastructure* Downtown that supports the viability and success of Downtown.

##### 11.1.3.2.3

A City land banking program may be established for buying, selling or leasing property to meet public policy objectives or to assist private sector *development* under community improvement provisions of the *Planning Act*.

#### 11.1.3.2.4

The City will continue to implement incentive programs to achieve economic vitality through such measures as Community Improvement Plans.

#### 11.1.3.2.5

The City will continue to review its regulating tools and processes and identify opportunities to promote, facilitate and support the economic vitality of Downtown, consistent with the policies and objectives of the Downtown Secondary Plan.

### **11.1.3.3 The Farmers' Market**

#### 11.1.3.3.1

**The Farmers' Market is a long-standing cultural, tourist and commercial anchor destination in Downtown. The current Market facility is a City-owned structure on Gordon Street that is at capacity during the summer season. Growing the capacity and partnership connections of the Farmers' Market in Downtown will support the economic development objectives of the Downtown Secondary Plan. The City will initiate a Farmers' Market Expansion and Relocation Strategy that considers growth, organizational capacity and partnerships, and alternative locations in Downtown.**

#### 11.1.3.4 The Armoury

##### 11.1.3.4.1

Should the current Department of National Defense use of the Armoury be relocated, the building and site could be converted to other attractive uses for residents, businesses and visitors. The building may be suitable for any one or a combination of the following: an educational institution, a cultural or community facility, a year-round public market, a business incubator or a military museum. The remainder of the site could expand new uses in the building or accommodate additional uses to establish a unique cultural destination. Residential and/or commercial *development* at the rear of the site could be used to help finance public uses. With these opportunities in mind, the City shall pursue further discussions with the Federal Government on the future of the Armoury. At the appropriate time the City shall undertake a feasibility study that considers relocation options for the current uses and the costs and benefits of converting the property to the uses identified above, or other appropriate uses as may be determined through the feasibility study.

#### 11.1.3.5 The Baker Street Property

##### 11.1.3.5.1

The development of the Baker Street Property, as identified on Schedule C, will be a model for mixed-use projects with uses such as a new central library, public open space and public parking, along with new private sector residential and commercial uses. An Urban Design Plan Master Plan for these lands shall be required in accordance with 11.1.7.3.9 of the Downtown Secondary Plan.

#### 11.1.4 Mobility

**This section contains policies regarding Downtown’s street network, public transit, the trail and bicycle network, and parking.** Additional policies regarding the design of streetscapes can be found in Section 11.1.5, along with other policies regarding the *public realm*.

**Like all successful downtowns, Guelph’s Downtown needs to accommodate different** modes of travel—public transit, driving, cycling and walking being the most common. Above all, Downtown should be walkable because it is life on the streets that attracts new businesses and residents and supports commercial and civic activities. Given its relatively compact size, walking distances Downtown are relatively short—nearly all points within Downtown are less than a 15-minute walk from City Hall and Guelph Central Station. The planned population and employment growth Downtown will significantly increase the demands on the pedestrian network. Workers, residents and visitors should be able to easily access Downtown by transit and car, but once they have arrived they should be encouraged to walk to their destinations.

Schedule A illustrates the planned Mobility Network for Downtown. The policies below describe the various elements and shall guide improvements to the mobility network.

##### Objectives

In addition to supporting the Principles, Objectives and Targets in Section 11.1.2, the intent of the policies below is to:

- a) Achieve a network of streets, transit facilities, trails and other *infrastructure* that supports multiple modes of travel to and within Downtown as well as existing and planned land uses.
- b) Promote the use of public transit, both within the city and to other regions.
- c) Ensure Guelph Central Station is easily accessed by transit vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians from all main directions.
- d) Encourage walking or cycling for trips within Downtown.
- e) Ensure Downtown is highly accessible to people of all ages and all abilities.
- f) Provide route options for those traveling to and through Downtown by car, truck or bicycle.
- g) Provide parking to meet the needs of Downtown businesses, residents and visitors.
- h) Ensure planned mobility improvements are coordinated with *development*.

##### 11.1.4.1 General Policies

###### 11.1.4.1.1

Urban standards that emphasize the efficient use of land and *infrastructure* and support a pedestrian-oriented environment and high-quality urban design shall be applied to the engineering and design of transportation *infrastructure* in Downtown. Urban standards

shall be applied in the update of the Downtown Public Realm Plan and Private Realm Manual.

#### 11.1.4.1.2

In the design of public right of ways, the City will balance the provision of a safe, functional and attractive pedestrian-oriented environment with an acceptable level of vehicular traffic. The City is prepared to accept a level of service which reflects the constraints of the right-of-ways Downtown, in return for a more pedestrian-oriented environment and achievement of urban design objectives along its roads. To achieve this environment, the City may use a variety of techniques, depending on the function of the road, including alternative engineering standards. Similarly, in the design of its right of ways, the City will also balance the need for, where appropriate, bicycle facilities, loading facilities, transit priority measures, on-street parking and other infrastructure needs, including street trees. These issues will be considered in a holistic manner to create a final design which is sensitive to the urban context of Downtown and the street classification.

#### 11.1.4.1.3

The City shall amend the Downtown Public Realm Plan and Guelph Trails Master Plan to conform to this Plan as it applies to the established street hierarchy.

#### 11.1.4.1.4

Transportation demand management (TDM) will be critical to achieving a transportation system Downtown that provides and promotes attractive alternatives to the automobile. The City shall work with transit providers, developers and businesses Downtown to develop and implement TDM measures that promote the use of transit, walking, cycling and carpooling. The City may require large-scale *development* or businesses to complete a TDM plan. TDM plans will describe facilities and programs intended to discourage single-occupancy vehicle trips, minimize parking and promote transit use, cycling, car sharing and/or carpooling. The City may permit reduced parking standards for *developments* which demonstrate through a TDM plan and implementation strategy that a reduction in parking standards is appropriate.

#### 11.1.4.1.5

The City acknowledges the importance of the railways that traverse Downtown for the movement of people and goods and shall work with the operators of the railways to ensure land uses adjacent to the rail corridors are compatible through strategies such as appropriate buffering in the design of *development*.

#### 11.1.4.1.6

On Primary or Downtown Main Streets where blocks do not have secondary access from a Laneway, Secondary Street or Local Street, the City may address loading within the design of the right of way, for example, by creating designated loading areas.

#### 11.1.4.2 Street Network

#### 11.1.4.2.1

Schedule A identifies the different types of streets and other right of ways included in the planned Mobility Network for Downtown. Additions and improvements to public streets in the network shall be guided by the following policies and Table 1. In some locations, additional right-of-way widths may be required to achieve on-street parking. Reductions in the number of travel lanes shall not require an *Official Plan* amendment but will require an Environmental Assessment.

#### 11.1.4.2.2

Primary Streets are major roads that provide access to and through Downtown for pedestrians, transit bicycles and auto vehicles. They include Gordon Street, Norfolk Street, Wellington Street, Woolwich Street, Eramosa Road, MacDonell Street east of Wellington Street, Wyndham Street south of Wellington Street, York Road, Elizabeth Street, Paisley Street and Waterloo Avenue. The following characteristics shall generally apply to Primary Streets:

- a) All primary streets should have sidewalks with a minimum width of generally two metres on both sides of the street. Encroachments that reduce the usability of this area generally shall not be permitted;
- b) Primary Streets will generally have two travel lanes available, with the exception of the following which will generally have four lanes: Eramosa Road, MacDonell Street east of Wellington Street/Wyndham Street, Gordon Street between Waterloo Avenue and Wellington Street, and Wellington Street west of Wyndham Street;
- c) Primary Streets shall generally accommodate dedicated bicycle lanes, with the exception of sections of road where cyclists have the option of using an off-street path;
- d) On Primary Streets, parking may be permitted in the curb lanes during off-peak hours, where traffic and transit volumes allow.

#### 11.1.4.2.3

Downtown Main Streets are the main commercial streets within Downtown—Wyndham Street north of Wellington Street, MacDonell Street west of Wellington Street and Quebec Street. While accommodating cars, trucks and bicycles, Downtown Main Streets should be considered **“pedestrian and transit priority streets”** and have the following characteristics:

- a) The zones for pedestrians on these streets should be a minimum of six metres wide on both sides, where possible, except Quebec Street which will be approximately three and a half metres;
- b) On-street parking should be permitted on Downtown Main Streets north of Carden Street to support local business and provide a buffer between pedestrians and moving traffic;

- c) Dedicated bike facilities should be accommodated on MacDonell Street and Wyndham Street where necessary based on the function of the roadway.

#### 11.1.4.2.4

Secondary Streets are key streets providing access to and through Downtown. They include London Road, Suffolk Street, Fountain Street east of Gordon Street and Neeve Street south of Wellington Street. Generally Secondary Streets should accommodate two travel lanes, on-street parking and sidewalks with a minimum width of two metres.

#### 11.1.4.2.5

Existing and potential new future Local Streets are intended to provide access to *development* and facilitate circulation by all modes Downtown. They generally will accommodate two travel lanes and parking on one or both sides. All Local Streets should have sidewalks on both sides and be designed such that cyclists can safely share the road with vehicles.

#### 11.1.4.2.6

Existing and potential future Laneways are narrow right of ways intended to permit access and loading generally from the rear or side. In addition to the future Laneways identified in Schedule A, other public or private Laneways may be permitted and shall be encouraged where practical and appropriate for the proposed *development* they are intended to serve. Although Laneways generally will not include sidewalks, they should be designed to be shared by drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

Table 1: Public Street Classifications and Characteristics

Street Type	Primary Street	Downtown Street Names	Secondary Street	Local Street	Laneway
Street Names	Gordon, Norfolk, Wellington, Woolwich, Eramosa, Elizabeth, York, Waterloo, Paisley, MacDonell (east of Wellington), Wyndham (south of Wellington)	Wyndham (north of Wellington), Quebec, MacDonell (west of Wellington)	Neeve, Fountain, Suffolk	All others	n/a
Right of way width <sup>1</sup>	24m – 30 m	20m – 30m	18m+	17-21m	7-12m
Planned Setbacks	Vary (0-5m)	0	Vary (0-5m)	Vary (0-6m)	1-2m
Travel Lanes	2-4	2	2	2	1-2
Transit Priority Street	Yes	Yes	No	No	No

<sup>1</sup> Right-of-way widenings and intersection improvements will be dedicated in accordance with Chapter 5 of the *Official Plan*.

Street Type	Primary Street	Downtown Street Names	Secondary Street	Local Street	Laneway
Parking	Yes, except on Wellington, between Gordon and Wyndham; may be restricted in peak hours	Yes – both sides	Yes – both sides	Yes – min. one side	No
Pedestrian Realm	Min. 2m sidewalk except in accordance with policy 11.5.1.5	Min. 6m – Wyndham & MacDonell; Min. 4m – Quebec	Min. 2m sidewalk	1.5-2m sidewalks	Shared roadway
Dedicated Biking Facilities	Yes	Wyndham and MacDonell	No	No	No

#### 11.1.4.2.7

The new potential streets, laneways and active transportation links shown in Schedule A are conceptual; their location and alignment may be modified without amendment to the Downtown Secondary Plan, provided the general intent of the plan is satisfied. Modifications may also be further addressed through the completion of an Urban Design Master Plan where applicable. The purpose is to create a street network with urban block sizes that support the use of active transportation. As identified in Schedule A, the following potential new Local Streets and/or Active Transportation Links are planned Downtown.

- a) The direct and logical connection of Fountain Street to Wellington Street by way of a Local Street or by way of an active transportation link.



- b) One or more streets to access future *development* **and the riverfront on the Wood's** property on Arthur Street.
- c) One or more streets between Duke Street and Huron Street to access future development on existing industrial lands and generally improve circulation in the **St. Patrick's Ward community**.
- d) A mid-block street linking Wyndham Street to Baker Street, to be built in conjunction with *redevelopment* on adjacent sites, including the proposed Downtown Main Library.
- e) An extension of Freshfield Street to Wilson Street, to be built following the eventual **relocation of the Farmers' Market and** *redevelopment* at the rear of the Armoury Building, to improve north-south connectivity Downtown, particularly for pedestrians. This street may be designed for pedestrians and cyclists only by way of an active transportation link.

#### 11.1.4.2.8

Active Transportation Links are meant to provide connections that are designed for pedestrians, cyclists and other forms of active transportation only. They are meant to generally improve pedestrian and cyclist circulation Downtown.

#### 11.1.4.2.9

In addition to streets, laneways and active transportation links, the Mobility Network includes mid-block key pedestrian connections as shown on Schedule A. They are intended to be implemented over time to generally improve pedestrian circulation Downtown. They may be designed as a public mews designed for the comfort and safety of pedestrians. See Section 11.1.5.2.15 for further policies regarding mid-block pedestrian connections.

#### 11.1.4.2.10

To further improve the pedestrian realm south of the rail corridor, the City shall seek to reduce and minimize the number of driveways on Gordon Street, Wellington Street and Wyndham Street south of Farquhar Street as redevelopment occurs. Access to new development shall be encouraged to be located on Secondary Streets and Local Streets.

#### 11.1.4.2.11

In addition to securing the right of ways in accordance with the requirements of Table 1, the City may require additional lands at intersections to provide for turning lanes and other special treatments, where warranted. Such additional right of way requirements shall be kept to the minimum and shall be determined at the time of the design of the road facilities and will become part of the required right-of-way.

#### 11.1.4.2.12

The provision of public local roads through redevelopment is encouraged; however, the City may permit the provision of private local roads in limited circumstances where the principles, objectives and policies of this plan can be achieved. Where permitted, private roads shall be publicly accessible.

#### 11.1.4.2.13

The intersection of MacDonell Street /Woolwich Street/Wellington Street/Elizabeth Street/Arthur Street is an important anchor to the historic Downtown and a gateway to St. **Patrick's Ward. It is also important to the pedestrian, cyclist, transit and vehicle** mobility networks. Significant density is planned in the immediate vicinity. To further improve the pedestrian realm and reduce conflicts between modes, the City will, through the updating of the Public Realm Manual, address improvements to the intersection that reduce potential conflicts between modes and achieve a more comfortable pedestrian realm through the update to the Public Realm Manual. Alternatively, in conjunction with development in the immediate vicinity, the City may require the completion of a study that addresses these objectives as part of a development application prior to their approval.

### 11.1.4.3 Public Transit

#### 11.1.4.3.1

The Transit Terminal, named Guelph Central Station, will establish a single central transit **hub and play a critical role in implementing the City's Transit Growth Strategy. The City** shall continue to work with VIA, Metrolinx, inter-city transit providers and other stakeholders to ensure all planned transit functions of Guelph Central Station are accommodated and coordinated in an efficient manner that supports the broad objective to create an attractive and transit-oriented Downtown. The City shall also continue to work with Downtown property owners, employers and residents to capitalize on Guelph Central Station and monitor any impacts it may have on its immediate surroundings.

#### 11.1.4.3.2

The Major Transit Station identified on Schedule A is intended to accommodate the components of the Transit Terminal, including but not limited to the historic VIA train station, bus stops, passenger waiting and transfer areas, train platforms, a passenger pick-up and drop-off area, pedestrian bridge/tunnel(s) and parking facilities for cars and bicycles. Carden Street and Farquhar Street, east of Wyndham Street, will have important roles in supporting the functions of Guelph Central Station. Carden Street should be designed to accommodate high volumes of bus traffic, while Farquhar Street should be designed to accommodate high volumes of vehicular traffic; both streets should accommodate high volumes of pedestrian traffic to and around the station.

#### 11.1.4.3.3

A connection linking Neeve Street to Farquhar Street may be required to facilitate vehicular and pedestrian circulation associated with Guelph Central Station.

#### 11.1.4.3.4

The City may implement transit priority measures on Primary Streets, Downtown Main Streets and in the immediate vicinity of the Major Transit Station, such as signal priority and queue jumping lanes.

### 11.1.4.4 Trail and Bicycle Network

#### 11.1.4.4.1

All streets Downtown shall be designed for the safety, comfort and convenience of cyclists.

#### 11.1.4.4.2

Schedule A identifies the streets intended to accommodate on-street bicycle facilities. Proposed bicycle lanes are intended to be built as existing streets are improved and generally shall have a minimum width of 1.5 metres.

#### 11.1.4.4.3

Bicycle parking facilities shall be provided at all major public destinations Downtown, including Guelph Central Station, City Hall, the existing and proposed main library, parks, schools, cultural facilities, other public institutions and retail streets. A sheltered bicycle lock-up facility should be provided within Guelph Central Station.

#### 11.1.4.4.4

All office and apartment buildings shall include secure, indoor private bicycle parking and storage facilities. The *Zoning By-law* shall establish minimum requirements for bicycle parking. *Major office developments* shall be encouraged to include change rooms, showers and lockers for bicycle commuters.

#### 11.1.4.4.5

**It is the City's objective to provide a continuous active transportation trail interrupted only by streets, along the west side of the river's edge between Royal City Park and Goldie's Mill Park, and on the east side of the river, south of the Guelph Junction Railway.** To this end, the City shall acquire land for such purposes through the dedication of parkland at the time of *development*, public *easements* or other methods of acquisition including outright purchase. In addition or alternatively, the City may incorporate portions of the trail within street right of ways.

#### 11.1.4.4.6

The City shall work with the Guelph Junction Railway and landowners to provide a continuous active transportation trail interrupted only by streets between the Speed River and Huron Street.

#### 11.1.4.5 Parking

##### 11.1.4.5.1

Downtown shall continue to be served by a range of parking facilities, including but not limited to above-ground and below-ground parking structures, small public and private surface parking lots, and on-street parking. The City shall continue to play an active role in the supply of off-street parking in the Downtown. As lands are redeveloped and the Downtown population increases, the City shall continue to acquire, operate and pursue development of public parking facilities in the general locations identified in Schedule A and potentially in other locations.

##### 11.1.4.5.2

As a priority, the City shall develop a public parking structure on the Wilson Street lot.

##### 11.1.4.5.3

The City may reduce or exempt any requirement for private off-street parking for *development* in Downtown provided there is adequate alternative parking. A development agreement, cash-in-lieu of parking or other financial contribution policy, may be required where a *development* proposal is granted an exemption or is permitted to reduce the parking requirement in accordance with the policies of Chapter 5 of the *Official Plan*.

##### 11.1.4.5.4

The City, in consultation with Downtown business owners and other stakeholders, shall prepare a Downtown Parking Strategy that considers at a minimum:

- a) an assessment of the current supply of parking and opportunities to improve the distribution of parking;
- b) the existing and projected future demand for parking Downtown for commercial, employment, institutional and entertainment uses, in the context of economic development objectives;
- c) existing and future opportunities for shared parking that maximizes the use of facilities;
- d) a cash-in-lieu of parking policy for new commercial *development* that reduces the requirement for on-site parking and supports the development of shared public parking facilities;
- e) an assessment of on-street parking policies, including angled parking;

- f) appropriate minimum and maximum parking standards including the provision of required parking off-site;
- g) a long-term strategy to ensure an adequate supply of public parking across Downtown and which is aligned with economic development initiatives; and,
- h) parking management solutions, demand side solutions and optimization of existing parking stock .

#### 11.1.5 The Public Realm, Community Facilities, and Heritage

**Downtown's public realm is fundamental to the attractiveness and livability of the core and indeed the entire city. Downtown's many** beautiful buildings should be matched by beautiful public spaces. The policies in this section focus on key streets as places targeted for improvements that will support Downtown land uses, functional needs and the overall aesthetics of Downtown.

Trees, landscaping and green space generally are essential beautifying elements that contribute to a high quality of life by creating settings for recreation, culture, gatherings and passive enjoyment. They also play an important environmental role. Downtown needs additional urban parkland and better access to the river. This will complement its existing two major squares and other more intimate open spaces. A diverse network of existing and new open spaces linked by enhanced streetscapes will create a more cohesive and attractive Downtown, providing new opportunities to experience the river, dine outdoors and enjoy special events and Downtown activity.

Events at the River Run Centre and the Sleeman Centre draw many visitors to Downtown, **but there are opportunities to expand the core's cultural infrastructure. The proposed main library will be a major new destination. As Downtown's population grows, other** community facilities will be needed to meet the needs for meeting and recreation space.

**Downtown's** historically and architecturally significant buildings, as well as its other cultural heritage elements, are something to conserve and celebrate. As Downtown evolves it will be important to ensure that significant cultural buildings are protected, maintained and sensitively repurposed.

Schedule B illustrates the Public Realm Plan for Downtown. The policies below provide direction for improving the *public realm*.

#### Objectives

In addition to supporting the Principles, Objectives and Targets in Section 11.1. 2, the intent of the policies below is to:

- a) Ensure existing and future Downtown residents have access to parkland and community facilities that meet their recreational needs.
- b) Improve physical and visual access to the river's edge for all Downtown users.**
- c) Establish appropriate and new settings for civic gatherings and cultural events.

- d) Increase opportunities for informal gatherings Downtown and the enjoyment of leisure activities.
- e) Protect cultural heritage resources through the use of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and other planning tools.

#### 11.1.5.1 Streetscapes

##### 11.1.5.1.1

Generally, all streets Downtown shall have sidewalks and street trees on both sides and lighting appropriate for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers.

##### 11.1.5.1.2

The City shall review and where appropriate revise its Downtown Public Realm Plan to ensure it is consistent with the principles, objectives and policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan. In updating the Streetscape Manual within the Public Realm Plan, the following shall be addressed:

- a) Coordinated street furnishings, which include benches, bike racks, bollards, bus shelters, newspaper vending machines, waste bins, banners and special lighting;
- b) Appropriate areas on Wyndham Street and MacDonell Street for outdoor patios, pedestrian movement and furnishings;
- c) Street and pedestrian-scale lighting;
- d) The design and construction standards for paving that is durable, urban and sustainable;
- e) Accessibility requirements;
- f) Street trees, including standards for street tree planting that help ensure their long term survival;
- g) The location of electrical and telecommunication cabling and above ground utility *infrastructure* so that their location and design contributes to an attractive *public realm*;
- h) The installation of public art within streetscapes; and,
- i) Appropriate cross-sections for key Downtown Streets which integrate and reflect the policies of this plan and the Downtown Parking Strategy.

#### 11.1.5.1.3

The primary streetscapes identified in Schedule B include the main entry roads into Downtown. As such they should have a character that reflects the desired qualities of Downtown and reinforces physical connections between Downtown and surrounding neighbourhoods. Primary streetscapes should be lined with consistently spaced trees that help to frame the street and views to Downtown and generally beautify the approaches to Downtown. The pedestrian zones should be generous and be comprised of high quality, durable materials. Crosswalks or entire intersections should have distinct paving, different in texture and colour from the roadway, to add interest to the streetscape and signal to drivers and cyclists the likely presence of pedestrians.

#### 11.1.5.1.4

MacDonell Street and Wyndham Street north of the CN railway tracks shall be priorities for streetscape improvements. Both streets shall be redesigned and rebuilt to enhance the pedestrian realm and generally beautify these signature main streets with landscaping.

**The streets' boulevards should have space to accommodate restaurant patios, a clear area** for pedestrians, trees and potentially planters, and street furnishings. In the context of a Downtown Parking Strategy, the replacement of angled parking on MacDonell Street with parallel parking may be considered to allow for wider boulevards and bicycle lanes. Travel lanes should be designed for high volumes of bus traffic and reserved areas for single-unit delivery trucks should be considered. Street trees generally should be planted 6-8 metres apart on centre depending on the species used.

#### 11.1.5.1.5

As properties south of the CN railway tracks are proposed for *redevelopment*, it will be appropriate to redesign the streetscape of Wellington Street, and plan for its reconstruction, to support the mix of residential and commercial uses planned and create a pedestrian-oriented environment. Since Wellington Street west of Wyndham Street will continue to be a busy road, the pedestrian zone between future *development* on the north side and the roadway in this area should be in the range of 10 metres to provide a buffer between pedestrians and vehicular traffic and accommodate restaurant patios. The pedestrian zone could be achieved partly in the right of way and partly through building setbacks. A double row of trees should be considered to provide further comfort to pedestrians and beautify the street. Off-peak parking in the curb lane should be considered.

#### 11.1.5.1.6

To ensure above-ground utilities do not visually detract from a cohesive streetscape or become physical barriers within the right of way, utilities such as hydro and telecommunications equipment shall, where feasible, be located within the rear yard, in areas which are not visible from the streetscape, or within buildings. Where it is not feasible, utility providers shall consider innovative methods of containing utility services on or within streetscape feature such as street lights and transit shelters when

determining appropriate locations of above-ground utilities in order to reduce visual impacts and physical barriers. Underground utilities are encouraged.

#### 11.1.5.2 Parks, Urban Squares and Pedestrian Mews

##### 11.1.5.2.1

The locations, sizes and configurations of future parks and urban squares identified in Schedule B, and the alignments of trails, are conceptual and may be modified without amendment to this plan, provided the general intent of the plan is satisfied. Similarly, the locations for potential civic, cultural or community uses are notional and not prescriptive. Schedule B also shows certain private and institutional lands that are currently generally **accessible to the public and form an important component of Downtown's public realm** however it is acknowledged that public access is at discretion of the landowners. The City will encourage, where appropriate, pedestrian links and open space to be maintained.

##### 11.1.5.2.2

In addition to the open spaces identified on Schedule B, other parks and urban squares may be developed Downtown without amendment to this Plan.

##### 11.1.5.2.3

Given their location Downtown, the mix of uses surrounding them and the intense use they are expected to experience, new parks and urban squares should be designed as community and cultural hubs, serving multiple purposes and accommodating programmed and non-programmed activities.

##### 11.1.5.2.4

A new riverfront park is planned south of Wellington Street between Gordon Street and Wyndham Street South on lands currently occupied by commercial plazas, subject to the policies of Section 11.1.7.10 of the Downtown Secondary Plan as designated on Schedule C – Downtown Secondary Plan Land Use Plan.

##### 11.1.5.2.5

A new riverfront open space is planned on the 5 Arthur Street property, to be built in conjunction with redevelopment of adjacent lands, subject to the policies in Section 11.1.7.10 of the Downtown Secondary Plan.

##### 11.1.5.2.6

The City, in consultation with the Grand River Conservation Authority and residents, shall prepare a Downtown Riverfront Open Space Master Plan to guide short-term and long-term improvements within the Speed River and Eramosa River corridor through Downtown. The Master Plan shall include a holistic program for the riverfront open space system and detailed policies and guidelines to guide improvements that balance the potential flooding hazard, environmental functions, cultural uses and recreational activities



envisaged for the riverfront. Specifically, it shall address the creation of a trail through the corridor designed for both utilitarian and recreational active transportation uses.

#### 11.1.5.2.7

A new neighbourhood park is planned on Huron Street, to be developed in conjunction with *redevelopment* of the adjacent industrial lands, subject to the policies of Section 11.1.7.10 of the Downtown Secondary Plan.

#### 11.1.5.2.8

Notwithstanding the policies of Section 11.1.7.9 of the Downtown Secondary Plan, buildings for the purposes of community, cultural or complementary ancillary commercial uses may be permitted in a park provided such uses do not interfere with or have negative impacts on the primary functions and character of the open space.

#### 11.1.5.2.9

Parkland will generally be dedicated or acquired in accordance with the provisions of the *Official Plan*.

#### 11.1.5.2.10

**The relocation of the city's transit hub from St. George's Square creates the opportunity** to re-imagine and redesign the square as a central gathering space that serves many purposes. The City, in consultation with the Downtown business community, including the Downtown Guelph Business Association, and the public, shall prepare a master plan for the square that considers:

- a) how the square can be improved to accommodate both day-to-day functions, including sitting, walking, dining, casual meeting, vehicular movement and special events that use portions of the square or its entirety;
- b) programming of uses/activities within and around the square to improve economic vitality;
- c) appropriate materials for the square that emphasize quality, durability and sustainability; and
- d) a phased implementation strategy that includes short-term improvements.

#### 11.1.5.2.11

The City will consider developing a new urban square in conjunction with the proposed main library. This square, physically and visually connected to the library, shall contain shade trees, other landscaping, seating areas and public art, and may be the subject of a design competition.

#### 11.1.5.2.12

A crescent-shaped open space is planned on the west side of Norfolk Street, straddling Paisley Street, as originally envisioned in the Galt Plan. Each half of the open space shall be designed and built in conjunction with *redevelopment* of the affected properties.

#### 11.1.5.2.13

In the event the Armoury site is adapted for other uses, a *public realm* plan shall be prepared for the site that includes, an urban square at the rear of the historic building as part of *redevelopment*.

#### 11.1.5.2.14

All parks and urban squares shall be designed to high standards and built with high quality materials.

#### 11.1.5.2.15

Through the *development* process, the City shall establish the mid-block pedestrian mews conceptually identified on Schedule B to enhance pedestrian connectivity Downtown and to function as generous linear pedestrian-oriented spaces for passive enjoyment. Generally, they shall have a minimum width of 9 metres and may comprise public and/or private land but shall be publicly accessible. Methods for securing and developing pedestrian mews shall be determined when sites are developed or redeveloped.

### 11.1.5.3 Civic, Cultural and Community Facilities

#### 11.1.5.3.1

The civic government functions of the City of Guelph, County of Wellington, Provincial and Federal Government offices shall be encouraged to retain their present prominence within Downtown. Other civic agencies and boards shall also be encouraged to remain in or relocate to Downtown. City-wide recreation, tourism and culture facilities should continue to be located Downtown such as the Sleeman Centre, Guelph Civic Museum, River Run Centre, Main Library and Central Farmers' Market.

#### 11.1.5.3.2

The City shall work with cultural and community organizations to establish new cultural facilities and programs Downtown. The City shall also work with the business community, including the Downtown Guelph Business Association, and cultural groups to increase the number of festivals and other events intended to attract large numbers of visitors Downtown through the development of a Downtown Programming Strategy. At a **minimum, the programming strategy should address how St. George's Square and Market Square** will be programmed to ensure that both public spaces are well-used active spaces. The strategy should also address key public venues such as the River Run Centre, the Sleeman Centre and private facilities, such as the Guelph Youth Music Centre and places of worship.

#### 11.1.5.3.3

As residential growth occurs Downtown, the City shall assess the need for community meeting and recreation space. If the City determines a new community centre is required to serve Downtown population, it shall identify a suitable site or building and initiate a development plan. Alternatively, the City may seek to secure community meeting or recreation space within a private *development*.

#### 11.1.5.3.4

The City shall consider providing temporary or permanent community meeting and/or recreational space in the proposed main library

#### 11.1.5.3.5

Upon completion of the new main library, the City may consider short-term community, cultural or educational uses for the existing library building on Norfolk Street but ultimately shall prepare and implement a *redevelopment* plan for the site.

#### 11.1.5.3.6

The City shall encourage the two existing schools Downtown to remain open and maintained. In the event either of them closes or is relocated, the City may seek to acquire all or part of the property for new public uses.

### 11.1.5.4 Cultural Heritage Resources

#### 11.1.5.4.1

**Downtown Guelph's cultural heritage resources are key assets that are important from** cultural, tourism and economic development perspectives. The City shall evaluate *development* and building applications that involve cultural heritage resources in accordance with the policies of the *Official Plan*.

#### 11.1.5.4.2

As part of the Implementation Strategy for the Downtown Secondary Plan, the City, in collaboration with Heritage Guelph, will undertake a Heritage Conservation Analysis for the historic Downtown core generally west of the Speed River which will:

- a) identify additional properties for individual designation pursuant to the provisions of Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, with a priority placed on cultural heritage resources on key historic streets in the historic Downtown core. These areas may include but not be limited to Wyndham Street, MacDonell Street and Quebec Street;
- b) identify heritage character areas within the Downtown Secondary Plan area that have the potential to be Heritage Conservation District(s) pursuant to the provisions of Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Examples of such areas may include but are not limited to Douglas Street and Neeve Street, north of the river.

#### 11.1.5.4.3

The City shall also investigate the potential for a Heritage Conservation District pursuant

to the provisions of Part V the *Ontario Heritage Act* in **St. Patrick's Ward**, which would include portions of the Downtown Secondary Plan area.

#### 11.1.5.4.4

The City may also take additional steps to conserve the *cultural heritage resources* within the Secondary Plan area, including:

- a) integration of Cultural Heritage Landscape features into the public realm or other public facilities where feasible and appropriate;
- b) implement, where appropriate, standards through the *Zoning By-law* that further support the conservation of the heritage character of Downtown as outlined in the Downtown Private Realm Improvements Manual, including identified public views, built form provisions, materials etc.;
- c) in addition to the policies of 11.1.7.4.4, implement standards through the *Zoning By-law* that protect the existing heritage character of Woolwich Street/Norfolk Street/Norwich Street and surrounding area; and
- d) the use of interpretative plaques and displays.

#### 11.1.5.5 Public Art

##### 11.1.5.5.1

**Public art will be an important element of Downtown's *public realm***, adding beauty and interest to streetscapes as well as parks, other open spaces and buildings. The integration of public art in significant private *developments* shall be encouraged. Significant public projects, including but not limited to streetscape improvements, transit facilities, new public buildings and new open spaces, shall include or provide for a public art element. Public art should be developed in accordance with the **City's Public Art Policy**.

##### 11.1.5.5.2

The City shall establish clear wayfinding and visual signage towards and through Downtown. Signage shall be chosen that is simple, clear and legible.

##### 11.1.5.5.3

The City shall prepare a Downtown Public Art Strategy that:

- a) identifies appropriate locations Downtown for public art installations;
- b) identifies streetscape elements, such as paving, and street furnishings, that should incorporate public art;
- c) establishes policies and guidelines for public art contributions from developers of private lands; and
- d) considers grants or other incentives to encourage public art projects by local artists.

#### 11.1.5.6 Police and Emergency Services

##### 11.1.5.6.1

The City shall ensure that as Downtown grows and evolves it will continue to be served by police and emergency service facilities and personnel appropriate for the safety and security needs of Downtown residents, workers, businesses and visitors.

#### 11.1.6 Energy, Water and the Natural Environment

**Development in Downtown Guelph will help to achieve the city's goals for environmental sustainability** by being compact and by encouraging walking and transit use. Further, residential and commercial buildings are major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, so it is important that individual *developments* and servicing *infrastructure* promote energy efficiency as well as water conservation. There are also features of the natural environment that future *development* needs to respect and protect. Development must also be designed to reduce the impact of natural hazards. One of those features is the Speed River where *development* will be directed outside the *floodway* areas while permitting *development* within the Special Policy Area. In other portions of the Downtown, development near the Speed River is subject to the Two Zone flood plain policies. This section contains policies regarding these key facets of the environment.

#### Objectives

In addition to supporting the Principles, Objectives and Targets in Section 11.1.2, the intent of the policies below is to:

- a) Efficiently use existing *municipal services*, municipal facilities and utilities to support growth downtown.
- b) Maximize opportunities for renewable and alternative energy generation and delivery systems such as *district energy*.
- c) Promote site planning, architecture, landscape architecture and stormwater management that demonstrates best practices in environmental design.
- d) Increase the amount of *urban forest tree canopy cover* Downtown.
- e) Ensure the risks to human health and safety from flooding downtown are minimized.
- f) Promote *development* that mitigates and adapts to climate change.
- g) Protect habitat of threatened and endangered species.
- h) Promote the clean-up of brownfields Downtown.

##### 11.1.6.1 General Policies

###### 11.1.6.1.1

Developers and owners of all new and existing buildings shall be encouraged to determine

and label building energy performance in accordance with standards as may be adopted by the City.

#### 11.1.6.1.2

**The Downtown shall contribute to the City's overall *Urban Forestry* targets**, while recognizing its current and planned built form, by planting street trees, using methods that help ensure their long term health, and by planting and maintaining trees within City parks and open spaces.

#### 11.1.6.1.3

**Development Downtown shall contribute to the City's overall waste diversion targets** and align with the Solid Waste Management Master Plan through such measure as developing a street-side recycling program, and other programs to promote waste reduction and diversion.

### 11.1.6.2 Energy

#### 11.1.6.2.1

All new *development* downtown shall have regard for the goals and strategies of the City's Community Energy Plan.

#### 11.1.6.2.2

The City shall work with Guelph Hydro and landowners to develop *district energy* systems, combining heat and power, for large-scale *developments* or areas within downtown, where the feasibility of such facilities has been demonstrated. Should the City and Guelph Hydro identify parts of Downtown as potential *district energy* areas, new *development* shall be district energy ready subject to the City establishing District Energy Ready Guidelines.

#### 11.1.6.2.3

Where a *district energy* system has been established or is planned, new City-owned buildings shall use the system and private *development* will be encouraged to connect to it.

#### 11.1.6.2.4

The generation and use of on-site *renewable energy* systems shall be encouraged.

#### 11.1.6.2.5

*Development* shall be designed to maximize opportunities for solar gain while respecting the built form policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan.

### 11.1.6.3 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater

#### 11.1.6.3.1

The processing and approval of *development* applications shall be contingent on the availability of water and wastewater capacity.

#### 11.1.6.3.2

Low Impact Development (LID) measures intended to minimize stormwater run-off and recharge groundwater systems, including rainwater harvesting and reuse systems, bio-

swales or water features, infiltration measures, permeable paving materials and green roofs, shall be encouraged.

#### 11.1.6.3.3

The City will explore opportunities to integrate end-of-pipe stormwater management storage and treatment facilities, including constructed wetlands/ponds, and LID measures into the public realm areas such as open space, amenity areas and right of ways, where feasible and appropriate.

#### 11.1.6.3.4

All new buildings shall be encouraged to install rainwater harvesting and recirculation/reuse systems for outdoor irrigation and outdoor water uses.

### 11.1.6.4 Flood Plain and Natural Heritage System

#### 11.1.6.4.1

As identified on Schedule C, a portion of Downtown is located within the regulatory *flood plain* of the Speed River and Eramosa River. Land uses within the regulatory *flood plain* are subject to the provisions of the Floodplain policies of the *Official Plan*.

#### 11.1.6.4.2

As identified on Schedule C, a portion of Downtown is within the Natural Heritage System and is subject to the Significant Natural Area policies of the *Official Plan*. On lands adjacent to the Speed and Eramosa Rivers where a minimum buffer has not been established, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) shall be required in accordance with the *Official Plan*. In addition the EIS shall recognize and respond to the urban context of downtown Guelph, specifically:

- a) Where applicable, the Special Policy Area or Two Zone *flood plain* policies;
- b) Existing *development* (including cultural heritage features); and
- c) The principles of the Downtown Secondary Plan to create a riverfront that will accommodate cultural and recreational activities and contribute to a high quality *public realm* within Downtown.

### 11.1.6.5 Species at Risk

#### 11.1.6.5.1

The Significant Habitat for Provincially Endangered and Threatened Species policies of the *Official Plan* apply Downtown.

### 11.1.6.6 Potentially Contaminated Properties

#### 11.1.6.6.1

The Potentially Contaminated Property policies of the *Official Plan* apply Downtown. The *Urban Growth Centre* area is included in the Brownfield Redevelopment Community Improvement Plan.

### 11.1.7 Land Use and Build Form

In addition to streets and open spaces, underlying the long-term vision for Downtown Guelph is a framework of land uses. Downtown Guelph should contain a range of uses, including office, retail, institutional, entertainment and residential. In the core of downtown, most blocks will have a mix of uses. On key streets, buildings must be mixed-use, with active commercial uses on the ground floor and other uses on upper floors. To ensure there is a balance between employment and residential uses, some sites will be reserved for commercial or institutional uses. While there are strategic opportunities on former industrial lands for residential and mixed-use *intensification* that supports vibrancy in the Downtown, such *intensification* will be planned to be *compatible* with existing **neighbourhoods. New built form will reflect Downtown's urbanity and reflect the principles** of adaptability, permanence, and simple beauty. Precedent photos are included in Appendix A to provide illustrative examples.

#### Objectives

In addition to supporting the Principles, Objectives and Targets in Section 11.1.2, the intent of the policies below is to:

- a) Promote design excellence.
- b) Encourage a wide range of land uses and built forms.
- c) Capitalize on and support existing and planned transit services by concentrating higher density uses, including office uses in *compatible* locations, within a short walking distance of Guelph Central Station.
- d) Promote the development of diverse neighbourhoods in Downtown with a variety of housing choices, including units suitable for families and affordable housing.
- e) Reinforce Wyndham Street north of Wellington Street, MacDonell Street west of **Wellington Street and Quebec Street as Downtown's main commercial streets** while encouraging retail establishments and restaurants in other areas as well.
- f) Ensure the built form of *development* contributes to attractive streetscapes and open spaces and supports an inviting, comfortable and active *public realm*.
- g) Ensure new *development* **respects the character of downtown's historic fabric and** the quality of life in surrounding neighbourhoods.

#### 11.1.7.1 General Land Use Policies

##### 11.1.7.1.1

Schedule C delineates the land use designations Downtown. Minor changes to the boundaries of land use designations may be permitted subject to the Interpretation policies of the *Official Plan*.



#### 11.1.7.1.2

The following uses are not consistent with the objective of a walkable, transit-supportive Downtown and shall not be permitted:

- Vehicle sales;
- New vehicle related uses, including vehicle service stations; and
- Low density employment uses such as logistics or warehousing and other employment uses not compatible with other uses planned for Downtown.

#### 11.1.7.1.3

Drive-through facilities shall be discouraged from locating Downtown, since they are inconsistent with the long-term vision for Downtown, specifically the objectives to increase pedestrian activity, increase public transit use and reduce and minimize driveways accessed from Primary and Main Streets. The *Zoning By-law* shall ensure applications for drive-through establishments conform to the policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan, including all built form policies.

#### 11.1.7.1.4

Notwithstanding any of the policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan, previously approved and existing uses Downtown which do not conform to the policies of this Secondary Plan shall be permitted, subject to the Legal Non-Conforming Uses policies of the *Official Plan*. The redevelopment of legal non-conforming uses to uses that are consistent with the vision, principles and objectives of the Downtown Secondary Plan, shall be encouraged.

### 11.1.7.2 General Built Form and Site Development Policies

#### 11.1.7.2.1

Schedule D identifies building height ranges to be permitted within the Downtown Secondary Plan Area. In general, the predominant mid-rise built form of Downtown shall be maintained with taller buildings restricted to strategic locations, including gateways that act as anchors for key streets. Taller buildings in these locations will have minimal direct impacts to existing neighborhoods and the historic core of Downtown, and they will be outside protected public view corridors. In the height ranges contained on Schedule D, the lower number represents the minimum height in storeys for buildings and the higher number represents the maximum permitted height in storeys. The maximum heights **recognize the Church of Our Lady's status as a landmark and signature building**; it is the general intent that no building Downtown should be taller than the elevation of the Church. Exemptions from minimum height requirements may be permitted for utility and other buildings accessory to the main use on a site.

#### 11.1.7.2.2

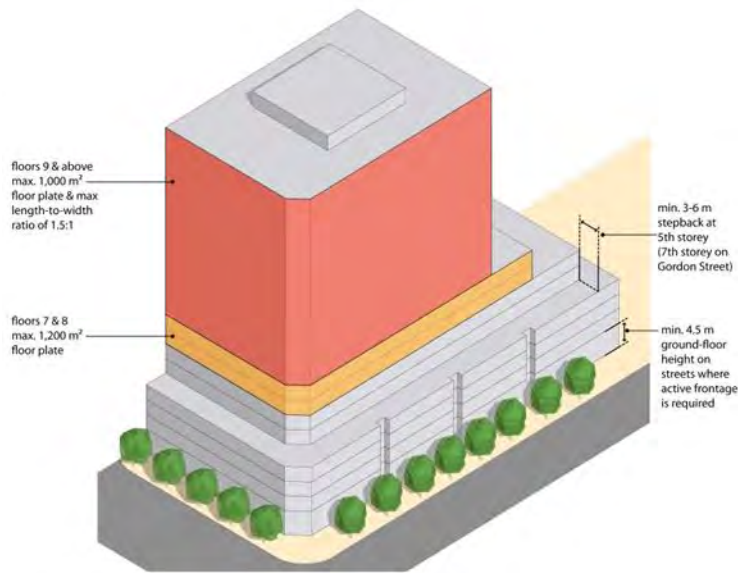
Notwithstanding Schedule D, the *Zoning By-law* may establish maximum building heights lower than those shown in order to maintain the protected long views to the Church of Our Lady, as generally identified in Schedule D. The *Zoning By-law* shall more precisely

define the protected views and shall be amended, where appropriate, to reflect the location and scope of the views identified in Schedule D.

#### 11.1.7.2.3

The following additional built form policies shall apply to all areas of Downtown:

- a) Generally, buildings shall be oriented towards and have their main entrance on a street or open space.
- b) Long buildings, generally those over 40 metres in length, shall break up the visual impact of their mass with evenly spaced vertical recesses or other architectural articulation and/or changes in material.
- c) Mechanical penthouses and elevator cores shall be screened and integrated into the design of buildings.
- d) Generally balconies shall be recessed and/or integrated into the design of the building facade. Exposed concrete balconies generally shall not be permitted.
- e) Residential pick-up and drop-off areas and lay-bys should be located on Secondary or Local Streets and/or Laneways, and not on Primary Streets.
- f) Front patios for ground-floor residential units, where appropriate, should be raised to provide for privacy and a transition between the public and private realms.
- g) All buildings downtown should be finished with high quality, enduring materials, such as stone, brick and glass. Glass should be transparent or tinted with a neutral colour. Materials that do not age well, including stucco, vinyl, exterior insulation finishing system (EIFS) and highly reflective glass, shall be strongly discouraged and may be limited through the implementation documents and by-laws.
- h) The massing and articulation of buildings taller than six storeys shall moderate their perceived mass and shadow impacts, provide appropriate transitions to areas with lower permitted heights, and contribute to a varied skyline in which the Church of Our Lady is most prominent. Generally, the maximum floorplate of any floor above the sixth storey, where permitted, shall be 1,200 square metres. Furthermore, the floorplates of floors above the eighth storey, where permitted, generally shall be a maximum of 1000 square metres and should not exceed a length to width ratio of 1.5: 1.



#### 11.1.7.2.4

The following general policies respecting parking, loading and servicing shall apply to all areas of downtown:

- a) Vehicular entrances to parking and servicing areas generally be on Local Streets, Secondary Streets or Laneways and should be consolidated wherever possible to maximize and accentuate building frontages and front yards and minimize the number of curb cuts. Shared driveways between two properties shall be encouraged.
- b) Loading and service areas generally shall be located in the interior of a development block, at the rear of building, where possible. Enclosed loading and servicing areas shall be encouraged. Where loading and servicing is visible at the rear or side of a building, it shall be screened.
- c) Parking for apartment dwellings, including visitor parking, generally shall be located in underground or above-ground structures or surface parking lots at the rear of the building, unless other arrangements for off-site parking have been made to the City's satisfaction.
- d) Requirements for on-site parking for institutional, office and retail uses may be waived or reduced, subject to the Downtown Parking Strategy. Where parking for such uses is provided on site, it shall be located in underground or above-ground structures or surface parking lots at the rear of the building. However, new office or institutional buildings, with or without other uses on the ground floor, generally shall include at least one level of underground parking.
- e) Generally no parking shall be permitted between the front of a building and the street to help create pedestrian-oriented streetscapes.

#### 11.1.7.2.5

The following policies shall apply to above-grade parking structures:

- a) Parking structures should generally be accessed by motor vehicles from a Local Street, Secondary Street or Laneway and should be located in the middle of a block where possible, behind other uses fronting the street.
- b) Parking structures on a street shall generally contain active uses on the ground floor subject to technical considerations and the entire façade shall be designed to appear as fenestrated buildings, with a regular articulation of openings and materials that are consistent in type and quality with those of surrounding buildings.
- c) Vehicular entrances to above-grade or underground parking structures on public streets shall be integrated into the design of the building.
- d) Pedestrian entrances to parking structures shall be clearly identified and well lit.

#### 11.1.7.2.6

The use of the maximum Floor Space Index (FSI) to justify extra height, the use of the maximum height to justify extra density, or use of either of those regulations to deviate from the other built form policies of this plan will be deemed to meet neither the intent nor spirit of this plan.

### Land Use Designations

#### 11.1.7.3 Mixed Use 1 Areas

##### 11.1.7.3.1

Mixed Use 1 areas, as identified on Schedule C, are intended to accommodate a broad range of uses in a mix of highly compact *development* forms. *Development* within this designation shall contribute to the creation of a strong urban character and a high-quality, pedestrian-oriented environment. Active uses that enliven the street are encouraged to locate on the ground floor of buildings and, as per Policy 11.1.7.3.4, shall be required on key streets.

##### 11.1.7.3.2

The following uses may be permitted:

- a) retail and service uses, including restaurants and personal service uses;
- b) multiple unit residential buildings, including apartments and townhouse dwellings;
- c) live/work uses;
- d) offices including medically related uses;
- e) entertainment and commercial recreation uses;
- f) community services and facilities;

- g) cultural, educational and institutional uses;
- h) public parking;
- i) hotels;
- j) parks, including urban squares; and,
- k) other employment uses that meet the intent of the principles, objectives and policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan and which are *compatible* with surrounding uses in regard to impacts such as noise, odour, loading, dust and vibration.

#### 11.1.7.3.3

The minimum floor space index (FSI) in Mixed Use 1 areas shall generally be 1.5, except:

- a) on properties fronting Elizabeth Street, where the minimum FSI shall generally be 1.0;
- b) within the lands designated Mixed Use 1 at 84-96 Gordon Street, where the minimum FSI shall be 0.75.

#### 11.1.7.3.4

On key streets, active frontages will be achieved to reinforce the role of these streets or portions of streets as commercial, pedestrian-oriented, urban streetscapes. The following shall apply to *development* on properties where active frontage is required, as identified in Schedule C:

- a) Retail and service uses, including restaurants and personal service uses, or entertainment uses shall generally be required on the ground floors of all buildings at the street edge.
- b) Notwithstanding subsection 11.1.7.3.4 a), offices are also permitted on the ground floors of these properties; however, such uses shall be encouraged to locate in **other locations Downtown to ensure Downtown's main streets maintain a strong** retail character. The *Zoning By-law* may restrict the size of such new uses and/or their width along the street to ensure they do not detract significantly from the intended commercial function of the street.
- c) Buildings shall contribute to a continuous street wall that has a minimum height of 3 storeys, with infrequent and minimal gaps between buildings.
- d) The width of retail stores and the frequency of entrances shall contribute to a continuously active *public realm* and give the street wall a visual rhythm. The width of stores and restaurants may be limited through the *Zoning By-law* to ensure a rhythm of commercial entrances and avoid long distances between commercial entrances.
- e) Ground floor heights will generally be a minimum of approximately 4.5 metres floor to floor, and windows shall correspond appropriately to the height of ground floors.

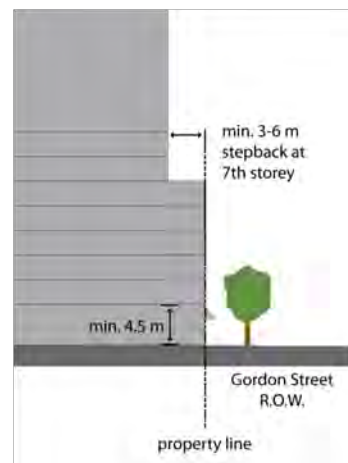
Generally, a large proportion of the street-facing ground floor wall of a new mixed-use building shall be glazed.

#### 11.1.7.3.5

Generally buildings in Mixed Use 1 areas shall be built close to the front property line to help frame and animate adjacent streets. The *Zoning By-law* shall establish maximum setbacks on streets where active frontages are required. On all other streets minimum and maximum setbacks shall be established. The *Zoning By-law* may include limited exceptions to the build-to lines and maximum setbacks while ensuring that a consistent streetwall is extended, maintained or established.

#### 11.1.7.3.6

To respect the historic character of Downtown and ensure a human-scale pedestrian realm, buildings taller than 4 storeys in Mixed Use 1 areas shall generally have a substantial stepback above the fourth storey generally in the range of 3-6 metres minimum from the front of the building fronting a public street or park, except on Gordon Street and Wellington Street, where a stepback of generally 3-6 metres minimum is required above the sixth storey.



#### 11.1.7.3.7

All buildings shall reflect their urban context and should have detailed and well articulated street level façades with high quality materials. Blank walls facing a street or public open space shall be avoided.

#### 11.1.7.3.8

Generally, entrances to non-residential uses shall be flush with the sidewalk, for ease of access and to maintain a strong relationship to the street.

#### 11.1.7.3.9

As identified on Schedule C, there are areas containing multiple properties west of the Speed River that represent significant opportunities for coordinated and integrated *redevelopment*: the Baker Street Property and the Wellington Street /Neeve Street Area. Each of these sites shall be developed based on comprehensive master plans for the site.

Therefore, in addition to any other submissions required as part of a complete planning application for either of these two sites or any portion thereof, a detailed Urban Design Master Plan shall be prepared for the site by the applicant to the satisfaction of the City and in consultation with the community. The Urban Design Master Plan will be prepared in accordance with the policies of 11.1.8.5.

#### 11.1.7.3.9.1

For the property at 70 Fountain Street / 75 Farquhar Street in the Mixed Use 1 designation:

- a) Notwithstanding Schedule D, the maximum building height is 16 storeys.
- b) The implementing zoning shall:
  - i) **Require a minimum of 1,550 square metres of Gross Floor Area used solely for Office uses as part of any Development or Redevelopment on the property. Additional Gross Floor Area for Office uses is encouraged.**
- c) Further to Policy 7.2.5, the conversion of rental accommodation to Condominium housing tenure is not permitted on this site.

#### 11.1.7.3.10

Within the Mixed Use 1 designation at 71 Wyndham Street South:

- a) In spite of Policy 11.1.8.4.1, the City may permit a maximum of four (4) additional storeys of height above the identified maximum height of 10 storeys with the provision of community benefits as permitted under Section 37 of the Planning Act and subject to the criteria of 11.1.8.4.1a- 11.1.8.4.1d.
- b) In spite of Policy 11.1.7.2.3 h), the massing of the building will be based on a maximum floorplate of 1475 square metres above the eighth storey and a maximum floorplate of 1035 square metres above the twelfth floor.

#### 11.1.7.4 Mixed Use 2 Areas

##### 11.1.7.4.1

Mixed Use 2 areas, as identified on Schedule C, are those areas of downtown that were historically mostly residential with a mixture of housing styles but have evolved to accommodate a range of uses, many in partially or fully converted houses. Therefore the predominant character of this area is of low-rise buildings that are residential in character, with landscaped front yards, and small-scale, visually unobtrusive commercial signage. In addition, many of the existing buildings and properties in these areas are of Cultural **Heritage Value or interest and contribute to Downtown's unique identity. As land uses** evolve, the predominant character of Mixed Use 2 areas should be maintained.

##### 11.1.7.4.2

The following uses may be permitted in Mixed Use 2 areas:

- a) small-scale retail uses and *convenience commercial*;

- b) personal service uses;
- c) detached, semi-detached and duplex dwellings, townhouses and multiple unit apartment buildings;
- d) live/work uses;
- e) offices, including medically related uses;
- f) community services and facilities;
- g) cultural, educational and institutional uses;
- h) small-scale hotels; and
- i) parks, including urban squares.

#### 11.1.7.4.3

The minimum floor space index (FSI) in Mixed Use 2 areas shall generally be 0.6.

#### 11.1.7.4.4

To maintain the general character of Mixed Use 2 areas, *development* shall adhere to the following:

- a) *Development* shall be *compatible* with the character of the surrounding area and respect the character of neighbouring buildings in terms of their scale, materials, articulation, landscaping and relationship to the street.
- b) Building setbacks along the street shall be generally consistent with those of neighbouring buildings within the Mixed Use 2 area.
- c) Parking and servicing areas shall generally be located at the rear or side of buildings. Parking shall generally not be permitted between the front of a building and the street.

#### 11.1.7.5 Institutional or Office Areas

##### 11.1.7.5.1

Institutional or Office areas include those properties in the heart of Downtown occupied by significant civic, cultural and other public institutions or an office building. They also include properties close to Guelph Central Station where a concentration of major office and institutional uses would optimize use of the terminal.

##### 11.1.7.5.2

Generally the following primary uses may be permitted in Institutional or Office areas:

- a) offices including medically related uses;
- b) entertainment and commercial recreation uses;
- c) community services and facilities;



- d) cultural, educational, civic and institutional uses;
- e) hotels;
- f) parks, including urban squares; and,
- g) other employment uses that meet the intent of the principles, objectives and policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan and which are *compatible* with surrounding uses in regard to impacts such as noise, odour, loading, dust and vibration.

#### 11.1.7.5.3

In addition to the primary uses above, the following uses may also be permitted where they are secondary to the main institutional or office use on the site:

- a) retail and service uses, including restaurants and personal service uses; and
- b) public parking.

#### 11.1.7.5.4

Institutional or Office areas downtown are occupied by buildings that are expected to remain for the life of the Downtown Secondary Plan, with the exception of the areas between Farquhar Street and Fountain Street, where there is greater potential for *redevelopment* and a desire for improved conditions on Wyndham Street. Additions or alterations to existing institutional and office uses shall be permitted, provided they do not significantly change the function or form of the use and have regard for the land use and built form policies that apply to adjacent land use areas. New *development* in the Institutional or Office Area south of Farquhar Street shall be subject to the density and built form policies applicable to Mixed Use 1 Areas, specifically Policies 11.1.7.3.4-11.1.7.3.8.

### 11.1.7.6 Major Transit Station

#### 11.1.7.6.1

The Major Transit Station is intended to accommodate the various components of Guelph Central Station, in accordance with the policies of Section 11.1.4.3 of the Downtown Secondary Plan. In addition, ancillary uses shall also be permitted, including but not limited to retail establishments, restaurants, cafes and professional offices.

### 11.1.7.7 Residential 1 Areas

#### 11.1.7.7.1

Residential 1 areas include portions of broader residential neighbourhoods that extend into Downtown. They are mostly occupied by low-rise forms of housing, including detached and semi-detached houses, townhouses and apartment buildings. The intent is to generally maintain the character of these areas.

#### 11.1.7.7.2

The policies of the *Official Plan*, applicable to Low Density Residential including the General Policies for residential areas shall apply to Residential 1 areas.

#### 11.1.7.7.3

In addition to the Low Density Residential policies, it is the intent of the Downtown Secondary Plan that the existing properties containing small-scale employment uses in the area east of the Speed River may continue and be recognized through the *Zoning By-law*, where impacts, such as noise, odour, loading, dust and vibration, on surrounding residential uses are minimal.

#### 11.1.7.7.4

In addition to the Low Density Residential policies, a free-standing office shall be permitted on the property known municipally as 5 Ontario Street.

#### 11.1.7.7.5

Within the Residential 1 designation at 72 York Road, the minimum *net density of development* shall comply with the Medium Density Residential designation of the *Official Plan*.

#### 11.1.7.7.6

In spite of Policy 9.4.7.8, within the Residential 1 designation at 66 Duke Street, a maximum net density of 150 units per hectare shall be permitted.

### 11.1.7.8 Residential 2 Areas

#### 11.1.7.8.1

Residential 2 areas are those areas within Downtown where, based on the location, size and configuration of properties, high density forms of housing are appropriate. The following uses may be permitted:

- a) multiple unit residential buildings, including apartments and townhouse dwellings;
- b) *convenience commercial* uses with a *gross floor area* not greater than 500 square metres;
- c) artisan studios;
- d) small-scale offices with a *gross floor area* not greater than 500 square metres including medically related uses;
- e) live/work uses;
- f) community services and facilities; and
- g) parks, including urban squares.

#### 11.1.7.8.2

The minimum floor space index (FSI) in Residential 2 areas shall generally be 1.0.

#### 11.1.7.8.3

In addition to the general policies of Section 11.1 7.2 of the Downtown Secondary Plan, the following built form policies shall apply to *development* in Residential 2 areas:

- a) Buildings shall be massed to minimize as much as is practical the extent and duration of shadows on parks, adjacent residential uses, other public open space, private amenity space and retail streets in the spring, summer and fall.
- b) Where buildings greater than 6 storeys are permitted, the portion of a building above the sixth storey shall be substantially stepped back, generally greater than 3 metres from the edge of the building fronting a public street or park.
- c) All buildings should have detailed and well articulated street level façades with high quality materials. Blank walls facing a street or public open space shall be avoided.
- d) Apartment buildings shall generally be limited in length, generally to not more than 60 metres long, and blocks of townhouses shall generally not be more than 40 metres long.
- e) Where apartment buildings are greater than 4 storeys in Residential 2 Areas they shall generally incorporate 1-2 storey grade-related units (e.g. townhouses).

#### 11.1.7.9 Open Space and Parks

##### 11.1.7.9.1

Open Space and Parks shall be developed in accordance with the policies of Section 11.1.5.2 of the Downtown Secondary Plan. The following uses may be permitted:

- a) public and private recreational uses and facilities;
- b) parks;
- c) conservation lands;
- d) complementary uses, including cultural facilities.

##### 11.1.7.9.2

Lands intended for open space and parks along the Speed River shall be subject to the policies of Section 11.1.6.4 and 11.1.7.10 where applicable of the Downtown Secondary Plan and the Natural Heritage System policies of the *Official Plan*.

##### 11.1.7.9.3

- a) The lands designated Open Space and Parks at 84-96 Gordon Street shall be dedicated at no cost to the City and shall be dedicated in a condition suitable for parkland development in accordance with the standards of the City. This parkland dedication satisfies all City requirements for parkland dedication for the lands designated Mixed Use 1 on the subject property; and,
- b) For greater certainty, due to existing development on this site the minimum buffer from the river required for any future development of the portion of the property

designated as 'Mixed Use 1' shall be established in accordance with policies 6A.1.1.6, 6A.1.1.11 and 6A2.1.2 of the *Official Plan*.

Appropriate setbacks for development of the 'Mixed Use 1' lands will be determined through future planning applications as applicable.

#### 11.1.7.10 Future Park Policy Areas

##### 11.1.7.10.1

The Future Park Policy Areas conceptually identified on Schedules B and C are significantly-sized lands that the City intends to bring into the public park system during the planning horizon of the Downtown Secondary Plan while allowing legally existing uses to continue in the interim.

##### 11.1.7.10.2

The Open Space and Parks Policies of Section 11.1.7.9 of the Downtown Secondary Plan shall apply to the Future Park Policy Area.

##### 11.1.7.10.3 Future Park Policy Area A

Future Park Policy Area A will be brought into public ownership and built in conjunction with *redevelopment* of adjacent lands.

##### 11.1.7.10.4 Future Park Policy Area B

The Future Park Policy Area B will be brought into public ownership and built in conjunction with *redevelopment* of adjacent lands. The park shall include a continuous **river's edge path /urban river walk for pedestrians and cyclists. The park should maintain** heritage features and/or interpretation, high-quality landscaping, sitting areas and other amenities for surrounding residents.

##### 11.1.7.10.5 Future Park Policy Area C

A key component of meeting the future parkland needs of a growing Downtown population as well as providing significant City-wide benefit is the planned acquisition by the City of commercial properties located along the Speed River east of Gordon Street and south of Wellington Street as identified as Future Park Policy Area C and the conversion of these properties to parkland in the long term. The creation of a new public park on the south side of Wellington Street will open up the riverfront, and, with passive and some active recreation uses, provide a playground for residents of Downtown and the city as a whole. The park will also extend and complement Royal City Park, advancing a linked open space system which will extend to York Road Park, John Galt Park and beyond. Furthermore, it will complete an important active transportation trail along the Speed and Eramosa River Corridors. Since the population in the Downtown is planned to significantly increase by 2031, more parkland will be needed to provide the green space and recreational amenities residents and Downtown employees need for a high quality of life. The park will become a signature place that fundamentally changes the experiences of arriving, living and visiting Downtown. Future Park Policy Area C shall be subject to the following specific policies:

#### a) Parkland Development

- i) It is intended that parkland development will be in progress or completed by 2031. This timeframe is based on the projected growth rates for Downtown and the resultant need for additional parkland during the Plan period. Actual growth rates will be monitored and should there be significant long term variance from projected rates, the timing of parkland development may be reviewed through a future Official Plan review. Prior to development of the new riverfront park, the City should prepare design guidelines and park development strategy in consultation with Downtown residents and business owners and shall consider a design competition for the park.

**b) Timing of Land Acquisition**

- i) Based on the goal of maintaining a minimum parkland supply of one hectare for every 1,000 residents Downtown and the planned Downtown growth rates, it is anticipated that the park will be needed during the latter half of the Plan period to this end, the City will be prepared to acquire any or all of the lands in 2022.
- ii) The City may also consider land acquisition opportunities that may arise prior to 2022.

**c) Funding Strategy**

- i) The City will implement funding strategies to support the acquisition of these lands in accordance with the timeframe set out in subsection b).

**d) Land Acquisition Principles**

- i) As set out in subsection c) the City will implement a funding strategy so that after funding becomes available in 2022 the City will be prepared to acquire any or all of the lands where property owners are interested in selling on a willing-seller basis.
- ii) Market value for the lands shall not be based on the parkland designation, but shall be negotiated based on the framework provided in the Expropriations Act.
- iii) The City will monitor acquisition of land under this policy to determine if the objectives of the policy are being met, and the need for land acquisition by other means shall be regularly monitored after 2022 and as park development in 2031 approaches.

**e) Existing Commercial Uses**

- i) The Future Park Policy Area C designation in the Downtown Secondary Plan area also recognizes that the lands are currently used for commercial uses. In addition to the uses permitted by the Parks and Open Space policies of 11.1.7.9.1 of the Downtown Secondary Plan, this designation permits and recognizes the existing commercial plazas and associated uses, including restaurants and offices, and will permit these uses to continue and similar uses (including uses under existing, extended or new leases, or similar

arrangements) to occur until such time as part or all of the lands are acquired by the City and required for the purposes of parkland development.

- ii) Physical aesthetic improvements, minor expansions and similar commercial uses to those to that exist at the time of Secondary Plan adoption may be considered in accordance with other applicable policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan.
- iii) Major expansions and the addition of significant new uses are not permitted.

#### 11.1.7.11 Special Policies **Applicable to St. Patrick's Ward Portion of the Planning Area**

##### 11.1.7.11.1

The area east of the Speed River includes a portion of the St. Patrick's Ward community ("The Ward") containing a mix of land uses including existing and former industrial lands. The Ward's unique, diverse and eclectic qualities result from its origin as a neighbourhood where places of employment and working-class houses existed side-by-side. The Ward is characterized by a mix of small lots, modest homes and historic industrial buildings, interspersed with neighbourhood-scale commercial and institutional buildings. Although the viability of neighborhood-scale shopping has declined recently, its legacy remains in both the architecture and memories of residents. In addition, its fine-grained pattern of narrow streets, angled streets, trails and laneways contribute to its walkability. Existing and former industrial sites are planned for *redevelopment* to both support growth objectives for Downtown and enhance The Ward as a neighbourhood. As land uses evolve, **the character of The Ward's existing residential areas** should be maintained.

##### 11.1.7.11.2

As *redevelopment* adds more *compatible* uses and housing diversity to the neighbourhood, it should bring new public spaces, new connections for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles, and other amenities. In considering *development* proposals in The Ward, the City shall have regard for the following overarching objectives for the community:

- a) relocate remaining heavy industrial uses;
- b) identify, conserve and re-use cultural heritage resources;
- c) clean-up contaminated sites;
- d) provide transitions to the general character of the low-rise areas of the community;
- e) ensure the use and form of *development* is *compatible* with its existing and planned surroundings;
- f) increase the quantity and quality of parkland and other public open spaces;
- g) improve connections through the neighbourhood, to the Downtown core, to the riverfront and along the riverfront for pedestrians and cyclists;

- h) minimize and mitigate traffic impacts from new *developments*; and
- i) ensure the community contains a mix of housing types, sizes and forms to accommodate households of all sizes and incomes.

#### 11.1.7.11.3

As identified in Schedule C, there are two large sites within The Ward neighborhood that represent significant opportunities for *redevelopment*: the 5 Arthur Street property and the properties at 64 Duke Street and 92 Ferguson Street. Each of these sites shall be developed based on comprehensive Urban Design Master Plans. Therefore, in addition to any other submissions required as part of a complete planning application, prior to the rezoning and/or site plan approval of either of these two sites or any portion thereof, an Urban Design Master Plan shall be prepared for the site by the applicant to the satisfaction of the City and in consultation with The Ward community as set out in Section 11.1.8.5.

#### 11.1.7.11.4

In addition to the provision of Section 11.1.8.5, the Urban Design Master Plan for the 5 Arthur Street property and subsequent *development* applications shall respond to the following principles:

- a) **River's Edge Open Space** – Create a substantial, functional and continuous public open space generally along the side of the river well connected to surrounding streets. The open space along the river may be composed of elements such as urban squares while providing for a continuous multi-use trail. It should encourage use by the public for a variety of appropriate uses. To this end, it should be configured to accommodate a range of park amenities and provide a sense of safety and comfort.
- b) **Network of Connections** – Establish a fine-grained network of publicly accessible open spaces and routes through the site, provide connections to the river, and allow for efficient pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular circulation. The plan should also create connections to the surrounding trails and open space system including anticipating a future pedestrian bridge adjacent to the Guelph Junction Railway bridge and another bridge across the river, generally aligned with a crossing of Wellington Street and connected to Arthur Street.
- c) **Heritage Conservation and Interpretation** – Reflect and respect the historic context of the neighbourhood. Conserve the historic stone building and other heritage **resources on the site. Respect and complement the neighbourhood's heritage in the new built form.** Interpret and respond to the previous industrial uses, for example, through public art or other interpretive elements.
- d) **Public Views** – Provide views through the site toward the river corridor and maintain key *public views*, including the view south along Arthur Street toward the Mill Lofts building. Take advantage of other desirable views, for example, views of the CN train bridge.

- e) Sensitive Built Form – New buildings should be massed and spaced to avoid a wall effect along the river and maintain sky views from public streets and open spaces as well as neighbouring properties. Buildings should vary in character, provide appropriate building breaks and articulation, step down to be compatible with existing nearby buildings and provide transition to the existing neighbourhood. Buildings should minimize shadow impacts on neighbouring properties.
- f) Pedestrian-Friendly Edges – Residential buildings should support the animation of surrounding streets and publicly-accessible open space by, for example, providing grade-related relationships where feasible such as many front doors and porches along public streets. Above-grade parking should be screened or concealed within the residential development. Surface parking should be limited and strategically located to minimize its visual impact. Waste, recycling and loading areas should also be internal to the site.
- g) Environmental Sustainability – *Development* should incorporate green energy strategies and other sustainable design features. The river corridor's ecological health should be enhanced while also balancing the need for recreational uses and heritage conservation along the river's edge.
- h) Housing Mix – *Development* should include a mix of unit types varying in size and affordability.

#### 11.1.7.11.5

In addition to the provision of Section 11.1.8.5, the Urban Design Master Plan for the 5 Arthur Street property shall consider the arrangements of parks, open spaces, trails and publicly accessible routes. Three potential configurations are conceptually illustrated below however **the actual configuration of the site's public realm** elements, such as trails, urban squares and other open spaces may differ from these options and may be refined further as the site proceeds through the *development* approvals process. However, in addition to the trail proposed adjacent to the railway tracks, a minimum of two publicly accessible east-west connections will be provided between Arthur Street and the river at a dimension that ensures appropriate pedestrian comfort along the connections.





#### 11.1.7.11.6

The general built form and land use policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan shall apply to the 5 Arthur Street and 64 Duke Street and 92 Ferguson Street properties. In addition, the distance between the facing walls of portions of buildings greater than 6 storeys, shall be a minimum of approximately 25 metres.

#### 11.1.7.11.7

The *Zoning By-law* based on the Urban Design Master Plan shall establish a maximum gross floor space index (FSI) for the 5 Arthur Street property of up to 2.0 FSI. The calculation of gross FSI shall include lands to be dedicated for public uses but shall not include structured parking or the historic stone building to be retained including minor additions. The City may consider allowing individual parcels of *development* within the site to vary from the FSI minimum and maximum, provided the applicant demonstrates to the **City's** satisfaction that the maximum and minimum gross FSI on the entirety of the 5 Arthur Street property will be achieved.

#### 11.1.7.11.8

Notwithstanding policy 11.1.7.3.2 of the Downtown Secondary Plan, the following uses shall not be permitted in the Mixed Use 1 areas identified on the 5 Arthur Street property:

- entertainment and large-scale commercial recreation uses; and
- hotels.

#### 11.1.7.11.9

Commercial uses on the 5 Arthur Street property south of the existing historic stone building shall generally be small in scale and oriented to the surrounding community.

#### 11.1.7.11.10

Schedule D shows two height categories for the 5 Arthur Street property: 2-4 storeys along Arthur Street and 4-12 storeys along the river. Unlike other sites in the Downtown, the 12-storey limit along the river is a general limit. The City acknowledges the need for some flexibility regarding maximum building heights on the site to allow for further detailed analysis and refinement through the Urban Design Master Plan. The intent of the Urban Design Master Plan, in addition to satisfying other policies of the Secondary Plan, will be to identify appropriate building heights that ensure built form *compatibility* with the surrounding neighbourhood, minimize and mitigate adverse shadow and view impacts, and contribute to an inviting and comfortable public realm within and adjacent to the site. Flexibility regarding height limits is intended to allow the maximum permitted density on the site to be achieved in a built form that responds appropriately to the conditions of the site and its surroundings while ensuring consistency with the other policies of this Plan and specifically the principles of Policy 11.1.7.11.4. Where it has been demonstrated **through the Urban Design Master Plan to the City's satisfaction that the principles in Policy 11.1.7.11.4** have been met, limited additional height above 12 storeys may be permitted on appropriate portions of the site provided there is a variety of building heights along the

river, on the site. Such exceptions for height will be implemented in the *Zoning By-law* and shall not require an amendment to the Secondary Plan.

#### 11.1.7.11.11

The *Zoning By-law* based on the Urban Design Master Plan shall set out the maximum gross floor space index (FSI) for the 64 Duke/92 Ferguson properties of up to 1.2 FSI. The calculation of gross FSI shall include lands to be dedicated for public uses but does not include the built heritage resource if retained or structured parking. The City may consider allowing individual parcels of *development* within the site to vary from the FSI minimum and maximum, provided the applicant demonstrates to the **City's satisfaction that the** maximum and minimum gross FSI on the entirety of the 64 Duke/92 Ferguson site will be achieved.

#### 11.1.7.11.12

The 64 Duke Street property contains a built heritage resource, formerly the Partridge Rubber Company factory that faces Huron Street. This *Built Heritage Resource* is a 3-storey concrete, steel and brick factory that was built before 1916. Its location adjacent to the new park will provide an opportunity for the factory to become a prominent landmark. *Redevelopment* of this element of the property is strongly encouraged to retain and adaptively re-use this resource or significant portions of the resource subject to the Cultural Heritage Policies of the *Official Plan*. Prior to *redevelopment* the City may review and assess the cultural heritage value or interest of this building in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

### 11.1.7.12 Significant Natural Area

#### 11.1.7.12.1

Lands designated Significant Natural Area as identified on Schedule C, are subject to the Natural Heritage System policies of the *Official Plan* and the policies of Section 11.1.6.4 of the Downtown Secondary Plan.

### 11.1.8 Interpretation and Implementation

#### 11.1.8.1 General Policies

##### 11.1.8.1.1

Lands within the Downtown Secondary Plan area shall be subject to the interpretation and implementation policies of the *Official Plan* and the following specific policies.

##### 11.1.8.1.2

The implementation of this Secondary Plan will require a variety of tools and many actions on the part of the City, private landowners, institutions, downtown businesses and others. This section describes important tools and strategies to be used by the City in addition to the tools and strategies identified in the *Official Plan*. It also identifies projects and partnerships intended to implement key elements of the plan and, in the process, encourage private *development* and reinvestment downtown. Many of the strategies build upon previous initiatives and current investments by the City.

#### 11.1.8.1.3

Where the policies of this Secondary Plan conflict with those in the *Official Plan*, the policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan shall prevail.

#### 11.1.8.1.4

The built form policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan, and in particular those that apply to mid-rise and taller buildings, respond sensitively to the unique and historic fabric of Downtown Guelph and the surrounding neighbourhoods. Their primary intent is to ensure compatibility among buildings of different types and forms, the minimization and mitigation of adverse shadow and view impacts, and the creation and maintenance of an inviting and comfortable public realm. Nevertheless, the City recognizes the need to be somewhat flexible and allow for well-designed buildings that respond appropriately to the conditions of their site and its surroundings and are consistent with the principles of this Plan. **Where “generally” is used to qualify a built form policy** found in Section 11.1.7 of this Plan, it is the intent that the policy requirement shall be met except where an **applicant has demonstrated to the City’s satisfaction that site-specific conditions warrant** considerations of alternatives, and that the proposed alternative built form parameters meet the general intent of the policy. Such exceptions shall not require an amendment to this Secondary Plan.

### 11.1.8.2 Design Review

#### 11.1.8.2.1

The City may establish a design review committee, comprised of professionals with expertise in urban design, architecture, engineering, landscape architecture and/or environmental design, or other advisory process, such as an architectural or urban design **peer review process at the applicant’s expense, to assist in the review of significant development** proposals and capital projects in Downtown and elsewhere in the City. In reviewing significant downtown projects, such a committee or process shall be guided by the policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan and shall consider the urban, architectural, engineering, landscape and environmental design aspects of the proposal.

### 11.1.8.3 Community Improvement

#### 11.1.8.3.1

Downtown is subject to the Downtown Guelph Community Improvement Plan (DGCIP). Periodically, the City shall review the DGCIP and consider additional tools and programs intended to assist in implementing this Secondary Plan. The City may consider additional incentives for downtown *development*, including tax increment equivalency grants, a heritage property tax relief program, total or partial exemptions from development charges, application fee rebates, and grants for building *conversions*, including second-storey residential *conversions*, structural improvements or energy efficiency improvements.

#### 11.1.8.3.2

The Urban Growth Centre area is included in the Brownfield Redevelopment Community

Improvement Plan which supports environmental remediation of existing contaminated sites.

#### 11.1.8.4 Urban Design Master Plans

##### 11.1.8.4.1

Where required in accordance with the policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan, the Urban Design Master Plan shall through text and diagrams provide a basis for reviewing and approving zoning by-law amendments and site plan applications and shall address the relevant policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan and the following additional items:

- a) location of public and/or private streets and laneways;
- b) location, size and configuration of parkland/open space on the site;
- c) location, uses and massing of buildings and their relationship to adjacent streets and open spaces;
- d) built form transitions to the surrounding community;
- e) shadow impacts;
- f) physical and visual connections to the immediate surroundings and broader downtown area;
- g) conceptual streetscape designs for internal streets and adjacent public streets to be improved;
- h) heritage attributes to be rehabilitated, conserved and retained in the proposed development;
- i) locations for heritage interpretation and/or public art;
- j) general location and lay-out of parking;
- k) provision of affordable housing; and
- l) environmental features and elements that support the Community Energy Plan and the sustainability policies of the *Official Plan*.

##### 11.1.8.4.2

Zoning by-law amendment and site plan applications, or any phases thereof, for **properties subject to an Urban Design Master Plan shall demonstrate to the City's** satisfaction that the proposed *development* is generally consistent with the applicable Urban Design Master Plan and will contribute to meeting the principles, objectives and applicable policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan. Urban Design Master Plans may be amended through future phases of development, provided the relevant policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan continue to be satisfied.

#### 11.1.8.5 Special Studies and Future Initiatives

This Secondary Plan identifies a series of more detailed studies and strategic documents that will need to be developed to implement specific initiatives and generally support the policies of the Secondary Plan and may result in the need to revise and amend the Secondary Plan, as appropriate.

##### 11.1.8.5.1

The City and Guelph Hydro will complete the District Energy Feasibility Study for downtown to identify opportunities and strategies for implementing effective *district energy* systems.

##### 11.1.8.5.2

The City, in consultation with downtown landowners, businesses and residents, will complete a Heritage Conservation Analysis for the historic core of Downtown as described in Policy 11.1.5.4.2. The City shall also investigate the potential to designate Heritage Conservation District(s).

##### 11.1.8.5.3

The City in conjunction with Heritage Guelph and in consultation with area businesses, including the Downtown Guelph Business Association and residents, may complete a **Heritage Conservation District Study for the St. Patrick's Ward as described in Policy 11.1.5.4.3.**

##### 11.1.8.5.4

The City, in consultation with downtown businesses, will prepare a Downtown Parking Strategy, as described in Policy 11.1.4.5.4 of the Downtown Secondary Plan.

##### 11.1.8.5.5

The City, in consultation with the Downtown business community, including the Downtown **Guelph Business Association and city residents, will prepare a master plan for St. George's Square**, as described in Policy 11.1.5.2.10 to guide short-term and long-term improvements to the square and its immediate surroundings.

##### 11.1.8.5.6

As described in Policy 11.1.5.2.6, the City, in consultation with the Grand River Conservation Authority and residents, will prepare a Downtown Riverfront Open Space Master Plan to guide short-term and long-term improvements within the Speed River and Eramosa River corridors through downtown.

##### 11.1.8.5.7

**The City, in consultation with the city's arts community and residents, will prepare a Downtown Public Art Strategy**, as described in Policy 11.1.5.5.3.

##### 11.1.8.5.8

**As described in Policy 11.1.3.3, the City will initiate a Farmers' Market Expansion and Relocation Strategy within Downtown.**

#### 11.1.8.5.9

As described in Policy 11.1.5.3.2, the City will work with the Downtown business community, including the Downtown Guelph Business Association, and cultural groups on a Downtown Programming Strategy intended to increase the number of cultural and other special events in Downtown.

#### 11.1.8.5.10

As described in Policy 11.1.3.4, the City may undertake a feasibility study regarding the Armoury site.

#### 11.1.8.5.11

The City will update the Downtown Public Realm Plan, as described in Policy 11.1.5.1.2, and the Downtown Private Realm Improvements Manual.

### 11.1.8.6 Priority Capital Projects

#### 11.1.8.6.1

The capital projects identified below are vital elements of the plan for Downtown. Each of them will have a significant and positive impact on the *public realm*, helping to attract more visitors Downtown and, more importantly, encouraging residential and commercial *development*. In preparing and updating its Capital Plan and Budget, the City shall consider including and/or advancing the following projects:

- a) New Downtown Main Library, Public Parking and Public Square
- b) Parking Structure Investments: Wilson Street
- c) Upper Wyndham Street Reconstruction
- d) MacDonell Street Reconstruction
- e) St. George's Square Reconstruction**
- f) Development of a new Riverfront Park

The above list may be refined and updated as part of the Downtown Implementation Strategy without amendment to the Downtown Secondary Plan.

### 11.1.8.7 Partnerships

#### 11.1.8.7.1

There are many opportunities for the City to work with private landowners, developers, institutions, the Downtown business community, including the Downtown Guelph Business Association, and other groups to implement key elements of the Secondary Plan. The following are strategic partnership initiatives the City should actively pursue:

- a) *Redevelopment* of the Baker Street Parking Lot for Residential Uses and Public Parking;
- b) *Redevelopment* of the Fountain Street Parking Lot for Residential and/or Institutional Uses and Public Parking;

- c) Armoury Relocation/Re-use Feasibility Study and Acquisition Strategy, in cooperation with the Department of National Defense;
- d) Development of a Facility for a University or College Faculty or Department;
- e) Development of a Business Incubator, in partnership with organizations such as the Guelph Regional Innovation Centre and the Guelph Chamber of Commerce;
- f) New Annual/Seasonal Festivals or Special Events, in partnership with the Downtown business community, including the Downtown Guelph Business Association, and local cultural organizations; and
- g) Downtown Marketing & Tourism Strategy, Materials and Activities, in partnership with the Downtown business community, including the Downtown Guelph Business Association.

#### 11.1.8.8 Downtown Guelph Implementation Strategy

##### 11.1.8.8.1

The City will prepare and periodically update a Downtown Implementation Strategy to coordinate and activate the implementation of this Secondary Plan, specifically components of the plan related to public *infrastructure*, facilities and programs, and/or which otherwise require some degree of City investment to implement. It will link community and economic development in phased action-oriented plans for priority areas that use existing assets and capitalize on emerging trends. The Downtown Implementation Strategy shall generally be reviewed and updated a minimum of every five years.

#### 11.1.8.9 Finance

##### 11.1.8.9.1

The implementation of the policies of the Downtown Secondary Plan will be subject to the capital budget and financial policies and procedures approved by City Council, as well as the availability of funding from other levels of government. Furthermore, some services are provided to the City by other levels of government.

#### 11.1.8.10 Definitions

In addition to definitions of the *Official Plan*, the following definitions are applicable in the Downtown Secondary Plan:

*Compatibility/compatible* means:

Development or *redevelopment* which may not necessarily be the same as, or similar to, the existing development, but can coexist with the surrounding area without unacceptable adverse impact.

*District Energy* means:

A system that ties together distributed thermal energy generation and users through a local supply loop.

*Public Realm* means:

Public spaces such as public streets and rights of way, urban squares, parks, community trails, and open spaces.

*Public View* means:

A view toward important public and historic buildings, natural heritage and open space features, landmarks, and skylines when viewed from the public realm

*Redevelopment* means:

The creation of new units, uses or lots on previously developed land in existing communities, including brownfield and greyfield sites.

In spite of the above definition, for the lands within the *Special Policy Area Flood Plain* of this Plan, *redevelopment* shall include an addition which is larger than 50% of the total ground floor area of the original or existing building or structure.



#### 11.1.9 Schedules

Schedule A Mobility Plan

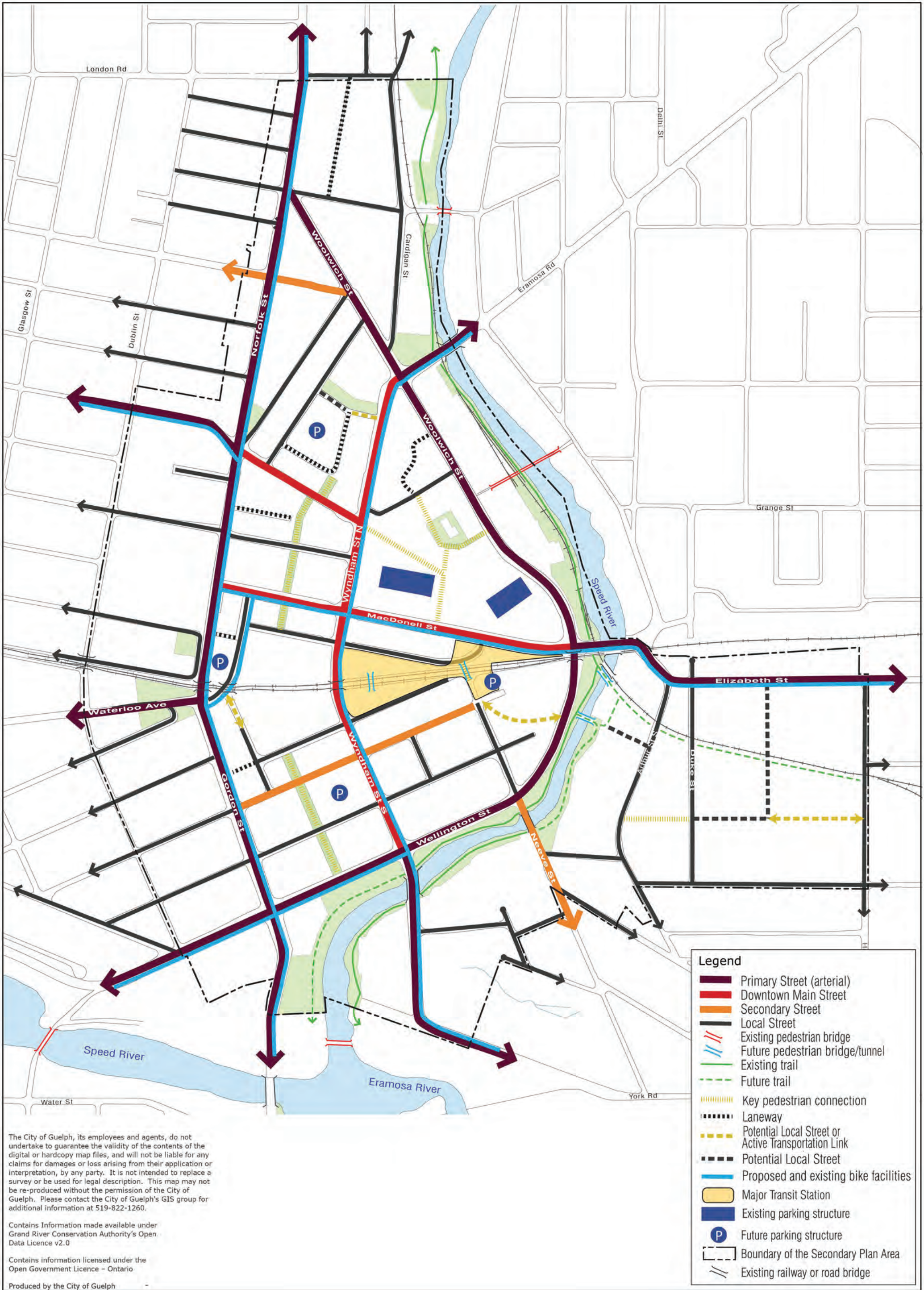
Schedule B Public Realm

Schedule C Land Use Plan

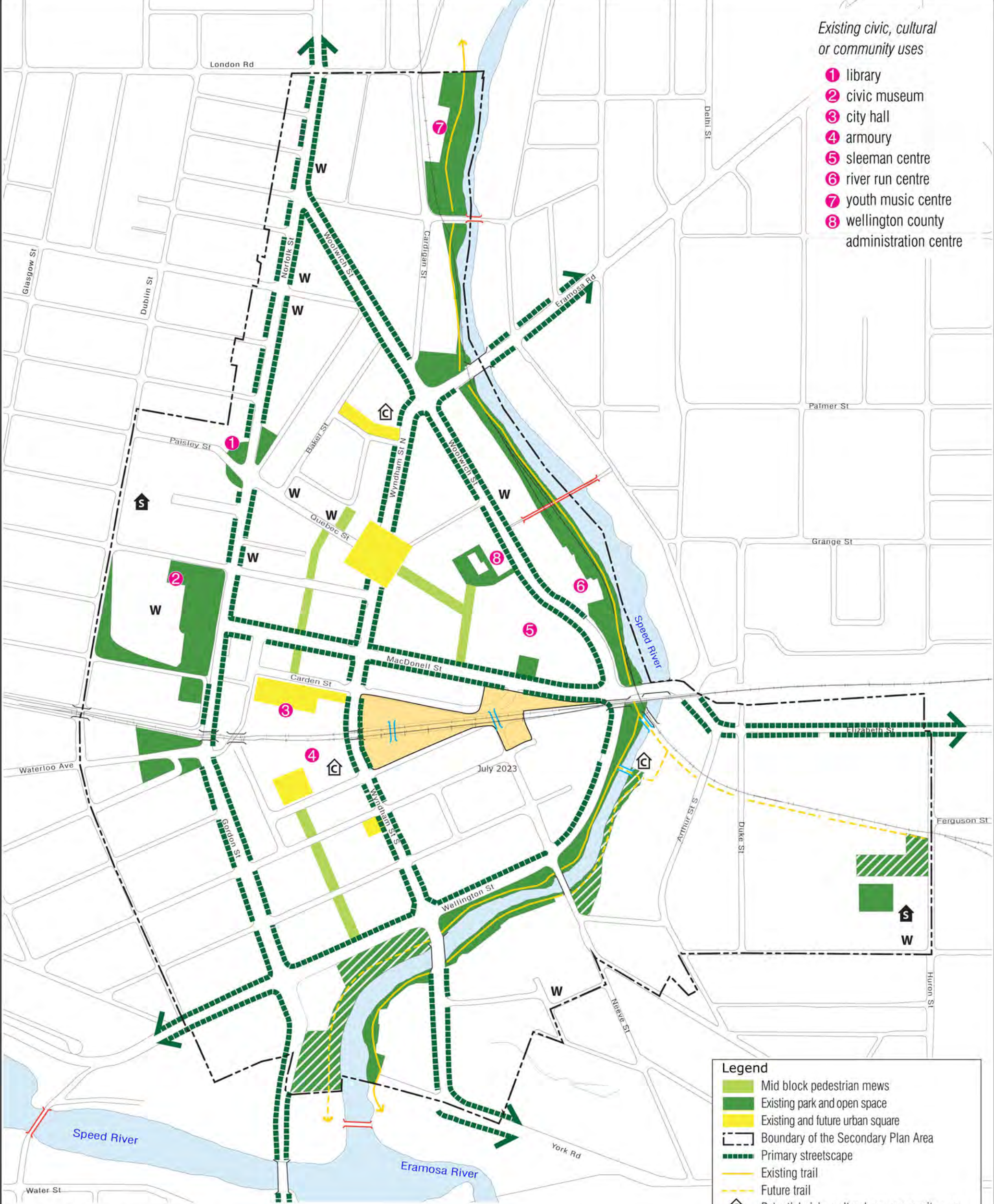
Schedule D Protected Public View Corridor and Special Policy Area Building Heights

Appendix A Built Form Precedents









- Existing civic, cultural or community uses
- 1 library
  - 2 civic museum
  - 3 city hall
  - 4 armoury
  - 5 sleeman centre
  - 6 river run centre
  - 7 youth music centre
  - 8 wellington county administration centre

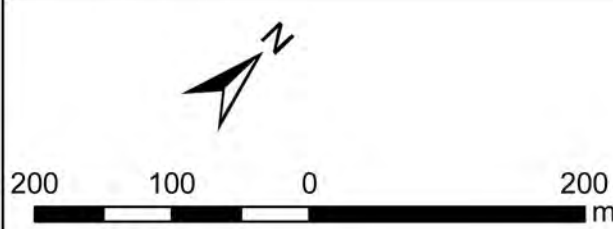
- Legend
- Mid block pedestrian mews
  - Existing park and open space
  - Existing and future urban square
  - Boundary of the Secondary Plan Area
  - Primary streetscape
  - Existing trail
  - Future trail
  - Potential civic, cultural, or community use
  - Future park
  - Existing pedestrian bridge
  - Future pedestrian bridge/tunnel
  - Place of worship
  - Major transit station
  - Park and open space outside downtown
  - School
  - Potential Local Street or Active Transportation Link

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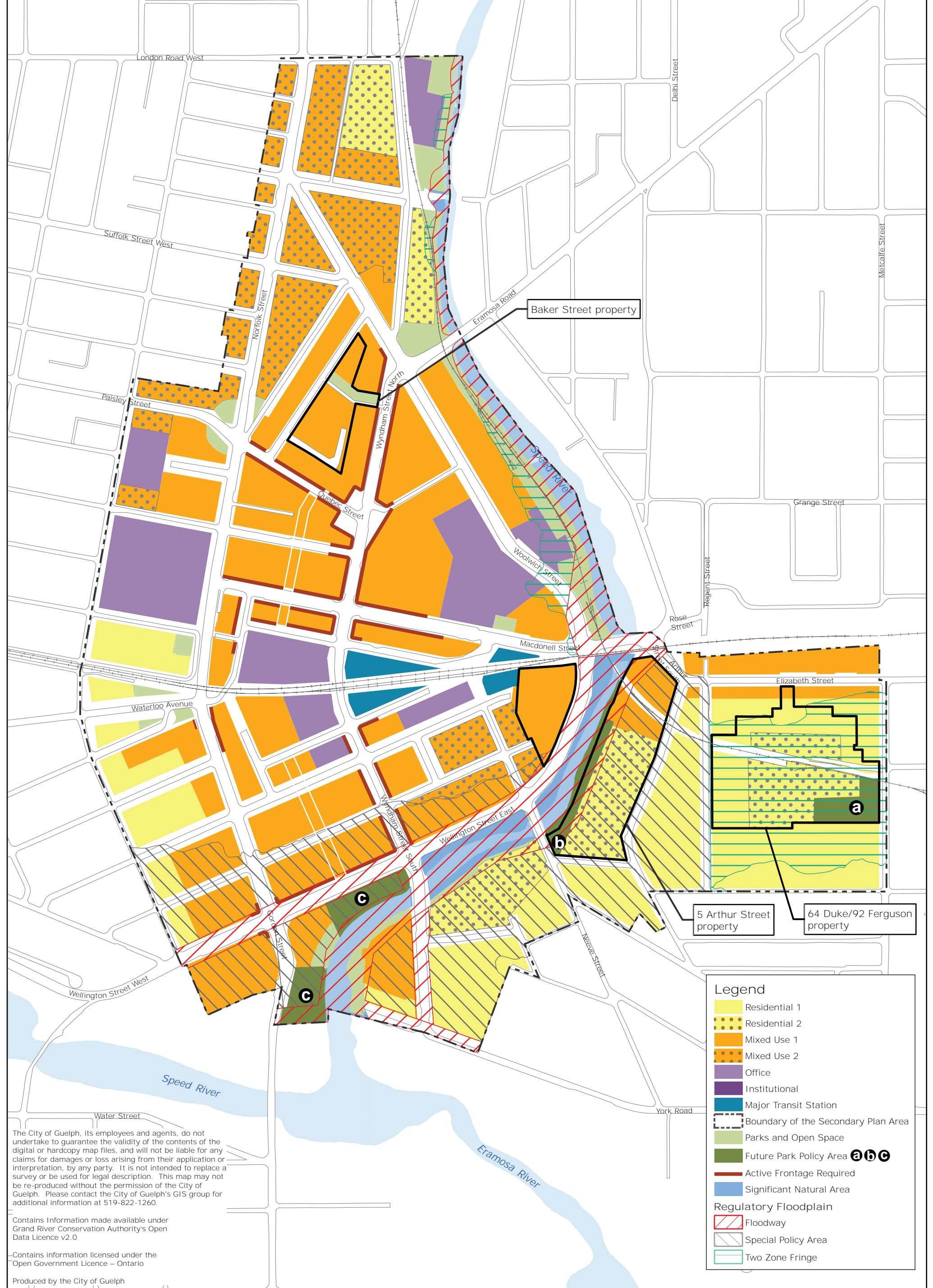
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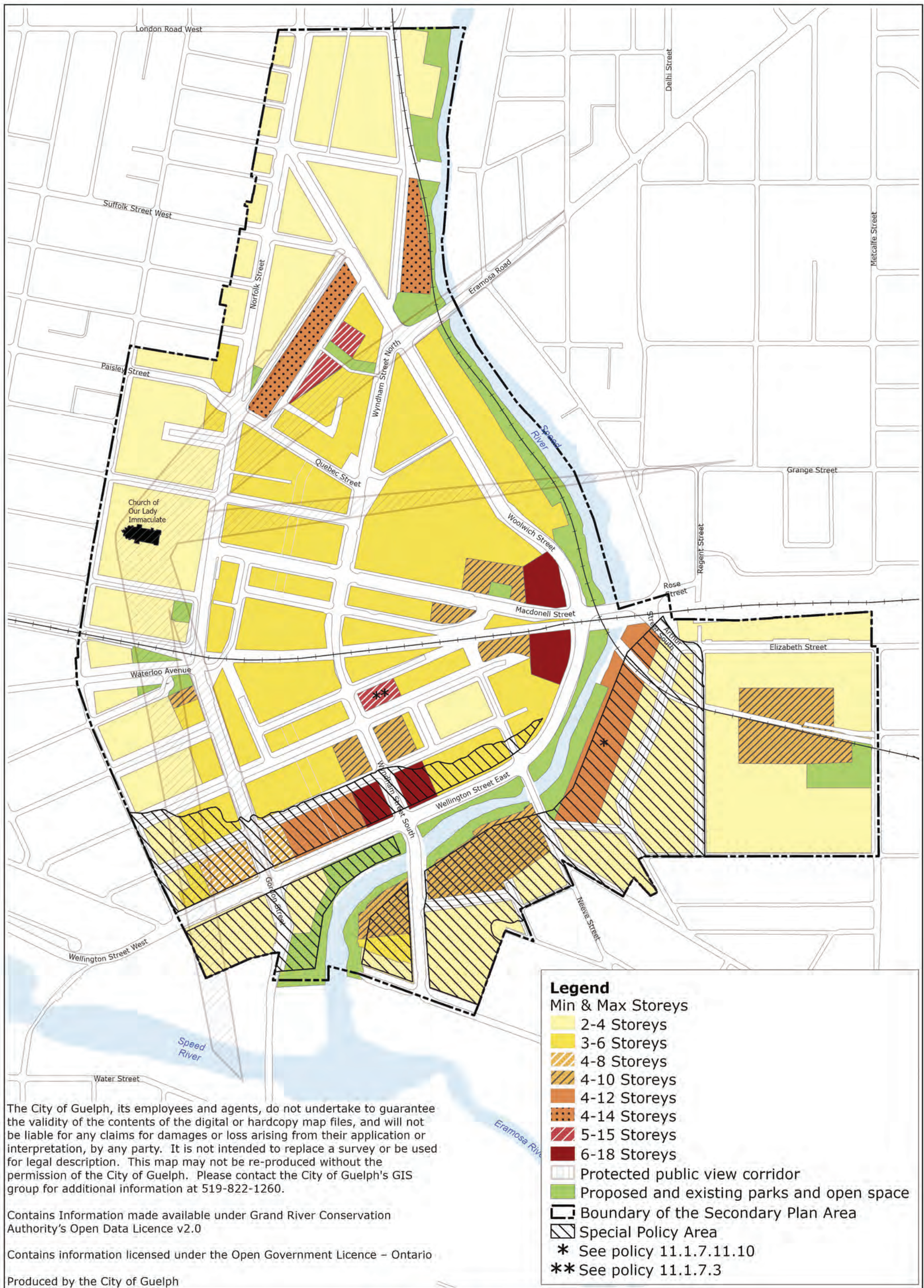
**CITY OF GUELPH  
OFFICIAL PLAN  
SCHEDULE B:  
DOWNTOWN SECONDARY PLAN  
PUBLIC REALM**













# Appendix A: Built-Form Precedents



High-quality cotemporary materials with architectural articulations of facades



Mixed-use buildings with main entrance on a street



Ground-floor residential units that support the animation of adjacent streets





Taller buildings with narrow floorplates that contribute to a varied skyline



Appropriate urban transition between built form and trails



Sensitive infill development within an historic context



Low Impact Development measures integrated into an urban context

## 11.2 Guelph Innovation District Secondary Plan

### Introduction

The Guelph Innovation District (GID) Secondary Plan establishes a detailed planning framework consisting of a Vision, Principles and Objectives and Policies and Schedules to guide and regulate future development of the GID Planning Area. Users of this Secondary Plan should refer to the comprehensive Official Plan for general city-wide policies applicable to the GID.

The GID Planning Area comprises lands bounded by York Road to the north, Victoria Road South to the west and Watson Parkway South to the east and extending south to Stone Road East, also inclusive of lands south of, and immediately adjacent to, Stone Road East.

#### 11.2.1 Vision, Principles and Objectives

##### 11.2.1.1 **A Vision for Guelph's** Innovation District

The Guelph Innovation District (GID) is a compact, mixed-use community that straddles **the Eramosa River in the City's east end. The GID will serve predominately as the home of** innovative, sustainable employment uses with an adjacent urban village connecting residential and compatible employment uses. The urban village is meant to be an identifiable, pedestrian oriented space, with street-related built form that supports a mix of medium and high density commercial, residential and employment uses. Important land use connections are also envisioned between the GID, as an innovation centre, the University of Guelph, as a knowledge-based research centre and the Downtown, as the **City's civic hub and cultural centre**, supporting the emergence of a University-Downtown-GID trinity of innovation spaces.

The GID is at once highly energetic and intimately familiar, because it showcases an entirely new approach to planning, designing, and developing urban places, and at the same time, reflects **Guelph's history and celebrates the rich heritage resources of the** district, including the stunning river valley, dramatic topography and views, and historic Reformatory Complex.

The GID is attractive, pedestrian-focused and human-scaled. It provides a mix of land uses at transit-supportive densities, offers meaningful places to live, work, shop, play and learn, and supports a wide range of employment and residential land uses. It protects valuable natural and *cultural heritage resources* while fully integrating them with the new community, features sustainable buildings and infrastructure, and works *towards carbon neutrality*. It makes needed connections between all modes of transportation, but in a manner that prioritizes pedestrians, cyclists and transit users over drivers, and stitches the GID into the overall fabric of the City. It is exciting and new and feels like it has been part of the City for a long time.



### 11.2.1.2 Principles and Objectives

#### Principle 1: Protect what is Valuable

Creating a place that respects the Natural Heritage System and *cultural heritage resources*, making citizens stewards of the resources for current and future generations.

##### Objectives

- a) Preserve and enhance the extensive Natural Heritage System, including the Eramosa River Valley which is designated as a Canadian Heritage River.
- b) Respect the existing topography and sightlines, including *public views* and *public vistas* of the Eramosa River, Downtown and the historic Reformatory Complex.
- c) Ensure compatible public access opportunities to the Natural Heritage System and *cultural heritage resources* and promote their celebration, especially river vistas and edges, the Provincially Significant Earth Science *Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)*, and the historic Reformatory Complex.
- d) Connect surrounding land uses with the Natural Heritage System and *cultural heritage resources* and provide opportunities for compatible research, educational, recreational and urban agricultural uses.
- e) Ensure that significant *built heritage resources* and significant *cultural heritage landscapes* are conserved.

#### Principle 2: Create Sustainable and Energy Efficient Infrastructure

Building infrastructure that is efficient, focuses on renewable energy sources, and supports an integrated energy distribution system that enables a carbon free lifestyle.

##### Objectives

- a) Create a framework for the GID to work toward *carbon neutrality* and exceed the **City's Community Energy Plan targets, building infrastructure that is efficient that** focuses on *renewable energy systems*, and supports an integrated distribution system that enables a carbon free lifestyle.
- b) Support development of an integrated energy distribution system, which maximizes connections between energy generation opportunities (producers) and end users (provides opportunities for local energy generation, maximizes connections between generation opportunities and end users, and minimizes overall energy use).
- c) Support processes where the waste by-products/surpluses of one activity are used as resources by another (e.g. industrial ecology).
- d) Include efficient, long-term and community based strategies to conserve and manage energy, water, wastewater, stormwater and solid waste.

- e) Develop a model community that showcases sustainable, green, *low impact development*.
- f) Embrace innovation, establish best practices, and serve as a learning environment for other communities across Guelph and Southern Ontario.
- g) Support the reduction of waste from construction debris as a result of the demolition of buildings by promoting and encouraging the *adaptive reuse* of existing building stock.

### Principle 3: Establish a Multi-modal Pedestrian-focused Mobility System

Making connections that serve the community, allow current and future generations to walk or cycle to daily needs, and provide convenient transit services to access broader activities.

#### Objectives

- a) Integrate the GID with the City as a whole, with clear connections to Downtown, the University of Guelph campus, and nearby neighbourhoods.
- b) Provide a transportation system (streets, sidewalks, cycle paths, trails, and rail) that serves the GID, provides rational and efficient connections for all modes of transportation, and provides compatible public access to the Natural Heritage System, where appropriate.
- c) Provide a land use pattern, urban design policies and standards and supportive transportation system that connect us with our daily needs, including transit stops, within a 5-10 minute walk of most residents.
- d) Provide a transportation system that is designed to prioritize pedestrians, cyclists and transit users over drivers by incorporating alternative development standards (e.g. larger right-of-ways for pedestrians and cyclists) and providing an extensive pedestrian and cycling network with direct, safe travel routes, and convenient, affordable transit service which is integrated with the rest of the City.
- e) Create and enhance connections for pedestrians, cyclists and potentially transit users across the Eramosa River Valley to better connect uses and activities.
- f) Integrate the current commercial rail line within the new community by including a potential transportation hub and commuting centre for the movement of people and goods.
- g) Ensure that the capacity of existing and new streets is sufficient to support the GID, while managing traffic impacts on adjacent road networks and neighbourhoods.

### Principle 4: Create an Attractive and Memorable Place

Creating meaningful places to bring people, activities, environment(s) and ideas together, creating a sense of arrival and inclusion.

## Objectives

- a) Create a district of landmark quality with a strong and recognizable identity on par with the Downtown and the University of Guelph.
- b) Define gateways and community focal points on both sides of the Eramosa River to support the development of mixed-use areas that are safe, coherent, vibrant, and comfortable.
- c) Create a cohesive, efficient and vibrant transition area that will provide common supportive uses and built form to connect the urban village and employment area while still maintaining the unique function and identity of each area.
- d) Respect the southeast residential neighbourhood through the design and inclusion of an appropriate transition area between the residential uses and the industrial and major utility uses to the north.
- e) Define a block and parcel fabric that knits uses together and encourages new buildings to define the edges of streets, parks, trails and open spaces to provide a friendly face to encourage social interaction, safety, and a human scale.
- f) Create an accessible network of public facilities, parks, and open spaces which serves the new community and surrounding neighbourhoods, and is integrated with the Natural Heritage System and *cultural heritage resources*.
- g) Encourage high quality urban and architectural design that responds to and **respects the GID's unique setting, natural and cultural heritage, edges and adjacent** uses.
- h) Create a memorable landmark for the GID that establishes its identity, including potential connections to landmarks within the Downtown and the University of Guelph campus.
- i) Increase the overall tree canopy cover, and encourage the use of native species and edible landscapes, where appropriate, in restoration areas, parks, and open spaces and along streets throughout the new community.
- j) Respect (and emulate where appropriate) the Beaux-Arts design of the *cultural heritage landscape* component of the historic Reformatory Complex.

## Principle 5: Promote a Diversity of Land Uses and Densities

Mixing it up to create vibrant, resilient, and efficient spaces that make it possible, practicable, and beneficial to reduce our ecological footprint.

## Objectives

- a) Create an integrated, compact, mixed-use district that provides an opportunity for people to live close to job opportunities and supportive daily services.
- b) Achieve *transit-supportive* densities with human-scaled built form.

- c) Establish a mix of land uses, building types and tenures in the new community, providing accessible choices for living, working, shopping, playing and learning.
- d) Promote mixed-use developments in appropriate locations that provide three or more significant uses, ideally in the same building, or if in separate buildings, within a walkable environment.
- e) Provide for a diverse cross section of residents with a mix of residential uses, building types and tenures in an urban village-type setting that is affordable, accessible and allows people to remain within the same neighbourhood as their needs change.
- f) Provide for a significant number and variety of jobs with a range of employment uses, building types, including those related to the development of a knowledge-based innovation cluster.
- g) Define a flexible block and parcel fabric that encourages evolution over time.
- h) **Plan for a land use mix and densities which contribute to achieving the City's overall population, employment and *density targets* and the specific targets for the GID.**

#### Principle 6: Grow Innovative Employment Opportunities

Grow innovative employment opportunities that support the knowledge-based innovation sector, within a compact, mixed-use community.

##### Objectives

- a) **Accommodate a significant share of Guelph's employment growth.**
- b) Target the GID as a key area supporting the growth of a knowledge-based innovation cluster, which may include the agriculture, environment, information technology, advanced manufacturing, health and related science sectors, making connections to the Downtown and the University of Guelph campus.
- c) Nurture and capitalize on the GID as a recreational and tourist destination.
- d) Create a setting that reinforces the GID as a high density employment area that attracts provincially, nationally and/or internationally significant employment uses.
- e) Encourage employment uses within the historic Reformatory Complex that can **showcase the site's *cultural heritage resources*.**
- f) Support strategic and collaborative economic development partnerships within the GID, and local and regional community.
- g) Encourage a business environment by fostering learning and innovation within the GID.
- h) Encourage economic opportunities for the GID that contribute to innovative and sustainable employment uses that are compatible with a mixed-use environment, including residential uses.

- i) **Support existing industrial uses, recognizing their contribution to the City's overall employment, waste management services, and carbon footprint reduction.**

### 11.2.2 Natural and Cultural Heritage

The natural and cultural heritage policies shape and regulate the conservation, protection and enhancement of the Natural Heritage System and *cultural heritage resources* found within the Guelph Innovation District (GID). The policies below are informed by the Vision **and supporting Principles which seek to reflect Guelph's history and celebrate the rich** heritage resources of the district, including the Eramosa River Valley, dramatic topography and views, and historic Reformatory Complex.

#### 11.2.2.1 Natural Heritage

1. As identified on Schedule B, a significant portion of the GID is within the Natural Heritage System and is subject to the Natural Heritage System policies of the Official Plan.
2. The Natural Heritage System within the site area includes features such as the Eramosa River Valley that are important for their environmental and social values. The GID works in harmony with the Natural Heritage System which forms the basis of the Secondary Plan through its integration by the provision of natural breaks, transitional areas and scenic *public views* and *public vistas* within the site.
3. Roads and trails will be designed along the edge of the Eramosa River Valley to provide opportunities for a public edge, *public views* and greater protection opportunities. The Natural Heritage System shall be protected, maintained, restored and enhanced so that it may fill its role as the centerpiece of the GID.
4. The City will identify and support opportunities to provide greater public access to the Natural Heritage System including examining potential for an *active transportation* link located central to the site, providing a direct connection between the western development and the Reformatory Complex to the east and linking trail systems subject to an *Environmental Assessment* or *EIS*.
5. The City shall control access to the Natural Heritage System through wayfinding and signage along public trails to minimize impacts on flora and fauna.
6. The Provincially Significant Earth Science *ANSI*, shown on the Natural Heritage System Schedules of the Official Plan, within the GID presents opportunities for scientific and educational activities. These activities will be supported and showcased in conjunction with the adjacent trail network shown on Schedule A.

#### 11.2.2.2 Cultural Heritage

1. Appendix A shows *cultural heritage resources* for illustrative purposes only, along with the Natural Heritage System as designated in the Official Plan to highlight the interconnections between the Natural Heritage System, *cultural heritage resources* and

*public views* referred to in the Secondary Plan policies. Appendix A does not constitute part of the Secondary Plan policies.

2. As identified on Schedule B, the eastern portion of the GID is predominantly designated as Adaptive Re-use within a *cultural heritage landscape* with *built heritage resources* in the historic Reformatory Complex. Land uses within the *cultural heritage landscape* boundary are subject to the provisions of the Cultural Heritage Resource policies of the Official Plan. Policies related to the Adaptive Re-use land use designation can be found in Section 11.2.6.3 of this Secondary Plan.
3. *Development* within the GID, on lands designated as Adaptive Re-use and/or adjacent to *cultural heritage resources*, should adopt an architectural vocabulary and design elements that are *compatible* with and respectful of the cultural heritage value and heritage attributes of the *cultural heritage resources* on site.
4. *Cultural heritage resources* including all features identified as provincially significant shall be conserved through long term protection mechanisms (e.g. heritage conservation easements).
5. A *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* and/or Conservation Plan will be required as part of a complete application to ensure that the *cultural heritage resources* within the site will be *conserved*.
6. All land uses within the GID are subject to the provisions of the Cultural Heritage Resource policies of the Official Plan.
7. It is the intent of this Secondary Plan to conserve *cultural heritage landscapes*, such as the area delineated as the historic Reformatory Complex on Appendix A that have been modified by human activities and are valued by the community.
8. *Cultural heritage landscapes* and visual relationships to *built heritage resources* shall be *conserved* and monitored to allow for meaningful interpretation.
9. *Development* will respect the existing *cultural heritage resources* and important *public views* and *public vistas* in site design.
10. The retention and integration of the Turfgrass Institute Building (G.M. Frost Centre) into the GID community is encouraged.

#### 11.2.2.3 Topography

1. The topography associated with the Eramosa River Valley within the GID offers appealing vistas towards the historic Reformatory Complex as well as the Downtown, providing a distinctive character to the area. Future *development* shall take advantage of favourable topography and *public views* and *public vistas* and minimize the need for re-grading on site, where possible.

#### 11.2.2.4 Urban Forest

1. The GID includes hedgerows, smaller wooded areas and individual trees that are part **of the City's urban forest**. *Development* and *site alteration* will identify opportunities for:
  - a) Protection, enhancement, compensation and/or restoration of the urban forest; and
  - b) Contributing to maintaining and increasing canopy cover in a manner that respects the cultural heritage landscape and associated public views and public vistas.

#### 11.2.3 Energy, Servicing and Stormwater

The energy, infrastructure and sustainability policies below contribute to the development of sustainable, green, low impact urban development within the GID. These policies are informed by the Vision and supporting Principles which seek to exceed Community Energy Plan targets, develop an integrated renewable and alternative energy generation and distribution system, and implement efficient, long-term, community-based strategies to conserve and manage energy, water, wastewater, stormwater and solid waste. These policies together with the mixed-use, *active transportation* and transit-oriented design policies for the GID will minimize the carbon footprint in the GID and increase the overall sustainability of development in the city.

##### 11.2.3.1 General Policies

1. *Development* in the GID shall contribute to the City's overall carbon reduction targets as set out in the climate change policies of the Official Plan and the City's Community Energy Plan.
2. The City will encourage decreased energy usage and emissions from transportation through the provision of infrastructure that encourages walking, cycling, use of public transit and the use of low-energy vehicles. Reductions in vehicular trips will also result through the mixed-use form of the GID which supports a live/work community.

##### 11.2.3.2 Energy

1. *Development* within the GID shall be in accordance with the Energy Sustainability and Community Energy policies of the Official Plan and the following:
  - a) All development in the GID shall have regard for the goals and strategies **of the City's Community Energy Plan**;
  - b) Should the City, Guelph Hydro, and appropriate partners identify parts of the GID as potential district energy areas, new development shall be district energy ready subject to the City establishing District Energy Ready Guidelines;

- c) The City shall work with Guelph Hydro and appropriate partners on the development of a district energy system for the GID if such a system is feasible for the GID; and
- d) Where a district energy system has been established or is planned, new development will be encouraged and may be required to connect to the district energy system and new municipal buildings will connect to the district energy system.

*Development* in the GID will be encouraged to approach *carbon neutrality* in a cost-effective manner through gains in energy efficiency in built form and by sourcing additional needs from renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, and biomass energy.

Developers and owners of all new and existing buildings shall be encouraged to determine and label building energy performance subject to standards as may be adopted by the City.

Within the GID, a majority of the *available roof area* of new *development* will be encouraged to be dedicated to roof top solar technologies such as photovoltaic or solar thermal.

Retrofits for achieving energy efficiency will only be undertaken to a *built heritage resource* where it is demonstrated that retrofitting can be accomplished without compromising the heritage integrity of the building.

#### 11.2.3.3 Water and Wastewater Servicing

1. *Development* within the GID shall be in accordance with the Water and Wastewater Systems policies of the Official Plan.
2. *Development* within the GID will implement water and wastewater master plans and the City of Guelph Water Conservation and Efficiency Strategy as updated from time-to-time. **Given the importance of "Innovation" for the GID, development is encouraged** to demonstrate water efficiency measures.
3. Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) development shall be encouraged to decrease water use through the reuse and/or substitution of water demands via greywater reuse or rainwater harvesting. Developers shall be required to demonstrate the efficient use of potable water with any *development* application. A target of 250 litres per day, per employee, is proposed for the new ICI *development*.

#### 11.2.3.4 Stormwater

1. *Development* within the GID shall be in accordance with the watershed planning and water resources policies, and stormwater management policies of the Official Plan and the following:
  - a) Low Impact Development (LID) measures intended to minimize stormwater run-off and recharge groundwater, including but not limited



to rainwater harvesting and reuse systems, bio-swales or water features, infiltration facilities, permeable pavement and green roofs, shall be encouraged; and

- b) The City will explore opportunities to integrate LID measures into the public realm areas such as open space, amenity areas and right-of-ways, where feasible and appropriate.

2. *Development* within the GID shall address how *pre-development* standards may be achieved to maintain the hydrological cycle of the area under post development conditions. This will be achieved through the completion of a stormwater management assessment and/or analysis that includes, but is not limited to, the establishment of water quality, water quantity, water balance, erosion control and natural environment objectives and criteria. These analyses may be used in establishing stormwater management design requirements for *development* in the GID.

#### 11.2.4 Mobility

The mobility policies strive to establish a multi-modal pedestrian-focused mobility system inclusive of an integrated network with roads, cycling facilities, sidewalks and paths designed, built and maintained with consideration for all users. The GID has been planned to encourage residents and employees to use *active transportation* and transit modes to support overall sustainability and *carbon neutral* objectives of this Secondary Plan. The mobility system must be comprised of: a network fully integrated with adjacent systems and destinations; sufficient transportation capacity within the network to absorb growth; and a long term plan for integration with the Guelph Junction Railway (GJR). The use of *Transportation Demand Management (TDM)* will assist the system in achieving the *carbon neutral* vision of the GID while offering an effective and efficient integrated transportation and recreational trail system.

##### 11.2.4.1 General Mobility Policies

1. A legible network of public roads in a modified grid format will be established. This hierarchy of arterial, collector and local roads provide the general urban structure of the GID and the scale of future development blocks.
2. Wherever possible, public roads shall be aligned to respect the existing topography of the GID and minimize the need for site alteration.
3. All streets shall exhibit a high quality of streetscaping, landscaping, signage and amenities.
4. Consideration and provisions will be made for a future *Active Transportation* Link crossing over the Eramosa River as shown in Schedule A. If future development necessitates, controlled motorized vehicle access to this crossing may be considered for public transit. Any bridge crossing the Eramosa River will use the existing slopes and maintain, to the greatest extent possible, the topography of the Eramosa River

Valley while ensuring that existing *Natural Hazards* are appropriately addressed and not further aggravated.

#### 11.2.4.2 Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

1. All roads shall provide for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods. In areas planned for both high levels of truck traffic and high levels of pedestrian and cyclist activity, special attention will be paid to the design of the roadways to enhance pedestrian and cyclist safety and comfort (e.g. consolidated truck loading/unloading areas). Where necessary, traffic calming measures shall be incorporated into the street design of the local street network.
2. The City shall work with transit providers, developers and businesses within the University-Downtown-GID trinity area to develop and implement *TDM* measures that aim to reduce motorized vehicular trips and promote the use of *active transportation* modes, public transit, car-sharing and/or carpooling.

#### 11.2.4.3 Active Transportation – Walking and Cycling

1. *Active Transportation* Links identified on Schedule A are paths principally designed to provide a high level of service for *Active Transportation* as a component of the transportation network. *Active Transportation* Links connect cycling and transit systems enabling access to important destinations within and outside of the GID.
2. *Active transportation* shall be encouraged as a primary, safe, appealing and convenient mode of transportation to, from and within the GID. Pedestrian infrastructure shall be developed in accordance with the policies of the Official Plan. A cycling network shall be incorporated into both the street network and city-wide trail system.
3. An *Active Transportation* network shall ensure access and integration of all transportation modes within the network inclusive of:
  - a) New pedestrian linkages to the river valley trail network, where feasible;
  - b) Dedicated bicycle lanes on both sides of collector and arterial roads or separated bicycle facilities on one or both sides of arterial roads, where possible; and
  - c) Bicycle rack and/or storage facilities conveniently located to facilitate access to a range of uses, transit stop locations and trail canoe launch and node locations.
4. Construction of cycling facilities, such as bicycle lanes, routes and/or cycle tracks shall **align with the City's Cycling Master Plan guidelines for details regarding design standards.**

#### 11.2.4.4 Public Transit

1. Proposed Transit Stops are shown on Schedule A. To maximize accessibility and transit capture potential, the GID has been planned to have transit stops and amenities within a 5 to 10 minute walk of all development.
2. Public transit and its related infrastructure and amenities, including bicycle rack and/or bicycle storage facilities, shall form an integral component of the mobility network.
3. Where appropriate, special paving treatments – including distinct visual and tactile materials – are to be incorporated at Proposed Transit Stops. These raised, visually contrasting surfaces should clearly delineate pedestrian connections between street corners, street edges and transit stops.
4. The future *Active Transportation* Link crossing the Eramosa River shall be designed to provide access to the Proposed Transit Stop along the existing GJR corridor.

#### 11.2.4.5 The Road Network

1. The road network serving the GID shall generally be designed in accordance with the road classifications and alignments identified in Schedule A.

#### 11.2.4.6 Arterial Roads

1. Arterial roads shall generally be designed and built in accordance with the standards outlined in Table 1 and the policies of the Official Plan.
2. Victoria Road South, York Road, Watson Parkway South and Stone Road East are arterial roads that provide access to and through the GID.
3. The City will improve York Road, Victoria Road South and Stone Road East according to relevant approved *Environmental Assessments* accommodating traffic generated by *development* of the GID.
4. Improvements to York Road will include an *Environmental Assessment* to determine the realignment of Clythe Creek.

#### 11.2.4.7 Collector Roads

1. Collector roads shall generally be designed and built in accordance with the standards outlined in Table 1 and the policies of the Official Plan.
2. **A new collector road (New Street 'A') will provide a north-south link through the west side of the GID as shown on Schedule A and the following:**
  - a) North of College Avenue East this collector road shall provide the primary **connection to the GID's residential community. This segment of the** collector road shall intersect with local roads, with the number and location of intersections to be determined through the Block Planning process; and

- b) South of College Avenue East the collector road establishes the main spine for the GID's **Employment Mixed-use 1** area.

#### 11.2.4.8 Main Street

1. A Main Street has been identified on the extension of College Avenue East into the site. The Main Street will function as a transition area between the lands designated Residential to the north and the Employment Mixed-Use 1 lands designated to the south. The *Main Street area* will accommodate a range of transportation options but **should be considered a "pedestrian and transit priority street" and shall generally be designed and built in accordance with the standards outlined in Table 1 and in accordance with the Main Street policies of the Official Plan.**

#### 11.2.4.9 Local Roads

1. Local roads shall generally be designed and built in accordance with the standards outlined in Table 1 and the policies of the Official Plan. Local road alignments shall be determined through the Block Planning process.
2. An east-west local road (New Street 'B') is shown on Schedule A to provide mid-block access between the College Avenue Extension and Stone Road East by connecting **Victoria Road South with the GID's new north-south collector road (New Street 'A').**
3. A single loaded perimeter local road along the western edge of the Eramosa River Valley shall be considered to provide a public edge, opportunities for separated *active transportation* infrastructure, *public view* and *public vista* opportunities and greater protection opportunities of the Eramosa River Valley given single public ownership of the adjacent land.
4. Consideration shall be given to a potential connection from York Road to Dunlop Drive through the *adaptive reuse* area identified on Schedule B to increase public connectivity and access to the *cultural heritage landscape* and *built heritage resources* where appropriate and feasible.
5. **A potential extension of New Street 'A' south of Stone Road East as shown on Schedule A** will be determined through the Block Planning process.

#### 11.2.4.10 Parking

1. Wherever feasible, landowners are encouraged to enter into shared parking arrangements with adjacent uses and/or landowners. The shared parking approach takes advantage of different peak periods and reduces the overall additive peak hour use supply while also meeting the peak demands of individual uses. Occupancy Rates may be included as part of a shared parking table in the implementing *Zoning By-Law* and will be determined through the *development* approvals process.
2. The City may grant, on a site-by-site basis, suitable reductions in on-site parking requirements where off-site parking can be provided in proximity to principal building

entrances, or car-share/carpooling, or transit pass arrangements are made, high levels of transit exist, or are planned, or affordable housing is proposed as per the parking policies of the Official Plan. A Parking Study and/or *TDM* Plan, prepared by a qualified professional, and provision of a binding parking lease agreement, shall be required by the municipality in order to evaluate and determine an appropriate reduction.

3. The provision of centralized shared parking opportunities will be considered as part of the Block Planning process.
4. Where parking is provided, priority spots for carpool vehicles, alternative energy vehicles (such as hybrids and electric cars), car-shares, scooters and motorcycles shall be allocated. Such provisions shall be determined through site plan approval.
5. Parking areas for non-residential uses shall generally be located at the rear or side of buildings. All parking areas shall incorporate landscaping features to screen views of parking areas to the street.
6. The City may consider cash-in-lieu parking strategy as part of the implementing *Zoning By-Law* which shall consider the following:
  - a) Cash-in-lieu options for mixed-use areas with large institutional anchors;
  - b) Provision of underground, semi-underground or parking structures to facilitate shared parking demands; and
  - c) Shared parking standards considering anticipated land use mix.

Table 1: Public Street Classifications and Characteristics

Street Type	Arterial Roads	Collector Roads		Local Roads
		Main Street	Other	
Street Names	Victoria Road South, Stone Road East, York Road, Watson Parkway South	College Avenue East	New Street A	New Street B  All others
Right-of-way widths	26 m to 36 m (As per OP)	26 m	26 – 30 m	18 – 20m
Planned setbacks	Varies  (Up to 3 m in Mixed-use Corridor areas)	Varies (1 m to 3 m for commercial displays and café seating)	Varies  (1 m to 3 m for commercial displays and café seating)	Varies
Travel Lanes	Victoria Road South, York Road, Stone Road East, Watson Parkway South Lane	2 lanes	2 lanes (up to 4 lanes at peak hours)	2 lanes

	requirements defined by EA process			
Proposed Transit Stops	Yes (Victoria Road South and New Street A; Victoria Road South and College Avenue East; Victoria Road South and New Street B; Victoria Road South and Stone Road East; New Street A and Stone Road East)	Yes (College Avenue East and Victoria Road South; College Avenue East and New Street A)	Yes (College Avenue East and New Street A; New Street A and Victoria Road South; New Street A and Stone Road East)	None
Parking	None (Except as may be permitted in accordance with the Official Plan)	Yes (both sides)	Yes	Yes (where appropriate)
Pedestrian Amenities	Minimum 1.8 m sidewalks; 1.8 m planting, lighting and furnishing zone  3.0 m multi-use pathway on east side of Victoria Road South	Minimum 2.0 m sidewalks; 1.8 m planting, lighting and furnishing zone	Minimum 2.0 m sidewalks; 1.8 m planting, lighting and furnishing zone	1.5 m sidewalks on both sides
Dedicated Bicycling Facilities	Min 1.8 m dedicated bicycle lanes, where possible.  3.0 m multi-use path on east side of Victoria	Min 1.5 m dedicated bicycle lanes	Min 1.5 m dedicated bicycle lanes	None

	Road South and bike lane on west side of Victoria Road South to be refined during detailed design			
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### 11.2.5 The Public Realm

The *public realm* policies shape and regulate two critical and inter-related elements: publicly owned spaces within the Guelph Innovation District (GID) (including all roads, sidewalks, and trails, parks and open spaces), and the relationship of the built environment (including all buildings and hard *infrastructure*) to these public spaces. Many of the components of the Vision and supporting Principles for the GID are related to and supported by these *public realm* policies, including: the creation of a pedestrian-focused and human-scaled environment; and the creation of a landmark quality community with defined gateways and focal points.

#### 11.2.5.1 General

1. In addition to the policies of this Section, the *public realm* within the GID is subject to the general Urban Design policies of the Official Plan.

#### 11.2.5.2 Streets

1. Public streets are the backbone of a strong *public realm*. All streets will be designed to function as attractive and accessible public spaces in their own right. Road design will balance the provisions of a safe, accessible, functional and attractive pedestrian-oriented environment with an acceptable level of motor vehicle traffic and the movement of goods along arterial and collector roads.
2. In general, streets shall incorporate a high degree of landscaping within the public right-of-way allowance, inclusive of: landscaped boulevards separating sidewalks from traffic including on-street parking lanes. Where landscaped boulevards are not feasible, street trees shall be provided and their design and placement shall sustain a healthy urban tree canopy.
3. New tree rooting technologies should be used within higher density areas such as the Mixed-use Corridor (GID) areas.
4. Opportunities for landscaping within the public right-of-way will be explored and **implemented as a means to increase the area's tree canopy and contribute to** stormwater management.
5. The design and placement of street lighting and signage standards will be coordinated to establish a consistent and cohesive identity for the GID. Pedestrian scaled lighting

should also be incorporated, where appropriate, into the design of lighting standards within the District.

6. Wherever possible, driveway access to parking areas will be shared between adjacent properties in order to maximize landscaping opportunities within medians; and to minimize the potential for pedestrian and vehicular conflict where driveways and sidewalks intersect.
7. In consultation with landowners, the City may seek to establish conveyances, or alternatively the creation of public easements, for the creation of appropriately sized mid-block pedestrian and bicyclist connections, interconnecting arterial, collector and local roads, the trail network and *active transportation* links.
8. The design and layout of the street network shall generally be consistent with Schedule A.

#### 11.2.5.3 Parks, Public Open Spaces and Trail Networks

1. *Development* within the GID will include the creation of two new public park spaces, each with distinct roles and functions. The general location of new public parks are identified on Schedule B. City staff will secure and develop the new parkland through the *development* approvals process, making use of the provisions under the *Planning Act* to provide these park spaces over time.
2. The exact location and configuration of the new public parks will be determined through the *development* approvals process.
3. The public park spaces will be developed in accordance with the Open Space System: Trails and Parks policies of the Official Plan and the following specific policies:
  - a) A new neighbourhood park will be developed in a central location within the designated Residential lands north of the identified Main Street; and will serve as a focal point for active and passive recreation. Frontage along a local road is preferred with strong active transportation linkages and facilities included within/adjacent to the park space to make connections to the trail system.
  - b) A new community park that also includes neighbourhood park components will be developed within the designated Residential and/or Employment Mixed-use 1 lands south of the identified Main Street; and will serve as a focal point for active and passive recreation. Frontage along a collector road is preferred with strong active transportation linkages and facilities included within/adjacent to the park space to make connections to the trail system.
4. Buildings adjacent to park spaces will be designed to enliven and animate the edges of parks. Consideration shall be given to principal building entrances that front onto park spaces, where appropriate, while surface parking areas should not be situated flanking parks.



5. Parks and open spaces will support both active and passive activities.
6. Subject to additional detailed design, park spaces shall incorporate a suitable balance of hard landscaped, soft landscaped and designated open and playground areas to accommodate a range of active, passive, programmed and aesthetic functions.
7. Parks and open spaces will be designed as community and cultural hubs accommodating programmed and non-programmed activities and reflect multi-generational and multi-use needs, providing spaces for both residential and employment populations.
8. Schedule A displays the existing and planned trail network. A trail network will be established for the GID, in accordance with the policies of the Official Plan, to serve as both a recreational and *active transportation* resource. The multi-purpose function of the trail system will support a *carbon neutral* vision and provide a *public realm* facility **for messaging and celebrating the GID's natural and cultural heritage resources.**
9. The City will increase the *urban forest* canopy coverage in parks and open space areas, where feasible and appropriate.
10. The City shall encourage linking parks and open space with the trail network and stormwater management facilities.
11. The City shall encourage and support community engagement opportunities through the design of parks and open space including community gardens, market opportunities, public art, etc.
12. Public art, along with interpretive signage, way-finding strategies and other techniques will serve as unifying elements for the GID.
13. The City shall encourage an integrated public art approach that ties together the natural and cultural significance of the District, with its future vision. The integration of public art in parks and open spaces shall be encouraged. Opportunities presented within the historic Reformatory Complex, trail network, parks and open space designations, and public lookout points and vistas should be considered as potential public art locations.
14. Public lookout points and vistas shall be accessible by multiple transportation modes.

#### 11.2.5.4 Mixed-use Corridor Policies

1. Through implementation of the built form policies within this Secondary Plan (Section 11.2.6.2), buildings within the mixed-use areas may be setback to preserve opportunities for the placement of small outdoor café and commercial display spaces.
2. Commercial and mixed-use buildings will be encouraged to incorporate sheltering elements for the comfort and amenity of pedestrians.

#### 11.2.5.5 Transit Stops

1. Transit Stops shall be designed to promote a sense of place and provide a high degree of user amenities which may include bicycle parking and/or bicycle storage facilities where appropriate.
2. Additional building setbacks and/or increased right-of-ways may be required through a draft plan of subdivision or site plan control for the provision of public benches, sheltered waiting areas, information displays, and landscaping treatments in the public right-of-way.

#### 11.2.5.6 Nodes

1. Nodes are identified at the intersection of collectors and arterial roads within the mixed-use designations in the GID and displayed on Schedule C. Nodes represent the confluence of many activities and uses. They are important gathering and meeting places, and the *public realm* should be designed to reflect their importance.
2. The design of buildings within and immediately adjacent to designated Nodes shall exhibit a high standard of architectural design.
3. The City will encourage and may require a high degree of transparency within the ground floors of all commercial and mixed-use buildings within the Nodes.

#### 11.2.6 Land Use and Built Form

The land use and built form policies shape and regulate the general pattern of development including permitted uses within the GID and the structuring of these uses within the built form (including building types, massing and height). The policies are informed by the Vision and supporting Principles.

##### 11.2.6.1 General Land Use Policies

1. Schedule B establishes the pattern of land use within the GID. Where land use designations are the same as those in the Official Plan, the policies of the Official Plan shall apply.
2. *Development* within the GID will offer opportunities for people to live and work in close **proximity which has the potential to reduce vehicular trips and the GID's overall carbon footprint**. A balance of live and work opportunities that provide for day and night activities shall be encouraged to ensure a vibrant destination community where people can live, work, play and learn.
3. The GID will be developed to support and accommodate emerging innovation **businesses and other "green" energy industries that will contribute to the emergence** of the GID as an innovation centre together with the knowledge-based research centre located within the University of Guelph and with the civic hub and cultural centre of Downtown. Large tracts of undeveloped land, proximity to the University and Downtown, scenic viewsheds, the *cultural heritage resources* of the area and strategic

marketing to attract new businesses will advance this third cluster within the University-Downtown-GID trinity.

4. The GID will be comprised of a mix of land uses, housing and building types at a sufficient density to support *active transportation* and transit. The GID will be defined by the *public realm* including roads, sidewalks, and parks, open spaces and trails as established by the policies and Schedules contained within this Secondary Plan. Employment, residential and commercial will be the predominant land uses to the west of the Eramosa River, with residential uses concentrated within neighbourhoods north and immediately south of College Avenue East.
5. Large-format, stand-alone retail commercial uses are not permitted within the GID. Small and medium-scale retail commercial uses are encouraged within the mixed-use designations of the site to contribute to a Main Street type environment.
6. In order to contribute to achieving the City-wide population and employment projections and *density targets*, the GID is planned to achieve the following:
  - a) 8,650 jobs
  - b) 6,650 people
7. Residential and employment lands within the *greenfield area* of the GID will be planned to contribute toward the overall *density targets* for the *greenfield area* of the City over the long term. The *greenfield area* of the GID will be planned and designed to achieve an overall minimum *density target* that is not less than 90 persons and jobs combined per hectare.
8. The topography, landscape and natural and cultural heritage features associated with the Eramosa River are unique to the GID within the City of Guelph. Future road alignment, siting and massing of buildings, and design of development should enhance scenic views of the Eramosa River valley and *cultural heritage landscape* features associated with the historic Reformatory Complex, as well as views of Downtown, by:
  - a) Introducing a modified grid pattern of streets and designing future streets to respond to the natural open space and topographic conditions found on the site;
  - b) Generally providing a single loaded local road on the table lands adjacent to the Natural Heritage System in the Mixed-use Employment area on the west side of the River to allow public access to views of the Eramosa River;
  - c) Maintaining public views and vistas of the Eramosa River and cultural heritage landscape features from the Main Street area and residential areas to the north of College Avenue East; and
  - d) Maintaining public views of the Church of our Lady Immaculate in Downtown.
9. The predominant character of built form within the GID will be established by mid-rise residential and employment buildings with a limited number of taller buildings at

strategic locations marking the Nodes. A range of building types and uses are encouraged, including residential and mixed-use buildings, townhouses, research, design and office complexes, manufacturing and *live/work* units.

10. A series of nodes will be developed within the GID, as identified on Schedule C and according to policies contained within Section 11.2.5.6. Higher density development within the site shall be organized at these nodes and associated transit stops.

11. Stormwater management facilities shall use land in a compact way, promote connectivity and be integrated within *development* as a component of the publicly accessible open space and park network by ensuring that:

- a) Fencing around ponds is minimized in favour of shallow slope grading adjacent to pooled areas;
- b) Where feasible, stormwater management facilities are integrated within connections between parks and natural heritage features; and
- c) Open spaces and/or public right-of-ways are provided adjacent to the perimeters of stormwater management ponds.

#### 11.2.6.2 General Built Form and Site Development Policies

1. *Development* shall be planned and designed to:

- a) Consider future intensification opportunities within the site;
- b) Enhance connectivity by incorporating multi-modal transportation systems;
- c) Use sufficient block sizes in Residential and Mixed-use Corridor (GID) areas to achieve pedestrian-oriented development by generally establishing a maximum block length of 100-150 meters measured along the long axis of a street; and
- d) Balance the needs of the businesses and residents through the use of public laneways, parking and open space within transitional areas.

2. Minimum and maximum building heights are indicated on Schedule C. It is planned that the tallest buildings will be located within nodes located at key intersections to provide focal points for the GID and within the southwest Residential area. Where heights have not been indicated on Schedule C, they will be established through the *development* approvals process.

3. Where *public views and vistas* are identified, heights lower than the maximum building heights on Schedule C may be established through the *development* approvals process to maintain *public views and vistas* of the Eramosa River and the Downtown.

4. *Development* will be of high quality architecture, landscape, and urban design and will make a significant contribution to creating a distinct character and identity for the residential and mixed-use neighbourhoods contained within the GID and will showcase **the area's** unique natural and cultural history.

5. Definition of street edge is a priority; *development* within the GID shall create a rhythm and spacing of building entrances and appropriately sized storefronts to encourage pedestrian activity.
6. Maximum building setbacks from the property line on public streets are included in Section 11.2.4, Table 1. Exceptions to setbacks established in Table 1 may be granted, through the *development* approvals process in the case of signature sites and public buildings that incorporate highly visible and accessible landscaped open space within the divergent setback.
7. In addition to other policies of this Secondary Plan, blocks, buildings and structures will be organized to define a *public realm* including public streets and laneways, driveways and sidewalks that contribute positively to the character and identity of neighbourhoods, including:
  - a) Arranging blocks that maximize street frontage with buildings massed and articulated appropriately to minimize the scale of larger buildings and to add visual interest;
  - b) Arranging blocks to maximize solar gain along the long axis while minimizing shadowing of adjacent properties and buildings;
  - c) Providing visual overlook from new development to public spaces and including building entrances, active ground floor frontages and transparent building materials along the edge of public space;
  - d) Ensuring main building entrances are directly accessible from a public street, or a publicly-accessible courtyard physically and visually connected to the street;
  - e) Minimizing impacts on vehicular, bike and pedestrian traffic on Arterial and Collector streets by providing vehicular access, ramps, servicing and loading access from local streets or laneways whenever possible and minimizing the number of driveway access points;
  - f) Providing vehicular access from rear laneways to detached, semi-detached and duplex houses, townhouses and live/work units to reduce the number of curb cuts and protect opportunities for soft landscaping and active uses at grade along street edges;
  - g) Defining transitional areas between uses in development blocks through provision of landscaped courtyards and other outdoor amenity space;
  - h) Visually enhancing surrounding public streets, parks and other public spaces through landscaped open space;
  - i) Designing sites, buildings and landscaping to encourage informal surveillance through strategies such as: clear sightlines into building entrances, parking areas, amenity spaces and site servicing areas; locating open spaces adjacent to public roads to improve the safety of parks through passive surveillance; providing low growing plant material along pedestrian walkways; and providing pedestrian-scale lighting in areas of pedestrian activity; and

- j) Providing traffic calming features, including but not limited to, curb extensions, raised surface treatments, chicanes, and textured paving.
8. The GID shall be designed to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities. Urban design considerations for a barrier-free environment should meet the Accessible Design policies of the Official Plan, at minimum, addressing the following:
- a) Pathways free of obstructions, including street furniture, signs, trees, shop awnings and advertising signs, etc. Obstructions should be placed outside the path of travel wherever possible;
  - b) Signage that is clear, glare-free, simple, easy to read and understand, and properly lit at night. The colour of signs should contrast with the surrounding surface, and the colour combinations red/green and yellow/blue should not be used to avoid confusing colour-blind persons;
  - c) Provide tactile cues such as guide strips to help a person with sight problems identify travel routes. Guide strips should be laid in a simple and logical manner, and should have a contrasting colour with the surrounding surface. The strips should be flush with the road surface so as not to hinder people with mobility problems; and
  - d) Outdoor accessible parking spaces should be located near accessible building entrances. Indoor accessible parking spaces should be located near accessible elevators, or as close as possible to exits.
9. To ensure an attractive streetscape and maximize opportunities for passive energy efficiency/*carbon neutrality*, architectural controls may be required to be developed through the Block Plan process to address detailed building design aspects such as: massing; passive energy efficiency matters; siting; grading; elevation articulation; garage articulation; materials colour, sustainability and quality; and roof design.
10. Residential dwellings shall be designed such that garages are not the dominant feature in the streetscape. Garages for all ground-related dwellings shall generally be in the rear yard accessed by laneway or front driveway. This will allow for:
- a) Ground floor front porches, windows and front facing rooms to create a more attractive housing form and to enhance neighbourhood safety through casual surveillance;
  - b) The creation of an attractive streetscape;
  - c) Adequate space for street trees and front yard landscaping; and
  - d) Additional opportunities for on-street parking in front of the units.

### 11.2.6.3 Land Use Designations

#### 11.2.6.3.1 Adaptive Re-use (GID)

1. The Adaptive Re-use area is designated on Schedule B. The Adaptive Re-use designation includes provincially significant *cultural heritage resources* where the conservation, rehabilitation, restoration, maintenance and re-use of *built heritage resources* and *cultural heritage landscapes* will serve as the focal point of new

*development*. This designation permits a mix of uses including institutional, educational, commercial, office, light industrial and open space and park in a form that respects the existing built heritage form, *cultural heritage landscape* features, as well as the relationships between *cultural heritage resources* considered for *adaptive reuse* and *redevelopment*.

2. *Development* shall be physically and visually *compatible* with and respectful of the *cultural heritage value* and *heritage attributes* of the *cultural heritage resources* on site. New additions or new construction to a *built heritage resource*, where permitted to facilitate *adaptive reuse*, shall conserve the *cultural heritage value* and *heritage attributes*.
3. Through the Block Plan process and/or the *development* approvals process, the mix of uses, zoning categories and appropriate regulations will be established to permit and control uses within the Adaptive Re-use designation.

#### 11.2.6.3.2 Mixed-use Corridor (GID)

1. Mixed-use Corridor (GID) areas are designated on Schedule B and include areas comprised primarily of vacant or under-used lands that are targeted for significant growth. These areas will consist of a mix of residential, commercial, *live/work*, institutional, office and educational uses within a highly compact form of development that will contribute to the creation of focal points and transition areas. High quality urban and architectural design and a well-connected, pedestrian-oriented, *public realm* in accordance with the policies of this Section and Section 11.2.5.4 of this Secondary Plan will define these areas.
2. The following uses may be permitted within the Mixed-use Corridor (GID) designation:
  - a) Commercial, retail and service uses;
  - b) Office;
  - c) Entertainment and recreational commercial uses;
  - d) Cultural and educational uses;
  - e) Institutional uses;
  - f) Hotels;
  - g) Live/work; and
  - h) Medium and high density multiple unit residential buildings and apartments.
3. A consistent built form edge shall be established through maximum setbacks established in the implementing *Zoning By-law* in accordance with Table 1.
4. *Development* within the nodes identified on Schedule C and along College Avenue East within the identified *Main Street area* will be compact and mixed-use with a continuous built form edge containing the following:
  - a) Retail and service uses, including restaurants and personal service uses, entertainment uses or professional offices and community or social

services shall generally be required on the ground floors of all buildings at the street edge;

- b) Building façades facing a public street shall be considered a primary façade. A minimum of one pedestrian entrance shall be provided for any primary façade;
- c) Buildings on corner lots should be designed to have primary façades on both the front and side street;
- d) Ground floor heights will generally be a minimum of approximately 4.5 metres floor to floor; windows shall correspond appropriately to the height of ground floors. Generally, a large proportion of the street-facing ground floor wall of new mixed-use buildings shall be glazed; and
- e) Building heights shall contribute to a continuous street wall that has a minimum height of 4 storeys as shown on Schedule C.

5. The GID will be anchored by a mixed-use urban village at the intersection of the eastern extension of College Avenue East and an interior north-south collector that will offer a wide range of urban amenities and services. A signature site will be located at the intersection of College Avenue East and the proposed north-south Collector. A landmark building of high quality urban design and architectural detail located within the signature site will provide an anchor to the urban village. At grade, pedestrian-oriented, commercial amenities will be provided.

6. The following shall apply to all *development* located within the Mixed-use Corridor (GID) designation:

- a) Buildings with long façades shall be designed with architectural articulation and changes in material to create interesting building forms, compatible development which breaks up the visual impact of the massing. Articulated massing may include: building stepping/façade step-backs, layered massing (horizontal or vertical) and modulation and change in materials and colour;
- b) The massing and articulation of buildings taller than five storeys shall provide appropriate transitions to areas with lower permitted heights, minimizing impact on the street level as well as shadow impacts. A step-back of generally 3m-6m minimum is required above the sixth storey. The floorplates of floors above the eighth storey generally shall be a maximum of 1000 square metres; and
- c) All buildings should be finished with high quality, enduring materials, such as stone, brick and glass.

7. For free-standing residential *development*, the maximum *net density* is 150 units per hectare and the minimum *net density* is 100 units per hectare.

#### 11.2.6.3.3 Employment Mixed-use 1

1. The Employment Mixed-use 1 designation on Schedule B includes areas targeted for significant growth as a landmark area in the University-Downtown-GID trinity. These



areas will permit a mix of uses focusing on higher density, innovation and sustainability which includes uses such as research and development, commercial, educational, and entertainment uses that will serve to support the role of the business area as a knowledge-based innovation centre.

2. The following uses may be permitted within the Employment Mixed-use 1 designation:
  - a) Office and administrative facilities;
  - b) Research and development facilities;
  - c) Hotel and convention facilities;
  - d) Entertainment and recreational commercial uses;
  - e) Assembly and manufacturing of product lines requiring on-going research and development support;
  - f) Associated ancillary retail uses that are an integral component of the primary uses; and
  - g) Complementary or accessory uses may also be permitted. Such uses may include restaurants, financial institutions, medical services, fitness centres, open space and recreation facilities and child care centres.
3. Low density employment uses such as logistics and warehousing are not permitted.
4. Where land use transitions from Residential and/or Mixed-use Corridor (GID) to Employment Mixed-use 1 areas, the following uses shall be priorities to ensure a compatible mix of uses: offices and entertainment and recreational commercial.
5. *Development* in the Employment Mixed-use 1 designation will comprise a mix of street-related and campus form development. Campus form development is to consist primarily of prestige employment/research park uses and is to be concentrated within Block Plan Area 2 with higher density encouraged to locate along Victoria Road South and Stone Road East.
6. Campus form development in the employment area is appropriate near open space and natural heritage elements (Eramosa River Valley) where a balance of site and building design can integrate landscape, topography, and other special features with site access requirements including roads, driveways, parking, and service and loading areas. Campus form development shall comply with the following:
  - a) Buildings should be oriented to maximize open space opportunities, providing a scale and pattern of development that supports pedestrian activities at grade between buildings while maximising solar gain; and
  - b) Where appropriate, building heights and massing should optimize views at-grade to the open space and natural heritage elements.
7. Street related design consists of buildings that define street edges through established maximum setbacks and consistent landscape edge treatment and include:
  - a) Maximum setbacks as established in Table 1; and

- b) Active at-grade uses with street access which could include retail, cafes and restaurants to connect public activity within the building, street and open space.
- 8. Through the Block Plan process and/or the *development* approvals process, zoning categories and appropriate regulations will be established to permit and control uses within the Employment Mixed-use 1 designation including locations for street edge and campus form development.

#### 11.2.6.3.4 Employment Mixed-use 2

- 1. Employment Mixed-use 2 areas are designated on Schedule B. These areas will have a mix of uses including: office, commercial, educational and institutional, and, to a lesser extent, entertainment uses that will serve to support the role of the employment area as an important component of the *Guelph Agri-Innovation Cluster*.
- 2. The following uses may be permitted within the Employment Mixed-use 2 designation subject to the applicable provisions of this Secondary Plan:
  - a) Research and development facilities;
  - b) Office and administrative facilities;
  - c) Cultural and education uses;
  - d) Institutional uses;
  - e) Entertainment and recreational commercial uses;
  - f) Associated ancillary retail uses that are an integral component of the primary uses; and
  - g) Complementary or accessory uses may be permitted. Such uses may include convenience commercial uses and community facility uses.
- 3. The following uses are not permitted within the Employment Mixed-use 2 designation:
  - a) Residential;
  - b) Live/work; and
  - c) Logistics and warehousing.
- 4. The areas designated Employment Mixed-use 2 adjacent to Stone Road East between the Eramosa River and Watson Parkway South will serve as a transitional area to buffer the residential lands south of Stone Road East from the Major Utility and Industrial designated lands north of Stone Road East. Within the Employment Mixed-use 2 designation the following shall apply:
  - a) Buildings will be oriented towards Stone Road East with sufficient front setbacks with landscaped open space;
  - b) Heights that provide sufficient screening of industrial uses from residential development south of Stone Road East will be established within the implementing Zoning By-law; and
  - c) Parking, loading and access will comply with policies established in this Secondary Plan and the general urban design policies of the Official Plan.

5. Through the Block Plan process and/or the *development* approvals process, zoning categories and appropriate regulations will be established to permit and control uses within the Employment Mixed-use 2 designation.

#### 11.2.6.3.5 Residential

1. Residential areas are designated on Schedule B. The predominant land use in this designation shall be medium density housing forms such as townhouses and apartments with a limited supply of low density housing forms such as single and semi-detached dwellings. The final range and distribution of these housing forms will be determined through the Block Plan and/or *development* approvals process and regulated through the implementing *Zoning By-Law*.
2. The following uses may be permitted within the Residential designation:
  - a) Multiple unit residential buildings, such as townhouses and apartments;
  - b) Detached, semi-detached and duplex dwellings;
  - c) Convenience commercial uses limited to a maximum gross floor area of 400 square metres on a property;
  - d) Live/work units;
  - e) Community services and facilities;
  - f) Child care centres;
  - g) Schools; and
  - h) Park space including urban squares.
3. Multiple unit residential buildings and *live/work* units shall be oriented towards a street with the main entrance to the building/*dwelling unit* accessible directly from a right-of-way.
4. The layout of local roads within residential areas shall consider orientation that facilitates maximum solar gain along the long axis of buildings.
5. The maximum *net density* is 150 units per hectare and not less than a minimum *net density* of 35 units per hectare. Minimum and maximum heights are indicated on Schedule C.

#### 11.2.6.3.6 Glenholme Estate Residential

The Glenholme Estate Residential area is designated on Schedule B. This designation includes lands containing existing low density estate residential uses on large lots that are currently serviced by private individual on-site water and wastewater services. Due to the unique characteristics of the area, it is anticipated that the existing residential uses will continue in their current form during the Secondary Plan period, with opportunities for minor limited additional estate residential infill *development* which is consistent with the character of existing development. Existing and new *development* within this land use designation are subject to the following policies:

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Secondary Plan, only the following uses shall be permitted:

- a) Single detached dwelling;
  - b) Additional residential dwelling unit; and
  - c) Home occupation.
- 2. Limited additional low density estate residential infill *development* may be permitted on existing lots that are 1.0 hectare in size or greater, subject to meeting the following size criteria, and all other applicable policies of this Secondary Plan:
  - a) Minimum lot size of 0.4 hectare for new and retained residential lots and an average lot size (of new lots and retained residential lots) of 0.7 ha.
- 3. New residential lots shall be configured and sized to maintain the character of the lot fabric of the area including frontage, setbacks, landscaped space and amenity areas and to ensure flexibility for the proper ongoing operation of private individual on-site services.
- 4. Notwithstanding the servicing policies of the Official Plan, new estate residential *development* within the Glenholme Estate Residential designation may be permitted with private individual on-site water and wastewater services as an interim measure until full municipal services are available.
- 5. As part of a *development* application the City may impose such conditions as are deemed appropriate to protect City and public interest, particularly with respect to protecting City drinking water supplies. The City may require proponents to enter into an agreement related to the ongoing operation and maintenance of interim private services, the requirement for the property owner to connect to full municipal services when they become available at their own expense, and other relevant matters.
- 6. *Development* within the Glenholme Estate Residential designation will be regulated through a site specific *Zoning By-law* amendment and shall be subject to site plan control.
- 7. Notwithstanding the policies of this plan pertaining to *woodlands*, for the properties at 745 Stone Road East and 58 Glenholme Drive, where a *woodland* has been identified through an *EIS*, the assessment of the potential to allow *development* shall be undertaken in accordance with the policies of Section 6.8, including any associated definitions, of the 2001 City of Guelph Official Plan, in effect as of May 12, 2014.

#### 11.2.6.3.7 Open Space and Parks

- 1. Open Space and Parks areas are designated on Schedule B and are subject to the Open Space and Parks policies of the Official Plan and the applicable provisions of the GID Secondary Plan.
- 2. In accordance with the policies of the Official Plan, municipal parks and municipal recreation facilities are permitted in all land use designations.

#### 11.2.6.3.8 Neighbourhood Commercial Centre

1. As identified on Schedule B, a small portion of the GID, located at the southeast corner of York Road and Victoria Road South, is designated as Neighbourhood Commercial Centre and is subject to the Neighbourhood Commercial Centre policies of the Official Plan.

#### 11.2.6.3.9 Service Commercial

1. As identified on Schedule B, a small portion of the GID, located at the southwest corner of York Road and Watson Parkway South, is designated as Service Commercial and is subject to the Service Commercial policies of the Official Plan.

#### 11.2.6.3.10 Industrial

1. As identified on Schedule B, portions of the GID are designated as Industrial and are subject to the Industrial policies of the Official Plan.

#### 11.2.6.3.11 Major Utility

1. As identified on Schedule B, a significant portion of the east side of the GID is designated Major Utility and is subject to the Major Utility policies of the Official Plan.

#### 11.2.6.4 Compatibility: Major Utility and Industrial Uses

1. When considering *development* applications and *public realm* projects, there shall be regard to all applicable provincial and municipal policies, regulations and guidelines to ensure that *compatibility* will be achieved and maintained with regard to noise, vibration, dust, odour, air quality and illumination so as to achieve the goals of:
  - a) Preventing undue adverse impacts from proposed development on the **City's Waste Resource Innovation Centre, designated Major Utility and the Cargill plant designated Industrial;** and
  - b) Preventing undue adverse impacts on the proposed development from **the City's Waste Resource Innovation Centre, designated Major Utility and the Cargill plant designated Industrial.**
2. Sensitive land uses may be prohibited in the *Zoning By-law* or limited (through massing and siting, buffering and design mitigation measures) in areas in proximity to the Major Utility and Industrial designations to ensure *compatibility*. In addition, noise and air emissions reports shall be required and vibration and illumination reports may be required, in support of *development* approval requests. Such environmental reports are to specify how *compatibility* will be achieved and maintained between the Waste Resource Innovation Centre and Cargill and the proposed *development*, and may include measures aimed at minimizing impacts.
3. **The City shall consult with the Ministry of the Environment, Cargill and the City's Waste Resource Innovation Centre during the *development* approvals process and during the**

**design process for public spaces in the vicinity of the Cargill plant and the City's Waste Resource Innovation Centre property to ensure *compatibility*.**

#### 11.2.7 Interpretation and Implementation

The implementation of this Secondary Plan will require a variety of tools and many actions on the part of the City, private landowners, institutions and others. This Section describes important tools and strategies to be used by the City in addition to the tools and strategies identified in the Official Plan. It also identifies initiatives and partnerships intended to implement key elements of this Secondary Plan and, in the process, encourage private development and investment in the GID. Many of the strategies build upon previous initiatives and current investments by the City.

##### 11.2.7.1 Interpretation and Implementation Policies

1. Lands within the GID Secondary Plan area are subject to the interpretation and implementation policies of the Official Plan and the following specific policies.
2. Where the policies of this Secondary Plan conflict with those in the Official Plan, the policies of the GID Secondary Plan shall prevail.
3. The built form policies of the GID Secondary Plan respond sensitively to the topography and adjacent land uses. The primary intent is to ensure *compatibility* among buildings of different types and forms, the minimization and mitigation of adverse shadow and view impacts, and the creation and maintenance of an inviting and comfortable *public realm*. Nevertheless, the City recognizes the need to be somewhat flexible and allow for well-designed buildings that respond appropriately to the conditions of their site and surroundings and are consistent with the principles of **this Secondary Plan. Where "generally" is used to qualify a built form policy found in Section 11.2.6.2 of this Secondary Plan, it is the intent that the policy requirement shall be met except where an applicant has demonstrated to the City's satisfaction that site-specific conditions warrant considerations of alternatives, and that the proposed alternative built form parameters meet the general intent of the policy. Such exceptions shall not require an amendment to this Secondary Plan.**

##### 11.2.7.2 Design Review

1. The City may establish a design review committee, comprised of professionals with expertise in planning and urban design, architecture, engineering, landscape architecture and/or environmental design, or other advisory process, such as an architectural or **urban design peer review process at the applicant's expense, to assist** in the review of significant development proposals and capital projects in the GID. In reviewing significant development projects within the GID, such a committee or process shall be guided by the policies of the GID Secondary Plan and applicable Official Plan policies and shall consider the urban design, architectural, engineering, landscape and environmental design aspects of the proposal.

### 11.2.7.3 Block Plans

1. Block Plan areas are identified on Schedule D. These areas have been delineated based on existing boundaries such as roads and the Eramosa River, land ownership patterns and land use designations.
2. Block Plans will be developed for each of the identified Block Plan areas to specifically implement the policies of the GID Secondary Plan. The Block Plan process will establish a pattern of development which ensures that *development* will occur in an orderly, cost effective and timely manner. Actual timing of *development* will be managed through **the City's annual Development Priorities Plan in accordance with the managing growth** policies of the Official Plan.
3. The Block Plan areas will be used for the purposes of monitoring and ensuring achievement of population, employment and *density targets* as well as capital programming and land assembly. The minimum targets for the Block Plan areas are established in Table 2:

Table 2: Block Plan Area Targets

	Population Target	Employment Target	Residential Density (units/net ha)	Employment Density (jobs/net ha)
Block Plan Area 1:	4,600	1,700	75	135
Block Plan Area 2:	N/A	2,500	N/A	90
Block Plan Area 3:	2,000	1,300	75	135
Block Plan Area 4:	N/A	750	N/A	N/A

4. Block Plans are required to be developed to the satisfaction of the City and approved by the City for each of the identified Block Plan areas prior to approval of any *development* application within the corresponding Block Plan area.

5. Block Plans will be prepared in accordance with a Terms of Reference approved by the City. Block Plans will demonstrate conformity with the policies and schedules of the GID Secondary Plan and will include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:
  - a) Road pattern (including location of new public and/or private streets and laneways and alternative street cross-sections where required);
  - b) Layout of development blocks and stormwater management ponds and facilities;
  - c) Location, size and configuration of parks, open space and urban squares;
  - d) Density and distribution of housing types;
  - e) Architectural design controls;
  - f) Achievement of the population, employment and density targets established in Table 2;
  - g) Provision of municipal services;
  - h) Refinement of trail network and active transportation links;
  - i) River crossings (need and feasibility analysis);
  - j) General location of public views and vistas;
  - k) Evaluation of cultural heritage resources and methods of conservation;
  - l) Conformity with the built form and site development policies of the GID Secondary Plan and the urban design policies of the Official Plan through the development of design guidelines for the area; and
  - m) Conformity with the energy policies of the GID Secondary Plan including the Implementation Strategy for the GID that coordinates and manages the implementation of the policy directions related to the achievement of carbon neutral development.
6. Draft plan of subdivision, *Zoning By-law* amendment and site plan applications, or any **phases thereof, for properties subject to Block Plans shall demonstrate to the City's** satisfaction that the proposed *development* is generally consistent with the applicable Block Plan and will contribute to meeting the principles, objectives and applicable policies and targets of the GID Secondary Plan. Block Plans may be amended through the *development* approvals process, provided the relevant policies of the GID Secondary Plan continue to be satisfied.
7. A traffic impact study will be prepared to the satisfaction of the City in accordance with a Terms of Reference approved by the City as part of the Block Plan process.
8. An *Environmental Impact Study* will be prepared in accordance with a Terms of Reference approved by the City as part of the Block Plan process and will meet the **Environmental Study Requirements of the City's Official Plan to the satisfaction of the** City in consultation with the GRCA.
9. The *EIS* will include the enhancement and restoration of existing *surface water features* and their riparian areas in order to support *fish habitat* and the improvement of water quality and quantity.



10. The *EIS* will establish management objectives and stewardship and/or restoration **recommendations for the respective block plan areas for the City's Natural Heritage System** that is within the GID.
11. The City may require the preparation of detailed *Environmental Impact Studies* in support of *development* applications. The need for additional environmental studies will be determined through the pre-consultation process prior to the submission of *development* applications.

#### 11.2.7.4 Special Studies and Future Initiatives

1. The City will prepare an Implementation Strategy for the GID to coordinate and manage the implementation of the policy directions related to the achievement of *carbon neutral development*. The Implementation Strategy will identify targets for *carbon neutrality* and describe a range of mechanisms, tools and initiatives that may be used by the City, landowners and developers to achieve the identified targets. The GID Implementation Strategy shall be incorporated into and refined through the Block Plan process.
2. Alternative development standards may be developed where appropriate to meet the objectives and policies of this Secondary Plan.
3. Additional studies may be required prior to or as part of Block Plan approval to implement *development* within the GID. These studies include but are not limited to the following:
  - a) A stormwater management assessment and/or analysis that includes, but is not limited to, the establishment of water quality, water quantity, water balance, erosion control and natural environment objectives and criteria. These analyses may be used in establishing stormwater management design requirements for development in the GID;
  - b) A Water and Wastewater Master Plan that establishes conceptual design and development standards for development in the GID; and
  - c) A District Energy Feasibility Study with Guelph Hydro and landowners to guide implementation and development of a District Energy System in the GID.

#### 11.2.7.5 Finance

1. The implementation of the policies of the GID Secondary Plan will be subject to the capital budget and financial policies and procedures approved by City Council, as well as the availability of funding or service provision from other levels of government.

#### 11.2.7.6 Partnerships

1. The City will work in partnership with the Province and other stakeholders towards the effective and efficient *development* of lands in accordance with the policies of this Secondary Plan, including assessing the following:

- a) Site/servicing development models for priority areas including the extension of College Avenue East;
- b) Development of Research and Development Clusters in partnership with the Post-Secondary Institutions;
- c) Redevelopment of the Guelph Correctional Facility for uses permitted by the Adaptive Re-use designation, including assessing the feasibility for the possible extension of College Avenue East over the Eramosa River to provide pedestrian and transit connections to such development; and
- d) Coordination of marketing and business development efforts targeting knowledge-based innovation sector businesses and other related users within mixed-use employment areas.

#### 11.2.7.7 Definitions

In addition to definitions of the Official Plan, the following definitions are applicable in the Guelph Innovation District Secondary Plan:

*Active Transportation means:*

Modes of transportation, such as walking and cycling that: provide the personal benefits of fitness and recreation; are environmentally friendly; contribute to the personal and social health of neighbourhoods; and are readily available to a wide range of age groups within the community.

*Adaptive Reuse means:*

The alteration of *built heritage resources* to fit new uses or circumstances while retaining their heritage value and attributes.

*Available Roof Area means:*

The total roof area minus the area for mechanical equipment, roof top terraces and perimeter access restrictions.

*Carbon Neutral means:*

For the purpose of the GID, *carbon neutrality* refers to the indirect and direct carbon emissions emitted from the new buildings that will be developed within the GID boundary. Net zero carbon emissions will be achieved by balancing the annual amount of carbon released (by burning fossil fuels) with the equivalent amount that is sequestered and/or offset from on-site or off-site renewable energy.

The carbon emissions associated with transportation, waste, water and food **generation/production will be addressed and reduced as a result of the “complete community” design of the GID. That said, these related emissions will not be included in the *carbon neutral* definition for the GID.**

*Compatibility* means:

*Development* or *redevelopment* which may not necessarily be the same as, or similar to, the existing development, but can co-exist with the surrounding area without unacceptable adverse impact.

*District Energy* means:

A system that ties together distributed thermal energy generation and users through a local supply loop.

*Guelph Agri-Innovation Cluster* means:

The *Guelph Agri-Innovation Cluster* consists of two main subsectors, food and wellness and agri-business, which afford many niche opportunities for value creation that align **strongly with the infrastructural strengths of the region.** The report "**Strategic Plan for the Guelph Agri-Innovation Cluster**", dated March 3, 2010, completed by Hickling Arthur Low and Urban Strategies Inc. further defines the *Guelph Agri-Innovation Cluster*.

*Public Realm* means:

Public spaces such as public streets and rights of way, urban squares, parks, community trails, and open spaces.

*Public View* means:

A view toward important public and historic buildings, natural heritage and open space features, landmarks and skylines when viewed from *the public realm*.

*Public Vista* means:

Views that are framed through built form or between rows of trees when viewed from the *public realm*.

*Redevelopment* means:

The creation of new units, uses or lots on previously developed land in existing communities, including *brownfield* and *greyfield* sites.

#### 11.2.8 Schedules

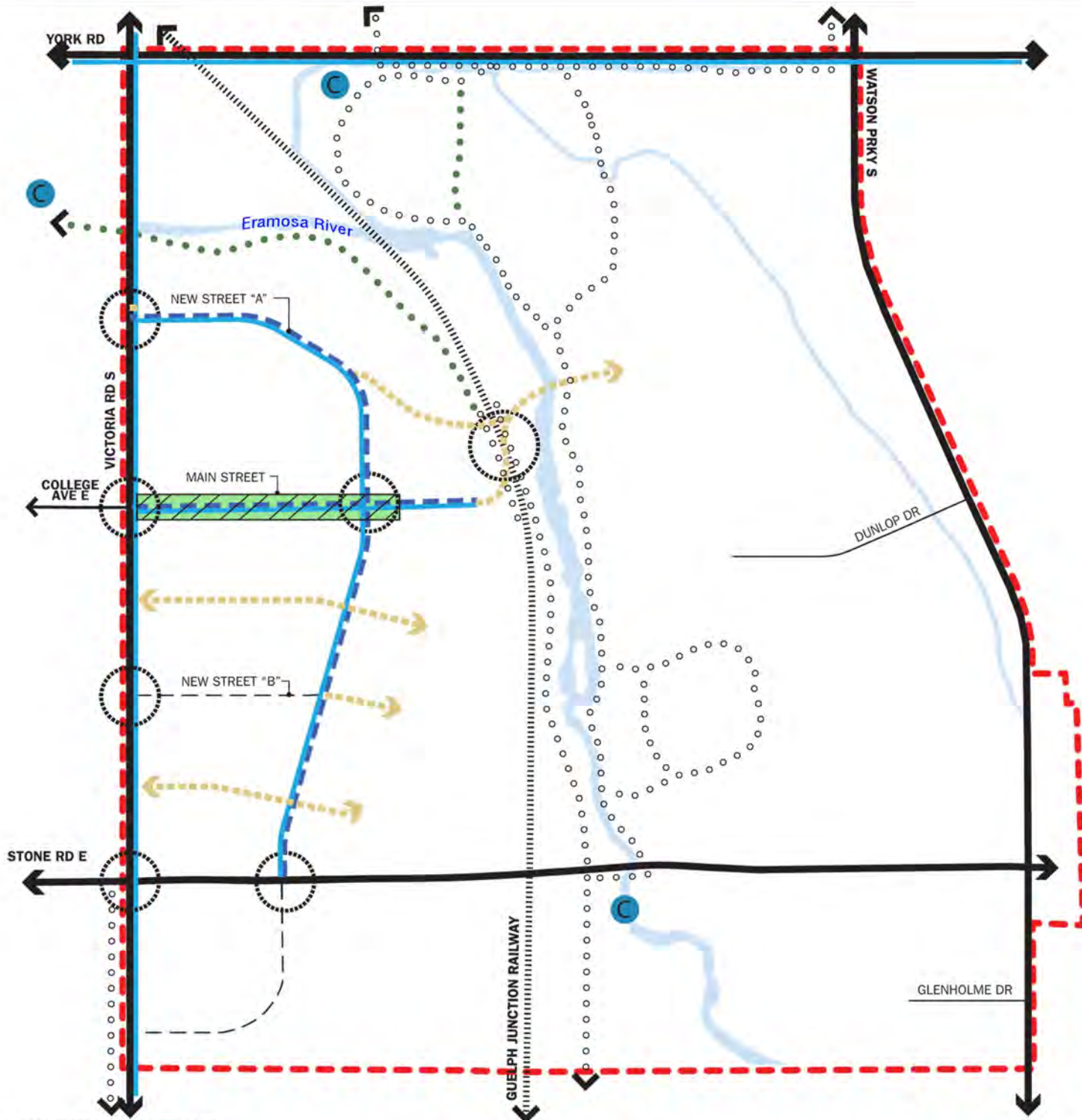
Schedule A Mobility Plan

Schedule B Land Use

Schedule C Built Form Elements

Schedule D Block Plan Areas

Appendix A Heritage



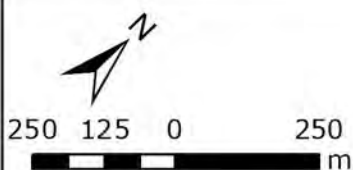
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#### Legend

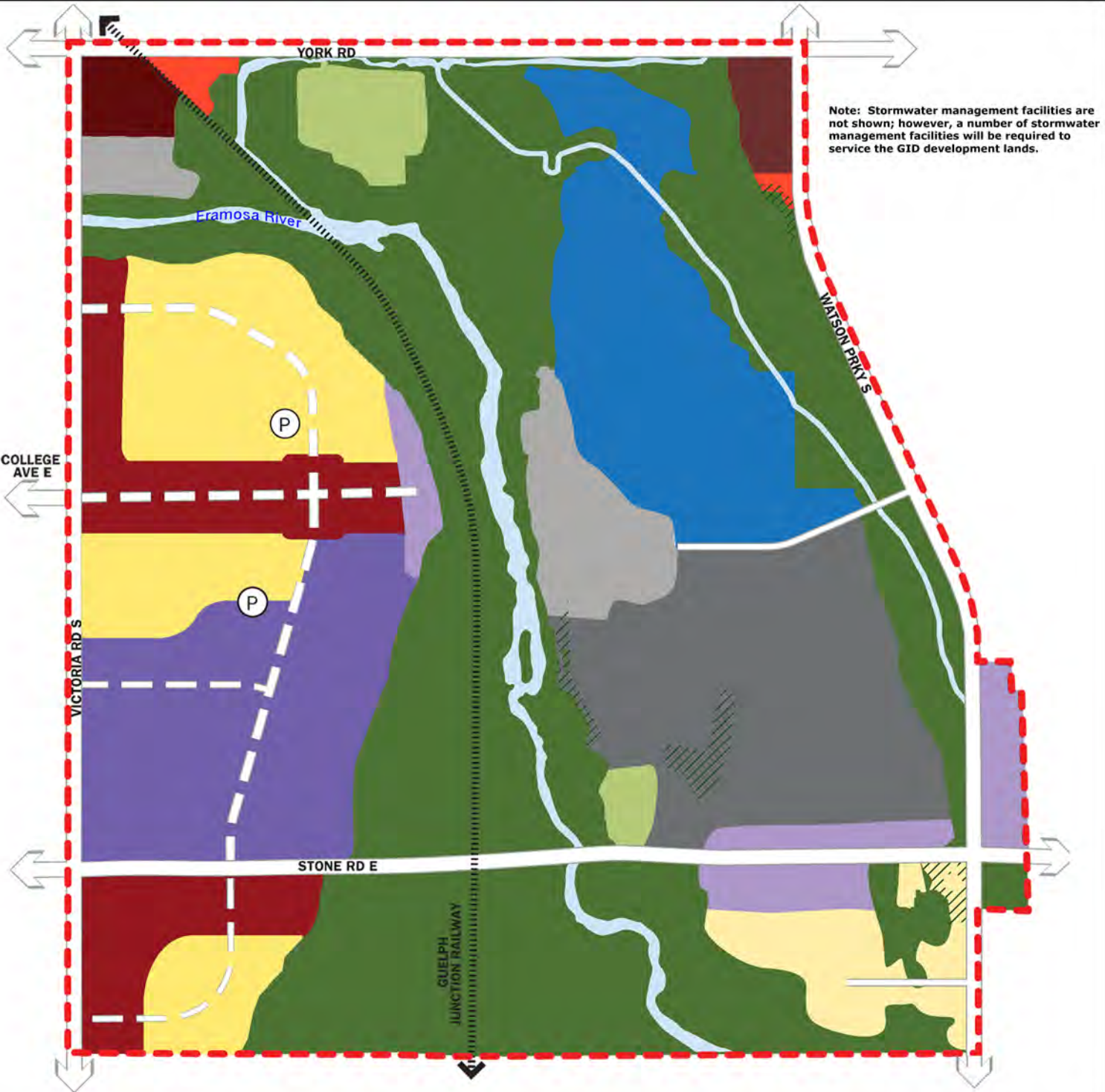
- |                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| --- Secondary Plan Boundary        | ● Existing City Trail Network  |
| — Existing Arterial Roads          | ○ Proposed City Trail Network  |
| — Existing Local Roads             | — Railway                      |
| — Proposed Collector Roads         | --- Active Transportation Link |
| ▨ Proposed Main Street             | ● Canoe Launch and Node        |
| --- Proposed Local Roads           | ○ Proposed Transit Stops       |
| — Proposed On-Street Bicycle Lanes | — Waterbody                    |



## CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE A: GUELPH INNOVATION DISTRICT SECONDARY PLAN MOBILITY PLAN







Note: Stormwater management facilities are not shown; however, a number of stormwater management facilities will be required to service the GID development lands.

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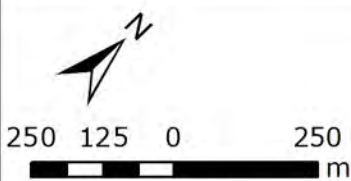
**Legend**

**Land Use Designations**

- Open Space and Park\*\*
- Glenholme Estate Residential
- Residential
- Mixed-use Commercial Centre
- Mixed-use Corridor (GID)
- Employment Mixed-use 1
- Employment Mixed-use 2
- Major Utility\*\*
- Industrial
- Adaptive Re-use
- Service Commercial
- Significant Natural Areas & Natural Areas
- Natural Areas Overlay

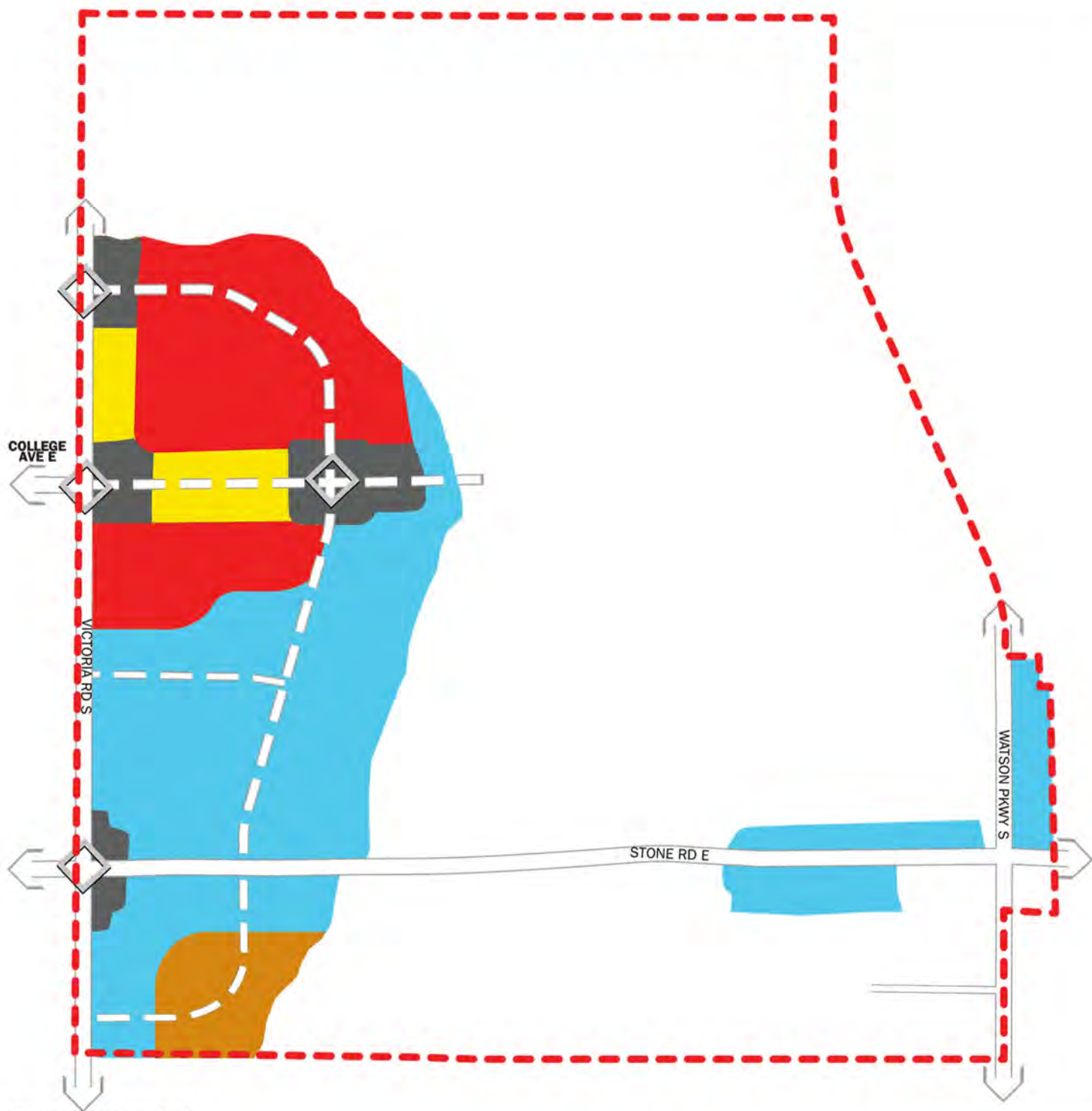
**Infrastructural Framework**

- Secondary Plan Boundary
- City Streets
- Future City Streets
- Existing Rail
- Waterbody
- Proposed Park



**CITY OF GUELPH  
OFFICIAL PLAN  
SCHEDULE B:  
GUELPH INNOVATION DISTRICT  
SECONDARY PLAN  
LAND USE**





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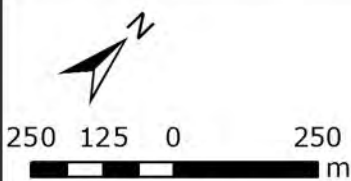
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### Legend

- Secondary Plan Boundary
- City Streets
- Future City Streets
- Node

### Building Heights

- 2 min - 6 max Storeys
- 2 min - 10 max Storeys
- 4 min - 6 max Storeys
- 4 min - 10 max Storeys
- 9m min - 6 max Storeys



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February 2024

## CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE C: GUELPH INNOVATION DISTRICT SECONDARY PLAN BUILT FORM ELEMENTS







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### Legend

--- Secondary Plan Boundary

### Block Plan Areas

- Block Plan Area 1
- Block Plan Area 2
- Block Plan Area 3
- Block Plan Area 4



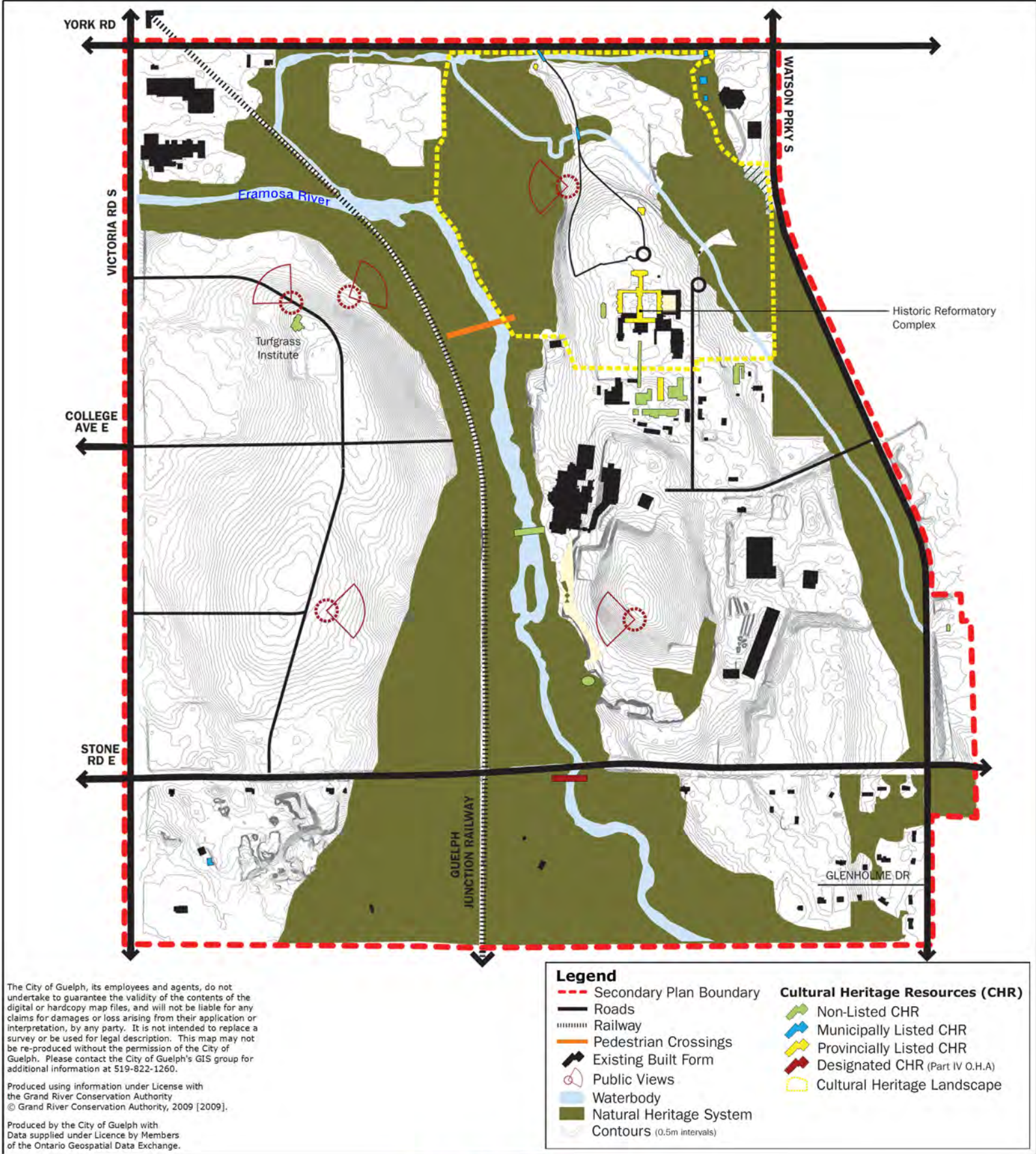
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## CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE D: GUELPH INNOVATION DISTRICT SECONDARY PLAN BLOCK PLAN AREAS







## 12 Glossary

The terms as listed in the Glossary have a specific technical meaning as used in the Plan text. They are *italicized* in the body of the Plan in instances where this technical meaning applies. The terms are listed in alphabetical order.

*100 Year Flood* means:

the *flood* which has a return period of 100 years, on average, or which has a 1% chance of occurring or being exceeded in any given year, as determined by the Grand River Conservation Authority.

*Active Transportation* means:

Modes of transportation, such as walking and cycling that: provide the personal benefits of fitness and recreation; are environmentally friendly; contribute to the personal and social health of neighbourhoods; and are readily available to a wide range of age groups within the community.

*Additional Residential Dwelling Unit Apartment* means:

a *dwelling unit* that is self-contained, subordinate to and located within the same building or on the same lot of a primary *dwelling unit*.

*Adjacent Lands* means:

For the purpose of *designated property* or *protected heritage property*, any parcel of land that:

- i) shares a boundary with a parcel containing a *designated property* or *protected heritage property*;
- ii) is separated from a *designated property* or *protected heritage property* by a right-of-way (e.g., road) and within the span of the extended lot lines of the parcel containing a *designated property* or *protected heritage property* or is located at a corner opposite a corner property that is a *designated heritage property* or *protected heritage property*;
- iii) is within 30 metres of a *designated heritage property* or *protected heritage property* in instances where a *designated heritage property* or *protected heritage property* is within a right-of-way (e.g. bridge) or located on a parcel 2.5 hectares in area or greater.

*Adjacent Lands* means:

for the purpose of the Natural Heritage System, those lands contiguous to specific *natural heritage features or areas*, where it is likely that *development* or *site alteration* would have a *negative impact* on the *feature*, area or *ecological functions*. The extent of the *adjacent lands* are defined in Table 6.1 of this Plan.

*Adverse Effects* as defined in the *Environmental Protection Act* means one or more of:

- Impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it;
- Injury or damage to property or plant and animal life;
- Harm or material discomfort to any person;
- An adverse effect on the health of any person;
- Impairment of the safety of any person;
- Rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for use by humans;
- Loss of enjoyment of normal use of property; and
- Interference with normal conduct of business.

*Affordable Housing* means:

- a) in the case of ownership housing, the least expensive of:
  - i) housing for which the purchase price results in annual accommodation costs which do not exceed 30 per cent of gross annual household income for *low and moderate income households*; or
  - ii) housing for which the purchase price is at least 10 percent below the average purchase price of a resale unit in the City of Guelph;
- b) in the case of rental housing, the least expensive of:
  - i) a unit for which the rent does not exceed 30 per cent of gross annual household income for *low and moderate income households*; or
  - ii) a unit for which the rent is at or below the average market rent of a unit in the City of Guelph.

*Affordable Housing Benchmark* means:

The maximum *affordable housing* price as defined for the City of Guelph for ownership and rental housing. The benchmark is adjusted on an annual basis to be reflective of changing market conditions within the city.

*Agricultural Use* means:

the growing of crops, including nursery and horticultural crops; raising of livestock and other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agroforestry; maple syrup production; and associated on-farm building and structures.

*Alter* (and *alteration*) means:

A change in any manner, and includes to restore, renovate, repair or disturb.

*Alternative energy systems* means:

sources of energy or energy conversion processes that significantly reduce the amount of harmful emissions to the environment (air, earth and water) when compared to conventional energy systems.

*Ancillary Use* means:

A use that is incidental to, but associated with the principle use or a primary function of a site.

*Aquifer* means:

a subsurface geological material which yields significant amounts of water.

*Archaeological Assessment* means:

For a defined project area or property, a survey undertaken by a licensed archaeologist within those areas determined to have areas of potential *archaeological resources* in order to identify *archaeological sites*, followed by evaluation of their *cultural heritage value or interest*, and determination of their characteristics. Based on this information, recommendations are made regarding the need for *mitigation* of impacts and the appropriate means for mitigating those impacts.

*Archaeological Resources* means:

Includes *artifacts*, *archaeological sites* and marine *archaeological sites*, as defined under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The identification and evaluation of such resources are based upon archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

*Archaeological Site* means:

Any property that contains an artifact, or any other physical evidence of past human use or activity that is of *cultural heritage value or interest*.

*Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)* means:

areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or *features* which have been identified by the Province as having science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study or education.

*Areas of Potential Archaeological Resources* means:

means areas with the likelihood to contain archaeological resources. Criteria to identify archaeological potential are established by the Province. The *Ontario Heritage Act* requires archaeological potential to be confirmed by a licensed archaeologist.

*Artifact* means:

Any object, material or substance that is made, modified, used, deposited, or affected by human action and is of *cultural heritage value or interest*.

*Bankful Channel* means:

The usual or average level to which a body of water rises at its highest point and remains for sufficient time so as to change the characteristics of the land (also known as the ordinary High Water Mark – HWM). In flowing waters (rivers, streams) this refers to the active channel which is often the 1:2 year *flood* flow return level (Department of Fisheries and Oceans, 2010).

*Brownfield sites* means:

undeveloped or previously developed properties that may be contaminated. They are usually, but not exclusively, former industrial or commercial properties that may be underutilized, derelict or vacant.

*Buffers* means:

areas identified *adjacent* to some *natural heritage features or areas* that are intended to be protected and provide a separation between the protected *feature* or area and the adjacent *development*, and mitigate against negative impacts to the *natural heritage feature or area* and/or its *ecological function(s)*.

*Built Heritage Resource* means:

a building, structure, monument, installation or any manufactured or constructed part or **remnant that contributes to a property's cultural heritage value or interest as identified by** a community, including Indigenous communities. Built heritage resources are located on property that may be designated under Parts IV or V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, or that may be included on local, provincial, federal and/or international registers.

*Child Care Centre* (see *Day Care Centre* definition).

*Committee of Adjustment* means:

a quasi-judicial body, appointed by City Council in accordance with the *Planning Act*, authorized to rule on applications for minor variances to *zoning by-laws*, for enlargements and extensions to non-conforming buildings, for conversions of non-conforming uses and buildings to other non-conforming uses, to interpret general clauses in by-laws, and for *consents* in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning Act*.

*Community Infrastructure* means:

lands, buildings, and structures that support the quality of life for people and communities by providing public services for health, education, recreation, socio-cultural activities, security and safety and the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance and affordable housing. *Community infrastructure* does not include *infrastructure* or *municipal services*.

*Compact Urban Form* means:

a land-use pattern that encourages efficient use of land, walkable communities, mixed land uses (residential, retail, workplace and institutional all within one neighbourhood), is



in proximity to transit and reduces need for *infrastructure*. *Compact urban form* can include detached and semi-detached houses on small lots as well as townhouses and walk-up apartments, multi-storey commercial developments, and apartments or offices above retail. Walkable neighbourhoods can be characterized by roads laid out in a well connected network, destinations that are easily accessible by transit and active transportation, sidewalks with minimal interruptions for vehicle access, and a pedestrian-friendly environment along roads to encourage active transportation.

*Compatibility/compatible* means:

*Development* or *redevelopment* which may not necessarily be the same as, or similar to, the existing development, but can co-exist with the surrounding area without unacceptable adverse impact.

*Complete Communities* means:

places such as mixed-use neighbourhoods or other areas within cities, towns, and *settlement areas* that offer and support opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to conveniently access most of the necessities for daily living, including an appropriate mix of jobs, local stores, and services, a full range of housing, transportation options and *public service facilities*. *Complete communities* are age-friendly and may take different shapes and forms appropriate to their contexts.

*Condominium* means:

a form of property ownership in which title to a unit, such as an individual apartment or townhouse unit is held by an individual together with a share of the rest of the property, which is common to all of the owners.

*Consent* means:

the authorization granted by the Committee of Adjustment in accordance with the *Planning Act*, to deal with land severance, lot additions, *easements*, rights-of-way, validation of title, charge/discharge of mortgages and long term leases of land for more than 21 years. A *consent* is not needed to convey, mortgage, grant or lease an entire lot, or a whole lot on a *registered plan of subdivision*.

*Conserved* means:

In regard to *cultural heritage resources*, the identification, protection, management and use of *built heritage resources*, *cultural heritage landscapes* and *archaeological resources* in a manner that ensures their cultural heritage value or interest is retained. This may be achieved by the implementation of recommendations set out in a conservation plan, archaeological assessment, and/or heritage impact assessment that has been approved, accepted or adopted by the relevant planning authority and/or decision-maker. Mitigative measures and/or alternative development approaches can be included in these plans and assessments.

*Consolidated Municipal Service Manager (Service Manger)* means:

The legislated agency appointed by the Province that is responsible for the delivery of *social housing* services within Guelph and Wellington County. The County of Wellington is responsible for this service within the City and the County.

*Convenience Commercial* means:

a small-scale commercial operation and personal service that has a planning function of serving the day-to-day convenience shopping needs of an immediately surrounding residential population. Examples of uses include a convenience food store, a dry cleaner or a small-scale restaurant.

*Conversion* means:

the alteration or change of use of an existing building or structure to some other use.

*Co-ownership* means:

a form of property possession in which a person has a joint interest in a co-operative or as a member of a corporation with the stated right to a present or future exclusive possession to a *dwelling unit* within a multiple unit residential building.

*Cultural Heritage Conservation Easement Agreement* means:

A voluntary legal agreement between the heritage property owner, the municipality and/or the Ontario Heritage Trust, establishing mutually accepted conditions that will ensure the *conservation* of a heritage property in perpetuity.

*Cultural Heritage Conservation Plan* means:

A plan developed to demonstrate how *heritage attributes* will be *conserved*, protected or enhanced such that the integrity of the *heritage attributes* is retained. Such plans will include descriptions of repairs, stabilization and preservation techniques as well as short and long term conservation and maintenance measures and including how the *heritage attributes* will be integrated or commemorated.

*Cultural Heritage Landscape* means:

a defined geographical area that may have been modified by human activities and is identified as having cultural heritage value or interest by a community, including Indigenous communities. The area may include features such as buildings, structures, spaces, views, *archaeological sites* or natural elements that are valued together for their interrelationship, meaning or association. Cultural heritage landscapes may be properties that have been determined to have cultural heritage value or interest under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, or have been included on federal and/or international registers, and/or protected through official plan, zoning by-law, or other land use planning mechanisms.

*Cultural Heritage Resource* means:

*built heritage resources, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources* that have been determined to have cultural heritage value or interest for the important contribution they make to our understanding of the history of a place, an event, or a people. While some cultural heritage resources may already be identified and inventoried by official sources, the significance of others can only be determined after evaluation.

*Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* means:

a study conducted prior to *development/redevelopment* to investigate the potential impact of *development* on *cultural heritage resources*. This type of study will determine how a particular development should proceed and what actions or measures are required to minimize *negative impacts* on cultural heritage resources.

*Cultural Heritage Review* means:

An assessment conducted to accompany a request to modify a description of non-designated properties listed in the *Heritage Register* or to *list* or remove non-designated properties from the *Heritage Register*.

*Cultural Heritage Value or Interest* means:

A *property* is of *cultural heritage value or interest* if, where criteria for whether the property is of *cultural heritage value or interest* has been prescribed by regulation, the property meets the criteria.

*Cultural Resources* (see *Cultural Heritage Resource* definition).

*Cultural Woodland* means:

a *woodland* with tree cover between 35% and 60% originating from, or maintained by, anthropogenic, influences and culturally based disturbances (e.g., planting or agriculture, clearing, recreation, grazing or mowing); often having a large proportion of introduced (i.e., non-indigenous) species (as per the Ecological Land Classification System for southern Ontario) and with shrubs, grasses, and/or herbaceous ground cover. These may be second or third growth *woodlands* that occur on land that has been significantly altered by human disturbance where the original forest was completely or mostly removed at various points in time (e.g., from agriculture, grazing, gravel extraction) and may include a small proportion of planted trees but has undergone natural succession to the point where tree cover is between 35% and 60%, with grass and herbaceous ground covers, and possibly shrubs as well.

*Day Care Centre* means:

a premise licensed under the *Day Nurseries Act*, that receives more than five children who are not of common parentage primarily for the purpose of providing temporary care or guidance, or both temporary care or guidance, for a continuous period not exceeding twenty-four hours, when the children are under eighteen years of age in the case of a day



nursery for children with a developmental handicap and under ten years of age in all other cases.

*Delineated Built Boundary* means:

The limits of the developed urban area as defined by the Minister in consultation with affected municipalities for the purpose of measuring the minimum intensification target in this Plan.

*Delineated Built-up area (or built-up area)* means:

All land within the *delineated built boundary* and as identified on Schedule 1a.

*Density Targets* means:

the targets for the *Urban Growth Centre* density contained in policy 3.8.4 of this Plan and for designated *greenfield areas* density targets contained in policy 3.12.2.

*Deposits of mineral aggregate resources* means:

An area of identified *mineral aggregate resources*, as delineated in Aggregate Resource Inventory Papers or comprehensive studies prepared using evaluation procedures established by the Province for surficial and bedrock resources, as amended from time to time, that has a sufficient quantity and quality to warrant present or future extraction.

*Designated and Available* means:

with respect to housing supply, lands designated in the Official Plan for urban residential use. Where more detailed official plan policies (e.g., secondary plans) are required before *development* applications can be considered for approval, only lands that have commenced the more detailed planning process are considered to be designated for the purpose of this definition.

*Designated Greenfield area (or greenfield area)* means:

the area within settlement areas but outside of delineated built-up areas that have been designated in this Plan for development and are required to accommodate forecasted growth to the horizon of this Plan. Designated greenfield areas do not include excess lands.

*Designated Property* means:

For the purpose of cultural heritage, *property* designated by a municipality under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* or within a *Heritage Conservation District* designated under Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

*Designated vulnerable area* means:

Areas defined as vulnerable, in accordance with provincial standards, by virtue of their importance as a drinking water source.

*Development* means:

- a) The creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures requiring approval under the *Planning Act*;
- b) Site alteration activities such as fill, grading and excavation that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site; and
- c) Various forms of intensification, infill development and redevelopment.

*Development* does not include activities that create or maintain *infrastructure* authorized under an environmental assessment process or works subject to the Drainage Act.

In spite of the above definition, for the Special Policy Area Flood Plain of this Plan, development means the construction, erection or placing of one or more buildings or structures on lands, or an addition or alteration to a building or structure which adds more than 50% of the existing ground floor space area to the building or structure.

*District Energy* means:

A system that ties together distributed thermal energy generation and users through a local supply loop.

*Dwelling Unit* means:

a room or group of rooms occupied or designed to be occupied as an independent and separate self-contained housekeeping unit.

*Easement* means:

the permission to use a part of an individual's property, usually for services that are either overhead (as wires) or underground (i.e. pipes) and, furthermore, to service such installations.

*Ecological Functions* means:

the natural processes, products or services that living and non-living environments provide or perform within or between species, ecosystems and landscapes. These may include biological, physical, chemical and socio-economic interactions.

With respect to wetlands, *ecological functions* mean the biological, physical and socio-economic interactions that occur in an environment because of the properties of the wetlands that are present, including, but not limited to *groundwater* recharge and discharge; *flood* damage reduction; shoreline stabilization; sediment trapping; nutrient retention and removal; food chain support; habitat for fish and wildlife; and attendant social and economic benefits.

*Ecological Linkage* means:

areas identified based on the principles of conservation biology that connect Significant Natural Areas and/or protected Habitat for Significant Species and along which wildlife can forage, genetic interchange can occur, and populations can move from one habitat to

another in response to life cycle requirements. *Ecological Linkages* provide or enhance connectivity where it is otherwise lacking, ensuring a systems based approach, and supporting natural connections between Significant Natural Areas and/or protected Habitat for Significant Species. *Ecological Linkages* can also include those areas currently performing, or with the potential to perform linkage functions through *restoration* measures. Although linkages help to maintain and improve the Natural Heritage System and related *ecological functions*, they can also serve as habitat in their own right.

*Ecosystem Services* means:

the broad range of services provided by *natural heritage features and areas* within a given jurisdiction. These services include contributions to: surface and groundwater protection, air quality improvement, erosion and flood control, localized temperature moderation, noise attenuation, visual barriers, soil and wildlife protection and regeneration, and pollination of crops and natural vegetation. A number of these services can also be attributed to trees and treed areas outside natural areas but within the urban matrix (e.g., trees on boulevards, in yards and parks, etc.)

*Employment Area* means:

those areas designated in the Official Plan for clusters of businesses and economic activities including, but not limited to:

- i) manufacturing uses;
- ii) warehousing uses;
- iii) office uses;
- iv) retail uses that are associated with the uses mentioned in clauses i) to iii);  
and
- v) Facilities that are ancillary to the uses mentioned in clauses i) to iv).

*Endangered Species* means:

a species **that is classified as an 'Endangered Species' on the official** Species at Risk in Ontario list as updated and amended from time to time by the *Endangered Species Act, 2007*.

*Environmental Assessment (EA)* means:

a planning process to determine the potential impacts of an infrastructure project as determined by the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

*Environmental Corridor* means:

a linear biophysical feature usually associated with natural topographic, surface water and vegetation features such as wetlands, rivers and creeks, valleylands and wooded areas. These corridors serve as essential passageways for native plant and animal species and communities including: migratory routes; passage between different habitat types for animals requiring a variety of habitat types to survive and; pathways for movement and

reproductive interchange between different populations of the same plant or animal species. In addition, where these corridors are associated with streams, these natural **corridors also serve as essential buffers to protecting the integrity of the stream's ecosystem.**

*Environmental Impact Study (EIS)* means:

the form or product a study used in the context of *natural heritage features and areas* where *development* provisions on or adjacent to a *natural heritage feature* have been established through a rigorous ecosystems-analysis approach. This will usually take the form of a (sub) watershed study or environmental overview based on a landscape scale review of a natural features and *functions* of an area.

*Erosion Hazard* means:

The loss of land, due to human or natural processes, that poses a threat to life and property. The *erosion hazard* limit is determined using considerations that include the 100 year erosion rate (the average annual rate of recession extended over a one hundred year time span), an allowance for slope stability and an erosion/erosion access allowance.

*Essential* means:

that (1) there is a demonstrated need, and (2) it has been demonstrated that no other reasonable alternatives exist.

*Established Buffers* means:

the *buffers* established and approved by the City following the *adjacent lands* analysis carried out through the required site specific study (e.g. *EIS* or *EA*).

*Exempt* means:

In regard to energy projects, an energy project that is exempt from *Planning Act* approvals as outlined in Section 62 of the *Planning Act*. (see also *non-exempt*)

*Extirpation* means:

a wildlife species no longer existing in a given jurisdiction where it formerly occurred, but still occurring elsewhere.

*Feature* (see *Natural Heritage Features and Areas* definition).

*Federally Significant Species* means:

species that are listed by the *Federal Species at Risk Act* as i) endangered or threatened or *Special Concern*, but are not listed provincially (i.e., *Endangered* or *Threatened Species* as defined in this Plan).

*Fish* means:

fish, shellfish, crustaceans, and marine animals, at all stages of their life cycles.

*Fish Habitat* means:

spawning grounds and any other areas, including nursery, rearing, food supply and migration areas on which *fish* depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes.

*Flood* means:

a temporary rise in the water level resulting in the inundation of areas in the *floodplain* not ordinarily covered by water.

*Flood Lines* (see *Regulatory Flood Lines* definition).

*Flood Fringe* means:

the outer portion of the *floodplain* between the *floodway* and the *flooding hazard* limit.

*Flooding Hazard* means:

The inundation, under the conditions specified below, of areas adjacent to a shoreline or a river or stream system and not ordinarily covered by water.

- i) **Along the shorelines of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes, the *flooding hazard* limit is based on the *one hundred year flood* level plus an allowance for wave uprush and other water-related hazards;**
- ii) **Along river, stream and small inland lake systems, the *flooding hazard* limit is the greater of:**
  - a) the flood resulting from the rainfall actually experienced during a major storm such as the Hurricane Hazel storm (1954), transposed over a specific watershed and combined with the local conditions, where evidence suggests that the storm event could have potentially occurred over watersheds in the general area;
  - b) the one hundred year flood; and
  - c) a flood which is greater than a. or b. which was actually experienced in a particular watershed or portion thereof as a result of ice jams and which has been approved as the standard for that specific area by the Minister of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry;
  - d) except where the use of the one hundred year flood or the actually experienced event has been approved by the Minister of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry as the standard for a specific watershed (where the past history of flooding supports the lowering of the standard).

*Floodplain* means:

the area, usually low lands, adjoining a watercourse, which has been, or may be subject to *flooding hazards*. The *regulatory floodline* delimits the boundaries of the *floodplain*.

*Floodproofing* (and *floodproof* and *floodproofed*) means:

a combination of structural changes and/or adjustments incorporated into the basic design and/or construction or alteration of individual buildings, structures or properties subject to flooding so as to reduce or eliminate *flood* damages.

*Floodway* means:

a portion of the *floodplain* where *development* and *site alteration* would cause a danger to public health or safety or property damage.

Where the one zone concept is applied, the *floodway* is the entire contiguous *floodplain*.

Where the two zone or Special Policy Area concept are applied, the *floodway* is the contiguous inner portion of the *floodplain*, representing that area required for the safe passage of *flood* flow/or that area where *flood* depths and/or velocities are considered to be such that they pose a potential threat to life or property damage. Where the two zone or Special Policy Area concept are applied, the outer portion of the *floodplain* is called the *flood fringe*.

*Forest Management* means:

the sustainable management of the woodland to maintain, restore or enhance environmental conditions for wildlife, and for the protection of water supplies and may include the removal or pruning of dead, diseased, and hazard trees, and *invasive species*. Management may also include the judicious removal of selected tree(s) to improve the diversity and health of the *woodland* e.g., selective cutting of plantations to permit natural succession to occur. However, *forest management* does not include the removal of trees solely for commercial purposes.

*Frequent Transit* means:

A public transit service that runs at least every 15 minutes in both directions throughout the day and into the evening every day of the week.

*Functions* (see *Ecological Functions* definition).

*Garden Suite* means:

a one-unit detached dwelling unit containing bathroom and kitchen facilities that is separate from and subordinate to a primary *dwelling unit* and that is designed to be portable and temporary.

*Globally Significant Species* means:

species that are considered globally significant (i.e., ranked as G1, G2 or G3) by the **Nature Conservancy, as listed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resource's Natural Heritage Information Centre.**

*Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH)* means:

The geographic area identified as the Greater Golden Horseshoe growth plan area in Ontario Regulation 416/05 under the *Places to Grow Act*, 2005.

*Green infrastructure* means:

natural and human-made elements that provide ecological and hydrological functions and processes. Green infrastructure can include components such as natural heritage features and systems, street trees, urban forests, natural channels, permeable surfaces and green roofs.

*Greyfield* means:

previously developed properties that are not contaminated. They are usually, but not exclusively, former commercial properties that may be underutilized, derelict or vacant.

*Gross Floor Area* means:

the total floor area of a building that is designed and intended for exclusive use and occupancy by a tenant or owner measured from the centre line of partition walls and from the exterior face of outside walls.

*Groundwater* means:

the water held beneath the earth's surface, especially water that flows or seeps downward and saturates the soil. The upper level of this saturated zone is called the water table.

*Groundwater Feature* means:

**water-related features in the earth's subsurface, including recharge/discharge areas,** water tables, *aquifers* and unsaturated zones that can be defined by surface and subsurface hydrogeologic investigations.

*Group Home* means:

a single housekeeping unit in a *dwelling unit* licensed, approved or supervised by the Province of Ontario under any general or specialized or group accommodation with responsible 24 hour supervision consistent with the requirements of its residents. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, a group home does not include a *day care centre*, a crisis care centre or a halfway house.

*Growth Plan* means:

*A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* as amended from time to time, prepared and approved under the *Places to Grow Act* (2005).

*Habitable Floor Space* means:

any room or space in a *dwelling unit* designed for living, sleeping, the preparation of food and sanitary facilities; and also includes hotels and motels for overnight accommodation.

*Habitat Conservation* means:

management practices that aim to conserve, protect and restore wildlife habitat in order to increase biodiversity, including but not limited to: introduction of indigenous species and removal of non-indigenous *invasive species*.

*Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species* means:

- a) with respect to a species of animal, plant or other organism for which a regulation made under the *Endangered Species Act, 2007* is in force, the area prescribed by that regulation as the habitat of the species, or
- b) with respect to any other species of animal, plant or other organism, an area on which the species depends, directly or indirectly, to carry on its life processes, including life processes such as reproduction, rearing, hibernation, migration or feeding,

and includes places in the area described in clause (a) or (b), whichever is applicable, that are used by members of the species as dens, nests, hibernacula or other residences.

*Hazards or Hazardous* (see *Hazard Lands* definition).

*Hazardous forest types for wildland fire* means:

Forest types assessed as being associated with the risk of high to extreme wildland fire using risk assessment tools established by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, as amended from time to time.

*Hazard(ous) Lands* means:

property or land that could be unsafe for development due to naturally occurring processes. This means land, including that covered by water, to the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard or erosion hazard limits.

*Hazardous Site* means:

Property or land that could be unsafe for *development* and *site alteration* due to naturally occurring hazards. These may include unstable soils, organic soils or unstable bedrock (karst topography).

*Hazardous substances* means:

Substances which, individually, or in combination with other substances, are normally considered to pose a danger to public health, safety and the environment. These substances generally include a wide array of materials that are toxic, ignitable, corrosive, reactive, radioactive or pathological.



*Hedgerow* means:

trees left standing or planted along the edge of a former or existing agricultural field or laneway to create a physical and/or visual barrier. Hedgerows also typically include trees remaining along former fence lines.

*Heritage attributes* means:

In relation to real property, and to the buildings and structures on the real property, the attributes of the property, buildings and structures that contribute to their cultural heritage value or interest.

*Heritage Conservation District* means:

An area with a group or complex of buildings, or a larger area with many buildings and properties, with a concentration of *cultural heritage resources* with special character or historical association that distinguishes it from its surroundings.

*Heritage Conservation District Plan* means:

A document adopted by the City to manage and guide future change in a *Heritage Conservation District*, through the adoption of a district plan with policies and guidelines for *conservation*, protection and enhancement of the *Heritage Conservation District's* special character.

*Heritage Register* (see: *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties*)

*Heritage Tree* means:

A single tree (or group of trees) which has *cultural heritage value or interest*. *Heritage trees* may be located on private and/or public property or form part of a *cultural heritage landscape*. *Heritage trees* may be identified as a *heritage attribute* of a non-designated property listed in the *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties* under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

*Heritage trees* may be identified as part of a *Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment*, *Cultural Heritage Conservation Easement Agreement*, *Cultural Heritage Review*, *Environmental Impact Statement*, *Environmental Assessment Study* or through a specific tree study.

*Higher Order Transit* means:

Transit that generally operates in partially or completely dedicated rights-of-way, outside of mixed traffic, and therefore can achieve levels of speed and reliability greater than mixed-traffic transit. Higher order transit can include heavy rail (such as subways and inter-city rail), light rail, and buses in dedicated rights-of-way.

*Highly Vulnerable Aquifer* means:

Aquifers, including lands above the aquifers, on which external sources have or are likely to have a significant adverse effect.

*Highway-Oriented Service Commercial* means:

*service commercial* uses that are particularly well suited to a highway location. These uses usually comprise business activities that require expansive storage components to their operation or are activities catering to tourists and inter-urban traffic.

*Housing Options* means:

a range of housing types such as, but not limited to single detached, semi-detached, rowhouses, townhouses, stacked townhouses, multiplexes, additional residential units, tiny homes, multi-residential buildings. The term can also refer to a variety of housing arrangements and forms such as, but not limited to life lease housing, co-ownership housing, co-operative housing, community land trusts, land lease community homes, *affordable housing*, housing for people with special needs, and housing related to employment, institutional or educational uses.

*Hummocky Topography* means:

the character of land as displayed by the *Paris Galt Moraine* consisting of a topography highlighted by concave and convex slopes connecting a high diversity of slope classes. (i.e., more than one of the following: <5%, >=5% to <10%, >=10% to <15%, >=15% to <20%, and >=20%) and generally incorporating closed depressions, ridges and/or hilltops.

*Hydrologic Function* means:

the functions of the hydrological cycle that include the occurrence, circulation, distribution and chemical and physical properties of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and **underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere, and water's interaction with the environment** including its relation to living things.

*Impact* (see *Negative Impact* definition).

*Impacts of a changing climate* means:

The present and future consequences from changes in weather patterns at local and regional levels including extreme weather events and increased climate variability.

*Individual On-Site Sewage Services* means:

Individual, autonomous sewage disposal systems within the meaning of s.8.1.2, O Reg. 403/97, under the *Building Code Act* that are owned, operated and managed by the owner of the property upon which the system is located.

*Individual On-Site Water Services* means:

Individual, autonomous water supply systems that are owned, operated and managed by the owner of the property upon which the system is located.

*Industrial Park* means:

a planned or organized industrial district with a comprehensive plan which is designed to insure compatibility between the industrial operations therein and the existing activities and character of the community in which the park is located. The plan must provide for streets designed to facilitate truck and other traffic, proper setbacks, lot size minimums, land use ratio minimums, architectural provisions, landscaping requirements, and specific use requirements.

*Infill Development* means:

a form of *development* within an older established area of the city on land that has not previously been built on.

*Infrastructure* means:

physical structures and services (facilities and corridors) that form the foundation for development. *Infrastructure* includes: sewage and water systems, stormwater management facilities, septage treatment systems, waste management systems, electric power generation and transmission, communications/telecommunications, transit and transportation corridors and facilities, and oil and gas pipelines and associated facilities.

*Intensification* means:

the development of a property, site or area at a higher density than currently exists through:

- a) redevelopment, including the reuse of brownfield sites;
- b) the development of vacant and/or underutilized lots within previously developed areas;
- c) infill development; and
- d) the expansion or conversion of existing buildings.

*Intensification Area* means:

lands identified by municipalities within a *settlement area* that are to be the focus for accommodating *intensification*. *Intensification areas* include Downtown Guelph, *intensification corridors*, *major transit station areas*, and other major opportunities that may include *infill*, *redevelopment*, *brownfield sites*, the expansion or conversion of existing buildings and *greyfields*.

*Intensification Corridors* means:

intensification areas identified along major roads, arterials or higher order transit corridors that have the potential to provide a focus for higher density mixed-use development consistent with planned transit service levels.

*Intensification Target* means:

the target as established in Section 3.7 of the Official Plan in accordance with section 2.2.2 of the *Growth Plan*.

*Intermittent Stream* means:

stream-related watercourses that contain water or are dry at times of the year that are more or less predictable, generally flowing during wet seasons of the year but not the entire year, and where the water table is above the stream bottom during parts of the year.

*Invasive Species* means:

species of plants, animals and microorganisms introduced by human action outside their natural past or present distribution whose introduction or spread threatens the environment. An invasive plant is one that has been moved from its indigenous habitat to a new area (possibly for garden/domestic use), and reproduces so aggressively that it displaces species within indigenous plant communities.

*Key Hydrologic Areas* means:

*Significant groundwater recharge areas, highly vulnerable aquifers, and significant surface water contribution areas* that are necessary for the ecological and hydrologic integrity of a watershed.

*Key Hydrologic Features* means:

Permanent streams, *intermittent streams*, inland lakes and their littoral zones, *seepage areas and springs*, and *wetlands*.

*Land Severance* (see Consent definition).

*Landfill Site* means:

a site used for the disposal of waste by deposit, under controlled conditions, on land.

*LEED* means:

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design: a system for rating buildings based on their environmental performance including energy and water use.

*Legal non-conforming* means:

A use of land, building or structure that is not recognized in the *Zoning By-law* but which lawfully existed on the day the *Zoning By-law* was passed.

*Linear Infrastructure* means:

corridors that include *infrastructure* such as the pipes necessary for the transmission and distribution of sewage (including stormwater) and water, communication, hydro, oil, and gas lines, but does not include *transportation infrastructure*.

*List (Listed or Listing)* means:

For the purposes of identifying *cultural heritage resources*, the addition of a *designated property* or *non-designated property* to the *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties*.

*Live/work* means:

a *dwelling unit* that may be partially used for the operation of a small scale business.

*Livestock-based Agricultural Operation* means:

a place where the grazing, breeding, raising, boarding or training of animals or birds occurs for commercial purposes.

*Living Community Centre* means:

**Programming and/or improved ‘animation’ of parks that strengthen community cohesion** and pride through the introduction of activities such as, but not limited to, movie nights, walking clubs, family pick-up games and activities, neighbourhood picnics, community gardens, brick bake ovens, markets and talent nights.

*Locally Significant Species* means:

species that are not *Endangered* or *Threatened Species* but that are considered locally significant at the regional level (i.e., as identified in the Significant Plant List and the Significant Wildlife List for Wellington County, and any City-approved updates to these lists). Such species may also be considered *Globally*, *Federally* and/or *Provincially Significant*.

*Locally Significant Wetlands* means:

evaluated *wetland* (including *wetland complexes*) of at least two (2) hectares in size which are not identified as provincially significant, and unevaluated *wetlands* of at least 0.5 hectares in size.

*Lodging House* means:

any place, including but not limited to a *dwelling unit*, that is used to provide 5 or more lodging units for hire or gain directly or indirectly to persons.

*Low and Moderate Income Households* means:

- i) **In the case of ownership housing, households with incomes in the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution within the city; or**

- ii) In the case of rental housing, households with incomes in the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution for households renting within the city.

*Low Impact Development* means:

a stormwater management strategy that seeks to mitigate the impacts of increased runoff and stormwater pollution by managing runoff as close to its source as possible. LID comprises a set of site design strategies that minimize runoff and distributed, small scale structural practices that mimic natural or pre-*development* hydrology through the processes of infiltration, evapotranspiration, harvesting, filtration and detention of stormwater. Site specific designs that can be used to control stormwater include, but are not limited to, rainwater harvesting, green roofs, bio-retention, permeable pavers, infiltration facilities and vegetated swales. These practices can effectively remove nutrients, pathogens and metals from runoff, and they reduce the volume and intensity of stormwater flows.

*Main Street Area* means:

A pedestrian oriented commercial or mixed-use area centred on a public street, private road or internal driveway that provides a focal point for surrounding neighbourhoods.

*Major Office generally* means:

freestanding office buildings of approximately 4,000 square metres of floor space or greater, or with approximately 200 jobs or more.

*Major Retail Uses* means:

retail uses that are greater than 3,250 sq.m. (34,982.7 sq.ft.).

*Major Transit Station Area* means:

the area including and around Guelph Central Station as identified on Schedule 1a.

*Mineral Aggregate Operation* means:

- i) lands under license or permit, other than for a wayside pit or quarry, issued in accordance with the *Aggregate Resources Act*, or successors thereto.
- ii) for lands not designated under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, established pits and quarries that are not in contravention of municipal *Zoning By-laws* and including adjacent land under agreement with or owned by the operator, to permit continuation of the operation; and
- iii) associated facilities used in extraction, transport, beneficiation, processing or recycling of *mineral aggregate resources* and derived products such as asphalt and concrete, or the production of secondary related products.

*Mineral Aggregate Resources* means:

gravel, sand, clay, earth, shale, stone, limestone, dolostone, sandstone, marble, granite, rock or other material prescribed under the *Aggregate Resources Act* suitable for construction, industrial, manufacturing and maintenance purposes but does not include

metallic ores, asbestos, graphite, kyanite, mica, nepheline syenite, salt, talc, wollastonite, mine tailings or other material prescribed under the *Mining Act*.

*Mitigation or Avoidance* means:

In regard to *cultural heritage resources*, methods of minimizing or avoiding a *negative impact* on a *cultural heritage resource*. These methods include, but are not limited to:

- i) **alternative development approaches;**
- ii) **isolating *development* and *site alteration* from significant built and natural features and vistas;**
- iii) **design guidelines that harmonize mass, setback, setting, and materials;**
- iv) **limiting height and density;**
- v) **allowing only compatible infill and additions;**
- vi) **reversible alterations; and**
- vii) **buffer zones, site plan control, and other planning mechanisms.**

*Minimum Buffer* means:

the *minimum buffers* identified on Table 6.1 of this Plan.

*Mode Share or Modal Share* means:

the percentage of person trips or of freight movements made by one travel mode relative to the total number of such trips made by all modes.

*Multi-modal* means:

the availability or use of more than one form of transportation, such as automobiles, buses, rail (commuter, light rail and freight), walking, and cycling.

*Municipal Comprehensive Review* means:

an Official Plan review, or an Official Plan amendment, initiated by a municipality that comprehensively applies the policies and schedules of this Plan.

*Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties or Heritage Register* means:

A register established pursuant to Section 27 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and filed with the Clerk which identifies properties of *cultural heritage value or interest* within the city.

*Designated properties* are listed in the *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties*.

*Non-designated properties* may also be listed in the *Municipal Register of Cultural Heritage Properties*.

*Municipal Sewage Services* means:

a sewage works within the meaning of Section 1 of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, as amended from time to time, that is owned or operated by a municipality, including centralized and decentralized systems.

*Municipal Water Services* means:

A municipal drinking water system within the meaning of Section 2 of the *Safe Drinking Water Act*, as amended from time to time, including centralized and decentralized systems.

*Natural Areas* (see *Natural Heritage Features* definition).

*Natural Hazards* (see *Hazard Lands* definition).

*Natural Heritage Features and Areas* means:

features and areas, including *significant wetlands and other wetlands, Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species, significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, fish habitat and permanent and intermittent streams, significant woodlands, significant landform, significant valleylands, ecological linkages and significant wildlife habitat, Restoration Areas, habitat of significant species and cultural woodlands* as defined by the criteria in this Plan.

*Naturalization* means:

a process whereby an area that has been previously disturbed by humans or from natural events, is allowed to regenerate naturally with input of seeds and other propagules from the existing soil and/or adjacent natural areas.

*Negative Impacts* means:

- i) In regard to sewage and water services, potential risks to human health and safety and degradation to the *quality and quantity of water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features*, and their related *hydrologic functions*, due to single, multiple or successive *development*. *Negative impacts* should be assessed through environmental studies including hydrogeological or water quality impact assessments, in accordance with provincial standards;
- ii) In regard to water, degradation to the quality and quantity of surface or groundwater, *key hydrologic features* or vulnerable areas and their related *hydrologic functions*, due to single, multiple or successive *development*;
- iii) In regard to *fish habitat*, any permanent alteration to, or destruction of *Fish Habitat*, except where, in conjunction with the appropriate authorities, it has been authorized under the *Fisheries Act*; and
- iv) In regard to other *natural heritage features and areas*, degradation that threatens the health and integrity of the natural features or *ecological functions* for which an area is identified due to single, multiple or successive *development or site alteration* activities.

*Negative Impacts* means:

In regard to *cultural heritage resources*, *negative impacts* include, but are not limited to:

- a) Destruction of any, or part of any, significant *heritage attributes* or features;



- b) Alteration that is not sympathetic, or is incompatible, with the historic fabric and appearance;
- c) Shadows created that alter the appearance of a *heritage attribute* or change the viability of a natural feature or plantings, such as a garden;
- d) Isolation of a *heritage attribute* from its surrounding environment, context or a significant relationship;
- e) Direct or indirect obstruction of significant views or vistas within, from, or of built and natural features;
- f) A change in land use such as rezoning a battlefield from open space to residential use, allowing new *development* or *site alteration* to fill in the formerly open spaces;
- g) Land disturbances such as a change in grade that alters soils, and drainage patterns that adversely affect an *archaeological resource*.

*Net Density* means:

the concentration of residential *development*, calculated by dividing the total number of dwellings by the net area of the site developed for residential purposes. This term excludes roads and road rights-of-way and areas that have been dedicated to the City or another public agency.

*Non-exempt* means:

In regard to energy projects, an energy project that is subject to approval under the *Planning Act*. (see also *exempt*)

*Normal Maintenance* means:

activities undertaken in conjunction with *infrastructure* including energy, communication, waste water, roads, railways, trails, water supply and storage, water management and stormwater management to ensure regular operation parameters and public safety in accordance with the associated guidelines, regulations and maintenance policies, procedures and risk mitigation strategies for the *infrastructure*.

*Nursing Home* means:

any premises, licensed under the *Nursing Homes Act*, maintained and operated for persons requiring nursing care.

*One Hundred Year Flood* (see *100 Year Flood* definition at beginning of Glossary).

*Ontario Heritage Act* means:

Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18 as amended.

*Other Wetlands* means:

unevaluated *wetlands* of at least 0.2 hectares and no more than 0.5 hectares.

*Paris Galt Moraine* means:

the geomorphic feature referred to as the *Paris Galt Moraine* Complex with is a 6.4 to 8 km wide belt that extends over most of the city's south end (south of Clair Road) and occurs in a few more isolated patches in the central portion of the city. The Paris and Galt Moraines were both deposited by the Ontario ice lob during the Port Bruce Stadial (15,000 – 14,000 yr. B.P.)

*Partial Services* means:

- i) **Municipal sewage services or private communal sewage services combined with *individual on-site water services*; or**
- ii) **Municipal water services or private communal water services combined with *individual on-site sewage services*.**

*Passive Recreational Activities* means:

a range of outdoor activities and passive uses compatible with protecting the *Natural Heritage features and areas* including, but not limited to, *wildlife habitat, wetlands* and *woodlands*. Activities and uses include bird watching, hiking, photography, snowshoeing, and may require the construction of a trail, benches or boardwalks in accordance with the Guelph Trail Master Plan or are integral to the scientific, educational or passive recreational use of a property.

*Performance Labelling* means:

a transparent energy benchmarking process whereby the energy efficiency of a building is documented.

*Planning Act* means:

The Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, chapter P.13, as amended.

*Plans of Subdivision* (see *Registered Plan of Subdivision* definition).

*Plantations* means:

where tree cover is greater than 60% and dominated by canopy trees that have been planted:

- i) **managed for production of fruits, nuts, Christmas trees or nursery stock; or**
- ii) **managed for tree products with an average rotation of less than 20 years (e.g. hybrid willow or poplar); or**
- iii) **established and continuously managed for the sole purpose of tree removal at rotation, as demonstrated with documentation acceptable to the planning authority or the MNMNR, without a forest *restoration* objective.**

*Pollinator Habitat* means:

natural areas within the landscape that contain indigenous plants, shrubs, and trees that provide pollen, nectar, and other floral resources for pollinating insects and other animal

pollinators. In addition, these areas may provide appropriate nesting sites, such as exposed soil, rotting logs, cavity trees, hollow-stemmed plants, and host plants specific to local pollinators.

*Portable Asphalt Plant* means a facility:

- a) With equipment designed to heat and dry *aggregate* and to mix *aggregate* with bituminous asphalt to produce asphalt paving material, and includes stockpiling and storage of bulk materials used in the process;
- b) Which is not of permanent construction, but which is to be dismantled at the completion of the construction project.

*Portable Concrete Plant* means:

a building or structure:

- i) with equipment designed to mix cementing materials, aggregate, water and admixtures to produce concrete, and includes stockpiling and storage of bulk materials used in the process; and
- ii) which is not of permanent construction, but which is designed to be dismantled at the completion of the construction project.

**Primary Rental** means:

Units in structures with three or more units, composed of self-contained units where the primary purpose of the structure is to house rental tenants.

*Property*, as defined in Parts IV and V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, means:

real property and includes all buildings and structures thereon. This includes anything fixed to the *property* “**fixture**” but excludes anything portable “**chattel**”. Generally, a fixture is something affixed to the property by means other than its own weight, which cannot be removed without causing damage to the building. A chattel is a moveable item of property not permanently attached to land or a building.

*Property Standards By-law* means:

a municipal by-law, passed in accordance with the provisions of the *Ontario Building Code* which prescribes the standards for the maintenance and occupancy of property.

*Protected Heritage Property* means:

Real property designated under Parts IV, V, or VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; *heritage conservation easement* property under Parts II or IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and property that is the subject of a covenant or agreement between the owner of the property and a conservation body or level of government, registered on title and executed with primary purpose of preserving, conserving and maintaining a cultural heritage feature or resource, or preventing its destruction, demolition or loss.

*Provincial and Federal Requirements* means:

- i) in regard to policy 4.1.3.5, legislation and policies administered by the federal or provincial governments for the purpose of fisheries protection (including fish and *Fish Habitat*), and related, scientifically established standards such as water quality criteria for protecting lake trout populations; and
- ii) in regard to policy 4.1.3.3, legislation and policies administered by the provincial government or federal government, where applicable, for the purpose of protecting species at risk and their habitat.

*Provincial Plan* means:

Means a provincial plan within the meaning of section 1 of the *Planning Act*.

*Provincially Significant Employment Zone* means:

Areas defined by the Minister in consultation with affected municipalities for the purpose of long-term planning for job creation and economic development. Provincially significant employment zones can consist of employment areas as well as mixed-use areas that contain a significant number of jobs.

*Provincially Significant Species* means:

species that are not Endangered Species or Threatened Species but that are considered provincially significant by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry's Natural Heritage Information Centre (i.e., ranked as S1, S2 or S3) and/or listed as Special Concern at the provincial level by the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario.

*Provincially Significant Wetlands* means:

*wetlands* or a wetland complex identified by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry as being of provincial significance as determined through the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System.

*Public Realm* means:

Public spaces such as public streets and rights-of-way, urban squares, parks, community trails, and open spaces.

*Public Service Facilities* means:

Land, buildings and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and educational programs, long-term care services and cultural services. *Public service facilities* do not include *infrastructure*.

*Public View* means:

A view toward important public and historic buildings, natural heritage and open space features, landmarks and skylines when viewed from the *public realm*.

*Public Vista* means:

Views that are framed through built form or between rows of trees when viewed from the *public realm*.

*Quality and quantity of water* is:

Measured by indicators associated with hydrologic function such as minimum base flow, depth to water table, aquifer pressure, oxygen levels, suspended solids, temperature, bacteria, nutrients and hazardous contaminants, and hydrologic regime.

*Redevelopment* means:

the creation of new units, uses or lots on previously developed land in existing communities, including *brownfield* and *greyfield* sites.

In spite of the above definition, for the lands within the Special Policy Area Floodplain of this Plan, *redevelopment* shall include an addition which is larger than 50% of the total ground floor area of the original or existing building or structure.

*Registered Plan of Subdivision* means:

a plan showing lots, streets and blocks of land, approved by the City of Guelph, in accordance with the *Planning Act*, and registered under the *Registry Act*, or the *Land Titles Act*.

*Regulatory Flood* means:

the flood resulting from the Hurricane Hazel Regional Storm, as determined by the Grand River Conservation Authority.

*Regulatory or Regional Flood Level* means:

a set of lines on either side of river or stream showing the highest water level which may be reached in the event of a regional storm as defined and calculated by the Grand River Conservation Authority. In Guelph, the regional flood is defined as the rainfall experience during the Hurricane Hazel storm of 1954 superimposed over the Grand River watershed.

*Renewable Energy* means:

the production of heat or energy from a renewable source such as, the sun, wind, water, biomass, biogas or geothermal.

*Renewable Energy Systems* means:

the production of power or heat from an energy source that is renewable by natural processes including, but not limited to, wind, water, a biomass resource or product, solar and geothermal energy.

*Renovation* shall mean:

for the Special Policy Area Flood Plain of this Plan, a form of *development* involving the improvement, alteration or addition under 50% of total ground floor area to an existing building or structure.

*Residential Intensification* means:

*Intensification* of a property, site or area which results in a net increase in residential units or accommodation and includes:

- a) redevelopment, including the redevelopment of brownfield sites;
- b) the *development* of vacant or underutilized lots within previously developed areas;
- c) infill development;
- d) development and introduction of new *housing options* within previously developed areas;
- e) the conversion or expansion of existing industrial, commercial and institutional buildings for residential use; and
- f) the conversion or expansion of existing residential buildings to create new residential units or accommodation, including *additional residential dwelling units*, rooming houses, and other *housing options*.

*Restoration* means:

active management of an area that results in accelerated regeneration and recovery of a desired vegetation community or habitat, typically one that once occurred naturally in the area. This may include the creation or re-creation of *wetlands*, *woodlands* or meadows/grasslands.

*Retail Commercial* means:

an enterprise whose purpose is to sell a commodity to the end user.

*S-Ranks or Provincial Ranks* means:

Provincial (or Subnational) ranks are used by the NHIC to set protection priorities for rare species and natural communities. These ranks are not legal designation. Provincial Ranks are assigned in a manner similar to that described for global ranks, but consider only those factors within the political boundaries of Ontario. By comparing the global and provincial ranks, the status, rarity, and the urgency of conservation needs can be

ascertained. The NHIC evaluates provincial ranks on a continual basis and produces updated lists at least annually.

- i) **S1 Critically Imperiled** – Critically imperiled in the nation or state/province because of extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer occurrences) or because of some factor(s) such as very steep declines making it especially vulnerable to *extirpation* from the state/province.
- ii) **S2 Imperiled** – Imperiled in the nation or state/province because of rarity due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors making it very vulnerable to *extirpation* from the nation or state/province.
- iii) **S3 Vulnerable** – Vulnerable in the nation or state/province due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to *extirpation*.

*Safe Access* means:

Locations where, during the *Regulatory Flood*:

- i) the flow velocity does not exceed 1.0 m/sec.;
- ii) the product of depth and velocity does not exceed 0.4 metres squared/sec.;
- iii) the depth of flooding along access routes to residential units does not exceed 0.8 metres;
- iv) the depth of flooding along access routes to commercial or industrial buildings or structures does not exceed or 2.0 metres;
- v) the depth of flooding adjacent to residential units does not exceed 1.2 metres; and
- vi) the depth of flooding adjacent to commercial or industrial buildings or structures does not exceed 2.0 metres.

*Scoped Cultural Heritage Resource Impact Assessment* means:

a reduced scope of study conducted prior to *development/redevelopment* to investigate the potential impact of *development* on *cultural heritage resources*, including *development* proposals on lands adjacent to *designated property* or other *protected heritage property*.

*Scoped Environmental Impact Study (EIS)* means:

the form of study used in the context of assessing impact on *natural heritage features* where *development* within or adjacent to a natural heritage feature or area is contemplated and a comprehensive study (*EIS/EA/Subwatershed Plan*) has been completed. In this instance an area or site specific study that addresses the issues of particular concern not previously addressed in sufficient detail in the comprehensive studies will be examined for the site specific *development* proposal.

Alternatively, this form of EIS may be used in instances where a *Comprehensive EIS* has not been undertaken, but the City, via its *development* approval process, requires a study to be conducted to assess impact on the *features* and *adjacent lands* thereto.

*Seepage Areas and Springs* means:

Sites of emergence of groundwater where the water table is present at the ground surface.

*Senior Citizen* means:

any person 60 years of age or older.

*Sensitive Land Use* means:

buildings, amenity areas or outdoor spaces where routine or normal activities occurring at reasonably expected times would experience one or more *adverse effects* from contaminant discharges generated by a nearby facility. *Sensitive land uses* may be a part of the natural or built environment. Examples may include, but not be limited to residences, *day care centres*, and educational and health facilities.

*Service Manager* means:

(see *Consolidated Municipal Service Manager* definition)

*Service Commercial* means:

uses that support *highway-oriented* or service-oriented commercial activities that cannot be readily located within the downtown area or within a shopping centre location. The following list characterizes the main features of a *service commercial* use:

- a) A use that requires a large site area and outdoor display area to accommodate the sale of large commodities such as cars, recreational vehicles, building supplies;
- b) A use that primarily relies on business from tourists and inter-urban traffic such as a hotel, gas bar, fast-food restaurant;
- c) A use that supplies goods and services that are not normally found within the downtown or a shopping centre such as auto repair and service facilities;
- d) A use that requires a location convenient to industry as it primarily provides service to industry such as machinery sales and service, electrical supplies; or
- e) A use that requires substantial showroom area because of the bulky or large size nature of the principal commodities that are being marketed, and the requirement for a large showroom makes it economically difficult to provide the space in the downtown or shopping centre location.

*Settlement area* means:

all lands identified in the Official Plan for *development* or *redevelopment* up to the year 2051 as shown on Schedule 1a.



*Significance* (see *Significant* definition).

*Significant* means:

1. in regard to landform, means the portions of the *Paris Galt Moraine* containing concentrations of 20% slopes, and closed depressions located in close proximity to other Significant Natural Areas of the NHS.
2. in regard to *wetlands* means:
  - a) provincially significant wetlands
  - b) locally significant wetlands
3. in regard to *woodlands* means *woodlands* that are ecologically important in terms of features such as species composition, age of trees and stand history, functionally important due its contribution to the broader landscape because of its location, size or due to the amount of remaining forest cover in the city;
4. in regard to valleylands means a protected natural heritage feature or area that occurs in a valley or other landform depression that has water flowing through or standing for some period of the year. This includes regulatory floodplains/riverine flooding hazards, riverine erosion hazards and apparent/other valleylands ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representativeness, or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of the Natural Heritage System; and
- v) in regard to cultural heritage and archaeology, resources that have been determined to have cultural heritage value or interest. Processes and criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest are established by the Province under the authority of the Ontario Heritage Act.

*Significant Groundwater Recharge Area* means:

An area that has been identified:

- a) as a *significant groundwater recharge area* by any public body for the purposes of implementing the PPS, 2020;
- b) as a *significant groundwater recharge area* in the assessment report required under the Clean Water Act, 2006; or
- c) as an ecologically *significant groundwater recharge area* delineated in a *subwatershed plan* or equivalent in accordance with provincial guidelines.

For the purposes of this definition, ecologically *significant groundwater recharge areas* are areas of land that are responsible for replenishing groundwater systems that directly support sensitive areas like cold water streams and *wetlands*.

*Significant Surface Water Contribution Area* means:

Areas, generally associated with headwater catchments, that contribute to baseflow volumes which are significant to the overall surface water flow volumes within a

*watershed.*

*Site Alteration* means:

activities such as grading, excavation and the placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site.

*Social Housing* means:

sometimes referred to as **'assisted', 'subsidized' or 'rent-geared-to income' housing**, housing that is a sub-set of *affordable housing*. It refers to housing units provided under a variety of federal and provincial housing program by the municipal non-profit housing corporation and private non-profit and co-operative non-profit housing corporations. Residents in rent-geared-to income units in *social housing* portfolios pay no more than 30% of their annual gross household income in rent. It also refers to housing units within the private rental sector, where rent-geared-to-income subsidy is provided through a rent supplement agreement to the landlord.

*Special Concern* means:

a species with characteristics resulting in sensitivity to human activities or natural events which may cause it to become *endangered* or *threatened species*.

*Special Needs Housing* means:

any housing, including dedicated facilities, in whole or in part, that is used by people who have specific needs beyond economic needs, including but not limited to, needs such as mobility requirements or support functions required for daily living. Examples of *special needs housing* may include, but are not limited to, long-term care homes, adaptable and accessible housing, and housing for persons with disabilities such as physical, sensory or mental health disabilities, and housing for older persons. For the purposes of this Plan, it also includes *group homes*, emergency shelters, special care facilities for persons with disabilities and housing for seniors (rest homes, palliative care, *nursing homes*).

*Strategic Growth Areas* means:

within settlement areas, nodes, corridors, and other areas that have been identified by municipalities or the Province to be the focus for accommodating intensification and higher-density mixed uses in a more compact built form. Strategic growth areas include urban growth centres, major transit station areas, and other major opportunities that may include infill, redevelopment, brownfield sites, the expansion or conversion of existing buildings, or greyfields. Lands along major roads, arterials, or other areas with existing or planned *frequent transit* service or higher order transit corridors may also be identified as strategic growth areas.

Strategic growth areas are identified in this Plan on Schedule 1a.

*Subwatershed Study* means:

a study that reflects and refines the goals, objectives, targets, and assessments of *watershed planning*, as available at the time a *subwatershed study* is completed, for smaller drainage areas, is tailored to subwatershed needs and addresses local issues.

A *subwatershed study* should consider existing development and evaluate impacts of any potential or proposed land uses and development; identify hydrologic features, areas, linkages, and functions; identify natural features, areas, and related *hydrologic functions*; and provide for protecting, improving, or restoring the *quality and quantity of water* within a subwatershed.

A *subwatershed study* is based on pre-development monitoring and evaluation; is integrated with natural heritage protection; and identifies specific criteria, objectives, actions, thresholds, targets, and best management practices for development, for water and wastewater servicing, for stormwater management, for managing and minimizing impacts related to severe weather events, and to support ecological needs.

*Surface Water Features* means:

water related features **on the earth's surface, including headwaters, rivers, stream channels, inland lakes and ponds, seepage areas, recharge/discharge areas, springs, wetlands,** and associated riparian lands that can be defined by their soil moisture, soil type, vegetation and topographic characteristics.

*Threatened Species* means:

species **that is listed or categorized as a "Threatened" species on the official Species at Risk in Ontario list,** as updated and amended from time to time by the *Endangered Species Act, 2007*.

*Transit-supportive* means:

In regard to land use patterns, means development that makes transit viable, optimizes investments in transit infrastructure, and improves the quality of the experience of using transit. It often refers to compact, mixed-use development that has a high level of employment and residential densities, including air rights development, in proximity to transit stations, corridors and associated elements within the transportation system. When used in reference to urban design, it often refers to design principles that make development more accessible for transit users, such as roads laid out in a grid network rather than a discontinuous network; pedestrian-friendly built environment along roads to encourage walking to transit; reduced setbacks and placing parking at the sides/rear of buildings; and improved access between arterial roads and interior blocks in residential areas.

*Transportation Corridor* means:

a thoroughfare and its associated buffer zone for passage or conveyance of vehicles or people. A transportation corridor includes any or all of the following:

- a) Major roads, arterial roads, and highways for moving people and goods;
- b) Rail lines/railways for moving people and goods;
- c) Transit rights-of-way/transitways including buses and light rail for moving people.

*Transportation Demand Management (TDM)* means:

A set of strategies that result in more efficient use of the transportation system by influencing travel behaviour by mode, time of day, frequency, trip length, regulation, route, or cost.

*Transportation infrastructure* means:

Works such as maintenance, repair or installation of roads or bridges/overpasses as well as underpasses and culverts, and rail lines, but does not include buildings or parking that may be associated with these *infrastructure* components with the exception of small-scale bus/rail boarding platforms and associated structures.

*Tree Canopy Cover* means:

the proportion of land area occupied by tree crowns when visualized from above. It is the two-dimensional horizontal extent of the combined canopies of all the trees on a given land area.

*Urban Agriculture* means:

The growing of crops or raising of animals for food at a small scale that is compatible with the surrounding neighbourhood. It may also include small-scale sales of urban agricultural products subject to zoning and other applicable regulations.

*Urban Forest* means:

for the purposes of this Plan, plantations, woodlands, hedgerows, treed areas and **individual trees outside the City's Natural Heritage System.**

*Urban Growth Centre* means:

Downtown Guelph as identified on Schedule 1a and defined in accordance with the policies of *A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe*.

*Vacancy Rate* means:

the percentage of *dwelling units* that are vacant in relation to the total number of *dwelling units* of that type. A vacant *dwelling unit* is one that is available for immediate rental and is physically unoccupied at the time of enumeration.

*Valleylands* means:

a natural area that occurs in a valley or other landform depression that has water flowing through or standing for some period of the year.

*Vulnerable in regards to surface or groundwater* means:

surface and groundwater that can be easily changed or impacted by activities or events, either by virtue of their vicinity to such activities or events or by permissive pathways between such activities and the surface and/or groundwater.

*Walkable Communities* means:

well-designed, compact communities where people can walk to school or work, to stores, parks, restaurants and entertainment destinations thereby providing opportunities for exercise and significantly reducing the need to drive.

*Water resource system* means:

A system consisting of *groundwater features* and areas and *surface water features*, and *hydrologic functions*, which provide the water resources necessary to sustain healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and human water consumption. The *water resource system* is comprised of *key hydrologic features* and *key hydrologic areas*.

*Watershed* means:

all land drained by a river or stream and its tributaries.

*Watershed planning* means:

Planning that provides a framework for establishing goals, objectives and direction for the protection of water resources, the management of human activities, land, water, aquatic life, and resources within a *watershed* and for the assessment of cumulative, cross-jurisdictional, and cross-*watershed* impacts.

*Watershed planning* typically includes: *watershed* characterization, a water budget, and conservation plan; nutrient loading assessments; consideration of the *impacts of a changing climate* and severe weather events; land and water use management objectives and strategies; scenario modelling to evaluate the impacts of forecasted growth and servicing options, and mitigation measures; an environmental monitoring plan; requirements for the use of environmental best management practices, programs, and performance measures; criteria for evaluating the protection of *quality and quantity of water*; the identification and protection of hydrologic features, areas, and functions and their interrelationships between or among them; and targets for the protection and restoration of riparian areas.

*Watershed planning* is undertaken at many scales and considers cross-jurisdictional and cross-*watershed* impacts. The level of analysis and specificity generally increases for smaller geographic areas such as subwatersheds and tributaries.

*Wayside Pit and Quarry* means:

a temporary pit or quarry opened and used by or for a public authority solely for the purpose of a particular project or contract of road construction and not located on the road right-of-way.

*Wetland Evaluation* means:

evaluation of wetland carried out in accordance with the MNDMNRF Wetland Evaluation Manual, as amended from time to time.

*Wetlands* mean:

lands that are seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water, as well as lands where the water table is close to or at the surface. In either case the presence of abundant water has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants. The four major types of wetlands are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens.

*Wildland fire assessment and mitigation standards* means:

The combination of risk assessment tools and environmentally appropriate mitigation measures identified by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry to be incorporated into the design, construction and/or modification of buildings, structures, properties and/or communities to reduce the risk to public safety, infrastructure and property from wildland fire.

*Wildlife Habitat* means:

areas where plants, animals and other organisms live and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Specific wildlife habitats of concern may include areas where species concentrate at a vulnerable point in their annual or life cycle; and areas, which are important to migratory or non-migratory species.

*Woodlands* means:

treed areas that provides environmental and economic benefits to both the private land owner and the general public, such as erosion prevention, hydrological and nutrient cycling, provision of clean air and the long-term storage of carbon, provision of clean air and the long-term storage of carbon, provision of wildlife habitat, outdoor recreational opportunities, and the sustainable harvest of a wide range of woodland products. Woodlands include treed areas, woodlots or forested areas and vary in their level of significance at the local, regional and Provincial levels.

This includes an area of land at least 0.2 hectares in size with at least:

- i) **1000 trees of any size, per hectare;**
- ii) **750 trees measuring over 5 centimetres diameter at breast height, per hectare;**

- iii) 500 trees measuring over 12 centimetres diameter at breast height, per hectare;
- iv) 250 trees measuring over 20 centimetres diameter at breast height, per hectare,

But does not include a cultivated fruit or nut orchard, a plantation established for the purpose of producing Christmas trees or nursery stock. For the purposes of defining woodland, treed areas separated by more than 20 metres will be considered a separate woodland.

*Zoning By-law* means:

a municipal by-law prepared in accordance with the *Planning Act*, that restricts the use of land and the manner in which buildings or structures are located on a property. A *zoning by-law* implements the intent of the Official Plan by specifically regulating what may or may not be done on individual parcels of land.

## Glossary of Acronyms

ANSI	Area of Natural and Scientific Interest
EIR	Environmental Implementation Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Study
EA	Environmental Assessment (under the Environmental Assessment Act)
COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
COSSARO	Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario
dbh	Diameter at breast height (for trees)
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Ocean
GIS	Geographic Information System
GRCA	Grand River Conservation Authority
MNR	Ministry of Natural Resources
NHS	Natural Heritage System
NHIC	Natural Heritage Information Centre (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources)
OMB	Ontario Municipal Board
PSW	Provincially Significant Wetland
SAR	Species at Risk
S1	Critically Imperiled (see definition under S-Ranks)
S2	Imperiled (see definition under S-Ranks)
S3	Vulnerable (see definition under S-Ranks)
S4	Apparently Secure
S5	Secure



## Schedules

Schedule 1a Urban Structure

Schedule 1b Urban Structure (Employment Areas)

Schedule 2 Land Use Plan

Schedule 3 Development Constraints

Schedule 4 Natural Heritage System

Schedule 4A Natural Heritage System- ANSIs and Wetlands

Schedule 4B Natural Heritage System- Surface Water and Fish Habitat

Schedule 4C Natural Heritage System- Significant Woodlands

Schedule 4D Natural Heritage System- Significant Valleylands & Significant Landform

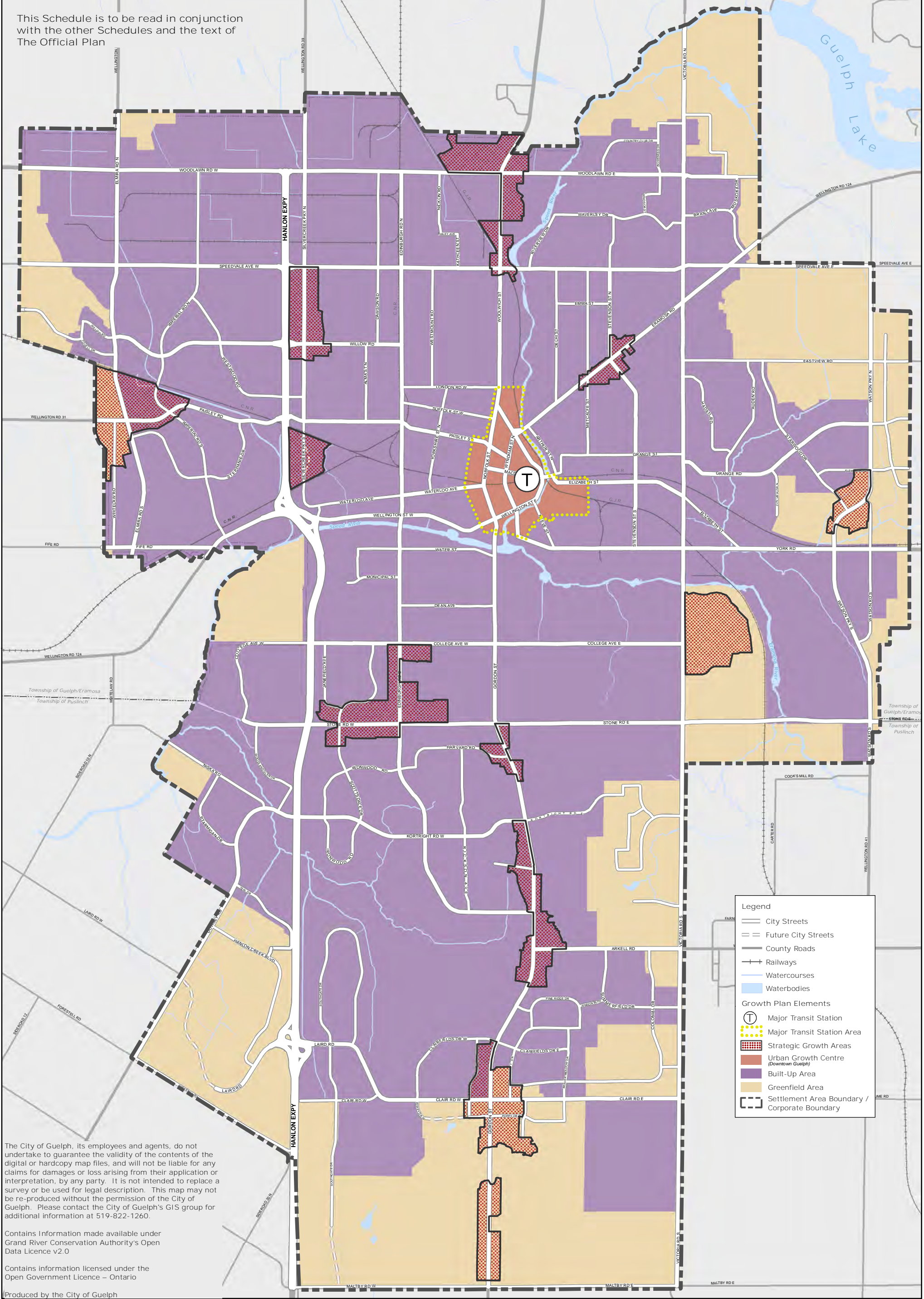
Schedule 4E Natural Heritage System- Significant Wildlife Habitat & Habitat for Significant Species

Schedule 5 Road & Rail Network

Schedule 6 Open Space System: Trail Network

Schedule 7 Wellhead Protection Areas

This Schedule is to be read in conjunction with the other Schedules and the text of The Official Plan

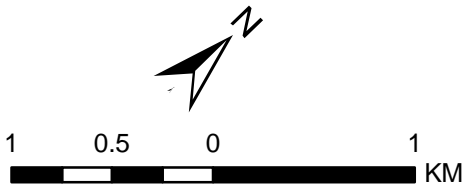


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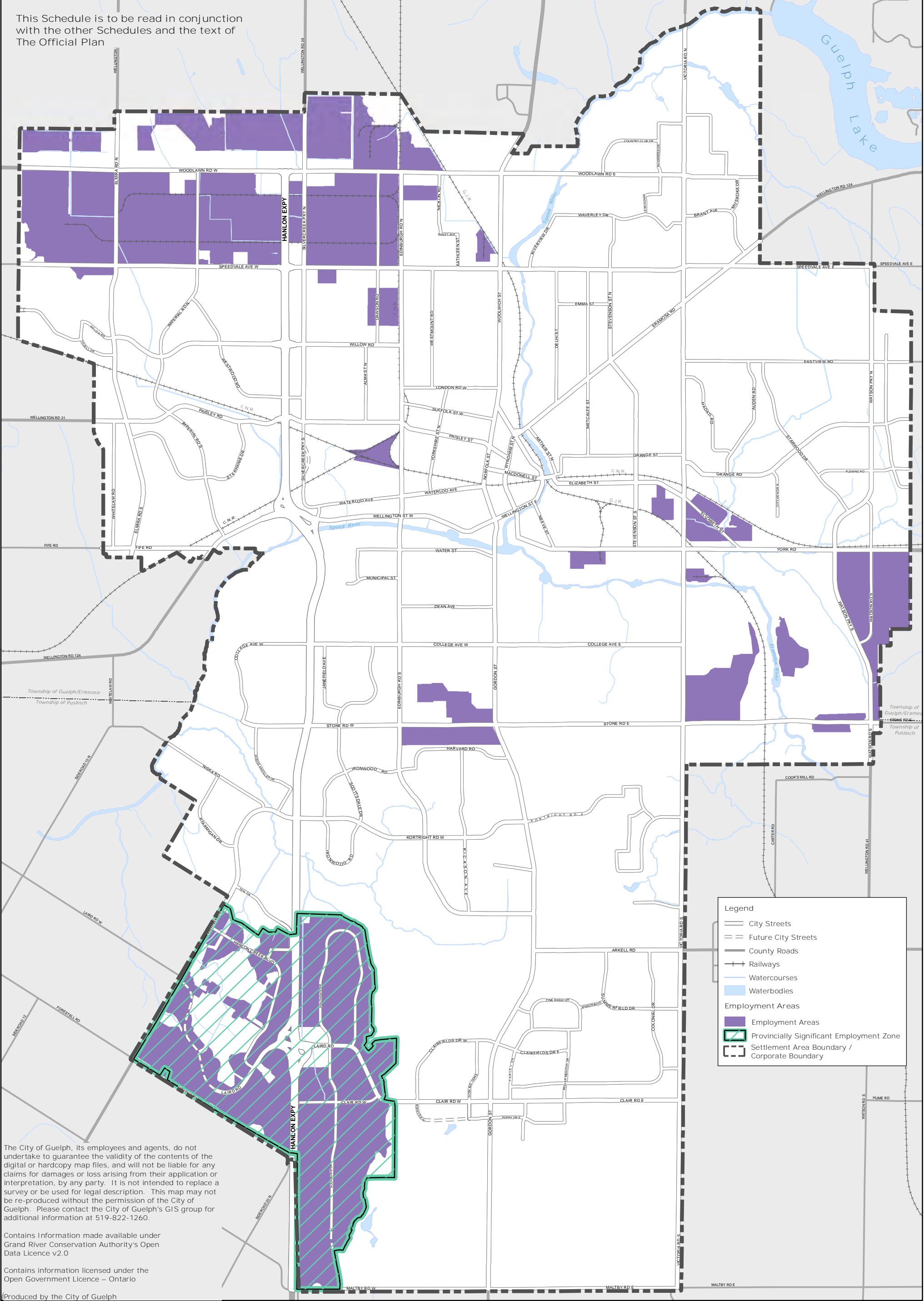
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Planning Services  
February 2024

CITY OF GUELPH  
OFFICIAL PLAN  
SCHEDULE 1a:  
URBAN STRUCTURE





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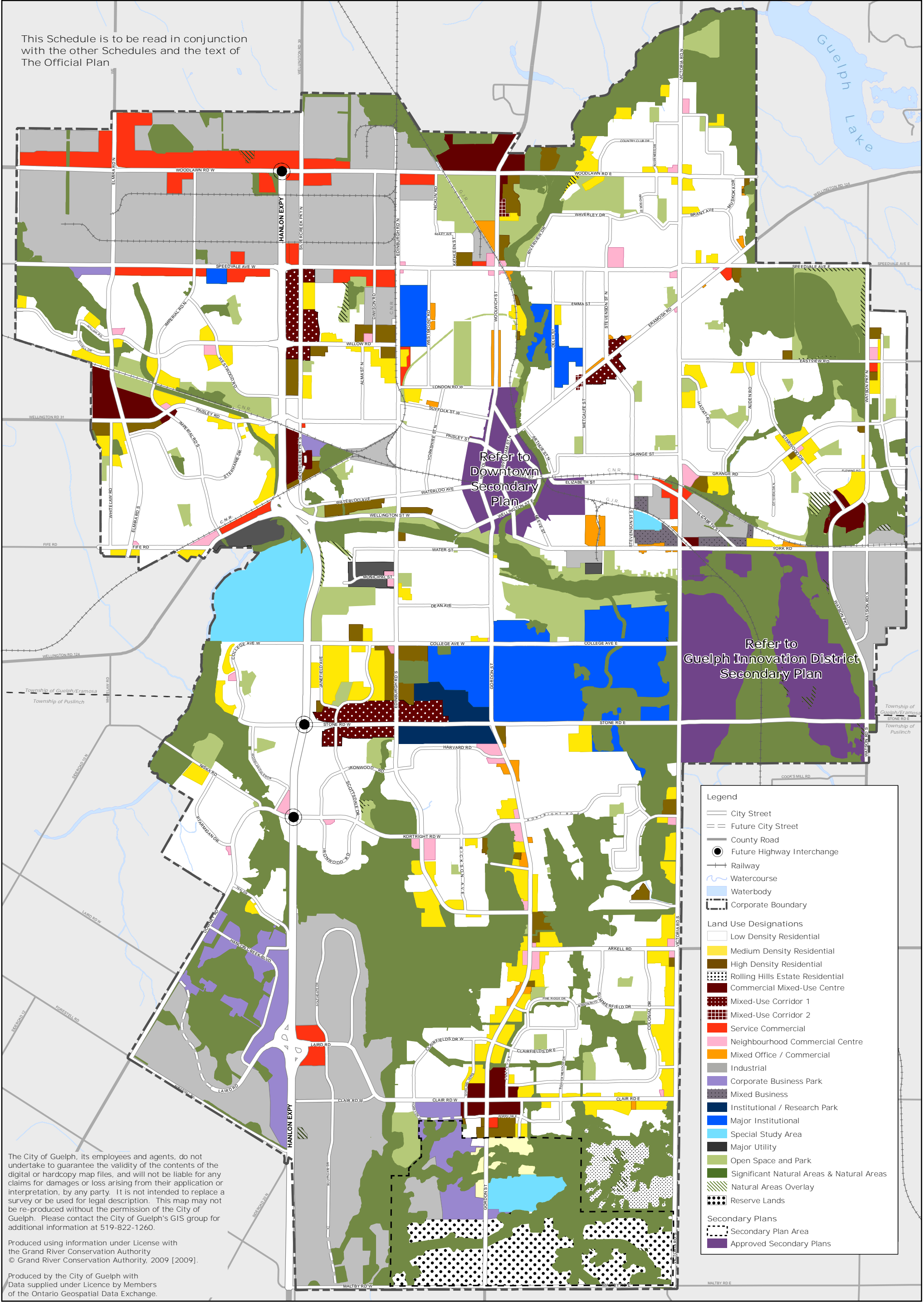
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CITY OF GUELPH  
OFFICIAL PLAN  
SCHEDULE 1b:  
STRUCTURE  
Employment Areas



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# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN

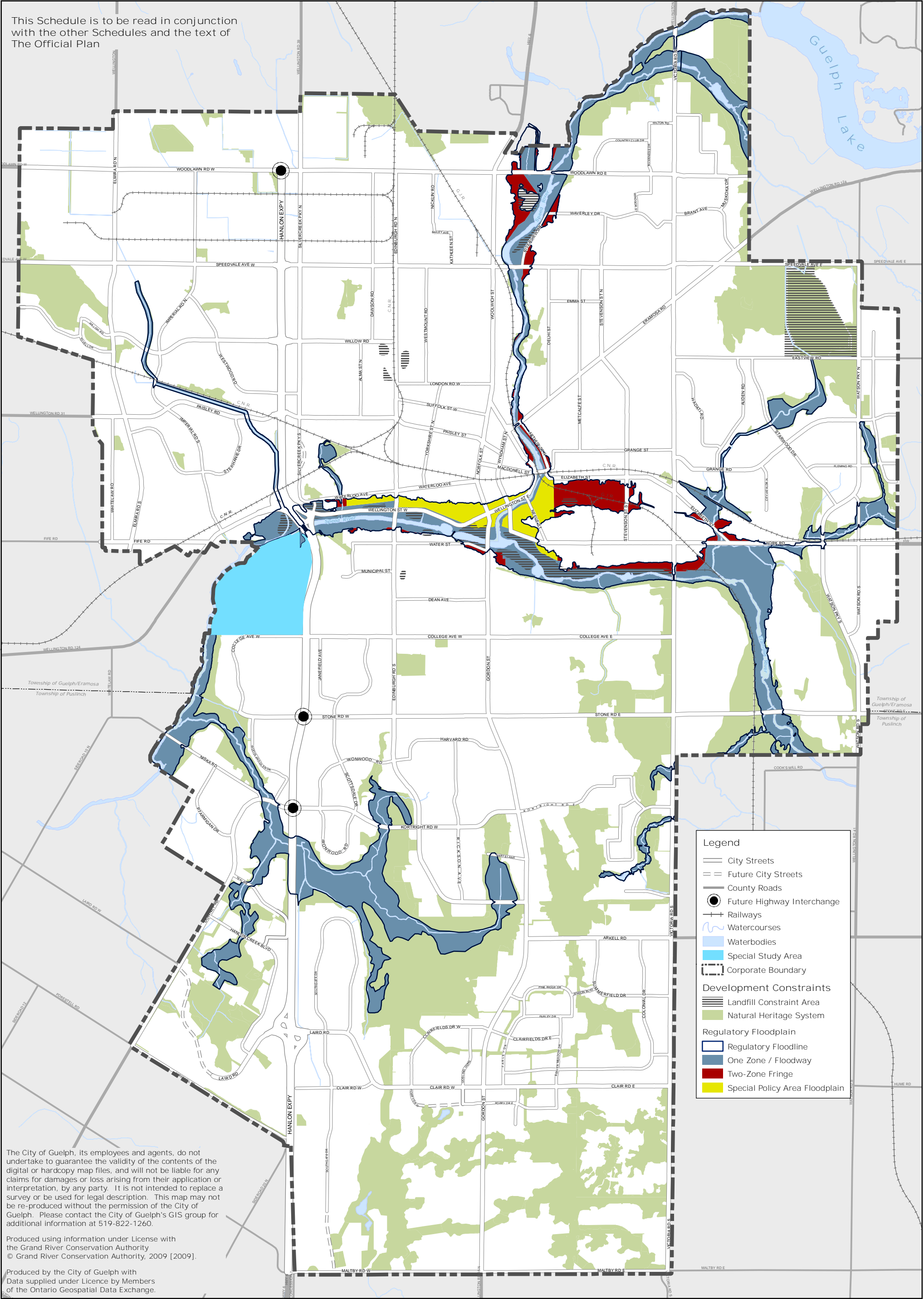
## SCHEDULE 2: LAND USE PLAN



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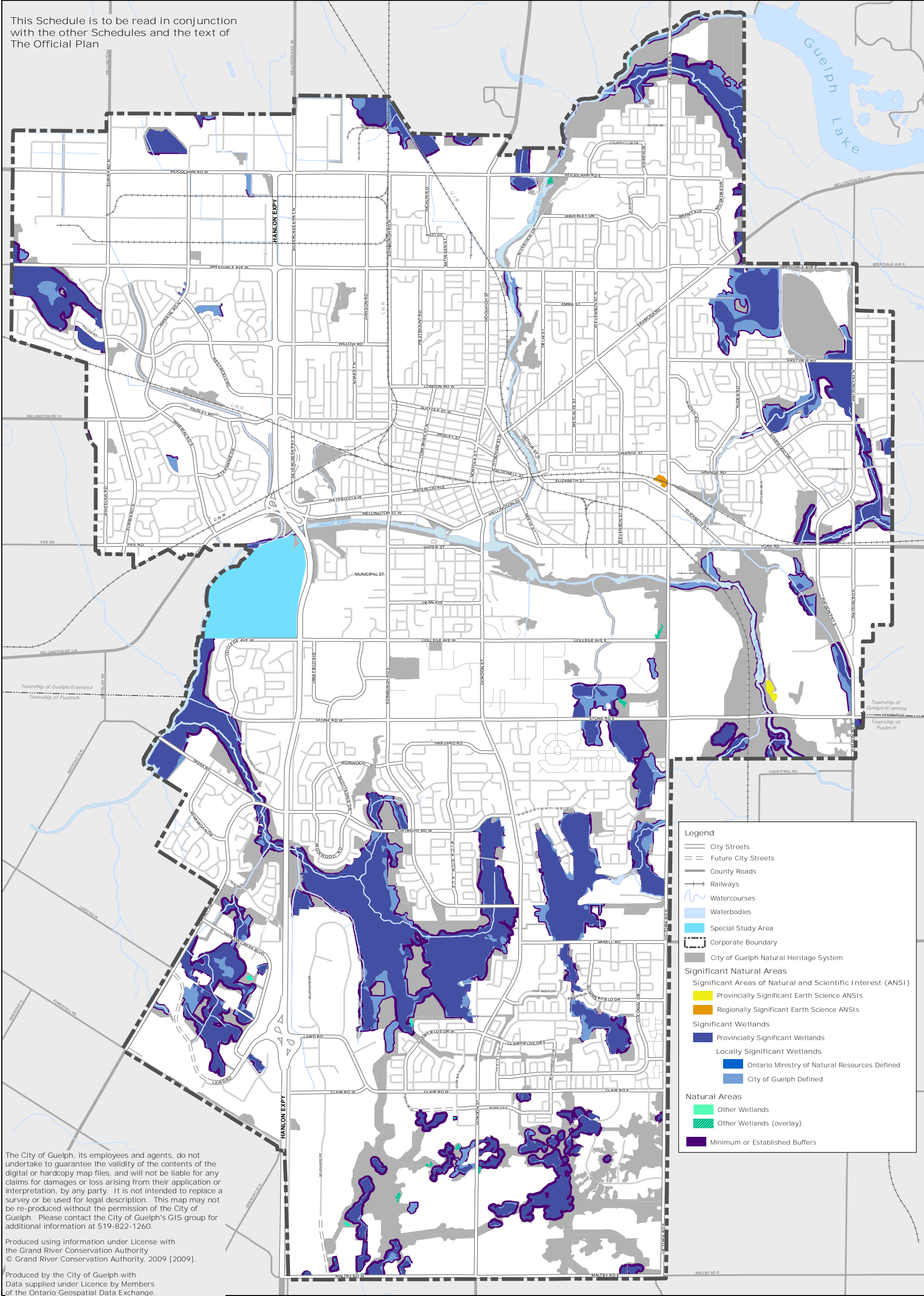
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# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 3: DEVELOPMENT CONSTRAINTS



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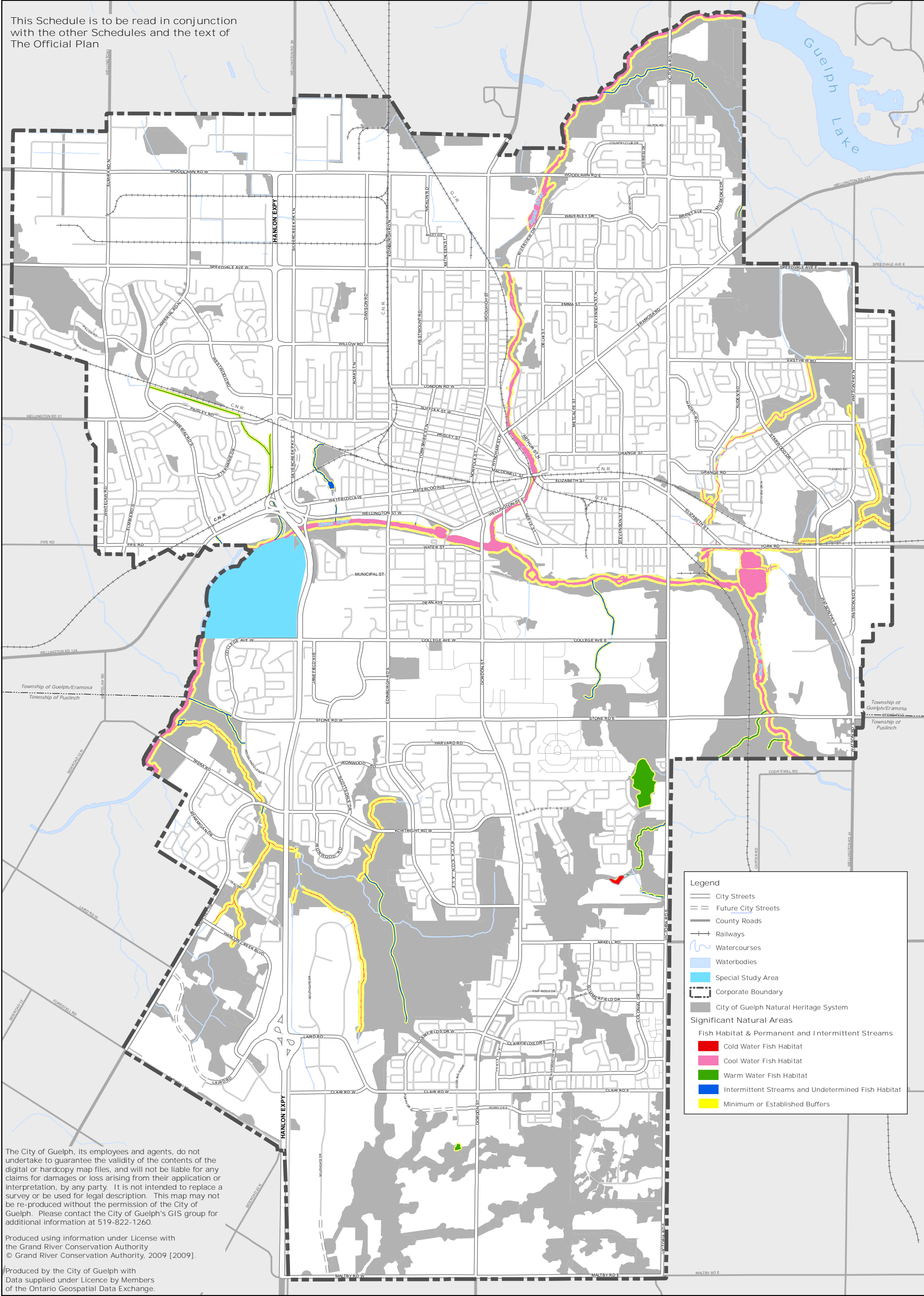
# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 4A: NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM ANSIs and Wetlands



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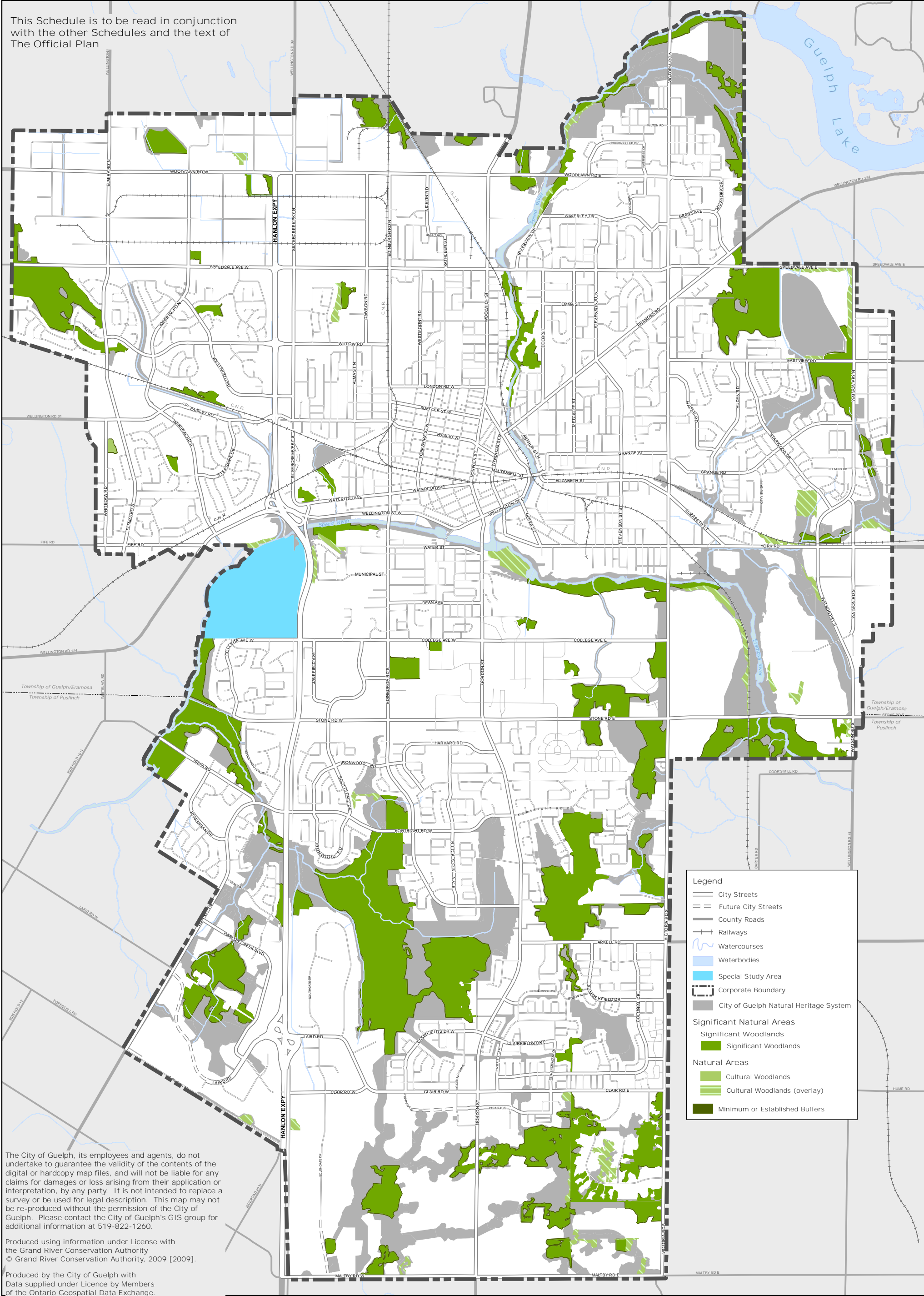


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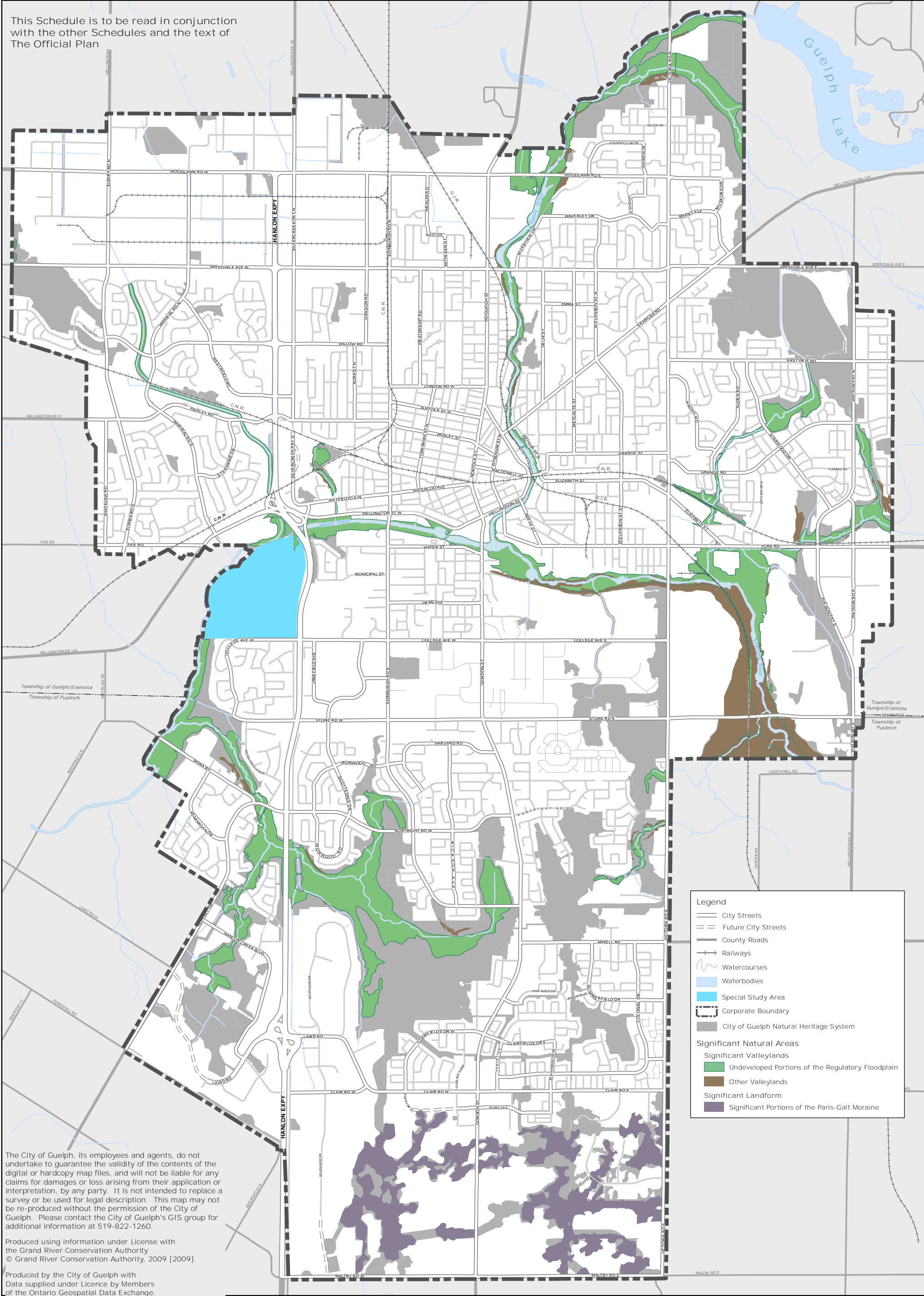
# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 4C: NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM Significant Woodlands



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# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 4D: NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM Significant Valleylands & Significant Landform

Legend

City Streets

Future City Streets

County Roads

Railways

Watercourses

Waterbodies

Special Study Area

Corporate Boundary

City of Guelph Natural Heritage System

Significant Natural Areas

Significant Valleylands

Undeveloped Portions of the Regulatory Floodplain

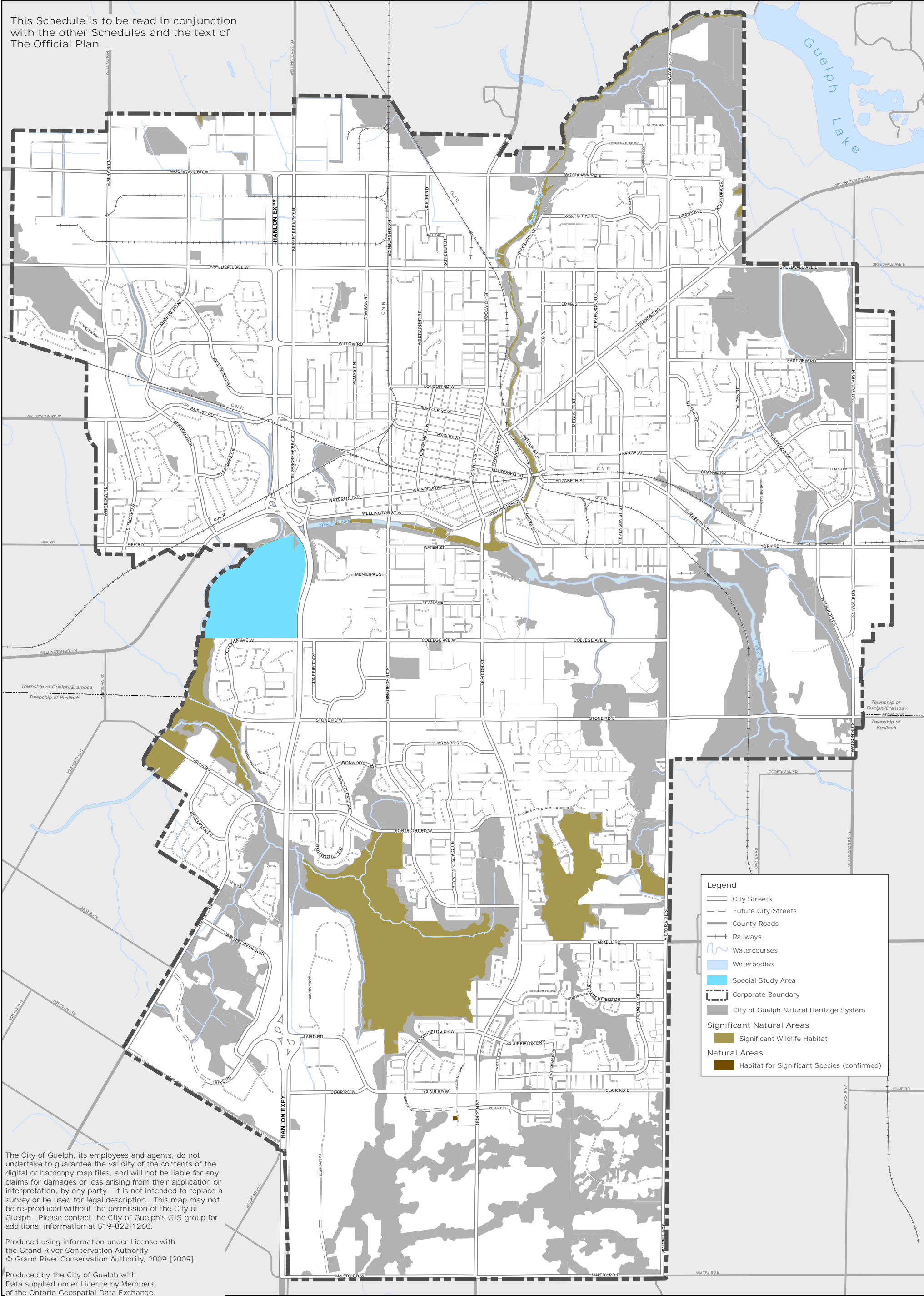
Other Valleylands

Significant Landform

Significant Portions of the Paris-Galt Moraine



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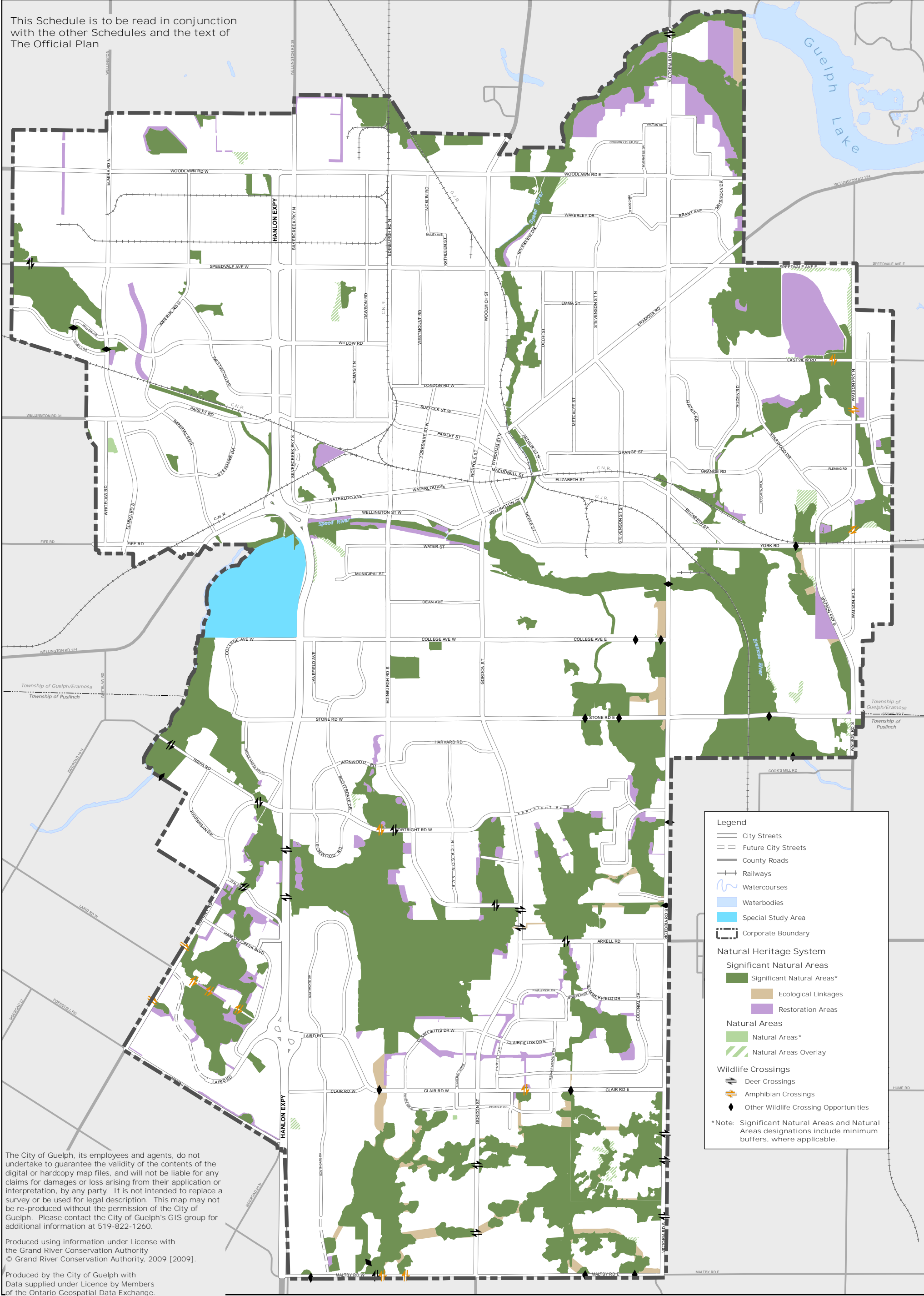
# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 4E: NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM

Significant Wildlife Habitat & Habitat for Significant Species



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February 2024

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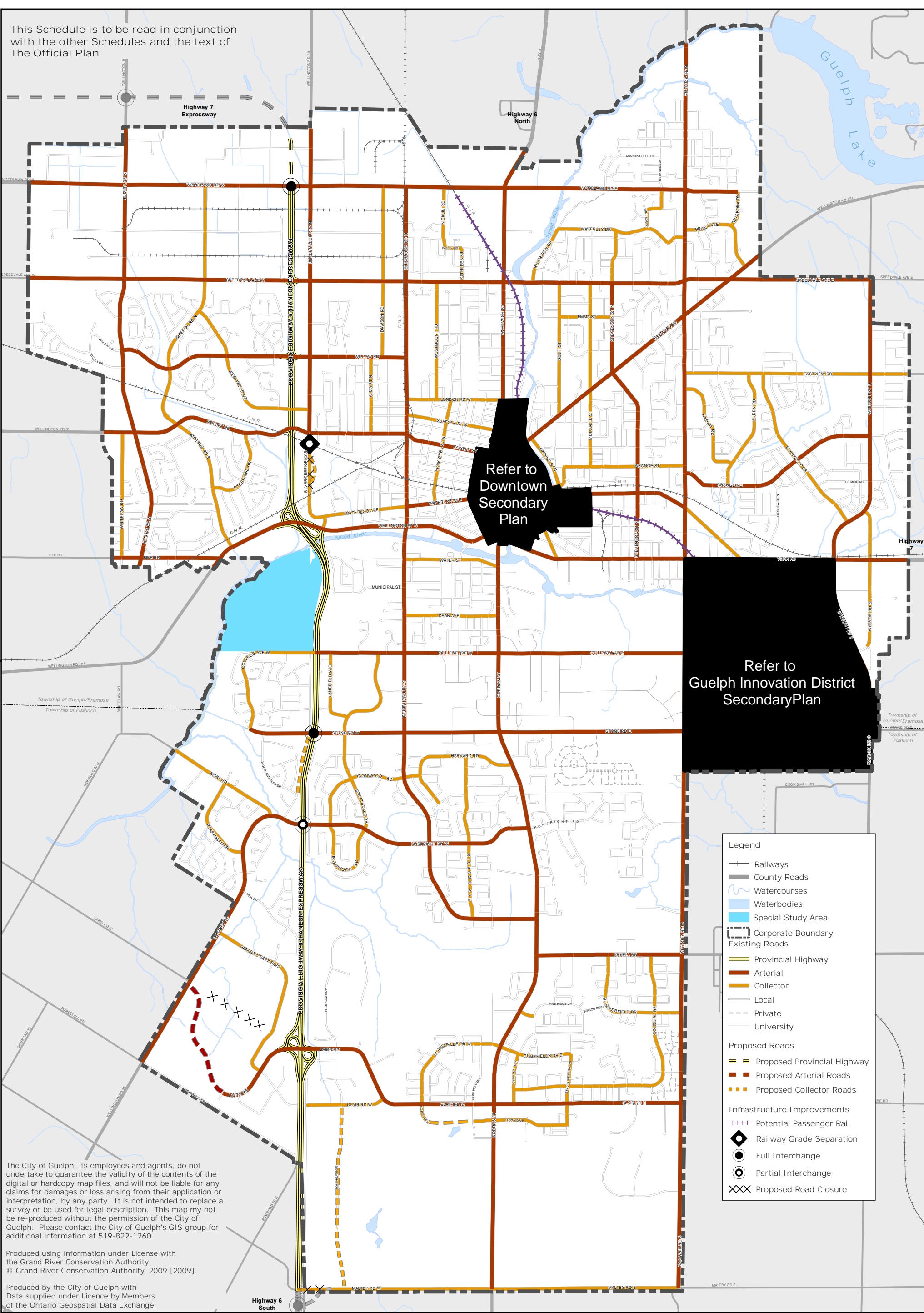
# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 4: NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM Natural Heritage System



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Planning Services  
February 2024



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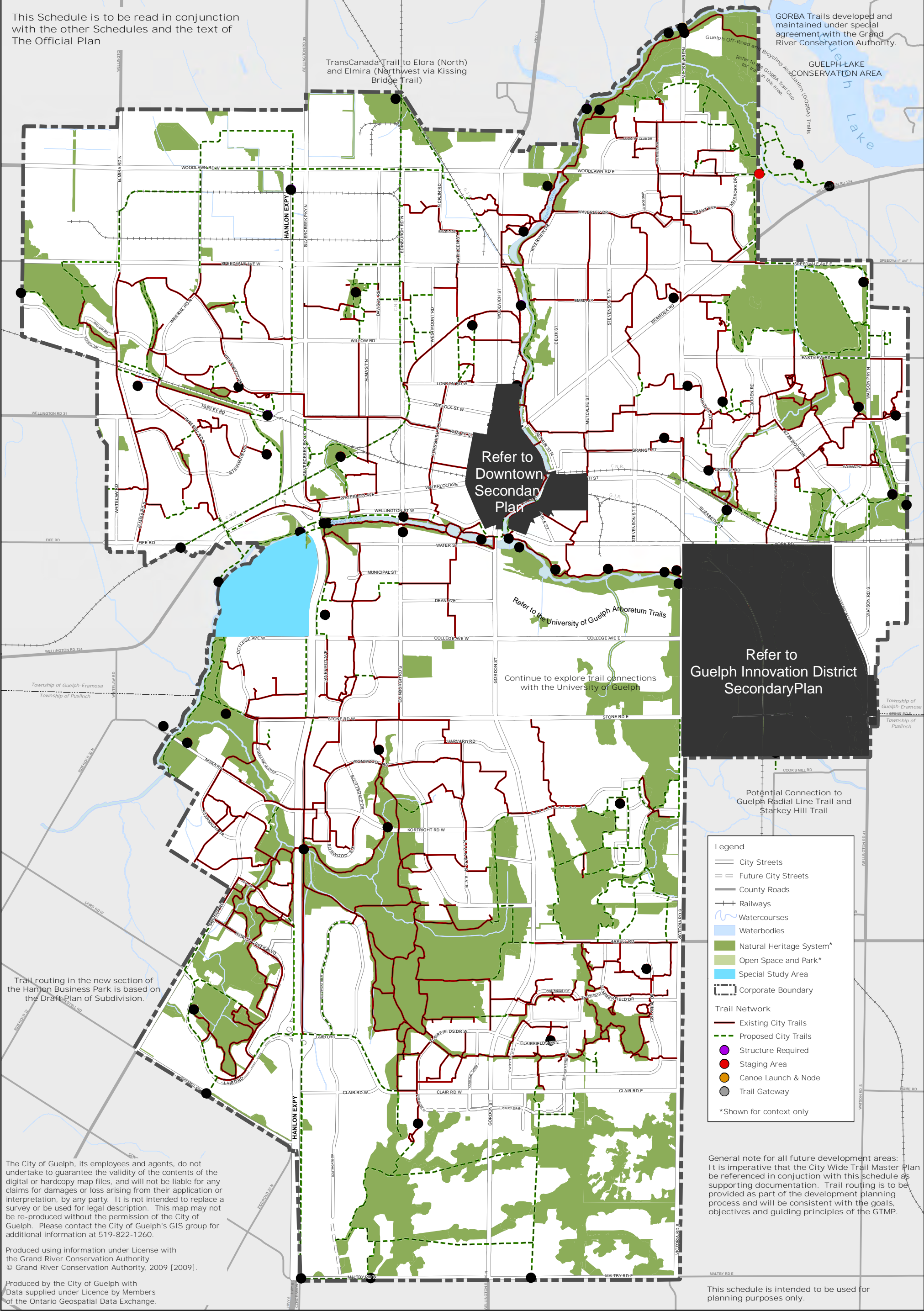
1 0.5 0 1 KM

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Planning Services  
February 2024

# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 5: ROAD & RAIL NETWORK



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1 0.5 0 1 KM

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## CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN

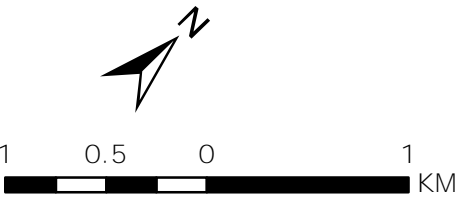
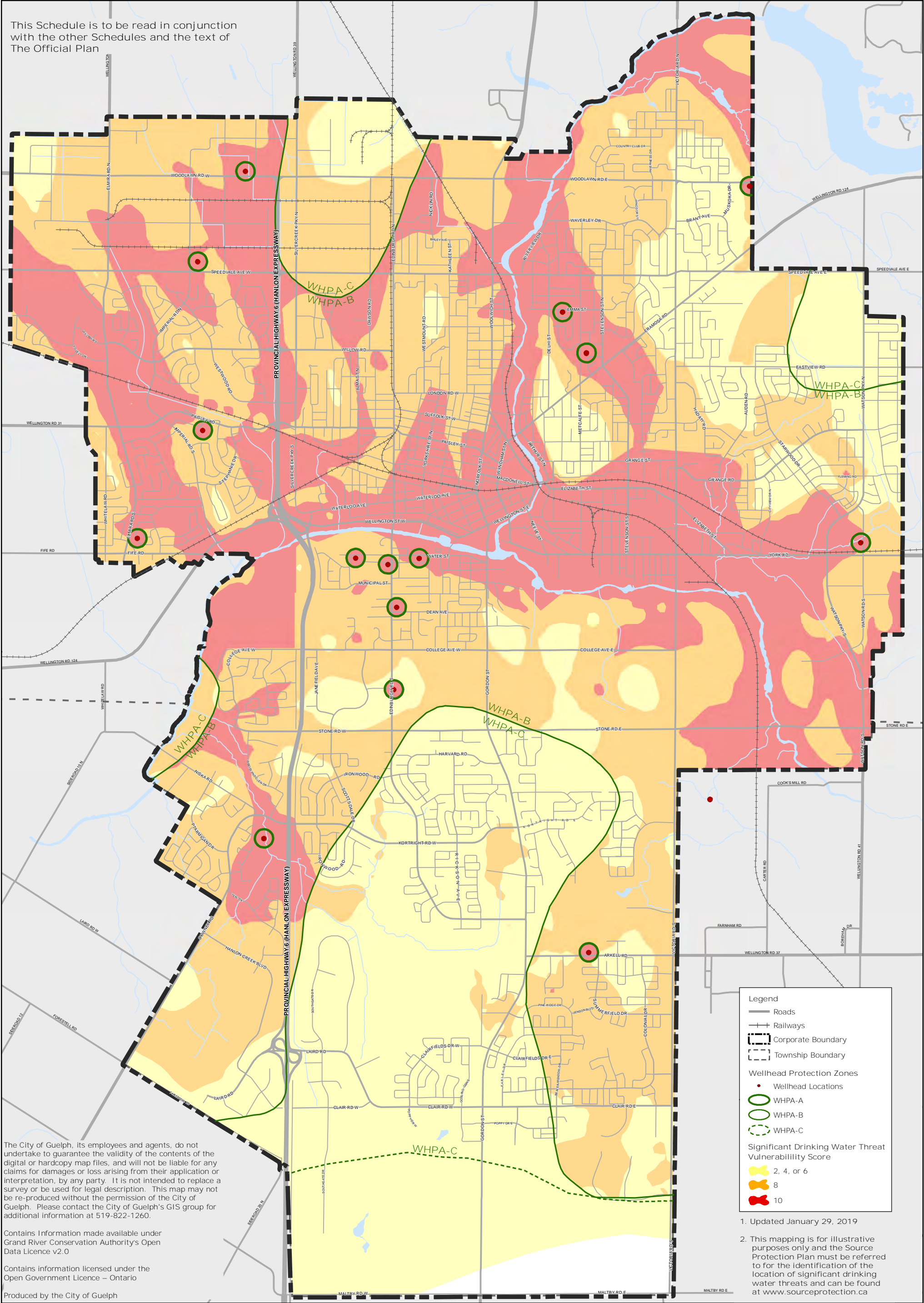
### SCHEDULE 6:

## OPEN SPACE SYSTEM: TRAIL NETWORK





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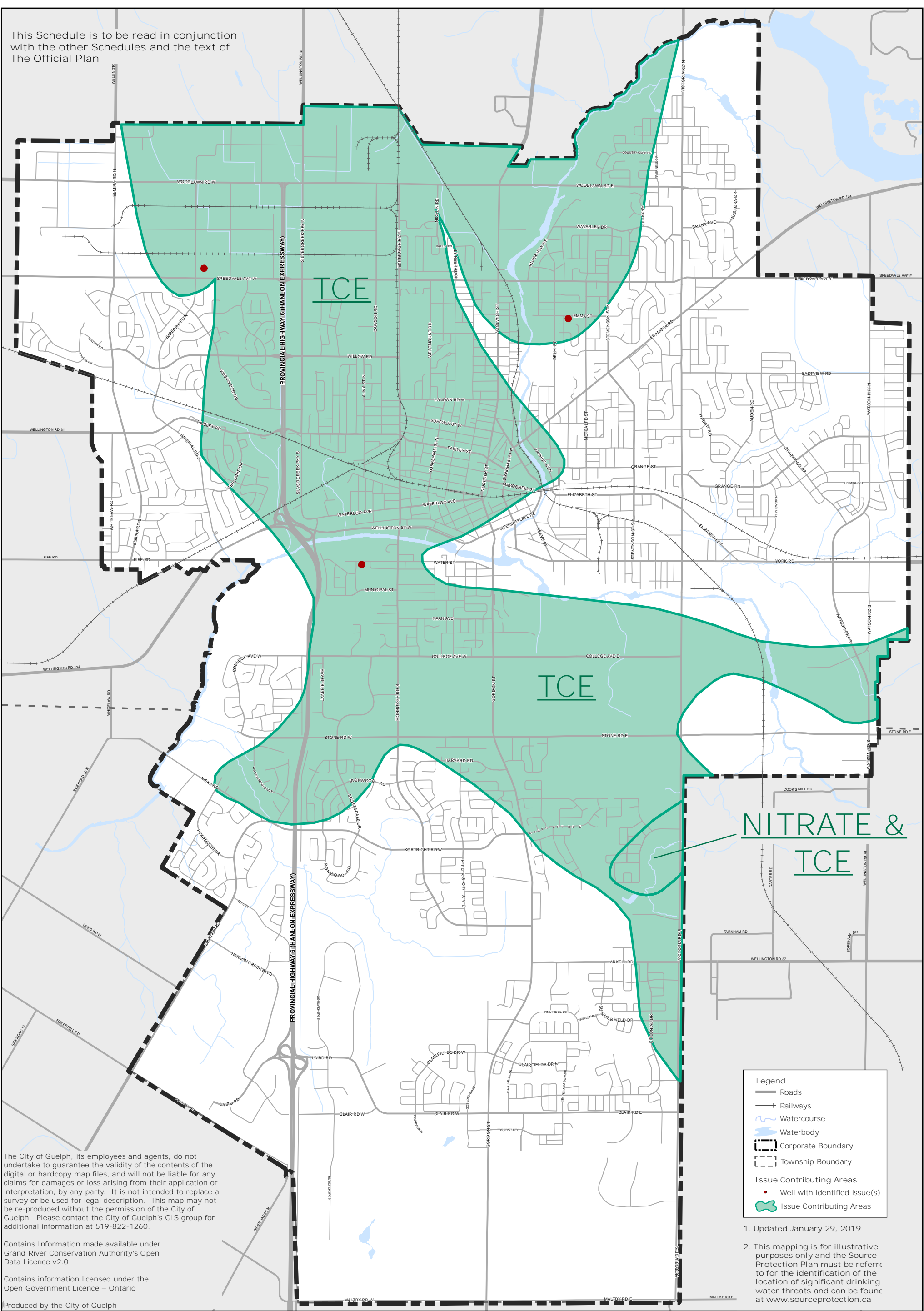
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# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN

## SCHEDULE 7a: SOURCE WATER PROTECTION Wellhead Protection Areas



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1 0.5 0 1 KM

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# CITY OF GUELPH OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE 7b: SOURCE WATER PROTECTION Issue Contributing Areas

