

# 2026/27 Plan Review – Community Engagement

Planning Advisory Committee

February 17, 2026

Planning and Development Department



**EAST HANTS**

## Community Engagement

- Staff are seeking authorization to initiate the community consultation process for the 2026-2027 Plan Review.
- Community engagement will include: community meetings, surveys, and newsletters.
- The goal of the community engagement process is to ensure that all East Hants residents can contribute their knowledge, their aspirations and their perspective to the Official Community Plan Review.

## Community Engagement Type

Process	Engagement Type	Date
Visioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Hants Plan Review Survey (draft questions, Appendix A)</li> <li>• East Hants Visual Preference Survey</li> <li>• Community Visioning (Open House and Facilitated Discussion in the Corridor, Mount Uniacke, Rawdon, Maitland) –Dates have been added to Council Chambers Online.</li> <li>• Municipal Visioning with Municipal Departments – Meetings have been arranged</li> <li>• Developer Stakeholder Meeting – Tentative date added to Council Chambers Online</li> <li>• East Hants Chamber of Commerce Meeting</li> <li>• Meetings with adjoining Municipalities</li> <li>• Meeting with NSPW</li> <li>• Meeting with Agricultural Advisory Committee</li> </ul>	Spring 2026
Objectives & Planning Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Check-In Meetings – What we heard and survey results (Corridor, Mount Uniacke, Rawdon, Maitland). Meetings to be tentatively scheduled for October 2026.</li> </ul>	October 2026
Draft Planning Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Meetings (Corridor, Mount Uniacke, Rawdon, Maitland). Presentation of draft planning policies and regulations.</li> <li>• Stakeholder Meetings</li> </ul>	April 2027
Statutory Approval Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Open House &amp; Public Hearing – Lloyd E. Matheson Centre</li> </ul>	October 2027

## Visioning

- Community visioning enables the members of a community to envision the overall future of their community. It allows residents to have a voice in what their community looks like and what their goals and objectives are for their community.
- After the visioning process is complete, the community engagement feedback will be reviewed, and a vision statement will be created. Planning staff will take the community's vision and use it as guiding principles in creating land use planning policies and regulations that will guide growth into the future.
- Details of the community visioning meeting will be presented on a future report titled “What we heard”.
- Additional meetings will be held to discuss the Secondary Plan for the Grand Lake/Horne Settlement GRA.
- Planning staff will also attempt to coordinate meeting dates with public consultation being carried out by EBD (transit) and Corporate Services (sustainability).

## Plan Review Surveys

- Planning staff have completed a draft of both the written survey and visual preference survey for the consideration of PAC.
- The surveys will be available online but hard copies will also be available to residents who wish to receive one. Advertisements of the surveys will be placed on the Municipal website, social media, the Municipal Newsletter, and at the visioning meetings.
- A visual preference survey is a tool used to gauge public opinion on community design by asking participants to rate images of streetscapes, architecture, landscaping, and land-use scenarios.
- Results of the surveys will be shared as part of the report to PAC on “What we heard”.

## Recommendation

That staff be authorized to begin the community engagement as outlined in this report.

## Recommended Motion

*Planning Advisory Committee recommends to Council that Council:*

- *authorize staff to begin the community engagement as outlined in the staff report “2026-27 Plan Community Engagement Report” dated February 11, 2026.*