

# **Special Meeting of County Council**









COUNTY OF SIMCOE Tuesday, June 8, 2021









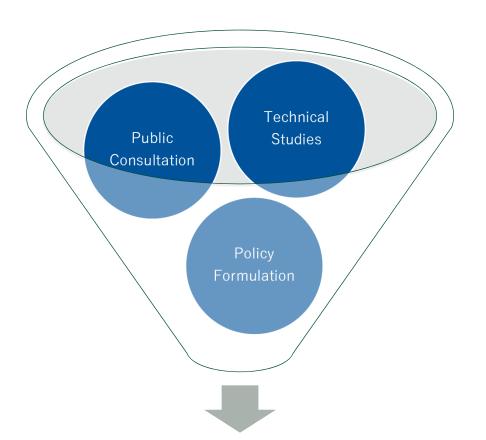
## Today we will discuss...

- Purpose and effect of s.26 Special Meeting of Council
- What is a Municipal Comprehensive Review?
- Provincial Policy Framework
- Technical Studies
- Engagement Strategy
- Work Program
- Next Steps

# What is a Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR)?

- Official plans (OPs) must be brought into conformity with Provincial plans within specific timeframes
  - Current requirement for upper-tiers is July 2022
- Many Growth Plan policies can be implemented through Official Plan Amendments (OPAs) at any time
- Some policies require implementation through an MCR
  - New OP or OPA initiated by upper or single tier under s.26 of *Planning Act* that comprehensively applies Growth Plan policies and schedules

### Main Features of an MCR



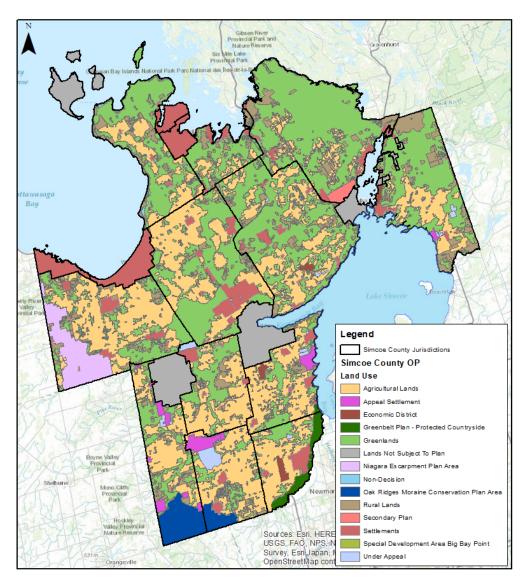
### **Revised County OP**

### **Key Requirements:**

- Submit to Province
- Conformity after approval
- Approval non-appealable

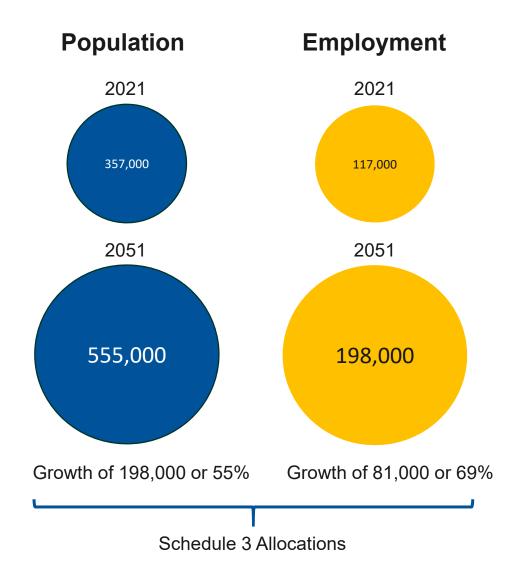
# **Key Growth Plan Policies** — **Protecting What is Valuable**

- Implement Provincial Natural Heritage System (NHS)
- Watershed planning informs protection of watershed resource systems and planning decisions
- Protect Provincial Agricultural System
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation



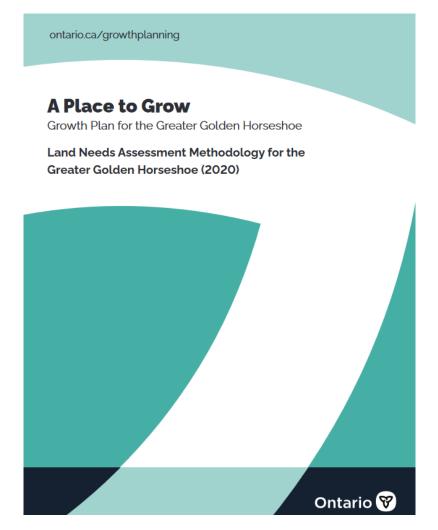
## **Key Growth Plan Policies** — **Schedule 3**

- Growth forecasts extended to 2051
- Forecasts are minimums but are deemed appropriate for Simcoe County
- Schedule 7 growth allocations for Simcoe lower-tier municipalities to 2031 no longer in effect



## **Key Growth Plan Policies — LNA**

- Provincial LNA Methodology released in August 2020
- County must allocate growth to lower-tiers
- Two types of land
  - Community area
  - Employment area
- New methodology for assessing land needs
  - Housing by type
  - Market contingency factors
  - Consider "market demand"



## **Key Growth Plan Policies — Section 6**

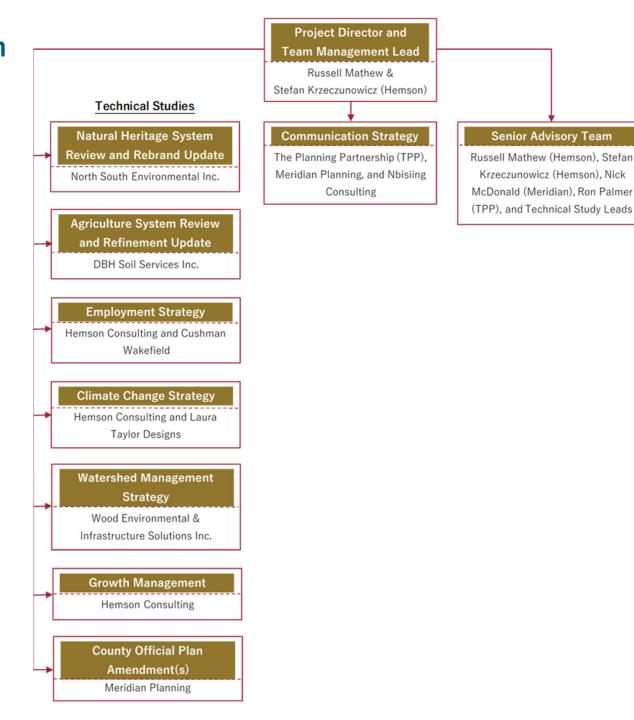
- Growth management policies for Simcoe Sub-Area
- Direct significant portion of growth to
  - primary settlement areas
  - key employment areas



# **Key Growth Plan Policies** — **Settlement Area Boundary Expansion**

- Important process to determine appropriate location(s) for additional urban lands
- Evidence-based review through technical studies
- Close co-ordination with lower-tiers
- Work done at County scale
  - Sets stage for local plans and master servicing studies
  - Not intended to assess individual development proposals

### Consulting Team Roles & Responsibilities





### **Study Process**



POLICY

**TECHNICAL** 

**PAPERS** 

**County of Simcoe - Official Plan Amendment** 

# MCR is a Collaborative Exercise with Lower-Tiers

# Simcoe Lower-Tiers **Bradford** Gwillimbury COLLINGWOOD CLEARVIEW The Town of lew Tecumseth Adjala-Tosorontio RAMARA

#### Role of lower-tiers:

- Advise consulting team of background information and technical analysis
- Provide local data and mapping
- Comment on draft analysis and technical studies
- Prepare justification for location of urban expansions
- Participate in meetings and workshops to provide timely input

### Local Municipal Input Needed to Determine Location of Future Urban Lands



Identify appropriate locations for urban lands

Identify impacts on agriculture

Identify impacts on Natural Heritage System

Review impacts on servicing

Review impacts on watersheds

#### Consulting Team Review

Review feedback from lower-tiers

Ensure coordinated County-wide planning

# County Official Plan Policies

MCR Consulting Team to develop Official Plan policies

# **Engagement Plan** – **Goals**

- Build awareness and understanding—MCR mainly a technical conformity exercise
- Effectively engage full range of stakeholders
- Foster relationships to generate broad-based support
- Encourage participation and input
- Demonstrate transparency

#### Phase 1: Data & Gathering Analysis

Timeline: January-June 2021

#### **Key Tasks:**

- Kick-off meeting with local municipalities
- Initiation of technical studies

# Phase 2: Draft Reports, Draft Technical Recommendations, Land Need Assessment

Timeline: July-October 2021

#### **Key Tasks:**

- Preliminary mapping
- Draft technical recommendations
- Draft and final lands needs assessment

Phase 3: Prepare Technical Reports, Final Mapping & Final Technical Recommendations, Official Plan

**Timeline:** November 2021 - July 2022 **Key Tasks:** 

- Final technical recommendations
- Draft Official Plan
- Final Official Plan

### **Engagement Plan – Stakeholders**

- County Council
- Municipal staff (County/lower-tier)
- Indigenous communities
- Provincial staff
- Public agencies
  - Conservation Authorities/SSEA
  - School Boards

- Residents (seasonal & permanent)
- Environmental groups
- Agricultural community
- Major landowners/developers
- Community/business groups and associations

### **Engagement Plan – Tools and Tactics**

- Dedicated MCR webpage (<a href="https://Simcoe.ca/mcr">https://Simcoe.ca/mcr</a>)
- Online meetings
- Face-to-face depending on direction from Public Health
- Posts on social media to encourage engagement and feedback
- Project updates in County's regular communications tools
- Updates shared in local media briefs
- Email blasts to study's list of interested parties and circulated through network of social media contacts

## **Next Steps**

- Data gathering and review (near completion)
- Technical studies (underway)
- Circulate material to lower-tiers for review/comment (Q2/Q3 2021)
- Further opportunities for public review and input into the MCR and updated County Official Plan through postings to the MCR webpage, a future Open House and Statutory Public Meeting(s) under s.17 of the *Planning Act*
- Provide draft technical studies, growth allocations, and official plan amendments to Council for consideration (Q3 2021 and Q1 2022)