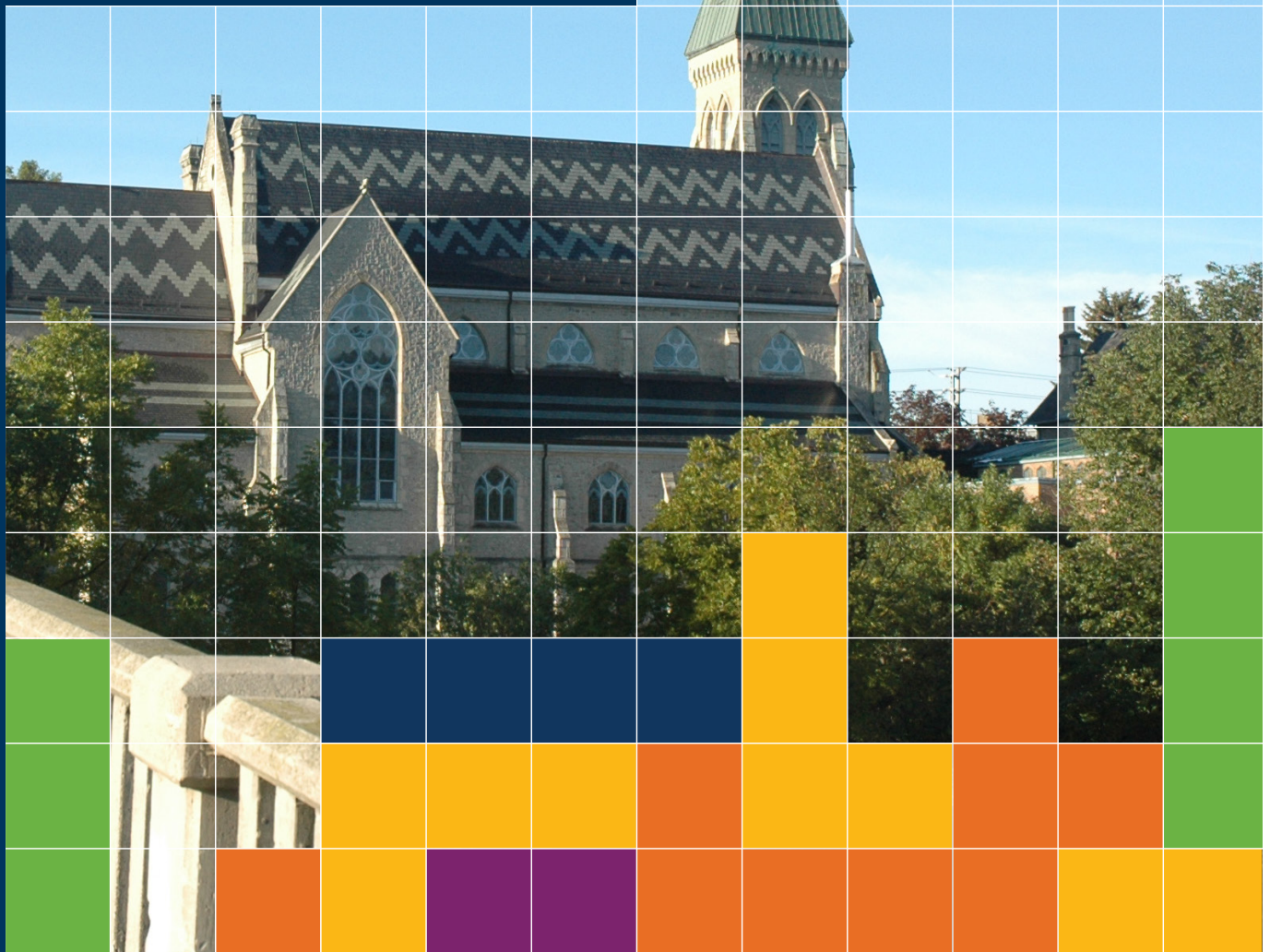


# Chapter 2

## Phase One Community Engagement



**Comprehensive**  
Zoning Bylaw Review

Discussion Paper  
October 2019

**CITY OF**  
**Guelph**  
Making a Difference

## **2.0 Community engagement in phase one**

### **2.1 What we did**

In February 2019, City staff hosted three community conversations in locations around Guelph to inform residents about zoning bylaws and their importance. These community conversations were also used to provide an overview of the comprehensive zoning bylaw review and gain input into what topics should be explored as a new zoning bylaw is developed. 29 members of the community attended one of the community conversations. Staff also gathered input through the City's [online engagement platform](#) and met individually with any community members, stakeholders and members of Council who requested meetings.

### **2.2 What we heard**

We heard a lot! We heard that in general, zoning needs to be easier to understand. We heard that the City needs to be more flexible in the types of residential uses it permits and needs to change the rules for accessory dwellings. We learned that there are new manufacturing uses, such as vertical farming, that are happening in the city and that Guelph's existing zoning rules make it challenging for these new uses to set up. We heard that some residents would like a new zoning bylaw to allow simple structures to be permitted nearer to our rivers. Most of all, we heard that some the Guelph community is interested in learning more about zoning and more about how the City can put new rules in place to achieve our community's vision. Each chapter of the Discussion Paper contains a summary of what we heard through our community conversations about topics outlined in that chapter. Appendix A is a summary of all the comments that we received and staff's preliminary responses.