



The Regional Municipality of Durham

Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Agenda

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

7:30 PM

Council Chambers
Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

Please note: In an effort to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and to generally comply with the directions from the Government of Ontario, it is requested in the strongest terms that Members participate in the meeting electronically. Regional Headquarters is closed to the public, all members of the public may [view the Committee meeting](#) via live streaming, instead of attending the meeting in person. If you wish to register as a delegate regarding an agenda item, you may register in advance of the meeting by noon on the day prior to the meeting by emailing delegations@durham.ca and will be provided with the details to delegate electronically.

1. Roll Call

2. Declarations of Interest

3. Adoption of Minutes

- A) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held on April 12, 2022
([Attachment 1](#))

4. Presentations

- A) Amanda Bathe, Senior Planner, Regional Municipality of Durham Planning and Economic Development – Envision Durham Draft Natural Heritage System

5. Discussion Items

- A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update – S. Jibb
B) 2022 DAAC Farm Tour Sub-Committee Report – D. Risebrough
C) ROPA 2022-002 – Concession 4, Township of Uxbridge - McDermott & Associates Limited

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2548.

6. Information Items

- A) [#2022-P-11](#) - Envision Durham – Growth Management Study Land Need Assessment - Staff Recommendation on Land Need Scenarios (**Attachment 2**)
- B) 2022 Business Count

7. Other Business

8. Date of Next Meeting

June 14, 2022

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If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 12, 2022

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January April 12, 2022 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 7:30 PM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
T. Barrie, Clarington
N. Guthrie, Member at Large
B. Howsam, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog
K. Kennedy, Member at Large
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby
B. Smith, Uxbridge, Vice-Chair
G. Taylor, Pickering
F. Puterbough, Member at Large
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
B. Winter, Ajax

***members of the Committee participated electronically**

Absent: G. Highet, Regional Councillor

Staff

Present: A. Brown, Program Specialist, Department of Planning and Economic Development
C. Goodchild, Manager, Policy & Special Studies, Department of Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Jibb, Manager, Agriculture & Rural Affairs, Department of Planning and Economic Development
M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic Development
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
***all staff except R. Inacio participated electronically**

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by T. Watpool, Seconded by F. Puterbough,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting
held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Delegations

A) Helen Brenner, Pickering Resident, re: Agricultural Impact of Urban Sprawl

Helen Brenner, Pickering Resident, provided a presentation regarding the
Agricultural Impact of Urban Sprawl.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Advance Complete Communities
- The Ask! Endorse: No new land growth scenario
- Why? We have the best Soil

H. Brenner shared her vision for a sustainable Durham Region to advance complete communities in support of a mix of housing forms to increase affordability including citizens being able to access the frequent transit options; walkable and bikeable spaces; and, where farmland and watersheds are protected in perpetuity.

H. Brenner requested the committee's support to hold the current urban boundary intact. She indicated that there are currently 10,000 vacant acres of development land and based on 2020 data, there are 33,000 draft approved residential and 26,000 residential units in progress.

H. Brenner discussed the Ontario Prime Agricultural System Implement documents; soil capability for agriculture; Durham Region's 2020 Climate Emergency; Durham Region's environmental sustainability in the strategy plan; Impact of Land-use Scenarios on GHG Emissions report; curbing urban sprawl; community design and land use; and, missing middle housing format.

H. Brenner responded to questions from the Committee.

5. Presentations

A) Namrata Shrestha, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Reporting, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority – TRCA's Updated Regional Natural Heritage System and Water Resource System Mapping: An Overview

Namrata Shrestha, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Reporting, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding TRCA's Updated Regional Natural Heritage System and Water Resource System Mapping: An Overview.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Context
- Context: Agriculture
- What is a Natural Heritage System (NHS)?
- TRCA's Terrestrial Natural Heritage System Strategy (2007)
- Why an update to the TNHS?
- Criteria for TRCA Updated NHS
- Integration for TRCA Updated NHS
- TRCA Updated Target NHS 2021
- What is Water Resource System (WRS)?
- TRCA WRS 2021 – KHF's and KHAs
- Example of Implementation
- Summary
- Next Steps

N. Shrestha advised that Toronto and Region Conversation Authority is updating the Terrestrial National Heritage System in order to use updated science and the practice of integrated natural systems planning; to consolidate the municipal natural heritage systems; to account for climate change impacts on natural systems; to use the most up-to-date natural heritage field data, land cover and land use data, and analytical capacity; and, to assist TRCA and municipal partners in various strategies and initiatives. She provided an overview of the criteria, integration, updated target, Water Resource System, summary of the update, and next steps.

N. Shrestha responded to questions from the Committee.

Discussion ensued with regards to prime agricultural landowners wanting to plant trees on their property; landowners who are not agricultural farmers; and educating landowners regarding planting trees on class 1 and 2 lands.

M. Scott advised that Durham Region has a draft Regional Natural Heritage System that is part of Envision Durham and that will be presented to Committee at the May 10, 2022 meeting. He also provided a link to Report #2022-P-7: Envision Durham – Identifying a Regional Natural Heritage System.

6. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update – S. Jibb

S. Jibb provided the following update:

- Thank you to Committee for their input on the Agri-Food Growth Plan. The new agricultural strategy has incorporated the feedback. There is one more presentation required to do for Durham Farm Fresh. The plan will be finalized and presented to the Planning & Economic Development Committee on June 7, 2022.
- There was a business case for the Local Food Hub and it was approved in principle by Council on February 23, 2022. The next step is implementation. There was a meeting held on April 12, 2022 with local food partners to obtain input on joining forces to support to local food system.

A. Brown provided the following update:

- Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board is hosting a symposium for students from grades 7 to 12 and A. Brown will be providing a presentation on agricultural careers and agriculture in the environment.
- The “So You Think You Want to Farm” and “Thinking of Diversifying Your Farm” webinar series have concluded. There were approximately 130 participants. The webinar series was recorded and can be shared upon request.

B) 2022 DAAC Farm Tour Sub-Committee Report – D. Risebrough

D. Risebrough provided the following update:

- The Farm Tour Sub-Committee met before the April 12th meeting. Based on the current COVID-19 situation, they received indications that they can proceed with an in-person tour.
- The proposed date for the Farm Tour is Wednesday, September 14, 2022 and will be confirmed within the next few days.
- The Farm Tour will take place at the Sargent Family Dairy Farm and Enniskillen Jersey's. It will be a two-part farm tour with one part on the dairy farm processing operation, and the other part on the jersey dairy milk production operation.
- There is consideration for using the agricultural career videos for the lunch presentation to educate people with respect to agriculture and agricultural career opportunities.
- There will be an on-site meeting with the Sargent's on April 26, 2022.

C) Envision Durham – Alternative Land Need Scenarios Assessment

A copy of Report #2022-INFO-19 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development – Envision Durham – Growth Management Study – Release of

Alternative Land Need Scenarios Assessment Summary Report was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda and received.

M. Scott advised there are currently five scenarios being considered to determine an overall recommended growth forecast. He stated there is a community area land need scenario and an employment area land need scenario which consider different housing types and mixes, intensification rates, greenfield density targets, and, employment area density analysis. He reviewed the employment land need scenarios and community area scenarios with the Committee.

Discussion ensued with regards to the growth management study and the land need assessment which is being used to determine the settlement area boundary expansion to accommodate the Region's population and employment growth to the year 2051.

Moved by F. Puterbough, Seconded by T. Barrie,
That the following comments with respect to the Alternative Land Need Scenarios Assessment Summary Report be forwarded to the Planning Division for consideration:

That the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee is in support of Scenario 5.
CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING
RECORDED VOTE:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Tom Barrie	Neil Guthrie
Brad Howsam	
Kevin Kemp	
Gerri-Lynn O'Connor	
Fraser Puterbough	
Dave Risebrough	
Hubert Schillings	
Bryan Smith	
Gord Taylor	
Tom Watpool	

Members Absent: Councillor Highet
Keith Kennedy
Buck Winter

Declarations of Interest: None

7. Information Items

A) Agri-Food Business Development Charges Follow Up – S. Jibb

S. Jibb advised that she followed up with the Finance department and confirmed that the Regional Development Charge By-law does contain a provision that provides an exemption for migrant worker housing or housing for temporary farm workers. She also advised it is considered a farm building and therefore meets

the definition to be exempt from Regional Development Charges and does not apply to all municipalities across Durham.

S. Jibb added that she requested a comparison of development charges in general for Durham Region as well as the GTA and when looking at on-farm diversified uses, it is becoming more of a discussion in terms of commercial, retail, and industrial rates that may be applied to on-farm diversified uses.

A. Brown advised that she is working on a municipal scan for local area municipalities in Durham and the surrounding area with regards to agricultural fees for site plans, agricultural building permits, and site alterations. She advised she will provide an update to Committee with a complete comparison.

8. Other Business

A) On-Farm Diversified Uses

Z. Cohoon questioned if there are any policies or by-laws that regulate on-farm diversified uses in Durham Region.

M. Scott advised that the committee and sub-committee have provided feedback on the policies regarding on-farm diversified uses and that Durham Region is working on creating draft policies to bring the Official Plan into conformity with the Provincial policy. He added that the draft policies will be presented to the committee and they will have an opportunity to comment on the draft policies.

Moved by B. Smith, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends to the Planning and Economic Development Committee that the Durham Regional Official Plan include policies regarding on-farm diversified uses as provided in the OMAFRA Guidelines to Permitted Uses in Ontario's prime agricultural areas, permit agricultural related uses, and permit Agri-tourism uses.

CARRIED

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 starting at 7:30 PM.

10. Adjournment

Moved by F. Puterbough, Seconded by H. Schillings,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham Agricultural Advisory
Committee

K. Smith, Committee Clerk