



Subject: *Plan Update - Community Engagement*
To: CAO for Planning Advisory Committee, April 20, 2021
Date Prepared: April 13, 2021
Related Motions: PAC21(14), PAC21(5), PAC21(6), C21(23) and C21(24)
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Approved by: John Woodford, Director of Planning & Development

Summary

Planning staff have created a chart outlining dates for anticipated engagement with the public for the community plan update. Additionally, staff have created a Gantt chart timeline identifying key milestones for the plan update process.

Both of these documents are fluid and may need to be adjusted in accordance with public health measures.

Financial Impact Statement

Public engagement for the Community Plan Update has been budgeted for in the 2021/2022 Municipal Budget.

Recommendation

There is no recommendation associated with the adoption of this report.

Recommended Motion

There is no recommendation associated with the adoption of this report.

Background

Public feedback is necessary to ensuring that the update to the East Hants Official Community Plan will serve the community now and for years into the future. Planning staff have developed a communication plan on how staff propose to consult with people living and working in East Hants. Engagement opportunities will be available to all of our community members. Due to land use planning being introduced to the non-planned area of East Hants for the first time, attention will be focused on engaging with community members living in the future-planned area of East Hants.

Planning staff have also developed an aggressive timeline for the Plan update. Councillors can expect to review planning topic papers starting in May 2021 and continuing until January 2022. The topic papers are planning staff's way of ensuring that the Plan is consistent with Council's goals for the community.

Discussion

Providing a wide variety of opportunities for the public to comment on the Plan update is the goal of our community engagement program. Methods of engagement may have to be adjusted as we progress through this plan review depending on how future public health measures associated with the current Covid-19 pandemic roll-out. In addition, and in accordance with Motion C21(23), consultation in the non-planned areas will not take place until residents are able to meet for face-to-face meetings.

Date of Engagement	Type of Engagement	Completed
April 2021	Create webpage with plan review information. Webpage will be continually updated with information related to the plan.	Yes
April 2021	Notify neighbouring Municipalities of plan review by letter.	No
May 2021	Consult with development community through Zoom.	No
May 2021	Introduction to Community Plan Update - video	No
May 2021	Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting - introduction to plan update. Multiple meetings may be required depending on the work that is to be completed.	No
June/July 2021	Information in Municipal Newsletter regarding the plan update.	No
June/July 2021	Plan Update Survey - will be discussing survey format with the Communications Officer.	No
September/October 2021	In person community meetings with the communities of Walton, Kennetcook, Maitland, Noel, Rawdon, Northfield, Mount Uniacke (depending on public health requirements).	No
December 2021	Municipal Newsletter -community plan update.	No

December 2021/January 2022	Letters mailed to every property owner in new planned area indicating new zoning and providing information on where to find details about the plan and who to call if they have questions.	No
February 2022	Second in person community meetings to discuss the draft planning documents with the communities of Walton, Kennetcook, Maitland, Noel, Rawdon, Northfield, Mount Uniacke, Elmsdale.	No
May 2022	First reading of the East Hants Official Community Plan Update.	No
June 2022	Public hearing for the East Hants Official Community Plan Update. Advertise in Chronicle Herald, Municipal Website and on Social Media.	No

Timeline

Planning staff have developed a Gantt chart identifying key activities to take place as part of the community plan update. Shown as Appendix A, the chart will be updated each month if changes to the timeline are projected. The ability to meet face-to-face with people living in the non-planned portion of East Hants may have a significant impact to the timeline.

Conclusion

Details of the public engagement opportunities and an associated timeline has been provided to PAC for their information. Both documents are fluid and may change in accordance with public health requirements related to the ongoing pandemic.

Recommendation

There is no recommendation associated with the adoption of this report.

Appendix A: Community Plan Update - Timeline

	Jan. 2021	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. 2022	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.
Scope Report	Active																	
Engagement & Timeline Report				Active														
Notify Neighbouring Municipalities					Active													
Developer Meeting					Active													
ACC Meeting					Active													
Newsletter Information for East Hants Residents						Active	Active											
Community Survey						Active	Active											
Community Inventory Report						Active												
Background Reports					Active	Active	Active		Active	Active	Active	Active	Active					
Milford Groundwater Study							Active											
Fundy Vulnerability Study									Active									
Public Information/Open Houses										Active	Active							
Consultation Summary Report												Active						
Draft Official Community Plan Documents												Active	Active	Active	Active			
Open Houses															Active			
Second Draft Official Community Plan Documents																Active		
Final Community Plan Documents																	Active	
Public Hearing																		Active
Provincial Approval																		Approval Date Unknown