

Meeting Details

In-Person Meeting Location: Mulmur Township Offices, located at 758070 2nd Line East

Phone Connection: 1 647 374 4685 Canada / 1 647 558 0588 Canada

Video Connection: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84829988171>

Meeting ID: 848 2998 8171

Accessibility Accommodations: If you require access to information in an alternate format, please contact the Clerk's department by phone at 705-466-3341 extension 223 or via email at clerk@mulmur.ca

PAGE	1.0	<u>Call to Order</u>
	2.0	<u>Land Acknowledgement</u>
	3.0	<u>Approval of the Agenda</u>
		Recommendation: That Council approve the agenda.
4	4.0	<u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</u>
		Recommendation: That the minutes of January 14, 2026 are approved.
	5.0	<u>Discussion Arising out of the Minutes</u>
	6.0	<u>Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests</u>
	7.0	<u>Public Question Period</u>
	8.0	<u>Reports for Decision</u>
11	8.1	<u>Servicing Allocation Policy</u>
		Recommendation: That Council approve the Service Allocation Policy substantially in the form attached hereto.
19	8.2	<u>Recreation Master Plan Update Discussion</u>
	9.0	<u>Committee Minutes and Reports</u>

114 9.1 **Dufferin County Council Minutes: December 11, 2025**
118 9.2 **Dufferin County Council Minutes: January 8, 2026**
126 9.3 **Dufferin County Council Minutes and Highlights: January 22, 2026**
143 9.4 **Economic Development Committee Minutes: January 8, 2026**
146 9.5 **Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board Minutes: January 21, 2026**

Recommendation: That Council receives the committee minutes and reports.

10.0 Information Items

150 10.1 **Council Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy Update**
155 10.2 **2025 Annual Investment Report**
156 10.3 **2025 Annual Development Charges Report**
160 10.4 **2025 Council and Committee Renumeration Report**
161 10.5 **2025 Procurement Report**
163 10.6 **Dufferin County Road Transfer Notice**
169 10.7 **Notice of Public Meeting: Z01-2026 Mujunen**
170 10.8 **Adjala-Toronto Official Plan Notice**
173 10.9 **CryNot Proclamation Request**
175 10.10 **City of Peterborough: Sustainable Police Funding**
178 10.11 **Dufferin County: Scrap Tire Resolution**
180 10.12 **Town of Fort Frances: Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program**
182 10.13 **Town of Aylmer: Justice and Protection of Canada's Children**
184 10.14 **Grenville OPP Detachment Board: School Bus Safety**
188 10.15 **Northumberland County: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund**
196 10.16 **Terra Nova Pickleball Court Correspondence**

Recommendation: That Council receives the information items;
And that the following items be endorsed: _____

11.0 Closed Session

11.1 **Fire Service Negotiations**
11.2 **Council Code of Conduct**
11.3 **Whitfield Church MOU**

12.0 Items for Future Meetings

12.1 **New Official Plan**
12.2 **OPP Detachment Board Update (Councillor Cunningham)**
12.3 **Circular Materials Blue Cart Recycling (Councillor Clark)**
12.4 **Fire Department By-law Consistency**
12.5 **Recycled Aggregates Report**

13.0 Passing of By-Laws

198 **13.1 2026 Final Tax Rate By-law**
201 **13.2 Pregnancy and Parental Leaves for Members of Council By-law**
205 **13.3 Confirmatory By-Law**

Recommendation: That By-laws 13.1 to 13.3 be approved.

14.0 Adjournment

Recommendation: That Council adjourns the meeting at _____ to meet again on March 4, 2026 or at the call of the Chair.



Council Minutes

January 14, 2026 – 9:00 AM

Council Present: Mayor Horner, Deputy Mayor Hawkins, Councillors Clark Cunningham and Lyon

Staff Present: Tracey Atkinson, Heather Boston, Roseann Knechtel, Chris Wolnik

1.0 Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

2.0 Land Acknowledgement

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting upon the traditional Indigenous lands of the Tionontati (Petun) and Treaty 18 territory of the Anishinaabe peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place and we also recognize the contributions Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country as a whole.

3.0 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council approve the agenda.

Carried.

4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Cunningham

That the minutes of December 3, 2025 are approved.

Carried.

5.0 Discussion Arising Out of the Minutes - None

6.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests - None

7.0 Public Question Period

Stephen Middleton questioned Mulmur's position and the use of recycled aggregates in the Township. Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure, confirmed the Township is required to meet minimum quality control standards and that the use

of recycled aggregates would be considered if the request was made or as part of the procurement process.

Cheryl Russel inquired what the next steps are for the Shelburne & District Fire Board. Tracey Atkinson, CAO responded that the Township is still in discussions.

Cheryl Russel requested that the speed limits be reduced on Prince of Wales. Mayor Horner confirmed that the road will be downloaded to the Township in June 2026.

8.0 Reports for Decision

8.1 Cash to Accrual 2026 Budget

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

That Council approve the restatement of the Township's 2026 Budget per O.Reg. 284/09.

Carried.

8.2 Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board 2026 Budget

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Clark

That Council approve the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board 2026 Operating Budget in the amount of \$312,498 and Capital Budget of \$292,695 as presented.

Carried.

8.3 Shelburne District Fire Board 2026 Budget

Council sought clarification on the Shelburne District Fire Department's training budget. Chief Pratt confirmed the budget includes firefighter certification and level of service training associated with specialty rescues such as Rope, Hazmat, Auto Extrication (passenger vehicle and heavy rescue) and Medical Directive. Chief Pratt confirmed an increase in wages to include COLA, two new positions and wages for training.

Council noted the increase in IT support and suggested that the Board go out to RFP to explore more cost-effective methods.

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Clark

That Council approve the Shelburne & District Fire Board 2025 Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,266,233 and Capital Budget of \$445,000 as presented.

Carried.

8.4 Supply and Application of Liquid Calcium Dust Suppressant – Contract Extension

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Lyon

That Council approve the 2026 contract extension for Contract RFT#2024-02 Supply and Application of Liquid Calcium Dust Suppressant.

Carried.

8.5 Whitfield Church MOU

Council discussed the use of ground penetrating radar, possible locations for surveying and potential land uses.

Council directed staff to move item 8.5 Whitfield Church MOU, to the Closed Session agenda.

Council recessed at 10:18 a.m. and returned at 10:27 a.m.

9.0 Committee Minutes and Reports

9.1 Campaign Cabinet Update

9.2 Shelburne District Fire Board Minutes: November 4, 2025

9.3 Dufferin County Council Minutes: December 11, 2025

Direction was given to staff to request County Council Minute Highlights.

9.4 Ontario Climate Caucus Meeting Notes: November 2025

9.5 NVCA Board Minutes and Highlights: November 2025

9.6 NVCA Media Release

9.7 Economic Development Committee Minutes and 175 Update: December 17, 2025

9.8 Economic Development Committee 2025 Annual Report

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council receives the committee minutes and reports as copied and circulated.

Carried.

10.0 Information Items

10.1 Development Charges 2026 Index Report

10.2 Parkland Dedication 2026 Index Report

10.3 Mansfield Water 2026 Index Report

10.4 Q4 Planning Report

10.5 Q4 Grant Report

- 10.6 Strategic Plan Bi-Annual Report**
- 10.7 Township of Mulmur: ERO Letter on Conservation Authorities**
- 10.8 Thomson Rogers: Shelburne Fire Board Correspondence**
- 10.9 Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response: Bill 25**
- 10.10 Township of Mulmur: ERO Letter on Expanding Protected Areas in Ontario**

Direction was given to staff to forward ERO Letter on Conservation Authorities to the NVCA.

- 10.11 Office of the Solicitor General: OPP Annual Billing**
- 10.12 Town of Mono: Consolidation of Ontario's Conservation Authorities**
- 10.13 Township of Amaranth: Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities**
- 10.14 Dufferin County: Stockpiled American Alcohol**
- 10.15 Town of Shelburne: Shelburne and District Fire Board**
- 10.16 Township of Melancthon: Shelburne and District Fire Board**
- 10.17 AMO: OMERS Governance Changes and Bill 68**

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Cunningham

Whereas the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System (OMERS) Pension Fund serves over 1,000 employers and over half a million employees and retirees from diverse groups including: municipal governments, school boards, libraries, police and fire departments, children's aid societies, and electricity distribution companies; and

Whereas the long-standing jointly-sponsored governance model with two corporate boards has provided stability, accountability, and fairness for both plan members and employers for more than two decades; and

Whereas the Government of Ontario has passed legislative changes to OMERS' governance structure through Bill 68; and

Whereas these changes would replace the current OMERS Sponsors Corporation with a new Sponsors Council that would lose its corporate status and independent resources; and

Whereas the proposed model could allow pension decisions affecting municipal employers and employees to be made without meaningful municipal oversight, increasing financial risk for municipalities and local taxpayers; and

Whereas municipalities are already under significant fiscal strain and cannot absorb additional pension costs without consequences for property taxes or local services;

Therefore be it resolved that the Township of Mulmur does not support the legislative changes to the *OMERS Act* contained in Bill 68 and requests that the Government of Ontario reconsider the advisability of proceeding with these changes;

Further be it resolved that the Council of the Township of Mulmur supports the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in calling on the Government of Ontario to:

1. Ensure Sponsors retain full control without restrictions over their appointments to the new Sponsors Council and Administration Corporation;
2. Guarantee the Sponsors Council's independence from the plan administrator and access to resources needed to perform its duties; and
3. Limit the Minister's regulation-making authority over plan design and the Sponsors Council's internal affairs.

Be it further resolved that this resolution be circulated to:

- The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs;
- The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance;
- Sylvia Jones, MPP and
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Carried.

10.18 Municipality of Magnetawan: Site Ready Funding

10.19 Town of Grand Valley: Dufferin County Building Services

10.20 Municipality of Huron Shores: Rent Protection for Tenants

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Clark

That Council receives the information items as copied;

And that the following items be endorsed: 10.17, 10.18

Carried.

11.0 Closed Session

- 11.1 **Shelburne Fire Board**
- 11.2 **Responsibility Agreements**
- 11.3 **Claims against the Township**
- 11.4 **By-law Enforcement**
- 11.5 **Whitfield Church MOU**

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Hawkins

That Council amend the agenda to add Whitfield Church MOU to the Closed Session agenda.

Carried.

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Hawkins

That Council adjourn to closed session at 11:03 a.m. pursuant to Section 239 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended for:

- two (2) matter related to a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board under section 239(2)(k); and
- one (1) matter of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose under section 239(2)(f)
- one (1) matter related to litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board under section 239(2)(e)
- one (1) matter related to a personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees under section 239(2)(b).

Carried.

Moved by Hawkins and Seconded by Cunningham

That Council do rise out of closed session into open session at 1:00 p.m. with the following motion:

That Council direct staff to have discussions with the Town of Shelburne to resolve the provision of future fire services by the Shelburne Fire Department.

Carried.

12.0 Items for Future Meetings

- 12.1 **New Official Plan**
- 12.2 **OPP Detachment Board Update (Councillor Cunningham)**
- 12.3 **Circular Materials Blue Cart Recycling (Councillor Clark)**
- 12.4 **Fire Department By-law Consistency**
- 12.5 **Recycled Aggregates Report**

13.0 Passing of By-laws

- 13.1 **Borrowing By-law**
- 13.2 **Confirmatory By-law**

Moved by Clark and Seconded by Lyon

That By-laws 13.1 to 13.2 be approved.

Carried.

14.0 Adjournment

Moved by Cunningham and Seconded by Lyon

That Council adjourns the meeting at 1:03 p.m. to meet again on February 4, 2026 or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

Mayor

Clerk



STAFF REPORT

TO: **Council**
FROM: **Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure**
MEETING DATE: **February 4, 2026**
SUBJECT: **Servicing Allocation Policy**

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the Servicing Allocation Policy.

Background:

The Township of Mulmur operates a small municipal drinking water system that serves the Hamlet of Mansfield. With Mansfield expected to grow in population, planning for this growth requires an alignment between land use and infrastructure decisions to ensure that water services are available to support construction.

The Township currently lacks a formal policy governing how available water capacity is allocated. Without such a policy, staff face challenges ensuring:

- fair and consistent decision-making.
- compliance with provincial regulations.
- protection of existing users.

The Township has identified that the existing water system in Mansfield does not have capacity available to support water demands for growth that has been approved in the Official Plan. The Township is nearing the completion of a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify the preferred method of providing for these demands. The EA is expected to be completed in 2026 and outline how best to service the community of Mansfield.

Analysis:

A Service Allocation Policy will help guide future decisions and ensure responsible stewardship of the system. It will ensure future reserve capacity within the water system is planned for and allocated in a sustainable and transparent manner. It will add an element of fairness and predictability to the process of capacity allocation. In addition, the service Allocation Policy will provide clarity to staff and developers, prioritize system reliability and support long-term financial and asset management planning.

The key elements of the proposed service Allocation Policy include Planning Act applications, additional or multi residential units, monitoring, tracking and reporting, implementation and conflict.

Any existing developments that are covered by existing agreements are not subject to the Service Allocation Policy.

Strategic Direction:

It's in our Nature: Live - We commit to providing a balanced community and providing quality services. We will encourage increased community building and respectful social interactions to enrich the lives of Mulmur residents. We will provide a range of communications and facilities to promote play, growth, connection, active living and recognize the changing demographics of Mulmur

Financial Impacts:

This policy does not create new financial obligations. Clear allocation rules help reduce the risk of any unnecessary system expansion. Development related servicing costs will continue to be recovered through existing fees and charges.

Environmental Impacts:

Improved water resource allocation can have multiple environmental impacts including reduced over extraction of groundwater, improved water quality and supports climate change adaptation.

Recommendation:

THAT Council approves the Service Allocation Policy substantially in the form attached hereto.

Submitted by: Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure

Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO

Servicing Allocation Policy

1.0 Purpose

The Township of Mulmur is responsible for operating the municipal water system that serves the Hamlet of Mansfield. Growth is expected to continue in Mansfield. Planning for this growth requires an alignment between land use needs and infrastructure capacity to ensure that water services are available to support development.

This Servicing Allocation Policy (Allocation Policy) has been developed to ensure the remaining and future reserve capacity available within the Township of Mulmur is planned for and allocated in a sustainable and transparent manner. The Policy adds an element of fairness and predictability to the process of capacity estimation and allocation. It clarifies for the development community and the public how a finite resource will be managed to ensure maximum benefit to the community.

2.0 Scope

This applies to the following growth and development that impacts water systems owned and operated by the Township including but not limited to:

- Any Development where an extension and/or the provision of new water infrastructure is required.
- The creation of any number of new lots or units through the plan of subdivision, red lining, plan of condominium, consent to sever, or part lot control processes.
- Any development of ten (10) or less units as permitted through the Planning Act.
- Any Development requiring site plan approval; and
- Development where a Planning Act application is not required.

3.0 Responsibility

The Township's Director of Infrastructure, in consultation with Township's Engineer shall be responsible for:

- Identifying the uncommitted reserve capacity available.
- For converting the amount of reserve capacity to population equivalents (PE) for the purposes of administering the Allocation Policy.
- Establishing the amount of reserve capacity and PE up to 95% of total capacity of water services be allocated for the purposes of administering and implementing the Allocation Policy.

4.0 Definitions

Servicing Allocation Policy

Additional Residential Units means a self-contained residential unit with kitchen and bathroom facilities either attached/within a Primary Residential Unit or within an accessory building on a lot that accommodates a Primary Residential Unit only where full urban services are available.

Applicant means the entity, whether individual or corporate, who has applied through a Planning Act application, or other form of application, to Develop land that will require Servicing Allocation.

Capacity Allocation means the formal process by which a municipality assigns a portion of its available and planned water supply to specific Development projects.

Council means the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur.

Develop means the construction, erection or placing of one or more buildings or structures on land or the making of an addition or alteration to a building or structure that has the effect of increasing the Total Floor Area and includes the regulatory actions undertaken by the Township to carry out the approval of Planning Act applications including but not limited to provisional consent, plan of subdivision and site plan control as the Planning Act permits. "Developed", "Development", "Redevelop", "Redeveloped" and "Redevelopment" have their corresponding meanings.

Multi Residential Units (MRU) means a building with a multiple self-contained set of rooms designed for residential occupancy, with its own kitchen, bathroom, washrooms, ect.

Primary Residential Unit means a main dwelling unit on a residential lot (Ontario. Regulation 299/19).

Reserve Capacity means the portion of a water treatment plants design capacity that is not yet committed to existing users or approved developers. It represents the remaining treatment capacity to support future growth.

Servicing Allocation means the allocation of municipal water services.

Significant Progress means the Agreement shall specify that Building Permits for seventy-five percent (75%) of the lots or units (i.e. may cover the entire draft plan, or in the case where phasing is required, an approved phase) have to be issued within three (3) years of the execution and registration of a subdivision agreement,

Township means the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

Servicing Allocation Policy

5.0 Exemptions

- 5.1 The addition of one (1) additional residential unit on a lot, provided the additional residential unit complies with all zoning requirements.
- 5.2 Lot additions that do not result in the creation of a new developable lot and the creation of rights-of-ways or easements pursuant to Section 53 of the Planning Act;
- 5.3 A change from one permitted use to another on a lot in accordance with the Township's Zoning By-law that does not increase water usage as confirmed by a Professional Engineer (if required by the Township) and where proposed fixtures and capacity limits do not exceed the previous use's water capacity allocation.
- 5.4 Development or construction that does not result in increase water usage or create a new residential dwelling unit.
- 5.5 The repair, re-construction or restoration of a legally existing building or structure, or part thereof, provided that the building or structure continues to be used for the same purpose; and
- 5.6 Any project that has received allocation through a prior development agreement or has been previously exempted.

6.0 Planning Act Applications

- 6.1 If Reserve Capacity exists within the Township, it can be allocated by Council or its designate at the time of Complete Application? Planning Act Applications? Development? , subject to Capacity Allocation criteria. The availability of the committed Capacity Allocation in phases or stages to facilitate the orderly build-out of the proposal may be further articulated in an Agreement.
- 6.2 If capacity is allocated, all or part of a Planning Act Application, the Agreement shall be completed within three (3) years, with the option for a one (1) year extension. If the Applicant cannot demonstrate significant progress to the satisfaction of Council within this timeframe, servicing allocation may be withdrawn.
- 6.3 An additional one (1) year may be considered by Council, provided the Applicant has demonstrated that they have taken progressive steps to complete Development and have shown steps to finalize completion and development on the lands or the committed Capacity Allocation may be withdrawn.
- 6.4 Given the limited number of lots created annually by consent, Reserve Capacity will be allocated after the resultant lots have been created and on a first-come, first-served

Servicing Allocation Policy

basis, unless a site plan application is required to facilitate development, in which case capacity would be allocated in accordance with Section 5.3 of this Allocation Policy.

6.5 For those projects where no Planning Act approvals are required, capacity will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis up to a cumulative annual maximum capacity limit set aside for this type of development as established by the Director of Infrastructure. Examples include the development of existing registered vacant lots, build-out of lands subject to an existing registered site plan agreement, and changes of use from one permitted use to another permitted use in accordance with the Township's Zoning By-law, as may be amended, that would require additional servicing capacity allocation.

7.0 Additional or Multi-Residential Units

7.1 Any Primary Residential Unit is permitted to have one (1) Additional Residential Unit. Population equivalents of Reserve Capacity will be allocated for Additional or Multi-Residential Units that apply for Building Permits over the course of the year.

7.2 The Reserve Capacity for Additional or Multi- Residential Units will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis, and based on confirmation provided by the Applicant's Engineer, to the satisfaction of the Township, of adequate conveyance infrastructure to satisfy the requested allocation, until the set aside Reserve Capacity has been completely allocated.

7.3 Further applications for Additional or Multi-Residential Units that require servicing allocation after the Reserve Capacity has been set up, shall receive allocation solely at the discretion of the Director of Infrastructure and will be dependent on the amount of Reserve Capacity left within the Township's yearly Service Allocation budget.

7.4 If there is no Reserve Capacity available for allocation after the reserve set aside for Additional or Multi-Residential Units is consumed, then the Development cannot proceed to Building Permit submission until such time when Reserve Capacity is available to be allocated.

7.5 Further applications for Additional or Multi-Residential Units that require Servicing Allocation after Reserve Capacity has been allocated shall receive Service Allocation solely at the discretion of the Township's Director of Infrastructure and will be dependent on the amount of Reserve Capacity left within the Township's yearly Service Allocation budget.

Servicing Allocation Policy

8.0 Monitoring, Tracking and Reporting

- 8.1 The Township shall monitor and track Capacity Allocation.
- 8.2 Staff shall be required to report to Council once 80% of total capacity has been met.
- 8.3 Amendments to the Allocation Policy beyond clerical or technical matters as a result of monitoring, tracking and reporting, shall be processed in a transparent manner, including consultation with the development community, the public and approved by Council.
- 8.4 A comprehensive review of the Service Allocation Policy will occur every 5 years in conjunction with the Township's Water Rate Study Review or as required.

9.0 Implementation

- 9.1 At no time will the total allocated capacity exceed the Reserve Capacity of the Township.
- 9.2 Where servicing is not imminent or feasible, lands may be subject to a Holding Provision pursuant to the Planning Act, with the Holding provision only being lifted by the Township when services are available.
- 9.3 Nothing in this Allocation Policy precludes the Township from applying a Holding provision to properties where municipal services are available prior to land or ownership division application, with the Holding provision only being lifted by the Township when Reserve Capacity is confirmed as available or otherwise allocated through land/ownership division and/or site plan approvals. For greater clarity, capacity would not be allocated at the time of Official Plan or Zoning By-law Amendment approval.
- 9.4 Nothing in this Allocation Policy precludes the Township from reserving capacity for government-led projects deemed to be in the interests of the public including, but not limited to, facilities affecting public health and safety, educational and recreational facilities, emergency management, long-term care, social assistance, and provision of affordable housing.
- 9.5 To minimize the fiscal risk to the Township, where upfront financing is required to extend or provide new water infrastructure to facilitate development on more than one



Approved by Council _____, 2026

Servicing Allocation Policy

parcel of land, a front ending agreement under the Development Charges Act or similar approach shall be used, including the identification of the benefiting area, if applicable. Further, it is understood, as per this Allocation Policy, that no allocation of water services will be allocated until time of execution of the Subdivision Agreement by Council or that the Service Allocation will be revoked if the development does not proceed as per this policy or the site-specific agreement.

10.0 Conflict

- 10.1 In the event that provisions of this policy are inconsistent with the provisions of another policy, the provisions of this policy shall apply.
- 10.2 In the event the provisions of this policy are inconsistent with the provisions of the Planning Act, Municipal Act, 2001, its Regulations or any other Act or statute, the provisions of the Act, Regulations or statute shall prevail.

7.0 Revision History

Date	Revision #	Reason for Revision
19-Jan 2026	0	Policy Issued



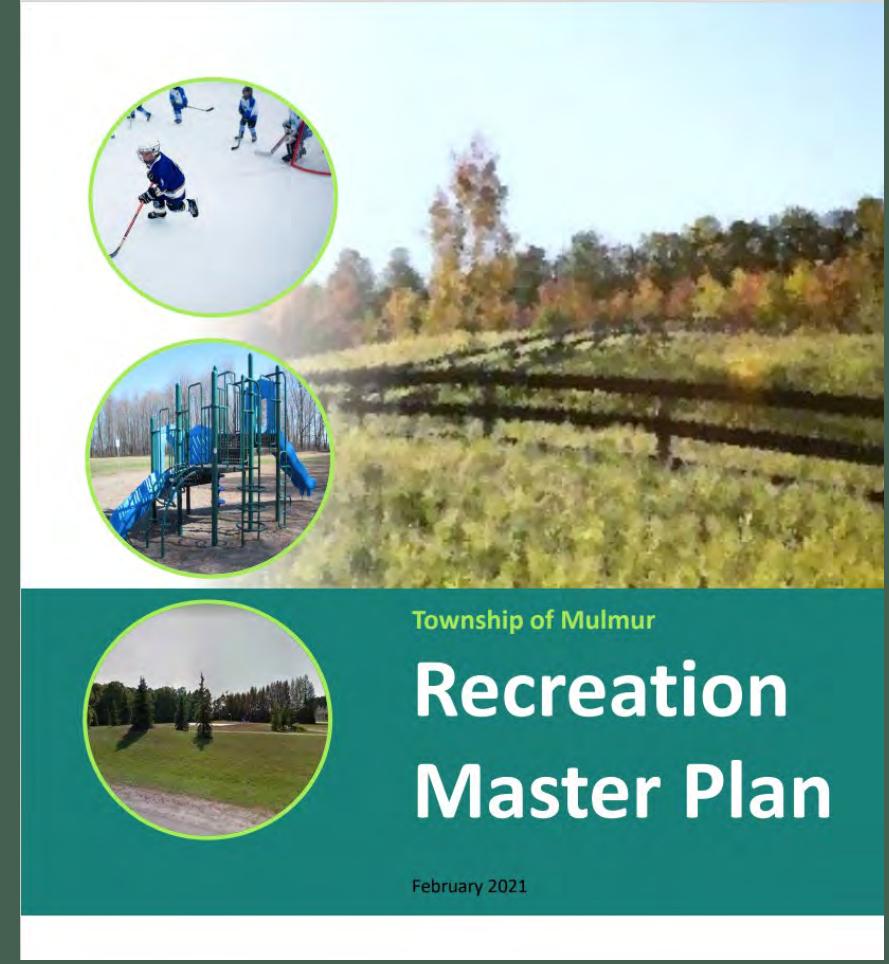
2026 RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE



February 4 2026
Council Meeting

Overview- 2021 RECREATION MASTER PLAN

- Vision and Guiding Principles
- Key Themes
- Major Recommendations and Timelines





STATUS UPDATES



Completed Actions



New Assets



In Progress



Deferred / Not Started

Recommendations- Status Update

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
1	Maintain the current distribution of recreation amenities in the Township with Honeywood and Mansfield as primary service areas, and Terra Nova as a secondary service area. Future asset management priorities should also be considered.	Blue		Yellow	Yellow	
2	Implement and update the 2016 Asset Management Plan, as per O. Reg. 588/17, retaining a specific and enhanced focus on recreation and community facilities, open space, and parks in addition to the traditional emphasis on hard infrastructure.			Year 3	Green	
3	The location of any major recreation infrastructure (e.g. sports fields, community centres, etc.), as well a future replacement and/or expansion of existing facilities, should represent the most appropriate location based on considerations of land ownership, site suitability, co-location with other municipal recreation infrastructure, and capital costs associated with servicing and development.	Blue			Yellow	
4	Maintain a Community Development Model for the delivery of recreation in the Township. Under this model, where volunteer and agency groups have historically serviced the recreation programming needs of the community, the Township should continue to support these initiatives through the provision of access to facilities for activities.	Blue			Green	
5	The Township should give consideration to staffing requirements necessary to successfully implement the Township's recreation mandate. Specifically, consider expanding the job description of the NDCC Management role to encompass a broader range of job responsibilities including responsibility for indoor and outdoor recreation, community development of programming opportunities and co-ordination of all recreation and leisure services provided and/or facilitated by the Township. This permanent, full-time job description includes management of the NDCC and events at the Township's facilities.			Year 2	Red	
6	Investigate opportunities for new and/or expanded partnerships to improve service levels, enhance program delivery, and leverage public funding.	Blue			Green	

Recommendations – Status Update

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
7	Continue the cost-sharing agreement with the Township of Melancthon for the operation and maintenance of the NDCC / a new multi-use recreation facility in Honeywood.				•	
8	Work with community groups and local partners to expand the suite of traditional and non-traditional programs offered through new or expanded partnerships (e.g. Library, County, sports groups, Ontario Parks, and other agencies), ensuring programming for all age groups, with a special focus on youth and seniors. This can help to enhance the utilization of existing recreation infrastructure.					
9	As programming levels increase, develop a methodology to track program registrations and assess the rate of take-up for programs offered by the Township or its partners. Continuous tracking can help determine the complement of programs that should be offered in the future.				Year 4	
10	Develop a 'Community Guide' for the Township that includes recreation and leisure resources. The guide should include a community calendar of events and provides details on all programs offered in Mulmur (municipal / non-municipal), complete with contact information of organizers for programs that are not directly delivered by the Township. This should be an online / digital information tool with hardcopies located in key municipal facilities or distributed directly to residents and provided on an annual or semi-annual basis.			Year 2		
11	Review, on an annual basis, the user fees and pricing schedule for facility and park rentals and programming fees (as appropriate). Rate setting should be informed by principles for cost recovery and subsidization, as determined by the Township.					
12	Immediately initiate the development of a) funding strategy to assess and secure sources of capital funding for a new replacement single-pad multi-use recreation facility. A range of sources should be explored, including all levels of government and potential non-profit partners; and b) operational business case for a new multi-use community centre.		Year 1	+ Year 2 as required		

Recommendations- Status Update

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
13	Conditional on the development of a funding strategy and operational business case for a new multi-use recreation facility, initiate the design progression required to move the project towards implementation. This includes detailed program requirements (to be confirmed through a public engagement process, and discussions with staff and Council), schematic design, and design development phases.			Year 2 - 4		
14	The Township should seek to design, develop, and commission a new multi-use recreation facility and community centre within 5 years.				Years 5-6	
15	With the successful implementation of a new multi-use recreation facility, decommission the existing NDCC building.				Year 7	
16	Expand the promotion of the community room at the Township Offices as viable and affordable location for events and programming rentals (Priority but “hold” due to health restrictions)	Hold	Year 2			
17	Evaluate the potential for increased revenue opportunities through enhanced programming (municipal or non-municipal) that are suitable for the community room at the Township Offices.	Hold	Year 2			
18	Contingent on the replacement ice arena and multi-use recreation facility being located in Honeywood, over the Plan period and as the population grows in Mansfield, continue to monitor community demand for flexible indoor recreation space that can accommodate a variety of structured and unstructured activities in Mansfield. This would likely be a dry use facility (no ice, no pool) as a long-term proposition (beyond the Plan period). The facility could include a multi-use activity court / gymnasium, flexible community space for programming and rentals, and/or meeting rooms.				Years 7+	
19	Maintain a minimum parkland provision standard of 2.0 hectares of parkland per 1,000 residents over the course of the Plan period. This results in an additional 0.7 hectares of	Blue			Yellow	

Recommendations- Status Update

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
20	Maintain existing parkland within the settlement areas as outdoor recreation hubs for their respective communities.					
21	As new subdivisions are planned and designed, the Township should ensure that each neighbourhood has appropriate access to parkland and/or open space.					
22	Ensure that new parks are designed with the user's comfort, safety, and accessibility in mind, through use of CPTED (or similar) principles, as well as adhering to AODA Design Standards.					
23	Encourage and facilitate the community's participation in park design, development and renewal projects by obtaining public input during the planning and design process, fostering partnerships and joint ventures in park development/renewal, and promoting awareness of park projects and initiatives through effective public communications.					
24	Work with Dufferin County and local stakeholders, trail groups and the community to identify required improvements and barrier-free access opportunities within the Dufferin County Forest Tracts, as well as to determine locations for trail-related amenity improvements (e.g. parking, signage, portable washrooms, etc.).			Year 3		
25	Develop policies in the Township's Official Plan to require the dedication of land for pedestrian and bicycle pathways as a condition of the subdivision of land, as provided for under the Planning Act (s. 51(25)(b)).			Year 2		
26	Continue to maintain the ball diamond at Mansfield Ball Park in good condition for continued use by the community over the Plan period. Explore the feasibility of undertaking improvements to the ball diamond at Mansfield Ball Park including field leveling, netting replacement, track maintenance, the provision of shaded spectator seating areas, and batting cage improvements. This process should commence immediately and include engagement with current ball diamond user groups.					

Recommendations- Status update

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
27	Require ball diamond user groups to provide registration numbers on an annual basis. The collection of this data will enable the Township to monitor and assess ball diamond utilization and capacity more accurately on an on-going and periodic basis over the longer-term.	Blue			Green	
28	Assess the feasibility of investing in lighting at the Mansfield Ball Park to enable extended seasonal and evening play / increase the capacity of this facility.			Yellow	Yellow	
29	Formally decommission the ball diamond at Honeywood Park.			Red	Red	
30	Continue to maintain the basketball court at Devonleigh Park in good condition for continued use by the community over the Plan period. Plan for net repair / replacement in the short-term to improve usability of this amenity.	Blue		Green		
31	Develop a playground replacement strategy through appropriate asset management planning. Any play structure that has reached a 14-year age trigger should be phased for replacement immediately.		Year 1		Green	
32	The Township should seek to replace the playground at Devonleigh Park immediately, considering a range of user ages and abilities in the design. Engagement with the local community should be undertaken to ensure that local needs are met.		Year 1		Green	
33	Decommission the playground at Honeywood Park (NDCC site) in the short-term. A new playground is recommended to be developed elsewhere on the site. If Honeywood is the chosen site for a new multi-use recreation facility, the planning for this facility (and the site as a whole) should be undertaken with the community's engagement.			Red	Red	
34	When the play structures at the Mansfield Ball Park require replacement, consider relocating it within the park to improve safety of users. This should occur in the medium-term.				Red	
35	Review and consider trends and innovations in playground design and development, with a potential for alternatives to traditional playground structures (i.e. naturalized playgrounds,	Blue			Green	

Recommendations- Status Update

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
36	Develop additional playgrounds on newly acquired parkland as part of future subdivision planning to serve new neighbourhoods as they are developed.	Blue			Yellow	
37	As new parkland is developed in Mansfield, consider planning for the development of new multi-use courts in the medium or long term for local use. A multi-use court facility can accommodate a variety of court sports, including tennis, pickleball, and basketball.				Year 6	
38	Investigate the feasibility of developing a skateboard / BMX park to improve the offer of recreation amenities for youth in Mulmur. This would best be suited to be located in Mansfield, where new subdivisions, and therefore parkland, are being developed.				Year 4	
39	Work with local community groups to determine the feasibility and willingness to develop and maintain / operate an outdoor ice rink at Devonleigh Park or an alternative location in Mulmur.			Year 2	Green	
40	Explore opportunities for the development of outdoor exercise installations. Appropriate locations for developing outdoor exercise installations may include at the Township Offices (if co-located with other amenities) or at a preferred location in Mansfield.			Year 3	Green	

Council Motion: April 7, 2021

Moved by: Clark and Seconded by: Boxem

THAT staff monitor grant and sponsorship opportunities, and research the cost for the following projects:

- 16 - promote basement rentals (following Covid)
- 17 - programming for basement through a recreational coordinator
- 24 - trails
- 28 - feasibility of lighting at ball diamond (research grant opportunities and move forward)
- 32 - replace playground equipment at Devonleigh
- 35 - consider playground trends and innovation (ongoing and with parkland development)
- 39 - community groups coordination for outdoor rink and Honeywood and Devonleigh where construction may exist to add boards
- 40 - explore opportunities for outdoor exercise equipment

AND THAT the following projects be deferred pending recommendations from the Joint Rec Subcommittee:

- 5- expansion of staff rolls (NDCC) through joint sub committee
- 7 - NDCC facility (ongoing)
- 12 - funding strategy for NDCC

AND THAT Staff continue with the following ongoing tasks:

- 6 – increase partnership and leverage public funding opportunities (ongoing)
- 8 – work with community groups on programming (ongoing)
- 9 - track registrations (ongoing)
- 11 – ongoing review of user fees and schedules (ongoing)
- 26 – continued maintenance of ball diamond (ongoing)
- 27 – analyze registration numbers (ongoing)
- 30 – maintain courts at Devonleigh (ongoing)
- 31 – playground replacement strategy (asset management)

Emerging Trends - Service delivery for Recreation Programming- Rural

Flexible & Community Driver

- Seasonal, rotating schedules
- Volunteer supported delivery model

Emphasis on Accessibility & inclusion

- Barriers
- Affordable

Spaces to Support Mental & Physical Health

- Leverage outdoor spaces to deliver low \$, health focused

Technology Enhanced Prg. Delivery

- On-line booking
- Data driven decision making for Program Planning

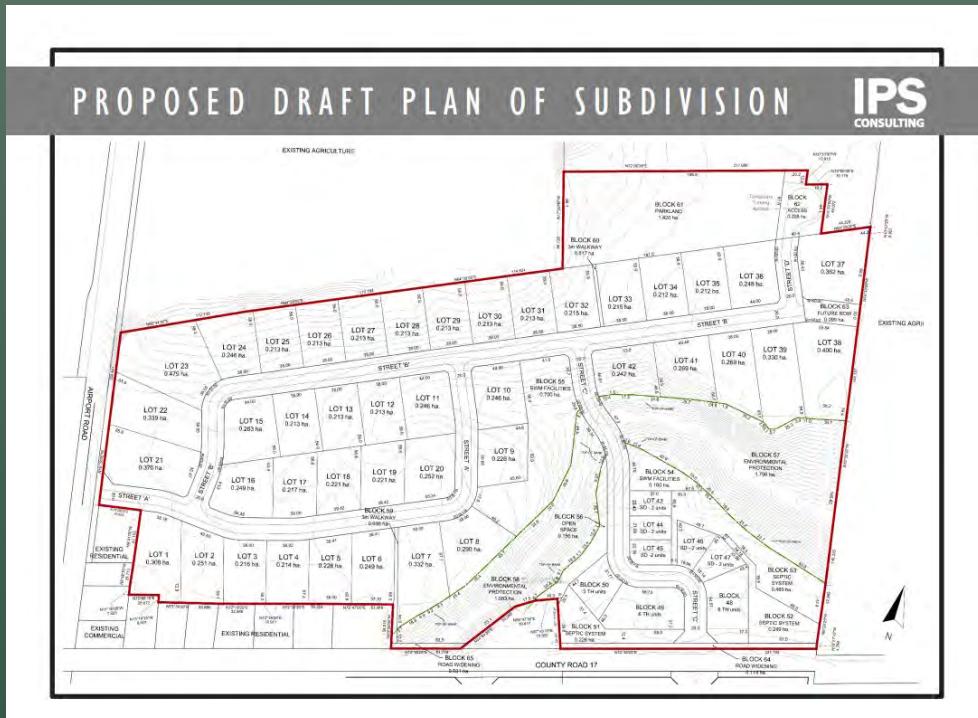
Cross Sector Partnership & Regional Collaboration

- Essential in low population areas

Other Emerging Trends & Community Shifts

- Demographic Changes
- Participation Trends
- Growth pressures
- Shifts in community expectations
- Usage, accessibility or conditions changes
- Funding landscape
- Other existing plans- ie. Fields estate subdivision- anticipated DC and parkland vs new parkland

EMERGING TRENDS & COMMUNITY SHIFTS



Council Discussion

- What recreation needs have emerged since 2021 ?
- What gaps remain unaddressed?
- What amenities or programs are now higher priorities?
- What partnerships should be explored?

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Honeywood Community Memorial Park

Baseball Diamond

Playground

Cenotaph

Approximately 2.79 acres



COUNCIL DISCUSSION

North Dufferin Community Centre



Norduff Room

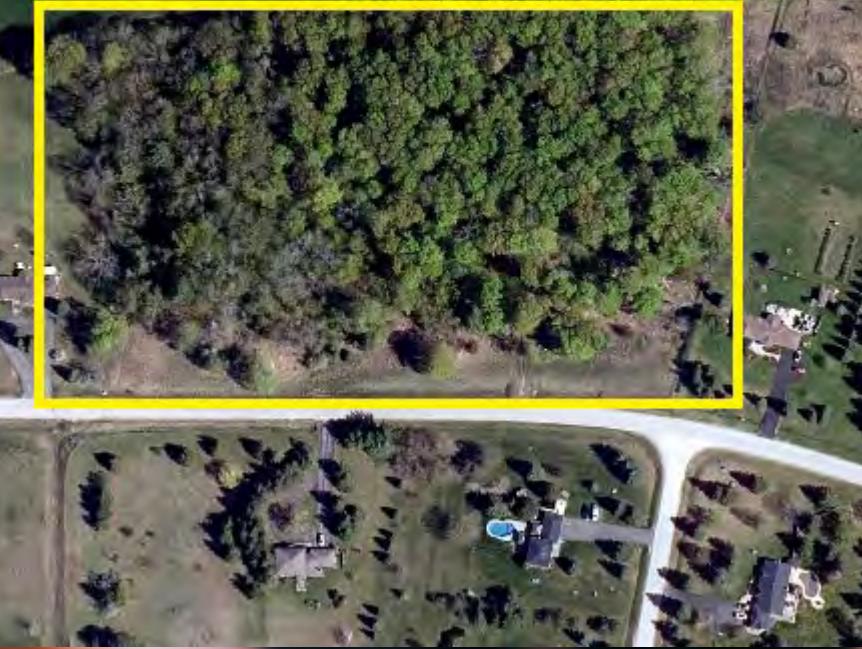
Ice Rink

Concession Booth

Change Rooms

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Violet Hill Park- 24 Kingsland



Violet Hill Parkland

Passive Open Green Space

9.05 acres

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Thomson Trail Park

Multi-Purpose Court

Basketball Court

Outdoor Ice Rink

Playground

Walking Trail

Outdoor Exercise Equipment

5.76 acres



COUNCIL DISCUSSION



Maes Crescent Park

Passive Green Space

Land Locked

1.59 acres

COUNCIL DISCUSSION



Mansfield Community Park

Baseball Diamond

Pavillion/Washrooms

Playground

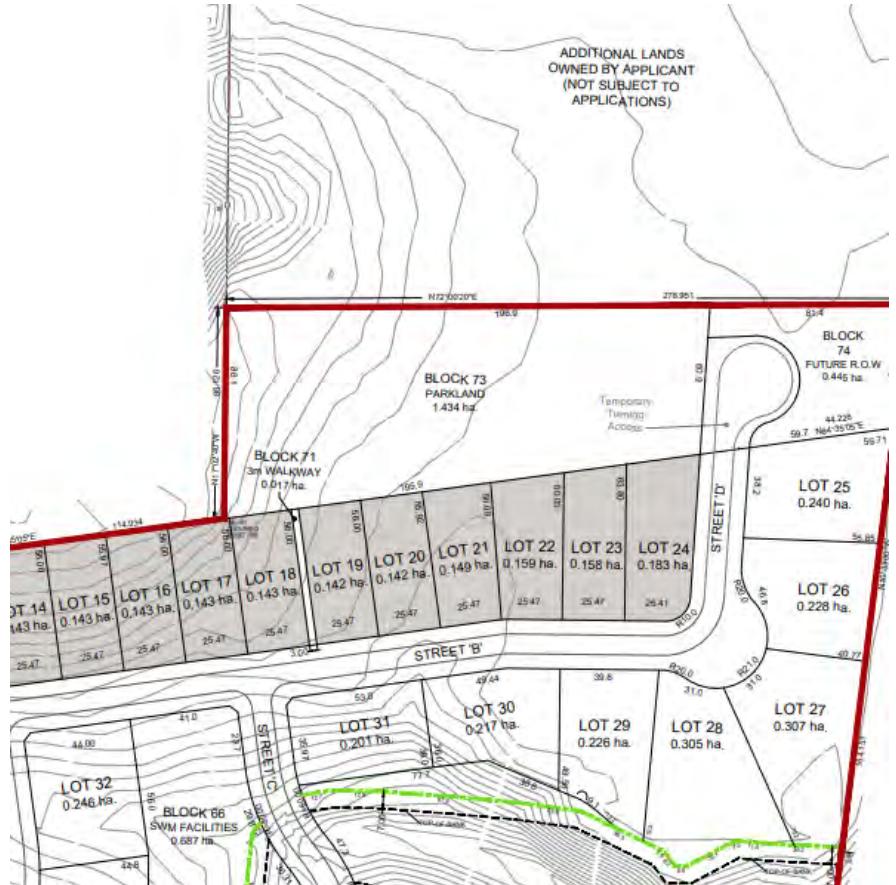
Cenotaph

3.97 acres

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The Fields Estates Parkland

3.5 acres



COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Terra Nova: Township Office

Passive Green Space

Multi-Purpose Court (2026)

Approx. 3 acres



COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Other Considerations



Summary- Key takeaways & Next steps

- Summary of key points
- Timelines
- Next steps



NEXT STEPS





Township of Mulmur

Recreation Master Plan

February 2021



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Appendix

Appendix A: Demographic Mapping

1 Introduction

1.1 What is a Recreation Master Plan?

The purpose of the Recreation Master Plan for Mulmur is to strategically guide and manage municipal planning for parks and recreation assets and services over the next 10 years (to 2030). This Plan will further effective planning, budgeting and implementation of stated goals and objectives for recreation, parks and trails and help the Township guide and manage the development of parks and recreation assets, services, programming and events.

1.2 Purpose and Scope of the Master Plan

The principal objective of the Master Plan is to document current municipal recreation assets and develop a series of recommendations and actions to accommodate the current and future recreational needs of the municipality over the next ten years (to 2030). The Master Plan is an integrated plan that evaluates needs and strategies related to the following:

Indoor Facilities	Outdoor Amenities	Parkland & Trails	Service Delivery
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Centre / Arena	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sports FieldsSports CourtsPlaygrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parks & Open SpaceTrail Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PartnershipsProgramming

The Master Plan provides guidance to develop an appropriate level of service related to recreation for Mulmur residents. It is a flexible blueprint – many of the recommendations contained in this document are stand-alone and can be implemented separate and apart from decisions required to implement other aspects of the Master Plan. The Master Plan should also be placed in the broader context of all obligations of the Township of Mulmur. Changes in the wider municipal environment in terms of fiscal priorities, can be expected to impact the priorities contained in this Master Plan.

1.3 Plan Development Process

Ongoing changes in population and demographics, as well as the landscape of delivery of programs and services, has resulted in the need for an evaluation of the Town's recreation delivery system. In accomplishing this, the process of developing this Master Plan required:

- A township-wide review of existing assets (including facility conditions, revenues and expenditures, utilization, planned capital investment and standards of provision on a population basis).
- Public engagement activities and outreach with key internal and external stakeholders.
- Analysis of local, regional, and provincial demographic and leisure trends, as well as best practices in other communities.
- Review of strategic plans, policies, and priorities (local, regional, and provincial) to develop long-term recreation recommendations that enable the Township to take full advantage of programming, investment, and partnership opportunities.
- Historic and forecasted population dynamics and demographic change and the impact of this on the delivery of recreation.
- An understanding of the current municipal delivery model for recreation including levels of investment in the sector.
- Identification of gaps and opportunities for the provision of facilities, services and programs that may be addressed through the recommendations of the Master Plan.

Exhibit 1: Study Process

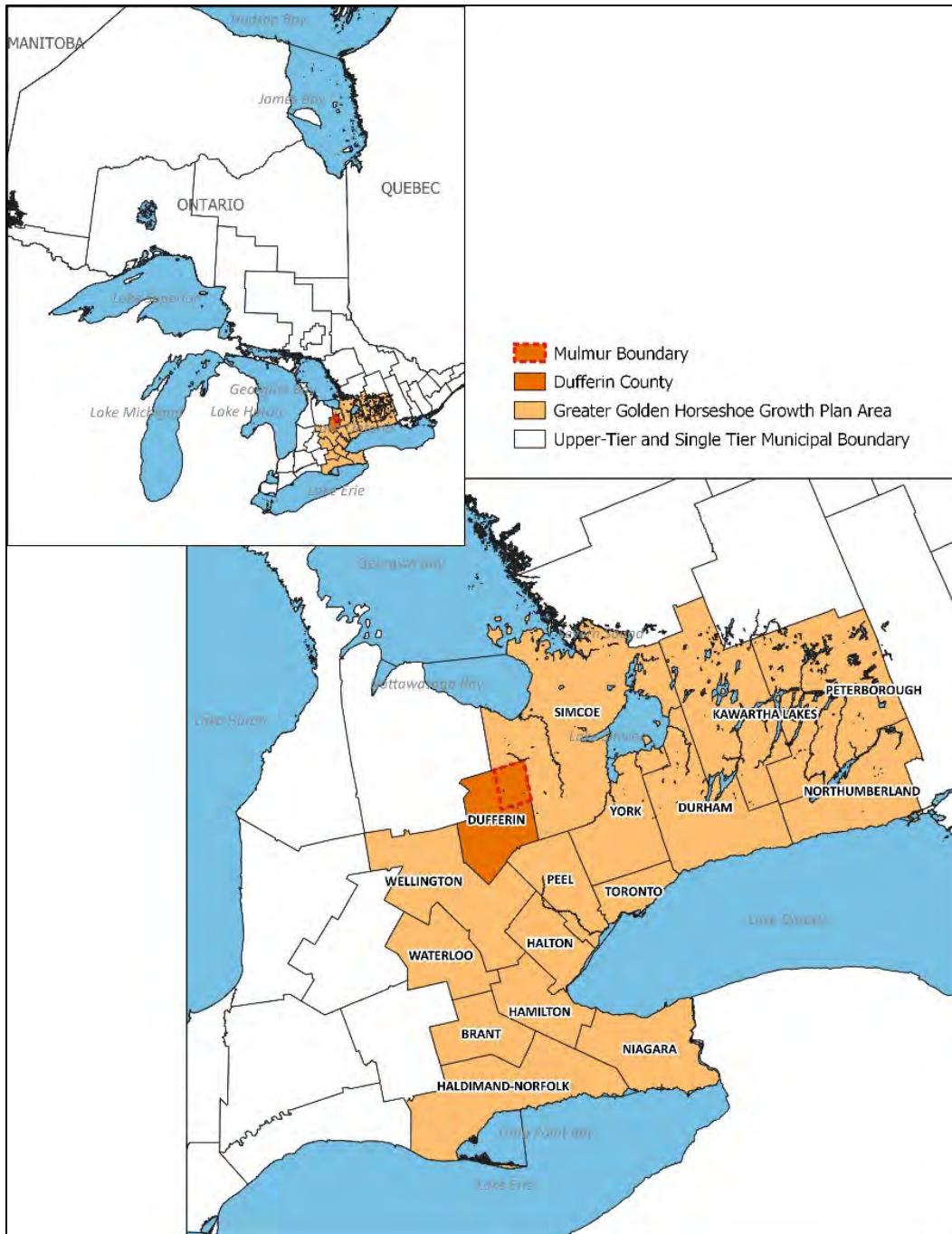


2 The Context of Changing Needs

2.1 Locational Analysis

The Township of Mulmur is a lower-tier municipality in the northeast portion of Dufferin County and lies within the Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Plan Area.

Exhibit 2: Regional Location of Mulmur

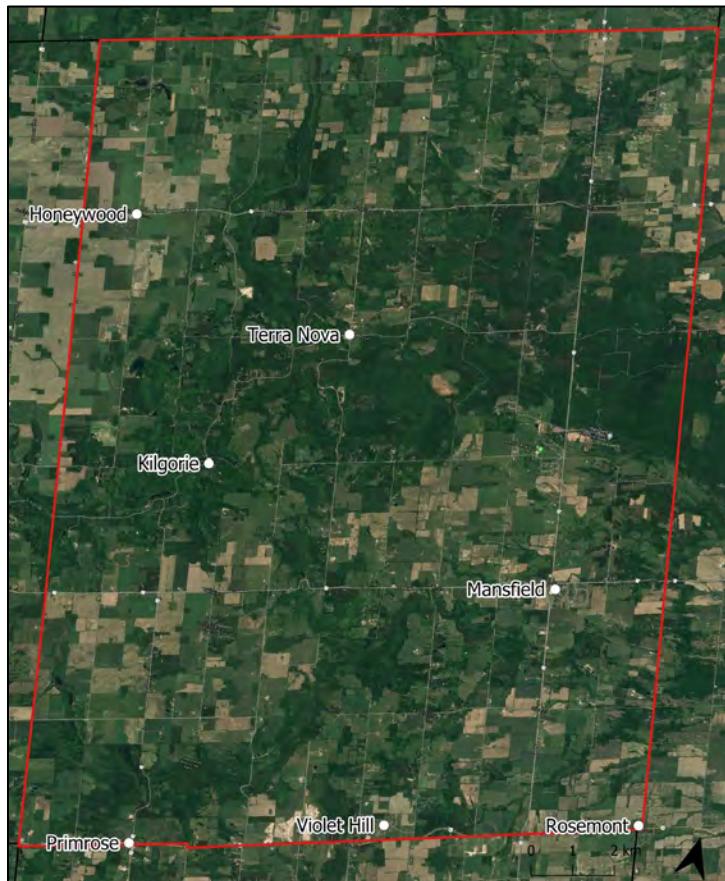


The Township of Mulmur is one of eight lower-tier municipalities within Dufferin County's jurisdiction. The Town of Orangeville is the largest urban centre and county seat, with just over half the population.

Dufferin County Lower Tier Municipalities	2016 Population
Orangeville	28,900
Mono	8,609
Shelburne	8,126
Amaranth	4,079
Mulmur	3,478
Melancthon	3,008
Grand Valley	2,956
East Garafraxa	2,579
Dufferin County Total	61,735

The Township includes six hamlets and settlement areas: Mansfield, Honeywood, Terra Nova, Kilgorie, Primrose, Rosemont, and Violet Hill, shown in the map below.

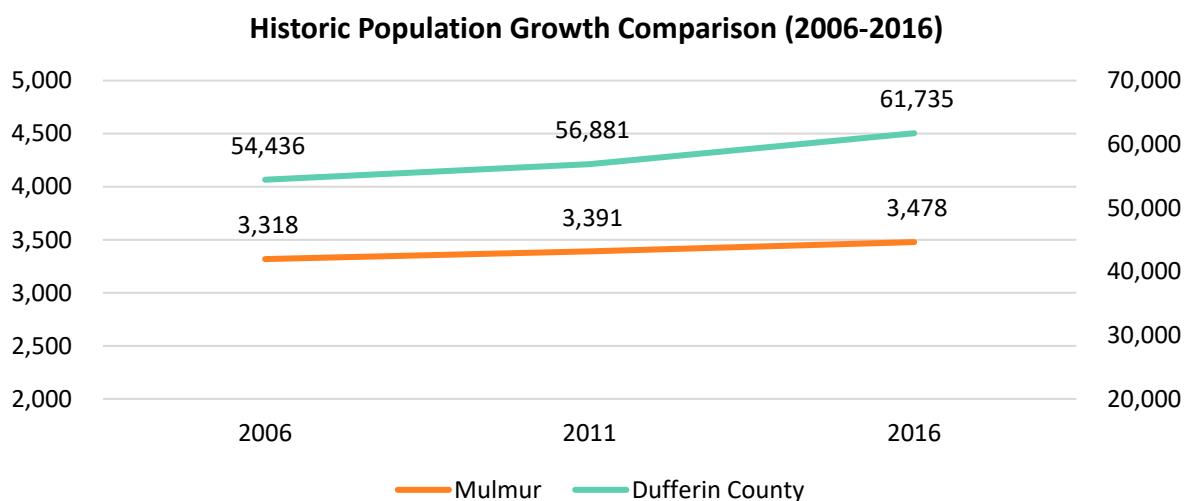
Exhibit 3: Population Centres within the Township of Mulmur



2.2 Planning for a Changing Demographic

As per the 2016 Census data, the Mulmur's population is 3,478 residents with a population of 70 people of Indigenous identity, including First Nations and Métis. The Township's community profile indicates a seasonal population of an additional 6,200 residents.

The following chart compares population growth in the Township and the County from 2006 to 2016. Over this period Mulmur experienced population growth of 4.8%. This is compared to population growth in Dufferin County of 13.4% over the same period.



Source: SPM based on Statistics Canada Census Data, 2011, 2016.

The recommendations and service levels identified within this report utilize the most recent growth projections in the 2019 Development Charge Study, the Dufferin County Official Plan, and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe establishes a population forecast for the County of 80,000 people in 2031. Based on this forecast, the Township's population is expected to increase to approximately 4,290 by 2031, an increase of 23%. The compound growth rate based on these projections is 1.41% per year over the 15-year period.

Exhibit 4: Estimated Population Projections to 2031

Municipality / Year	2016	2021	2026	2031	2016-2031 Pop. Growth	2016-2031 Pop. Growth Rates
Dufferin County Projections						
Total Population	61,735	67,306	73,380	80,000	18,265	30%
Township of Mulmur Projections						
Total Population	3,478	3,749	4,019	4,290	812	23%

Source: Sierra Planning and Management based on the Dufferin County Official Plan and Township of Mulmur Development Charge Study, 2019.

Investment in recreation must be viewed as part of the quality of life equation, resident attraction and economic development strategy for the Township and means to achieve growth targets.

2.2.1 Areas to Accommodate Future Growth

From 2006 to 2016, the greatest amount of population growth has been in the southeast of the Township, in and around Mansfield. There was more modest growth in the south-central area containing Violet Hill. There was a modest population decline in the western part of the Township containing Honeywood, Kilgorie, and Primrose. Appendix A provides mapping details related to population change.

Mansfield, Honeywood, and Terra Nova have been designated as settlement areas in the Official Plan, with much of the growth anticipated to occur in Mansfield, where most of the residential land designated for development is located. The average number of new dwellings per year in the Township was 16.6 from 2012 to 2018, growing from 10 at the beginning of the period to 23 at the end.

It is important to note that servicing constraints may limit the amount of growth. The Official Plan states that Mansfield will be served by a municipal water system and private sewage disposal systems. The Plan states that development should only occur when detailed hydrogeological studies are provided to confirm that the use of private septic systems will not adversely affect the groundwater supplies and ensure that there is sufficient water available to meet demand.

The Official Plan and Primrose Employment Lands Secondary Plan designates Primrose as the focus of industrial, commercial, institutional, and related development, with most employment lands located in the Primrose Business Park.

2.2.2 Aging Demographics

While the Township is expected to continue to experience aging (similar to many other communities in Ontario), it is still important to provide recreation opportunities to attract young families to the Township and to provide opportunities for those currently living in the Township. Children and youth (population under 19 years of age) are fairly even geographically distributed within Mulmur, but with a slightly higher percentage in the southeast around Mansfield, as well as the northwest around Honeywood, west of Terra Nova, and west of Kilgorie. It should also be noted that there is a significant youth population to the northwest of Mulmur in Grey Highlands.

Areas with the highest proportion of older adults (65+) are in the central, southwestern, and northeastern parts of the township including Primrose, Terra Nova, and Kilgorie.

See Appendix A for mapping details related to age distribution across the Township.

From the perspective of this Master Plan, planning for age-friendly and multi-generational spaces will be important to address the needs of children, youth, young adults as well as older residents (which is more important in rural areas to counteract rural isolation). This is of growing importance as the population ages. As shown in the exhibits below, the share of the population under 19 years old has dropped from 26% in 2006 to 20% in 2016, with the share of population over the age of 65 (older adults) rising from 13% to 18%. Mulmur's population profile is slightly older than the County as a whole.

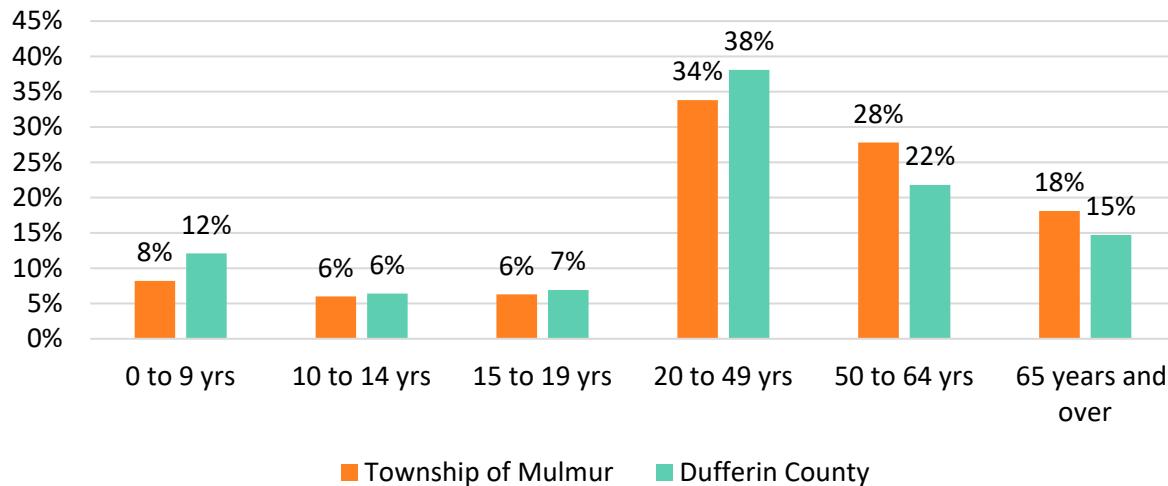
Continuous monitoring of future need and demand for recreational facilities and amenities will be important going forward to ensure the continuation of services and to sustain the current level of service provided in the Township.

Exhibit 5: Mulmur Population Age Profile 2006 - 2016

Age Cohort	2006 Pop.	% Share	2016 Pop.	% Share
Children (0-9)	345	10%	285	8%
Youth (10-19)	530	16%	430	12%
Young Adults (20-39)	645	19%	665	19%
Adults (40-64)	1385	42%	1480	42%
Older Adults (65+)	425	13%	630	18%
Total	3330	100%	3490	100%

Source: SPM based on Statistics Canada Census Data, 2006 and 2016

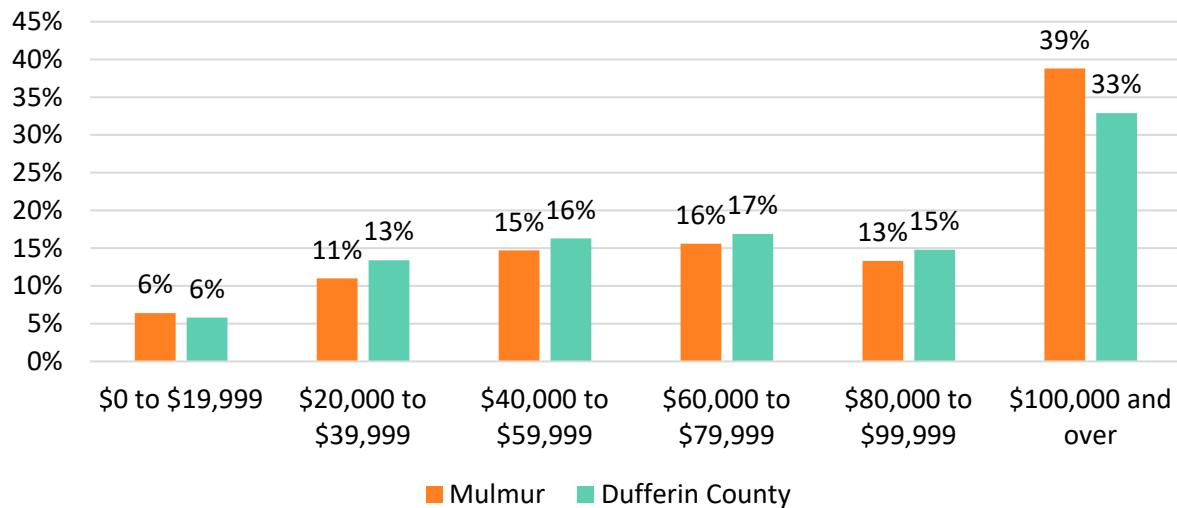
Exhibit 6: Township and County Age Distribution



2.2.3 Considerations of Income

As per the 2016 census, Mulmur has a median household income after tax of \$82,816, moderately higher than that for Dufferin County as a whole (\$77,256). 38.8% of households have an income of over \$100,000, compared to 32.9% for the County.

Exhibit 7: Township of Mulmur and Dufferin County 2016 (After Tax) Comparison



In 2016, 4.2% of Mulmur's population was under the Low-Income Cut-Off Threshold, after tax (LICO-AT)¹. This is slightly above the County as a whole at 3.9%, but well below the 9.8% in Ontario as a whole.

The geographic areas that had the highest proportions of resident household under the Low-Income Threshold in 2016 were mostly focused near the north-east of the Township. See Appendix A for mapping details.

¹ Statistics Canada defines low-income cut-off (after tax) as: Income levels at which families or persons not in economic families spend 20 percentage points more than average of their after-tax income on food, shelter and clothing.

2.3 Community Aspirations for Recreation

Over the course of the Master Plan process community engagement activities generated input from nearly 500 residents and stakeholders through various methods, including:

- One community workshop;
- One public online survey – the results of which are provided under separate cover; and
- Staff and senior management interviews.

The results of these activities provided for an array of responses. Several common themes and aspirations emerged for the future provision of recreation over the long-term, summarized as follows:

Theme 1: Multi-Use Facilities

- Provide a variety of spaces within facilities that are flexible for multi-purpose use for community gathering, and places for residents of all ages and abilities to participate in recreational pursuits.

Theme 2: Enhanced Programming

- Expand the programs offered to residents, with consideration for the changing demographics and community needs through enhanced partnerships.

Theme 3: Inclusive and Accessible

- Upgrade and renew existing facilities to ensure compliance with AODA requirements to enable access by all residents.

Theme 4: Improved Communications

- Enhance communication between the Township and its residents to provide key information related to recreation, community events, and other happenings.

2.4 Trends & Best Practice

2.4.1 Service Delivery

Key trends that have emerged in service delivery methods for recreational and sport programming include:

- **Volunteerism** – National trends show a decline in volunteerism, however those who volunteer are doing so on a more frequent basis;
- **Performance measures** – Recreation sector performance measures are increasingly shifting from outputs to outcomes (shift from output measures such as capital costs, number of registrants to outcome measures such as how the program benefited the community and health indicators);
- **Partnerships** – Communities are increasingly entering into partnership agreements with community groups and the private sector to maximize cost efficiencies; and
- **Creating Community Hubs** – the need to animate neighbourhoods with an increase of recreational activity, and work with local groups to determine neighbourhood needs. A community gathering space that provides a range of programming can create a greater sense of belonging, empowerment, and cohesion within diverse populations.

2.4.2 Indoor Recreation Infrastructure

Well designed and functioning recreation and sport facilities, trails and parks is key to creating and maintaining healthy communities. Current trends and best practice related to the design and functionality of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities are summarized below.

Multi-Use Facilities

There is an increasing focus on creating flexible multi-use “destination” facilities as recreation, entertainment and family centres and community hubs.

Accessibility

Improving accessibility within recreation facilities for people with disabilities due to the passing of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) where



Flexible Multi-Purpose Spaces, Oak Ridges Community Centre (top) / Meadowvale Community Centre (bottom)

municipalities are required to improve opportunities for participation for people with disabilities through the removal of barriers, with the goal of making Ontario fully accessible by 2025.

Sustainability

There is an increasing focus on the overall sustainability of a facility (e.g. net zero/carbon neutral) rather than achieving a specific certification program status (e.g. LEED).

2.4.3 Parkland Design and Development

While each municipality sets its own goals and priorities in the development of its parkland system, common trends that can have an impact on the development / redevelopment of parks, trails, and other outdoor facilities include demographic changes (e.g. aging communities and rising senior needs for passive pursuits), participation trends in traditional field sports, active transportation and active living, and linking recreation and leisure services to resident's quality of life.

The Township should aim to incorporate key design trends and best practices into the design and/or redesign of parks in the future. These include:

Inclusion and Accessibility

Accessibility requirements under the Design of Public Spaces Standard of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA) apply to new construction and the redevelopment of elements in public spaces, including parks, trails and other public amenities. Design Standards for Public Spaces encompasses recreational trails, outdoor public use eating areas, outdoor play spaces, exterior paths of travel (e.g. sidewalks), accessible parking, and maintenance, among others.

Ensuring that all park amenities, including play facilities, are welcoming and easily navigable for all ages and abilities is an important consideration. It is important to consider not only mobility devices, but those with cognitive and other issues (i.e. autism, sensory disorders, visual and hearing impairments, etc.). Many park designers are striving to include all types of ages and abilities within the same play / park space by designing amenities that can be used in a multitude of ways.

Current common practice is to engage the community throughout the park design and development stage.

Nature Based Play

Natural play elements are increasingly becoming more prominent in playground planning. Many benefits of connecting children with nature have been documented, including that a child's social, psychological, academic, and physical health is positively affected when they have frequent contact with nature. Mixing elements of the natural environment with the built environment only enhances the play experience and often see the highest use. One of the main

things that natural play environments combat is static play elements or park designs that children may get bored with quickly. Incorporating natural elements with play places supports higher levels of play through repeated use and can help to encourage children to get outside and explore.

Outdoor Fitness Equipment

There is a trend in many communities to design parks and their amenities that appeal to older adults. The outdoor gym trend is one of these amenities, often including various mechanical devices ranging from simple sit-up stations to rowing machines, elliptical trainers and leg presses. Signs indicate that the devices are intended for people aged 12 and older, however, in public parks there is no control over the age or skill level of users, and there is no supervision. The equipment does have moving parts and is subject to often harsh winter conditions. Therefore, safety is often a consideration for municipalities, however the benefits to residents often outweigh these concerns.

Maintenance and Sustainability

Many municipalities are facing strained budgets when it comes to the maintenance and operation of public spaces, as new parks and facilities are acquired through the development process. In order to reduce the maintenance and operational requirements for parkland and park amenities, park development and renewal in the future municipal governments are now contemplating sustainability practices, specifically related to:

- Designs that encourage sustainable maintenance practices; (e.g. xeriscapes, naturalized landscapes, etc.);
- Incorporating native, drought-resistant vegetation features (to reduce watering requirements); and
- Utilizing durable materials and infrastructure (i.e. furniture, play equipment, etc.).



Nature-Based Playground, Salisbury, NB



Bamboo Climbing Structures, Valleyfield, QC



Fitness Stations, Peterborough, ON

2.5 The Link Between Physical Activity and Wellbeing

The various facets of “wellbeing” often relate to physical and mental health. ‘A Framework for Recreation in Canada: Pathways to Wellness’ (2015) is a national framework that explores the idea of “wellbeing” in the provision of recreation in Canada. The framework guides the continued evolution of recreation in Canada and is a joint initiative of the Interprovincial Sport and Recreation Council and the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association. This framework is premised on the assertion that recreation provides multiple pathways to wellbeing for individuals, communities and for our built and natural environments, and allows for a re-visioning of recreation’s capacity for achieving wellbeing. The national framework identifies key benefits of recreation and summarizes them as follows:

Enhances Mental and Physical Wellbeing

- The availability and accessibility of parks and recreation facilities promotes increased levels of physical activity, which in turn, enhances self-esteem, personal growth, and life satisfaction for people of all abilities.

Enhances Social Wellbeing

- Provides developmental opportunities for children and youth, which supports social relationships in clubs and organizations. Helps decrease anti-social behaviour.

Creates Strong Families and Communities

- Builds social capital in the form of arts, recreation programming, festivals, and parades. Community events help form relationships between neighbours and promotes positive civic behaviour, mutual caring and volunteerism.

Economic Benefits to Investing in Recreation

- Recreation spending creates jobs, fosters tourism, makes communities more attractive places to live, learn, work, play and visit. “Upstream” investments can also improve individual and community wellbeing, which reduces costs in health care, social services and justice.

A variety of socio-economic factors can have an influence on participation in physical recreation including age, income, marital status, place of residence, health challenges, consistent access to recreational opportunities, social media, among others. On a more local level, the following trends related to participation have been observed:

- Participation in informal and unorganized activities is becoming more common than in organized programming.
- Key motivators for participation include a desire to maintain a healthy, active lifestyle.
- Time and/or availability of program offering is commonly cited as a barrier to participating in recreational activities.

3 Master Plan Values & Priorities

The Master Plan and its recommendations are based on the following vision, principles, goals, and objectives for planning and investment in recreation in Mulmur.

3.1 The Vision for Recreation

A proposed vision for recreation in the Township of Mulmur was developed as part of the Master Planning process, and reads:

“The Township of Mulmur will maximize the benefits of accessing recreation in the community, with a focus on the provision of services and renewed facilities, to meet 21st Century resident needs.”

3.2 Planning Principles

The Master Plan and its recommendations are based on the following principles for planning:

- 1** Prudent advancement of the expansion of recreation services through improved programming and facility investment.
- 2** Strategically invest in recreation infrastructure for resident retention and attraction (e.g. young families).
- 3** Adopt an asset management approach to investment in infrastructure that reflects prudent capital investment. This includes consideration for replacing, decommissioning and/or repurposing assets where warranted.
- 4** Recognize Mansfield and Honeywood as the primary hubs, and Terra Nova as a secondary hub, for recreation within the Township, focusing facility development in these locations.
- 5** Address the needs of target populations (youth and seniors) through recreation planning and optimization of existing facilities, ensuring recreation facilities and opportunities are inclusive and accessible for all.
- 6** Provide an effective range of indoor and outdoor spaces for community recreation activities and programming.
- 7** Protect and enhance Mulmur’s natural environment as important assets for active and passive recreation, and tourist opportunities.

3.3 Goals & Objectives



Goal 1:
Make parks and recreation accessible to all

Objectives:

- Plan for and invest in multi-use and multi-generational (8-80) spaces – this may include investment in indoor facilities but also parks, trails, and other open spaces.
- Strategic investment in recreation infrastructure for target groups including youth and seniors.
- Co-locate appropriate township-owned facilities and/or township resources.



Goal 2:
Promote health, wellness, and active living

Objectives:

- Provide and support programs and seeking partnerships with organizations or groups that promote health, wellness, and quality of life.
- Protect the natural environment and prioritize effective management of these assets for recreational purposes.
- Facilitate the growth of existing trail systems and promote active transportation through integrated networks of parks, trails, and open spaces.



Goal 3:
Facility renewal and investment

Objectives:

- Renewal of aging assets based on effective asset management principles.
- Priority for investment to maintain existing facilities that have a viable lifespan before investing in new facilities. This requires a comparison of the costs and benefits of facility renewal against new construction.
- Pursue all opportunities to develop recreation infrastructure by leveraging upper level government and other funding programs that arise over time.



Goal 4:
Support, promote and partner for access to facilities

Objectives:

- Balance the need for local organization of recreation and facility planning with benefits of coordinated township-wide planning and oversight.
- Encourage community involvement in the development and operating of programs.

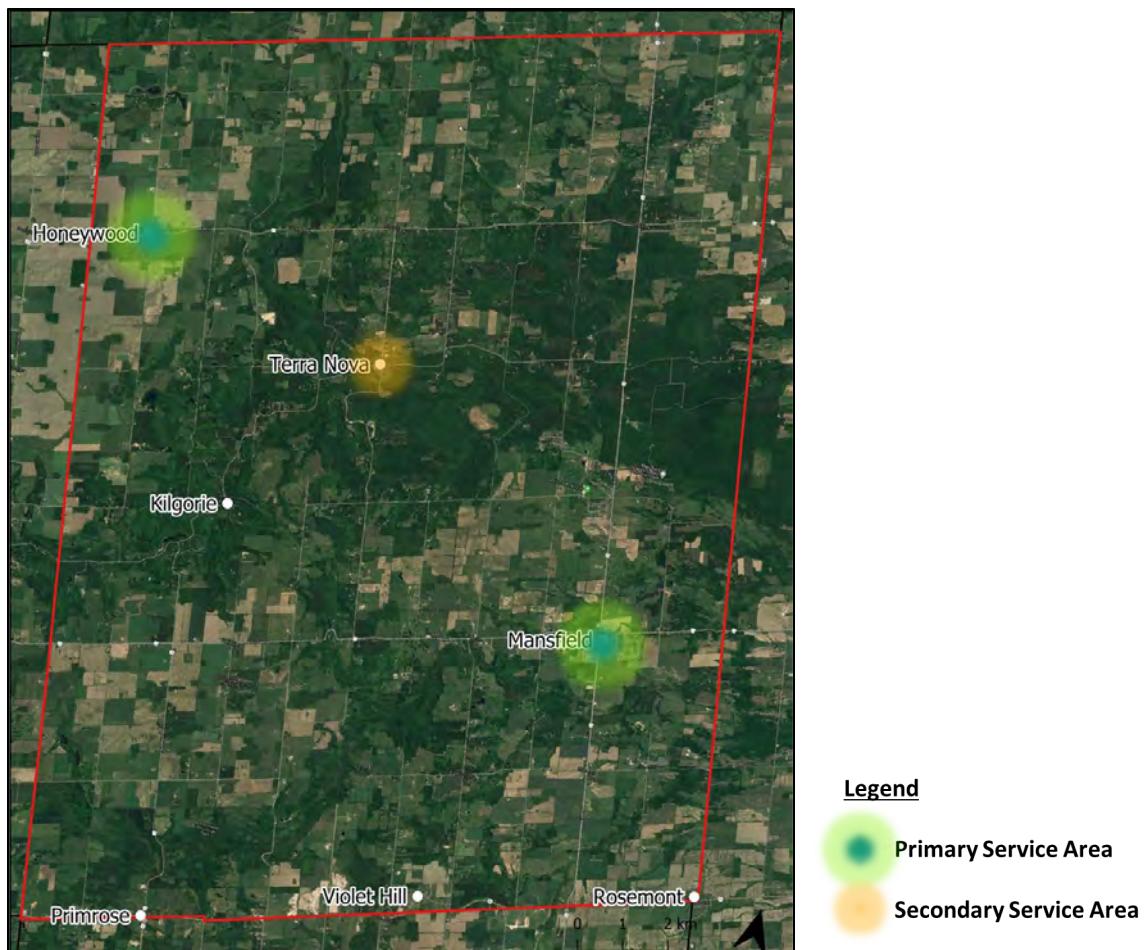
3.4 Approach to Planning and Service Levels

The recommendations of this Master Plan cover a range of considerations for the provision of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities as well as parks, open space, and trails, specifically as it relates to capital investment and development and the implementation of projects over the 10-year life of this Plan. The recommendations have been informed by a variety of inputs, and are the product of a balanced assessment of the following long-term capital planning and asset management factors:

- Defined levels of service for each class or category of facility dependent on the nature and scale of use of amenities (i.e. township, community and/or neighbourhood level of service, as appropriate);
- Current and projected population-based standards of provision and the implications of forecasted resident growth on current levels of service;
- Capital implications of aging infrastructure and options to enhance the delivery and operation of assets through future investment and other efficiencies; and
- Community “needs and wants” as expressed through public engagement. Community needs and wants are those that are expressed by members of the public, stakeholders, and community groups. They reflect the aspirations of the community as communicated through the public engagement activities associated with the Master Plan process.

Due to the geographic reach of the Township, there is a need to establish appropriate levels of service for the settlement areas as well as for the more rural areas. This provides a framework to guide future planning and municipal investment in recreation. At present, recreational facilities are focused in Honeywood (at the NDCC) and Mansfield – the identified location for future growth within the Township. Therefore, this Master Plan recognizes Mansfield and Honeywood as primary service areas, offering the broadest range of recreational facilities and services. The third settlement area of Terra Nova, the location of the Township offices, is recognized as a secondary service area providing fewer facilities and/or services related to recreation. This echoes the policies within the official plan to provide sufficient parks, open spaces, and recreational opportunities in or near settlement areas within the Township.

Exhibit 8: Service Area Nodes



3.5 Approach to Asset Management

The Township has an existing Asset Management Plan (AMP) developed in 2016 which covers the typical hard municipal infrastructure such as bridges, roads, and buildings. With a recognition that in many parts of Ontario, existing infrastructure is degrading faster than it is being repaired or replaced, the Province implemented the Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure Regulation, O. Reg. 588/17, which came into effect in January 2018.

To improve the ways in which the Township plans for its infrastructure, including its recreation infrastructure in the future, the existing AMP needs updating. In this regard, planning for the operation, maintenance, renewal, replacement, and disposal of municipal infrastructure should be expanded to also focus on recreation and community facilities, open space, and parks within the Township's portfolio.

Recommendations: Service Levels

1. Maintain the current distribution of recreation amenities in the Township with Honeywood and Mansfield as primary service areas, and Terra Nova as a secondary service area. Future asset management priorities should also be considered.
2. Implement and update the 2016 Asset Management Plan, as per O. Reg. 588/17, retaining a specific and enhanced focus on recreation and community facilities, open space, and parks in addition to the traditional emphasis on hard infrastructure.
3. The location of any major recreation infrastructure (e.g. sports fields, community centres, etc.), as well a future replacement and/or expansion of existing facilities, should represent the most appropriate location based on considerations of land ownership, site suitability, co-location with other municipal recreation infrastructure, and capital costs associated with servicing and development.

4 Service Delivery and Programming

4.1 Current Model of Service Delivery

The Township is the primary provider of indoor and outdoor publicly accessible recreation facilities. Mulmur's Recreation Department currently plays a role in the direct delivery of drop-in programming (public skating) within the NDCC and is responsible for the maintenance and management of outdoor recreation assets (e.g. playgrounds, ball diamonds, etc.).

The Township currently supports a Community Development Model for the provision of recreation services, balancing its operation with facilitating programs and services led by other organizations/non-profits at municipal facilities and other public and private facilities. The delivery of services in Mulmur is also supported by several agencies and key stakeholders, including:

- Upper Grand District School Board;
- Nottawasaga Conservation Authority;
- Dufferin County (Forest Tracts);
- Ontario Parks (Boyne Valley Provincial Park, Pine River Provincial Fishing Area); and
- Others, including Mansfield Ski Club, Mansfield Outdoor Centre, Rawhide Adventures, Toronto & North York Hunt, and Unicamp of Ontario.

While this model is effective, evolving the role that the Township plays in the provision of recreation will be important going forward.

4.2 Effective Partnerships

While the provision of recreation services has traditionally relied on municipal governments, communities are increasingly entering into partnership agreements with community groups and the private sector to maximize cost efficiencies. Partnerships continue to be an important aspect to the provision of recreation services in Mulmur.

Currently, the Township partners with community-based organizations that utilize Township facilities to provide recreation programs and services, providing recreational opportunities for a range of residents. These community partners/organizations include:

Hockey / Skating

Ice sports are provided through a variety of leagues and organizations, including Honeywood Minor Hockey, Shelburne Minor Hockey, Ladies Hockey League, Honeywood Figure Skating Club, among others.

Baseball

Ball leagues that program at the Township's ball diamonds include Mansfield Minor Ball and Mansfield Mens League.

Township of Melancthon

The Township of Mulmur currently partners with the Township of Melancthon to collectively operate the North Dufferin Community Centre, through a Management Board. A cost-sharing agreement is currently in place, where capital and operating costs are shared equally by each municipality. Continuing this cost-sharing agreement with Melancthon is important going forward.

Recommendations: Service Delivery & Effective Partnerships

4. Maintain a Community Development Model for the delivery of recreation in the Township. Under this model, where volunteer and agency groups have historically serviced the recreation programming needs of the community, the Township should continue to support these initiatives through the provision of access to facilities for activities.
5. The Township should give consideration to staffing requirements necessary to successfully implement the Township's recreation mandate. Specifically, consider expanding the job description of the NDCC Management role to encompass a broader range of job responsibilities including responsibility for indoor and outdoor recreation, community development of programming opportunities and co-ordination of all recreation and leisure services provided and/or facilitated by the Township. This permanent, full-time job description includes management of the NDCC and events at the Township's facilities.
6. Investigate opportunities for new and/or expanded partnerships to improve service levels, enhance program delivery, and leverage public funding.
7. Continue the cost-sharing agreement with the Township of Melancthon for the operation and maintenance of the NDCC / a new multi-use recreation facility in Honeywood.

4.3 Identified Programming Needs

Existing programs offered by the Township are limited to drop-in public skating activities at the NDCC. Respondents to the public survey indicated that they mostly participate in public skating (38%), hockey (22%), and learn to skate programs (16%) in Mulmur. Yoga was also a common program with 7% of respondents having participated over the past year – this is provided in neighbouring communities.

30% of survey respondents (n=198) indicated that there are programs they would like to access that are not currently offered by the Township. Engagement with the community at large resulted in numerous suggestions for an expanded suite of recreational programs. Suggestions for programming, to be offered either by the Township or local community organizations, included the following:

Fitness Programs	General Interest Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gymnastics• Fitness for Older Adults, such as chair Pilates and chair yoga• Aerobics for all ages• Drop-In Pickleball• Dance Classes• Cycle Club for Teens, Adults• Yoga, Zumba, Tai Chi• Boxing, Martial Arts• Learn to Skate for Teens, Adults• Walking / Hiking Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technology / Computers for Older Adults• Safety and First Aid• Cooking• Gardening• Arts and Crafts for all ages• Bridge, Cards• Shuffleboard• Book Club

A lack of awareness of the programs that are currently offered was identified by survey respondents as the primary barrier limiting their participation in recreation programming. This was followed by a lack of desired programming being offered (36% of respondents), distance / location of facilities or programs (22%), and a lack of appropriate facilities (22%) to host such programs.

With a growing population of older adults, the opportunity exists to offer intergenerational programs in Mulmur that encourage participation and interaction from all age groups. Going forward, it will also be important to focus on providing programming opportunities and spaces for Mulmur's youth. Opportunities to strengthen programming through municipal partnerships will also need to be explored to take advantage of synergies between neighbouring municipalities, Dufferin County, the public library, or others, to bolster programming opportunities within the Township. As a first step, these initiatives could be explored and/or implemented by a summer student hired by the Township as a pilot project.

Recommendations: Programming Needs

8. Work with community groups and local partners to expand the suite of traditional and non-traditional programs offered through new or expanded partnerships (e.g. Library, County, sports groups, Ontario Parks, and other agencies), ensuring programming for all age groups, with a special focus on youth and seniors. This can help to enhance the utilization of existing recreation infrastructure.
9. As programming levels increase, develop a methodology to track program registrations and assess the rate of take-up for programs offered by the Township or its partners. Continuous tracking can help determine the complement of programs that should be offered in the future.

4.4 Marketing and Communications

In response to consultation that identified a lack of awareness of programs available to the community, the Township can take a lead role in helping promote the recreational opportunities available to residents. The Township should seek to promote communications and awareness of available programs, drop-in activities, and other events undertaken by third parties using the Township's facilities.

The opportunity exists to improve marketing and communication methods for the promotion of services exist through the development of a community services directory on the Township's website and in print form (e.g. Community Guide). In addition to a service directory, Community Guides often provide other important municipal information to residents, such as waste collection schedules, planned construction projects, and so on. This should also include a listing of available space for rent within parks, community centres, and sports fields that can be provided to the community for specialized events or activities.

Recommendations: Marketing & Communications

10. Develop a 'Community Guide' for the Township that includes recreation and leisure resources. The guide should include a community calendar of events and provides details on all programs offered in Mulmur (municipal / non-municipal), complete with contact information of organizers for programs that are not directly delivered by the Township. This should be an online / digital information tool with hardcopies located in key municipal facilities or distributed directly to residents and provided on an annual or semi-annual basis.

4.5 Fees & Cost Recovery

The Township of Mulmur establishes user rates for facility rentals on an annual basis. The current user fee structure subsidizes access to recreation for key groups, including minor participation. At present, the Township does not have a formal User Fee Policy in place to guide levels of cost recovery and subsidization.

In order to ensure continued fair and equitable pricing, a comprehensive review of user fees should be completed to confirm, validate and prioritize an approach to pricing going forward that is in keeping with best practice and to address the appropriateness of the current level of cost recovery of the Recreation Department and the current user fees being charged. Municipal cost recovery for recreation is estimated at 21% based on the Township's 2019 Operating Budget, which is relatively low.

Recommendations: Fees & Cost Recovery

11. Review, on an annual basis, the user fees and pricing schedule for facility and park rentals and programming fees (as appropriate). Rate setting should be informed by principles for cost recovery and subsidization, as determined by the Township.

5 Overview of Assets

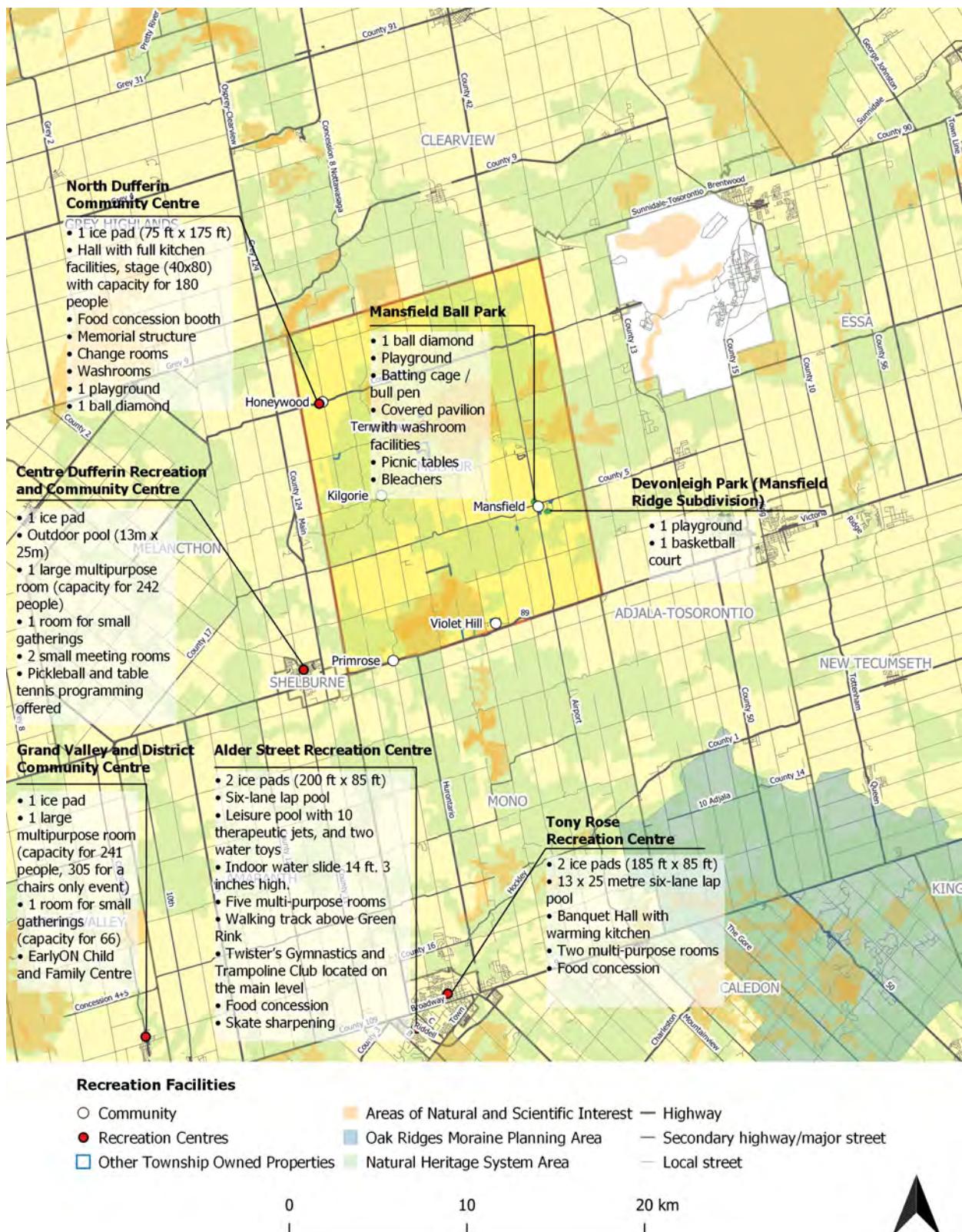
The Township of Mulmur is in proximity to larger population centres, such as Orangeville, that provide a wide variety of indoor and outdoor recreational assets for use by residents. These hubs service both their local community as well as the broader regional population by providing larger-scale facilities with a variety of amenities that are not found in Mulmur (e.g. indoor pools, multi-surface arenas, multi-purpose rooms, outdoor amenities).

The Township of Mulmur's municipal recreation asset base provides services on a more localized level, and consists of the following:

Indoor Recreation Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 ice pad• 2 community rooms	
Outdoor Recreation Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 ball diamonds• 1 basketball court• 3 playgrounds	
Parkland and Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 municipal parks totalling 7.1 hectares• 130 km of trails (not Township owned)	

The exhibit on the following page shows the locations of both the local and regional recreation assets in proximity to, and within, the Township of Mulmur.

Exhibit 9: Township and Regional Recreation Facilities



6 Indoor Recreation Facilities

6.1 North Dufferin Community Centre (NDCC)

The NDCC, built in 1965, is approximately 27,424 square feet in size, in a two-storey structure. The facility consists of an undersized ice surface (75ft x 175ft) with associated changerooms, washrooms and spectator seating, and the Nordruff Room, located on the second floor, which has a stage, kitchen facilities, and washrooms. A standard NHL ice rink measures 200 feet by 85 feet wide.

The community centre is situated in Honeywood, in the northwest portion of the Township. The centre is located adjacent to the Fire Hall and outdoor space, which includes a ball diamond, playground, and memorial structure. At present, the NDCC is a community hub for recreation as it is the only indoor recreation facility in the Township.

While the facility is in the Township of Mulmur, the Township of Melancthon (directly to the west) shares the operating and capital cost requirements, as it is an important community centre for their residents as well.

6.1.1 Utilization

To calculate the prime-time utilization rate of the ice surface and Nordruff Room at the NDCC, the following assumptions were employed:

- Weekday evenings (4:00pm to 10:00pm)
- Weekend days and evenings (8:00am to 10:00pm)

Ice Surface

The ice surface is primarily used by local sport groups, including Honeywood Minor Hockey Association, Honeywood Mens Recreational Hockey, Shelburne Minor Hockey, Ladies Hockey, Honeywood Hockey Moms, Fiddlers, Hillbillies, and Honeywood Figure Skating Club. The Hockey Training Institute also booked time at the facility over the past few years, however the group has since moved out of Mulmur and it is assumed that they will no longer be using the NDCC. Additionally, free public skating is offered on Sundays, and the dry floor has been used for ball hockey in the past (not at present).

Based on data provided by the Township, utilization of the ice surface has remained relatively steady over the past 4 seasons; however, it is consistently low – around 50%.

Exhibit 10: Prime Time Utilization Rate for NDCC Ice Surface

Ice Surface (NDCC)	2016	2017	2018	2019
Prime Time Hours Booked	822	757	723	887
Weeks Operational (Ice In)	26	27	26.5	30
Prime Time Hours Available	1508	1566	1537	1740
Prime Time Utilization Rate (%)	55%	48%	47%	51%

Note: Prime time hours available vary annually based on the number of weeks the ice is operational.

Norduff Room

The Norduff Room (hall on 2nd floor) is typically rented for banquets, weddings, family reunions, meetings, and used by clubs. Based on the data provided by the Township, the utilization of the Norduff Room is low (less than 5%), however, it is important to note that low utilization rates (often less than 10% or 15%) are common for community hall facilities that are in rural locations, close to larger population centres, and in need of upgrades.

A review of recent utilization rates for similar facilities in comparable communities shows that use of the Norduff Room is in line with the rates experienced elsewhere. For example, the Town of Erin's most rural community hall has an annual utilization rate of 2%, while the more urban hall facilities ranged from 5% to 16% annually. Similarly, the Township of Scugog has a variety of hall facilities (urban/rural, stand-alone, and as part of a larger arena complex), with utilization rates ranging from less than 1% to 21%.

6.1.2 Standard of Provision

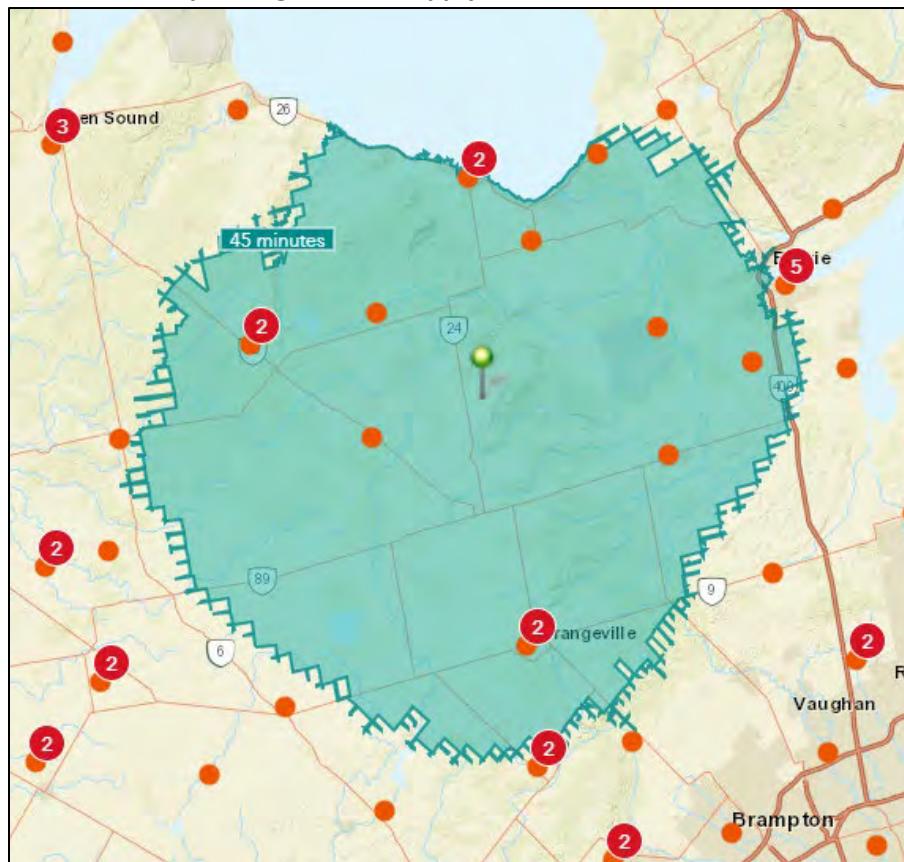
As a shared facility between the two municipalities, the standard of provision as it relates to ice has been calculated on a population basis to include the populations of both municipalities. With one ice pad in the Townships, the existing population-based service level for indoor ice provision is 1 pad per 6,486 residents.

This Master Plan recognizes that the NDCC is an important arena within the regional ice circuit. When considering ice on a regional scale (those arenas within a 45-minute drive of the NDCC), ice is provided at 1 sheet per 9,438 residents. Arenas have historically been provided in smaller, rural communities throughout Ontario, and therefore typically result in a high standard of provision when compared to larger communities.

Exhibit 11: Regional Supply of Ice Arenas

Municipality	Pads	Facility/ies	Population	Standard of Provision
Town of New Tecumseth	2	Alliston Arena, Beeton Arena	41,439	1 per 20,720
Orangeville	4	Alder Street Arena, Tony Rose Memorial Arena	28,900	1 per 7,225
Collingwood	2	Collingwood Arena, Eddie Bush Memorial Arena	21,793	1 per 10,897
Essa Township	2	Angus Arena, Thornton Arena	21,083	1 per 10,542
Wasaga Beach	1	Wasaga Arena	20,675	1 per 20,675
Clearview	1	Stayner Arena	14,151	1 per 14,151
Grey Highlands	4	Flesherton & District Arena, Markdale Arena	9,480	1 per 2,370
Shelburne	1	CDRC	8,126	1 per 8,126
Southgate	1	Dundalk Arena	7,190	1 per 7,190
Mulmur / Melancthon	1	NDCC	6,486	1 per 6,486
Total	19		179,323	1 per 9,438

Exhibit 12: Map of Regional Ice Supply



6.1.3 Building Condition

A high-level visual review of the NDCC building was conducted by WGD Architects to determine the general state of repair and functionality. This review was conducted as part of a more detailed Efficiency Review for the NDCC (provided to the Townships under separate cover).

General observations indicate that the facility is generally tired and, in many respects, does not meet user needs. This is especially true for accessibility. By 2025 municipalities are required to provide accessible public facilities. This relates to circulation, water closet facilities and spectator viewing for the arena. In general, the facility is due for major additions and alterations to make it a more usable facility for the community.

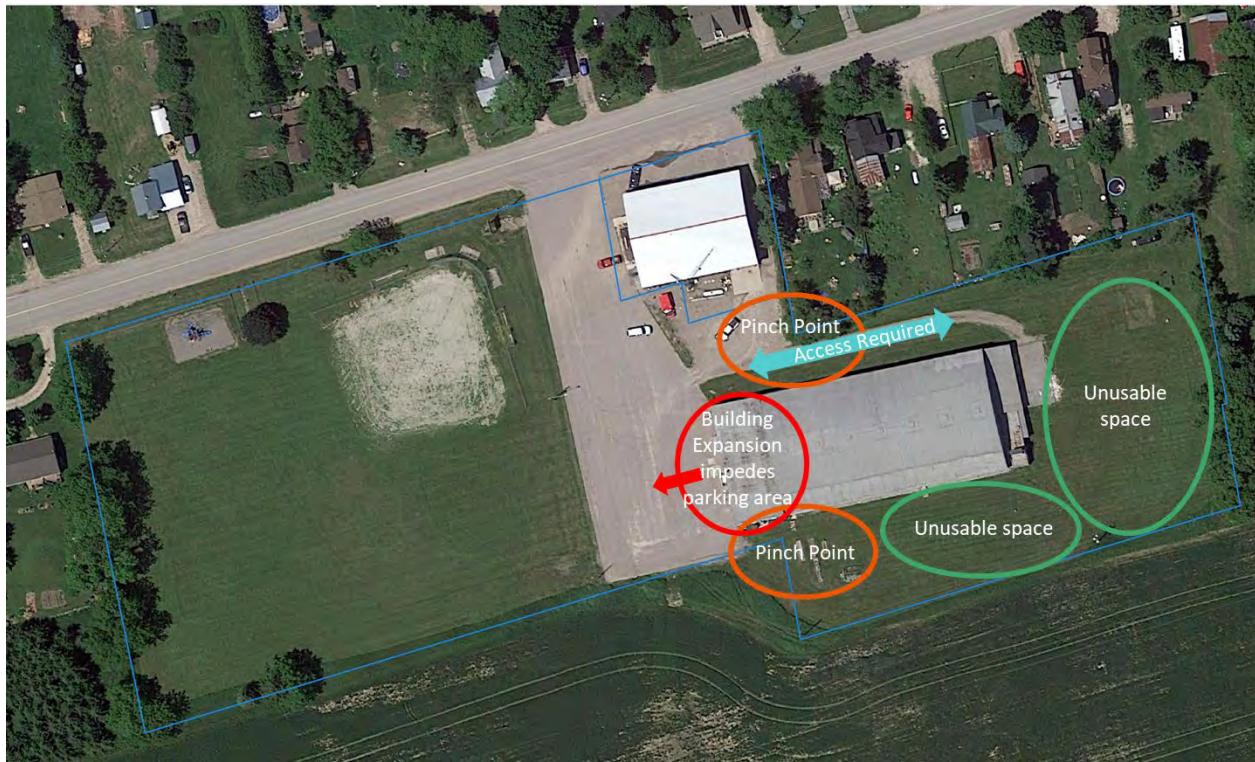
The Township had previously developed a listing of specific repairs and improvements required for the NDCC building with an associated order of importance – this was provided for review as part of the assessment. The review of condition conducted for the current work generally supports the required repairs and improvements identified by the Township. An order of magnitude cost estimate for the necessary replacement and repairs totals over \$2 million in hard construction costs.

6.1.4 Site Observations

Through the development of the Efficiency Review for the NDCC, several issues related to the existing site and siting of the building were observed, including:

- Restricts use of outdoor amenity space on the east side of the arena;
- Pinch points at the north and south limits of the site where the arena lies;
- Requirements for access to the ice plant located on the east side of the arena limits expansion capabilities to some degree; and
- Any future expansion of the building would need to occur on the west side, impeding the currently limited parking area and outdoor space for recreational activities.

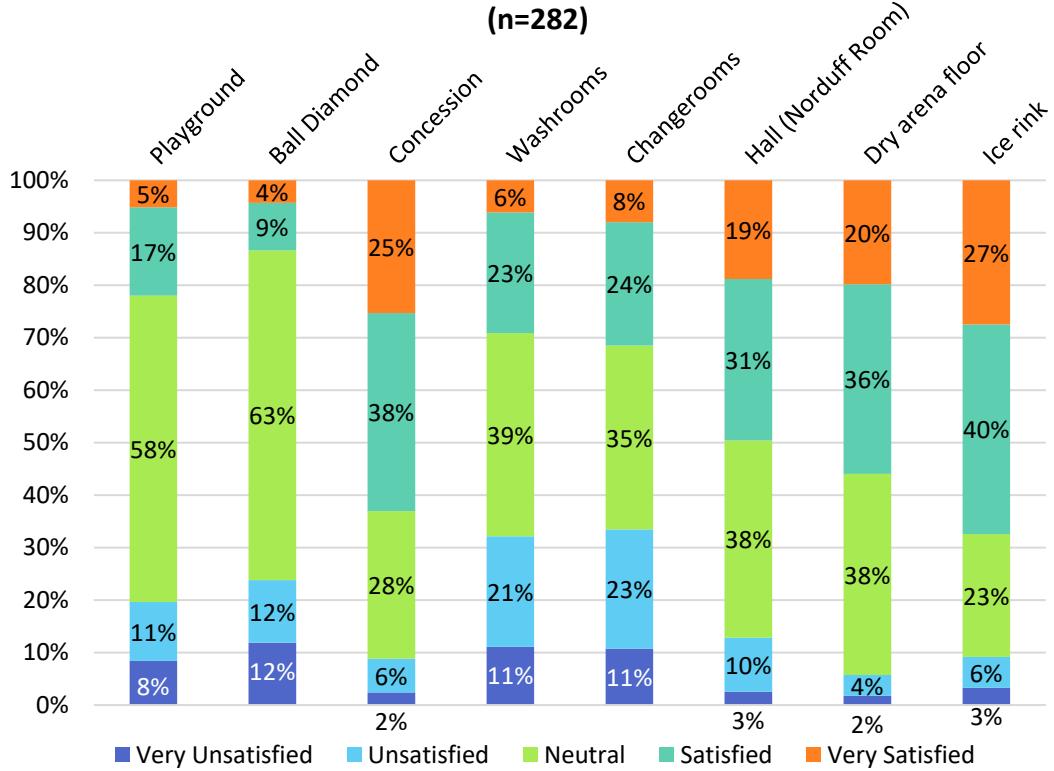
Exhibit 13: NDCC Site Observations



6.1.5 What We Heard

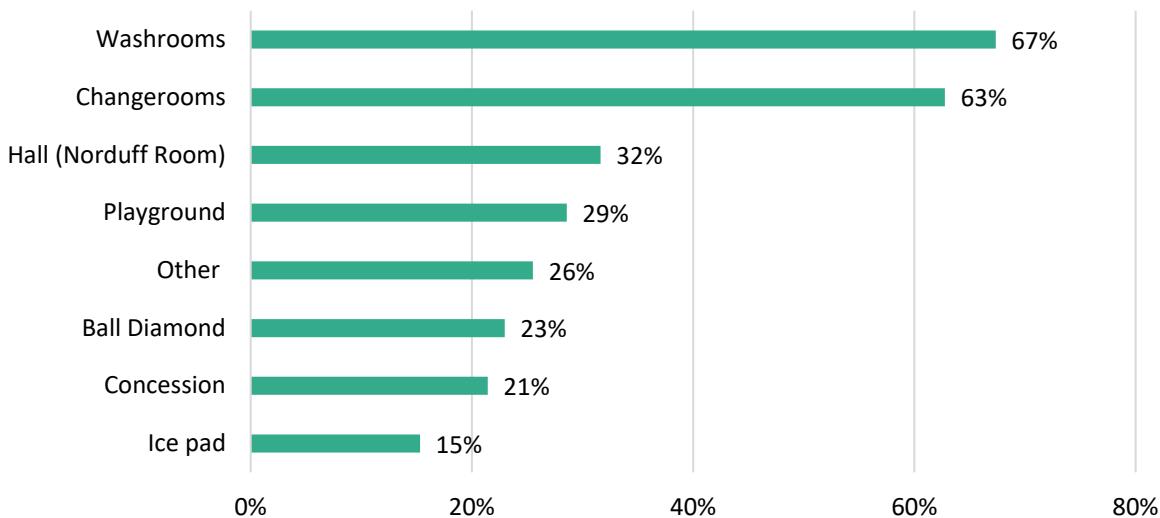
The ice rink had the highest level of satisfaction, with 67% of respondents indicating they were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'. This was followed by the concession with 63% of respondents being 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied', and the Norduff Room with 50% of respondents being 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'. The changerooms and washrooms, as well as the outdoor amenities had higher levels of neutrality and/or dissatisfaction.

**Please rate your satisfaction with the amenities provided at the NDCC
(n=282)**



80% of respondents (n=238) felt that upgrades or improvements were needed at the NDCC. Washrooms and changerom improvements were identified by the most people as areas of upgrading.

**What existing amenities would you like to see upgraded/expanded?
Please check all that apply. (n=196)**



Access to, and accessibility within the facility, as well as equipment and space improvements were identified as key barriers affecting resident's participation in activities and programs at the NDCC. In order to enable improved access and participation at the NDCC, respondents provided a variety of suggestions, many of which centred around general facility modernization and accessibility issues, including:

- Improved lobby area;
- Additional spectator seating in the ice rink;
- Expanded / reorganized parking lot with drop off area; and
- Accessible washrooms, elevator to access second floor, automatic door openers, etc.

6.1.6 Operating Financials

Based on a 5-year average, the NDCC has operated with a \$86,000 deficit (before Township contributions). Rental revenues have remained relatively stable, with prime-time rentals increasing since 2016. While wages have increased, other expenses such as insurance and hydro have decreased over the past 5 years.

It is noted that the contributions provided by both municipalities have increased significantly over the past 5 years to support the operation of the facility. It is commonplace for municipal recreation facilities to operate with a deficit.

Exhibit 14: Historic Operating Financials, 2016-2020

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	5-Year Average
Revenues	\$ 144,241	\$ 133,148	\$ 129,457	\$ 113,734	\$ 131,506	\$ 130,417
Expenses	\$ 217,471	\$ 183,458	\$ 209,592	\$ 234,607	\$ 236,361	\$ 216,298
NOI Before Contributions						
Contributions	\$ (73,230)	\$ (50,310)	\$ (80,135)	\$ (120,873)	\$ (104,855)	\$ (85,881)
Twp. Contributions	\$ 44,500	\$ 64,740	\$ 50,554	\$ 110,048	\$ 104,854	\$ 74,939
NOI After Contributions						
Contributions	\$ (28,730)	\$ 14,430	\$ (29,581)	\$ (10,825)	\$ (1)	\$ (10,941)

6.1.7 The Strategy for the NDCC

This Master Plan supports the retention of indoor ice in Mulmur. The goals of this Plan provide for the development of opportunities for target groups, such as children and youth as part of the quality of life equation to retain and attract young families to the Township – a loss of indoor ice would contradict this objective.

Based on the existing standard of provision, utilization and what we heard from the community, there is no need for additional ice to be provided within the Township. However, with an undersized rink at present, replacing the ice to be a full-size pad (85ft x 200ft), addressing the needs for new / expanded changerooms, and enhanced lobby space is warranted. The need for improved parking and the community space (Norduff Room) to be accessible by all members of the community and meet AODA requirements are of equal importance.

Beyond ice, the NDCC is an important hub for the community as it is the only indoor recreation facility in the Township. There is an opportunity to provide balanced services with additional programming at this hub, thereby developing recreation in Mulmur in general. Therefore, building additional / improved community space as part of a multi-use recreation facility will be important for the community going forward.

While a more detailed Efficiency Review of the NDCC has been completed under separate cover, the presumption is that the Township will invest in a new building and develop the services and programming offered in an appropriate way to activate the facility. Therefore, it is recommended that the Township replace the existing NDCC with a new multi-use recreation facility / community centre. The NDCC Efficiency Review Report focuses on the Honeywood location to ensure its proximity to the Township of Melancthon residents (which currently shares the cost of operating the facility), with the facility's preferred siting in an alternative location on the property. This would allow for the development of an NHL size ice pad, appropriately sized changerooms, and the inclusion of community space to be located on the ground floor, without compromising any elements of design requirements, and enable the existing ice pad to be used in the interim until the new facility is fully operational. Renovation of the existing facility in its existing location would not appropriately address the concerns identified.

The Master Plan recognizes the need to service Mulmur's growing population in Mansfield - the Township will need to consider this when determining the best location for a new multi-use recreation facility. However, if a new multi-use recreation facility is to be a cost-shared proposition in the future, the location in which it is developed will need to reflect this consideration. Extending the existing cost sharing agreement to the new facility would be required if it is located in Honeywood, but also including the outdoor amenities provided at the site in such an agreement should be explored.

Recommendations: North Dufferin Community Centre

12. Immediately initiate the development of a) funding strategy to assess and secure sources of capital funding for a new replacement single-pad multi-use recreation facility. A range of sources should be explored, including all levels of government and potential non-profit partners; and b) operational business case for a new multi-use community centre.
13. Following the development of a funding strategy and operational business case for a new multi-use recreation facility, initiate the design progression required to move the project towards implementation. This includes detailed program requirements (to be confirmed through a public engagement process, and discussions with staff and Council), schematic design, and design development phases.
14. The Township should seek to design, develop, and commission a new multi-use recreation facility and community centre within 5 years.
15. With the successful implementation of a new multi-use recreation facility, decommission the existing NDCC building.

6.2 Community Room at Township Offices

In addition to the Norduff Room at the NDCC, there is a community room on the lower level of the Township office building, located in Terra Nova. This space, approximately 3,000 sq. ft. in size, is used on an occasional basis for community meetings, special events and other public uses.

The potential exists to increase the utilization of this space through expanding the programs offered within the Township and could be used for a wide variety of activities such as fitness classes, arts and crafts programs, and community group meetings. This may require some upgrades and/or retrofitting the space to be appropriate for such programs.

Recommendations: Community Room at Township Offices

16. Expand the promotion of the community room at the Township Offices as a viable and affordable location for events and programming rentals.
17. Evaluate the potential for increased revenue opportunities through enhanced programming (municipal or non-municipal) that are suitable for the community room at the Township Offices.

6.3 Other Indoor Recreation Facilities

In addition to the arena and community rooms, a high-level assessment of other indoor recreation facilities that are not currently provided by the Township was undertaken to review future opportunities over the plan period and beyond.

Gymnasiums

Gymnasiums are often provided and controlled by local school boards (e.g. Primrose Elementary School) or places of worship, however these facilities are often not designed to the standard required for adult game play. While requirements for a gymnasium is not evident, engagement activities identified the need for appropriate indoor space to take part in unstructured sports and recreation activities as part of a multi-use community centre.

As Mansfield is expected to be the primary location for future population growth, the opportunity exists for the development of a multi-use community centre to serve Mansfield residents locally. A facility of this type could potentially include a municipal standard gymnasium and other dry uses such as multi-purpose rooms, complemented by outdoor amenities depending on the configuration of an identified site. This is a long-term proposition, which will likely occur beyond the timeframe identified in this Plan.

Indoor Pools

The current supply of pools within the region provides a variety of indoor aquatics options for Mulmur residents based on needs. Survey respondents indicated that they use indoor pools provided in Orangeville, Brampton, Collingwood, Wasaga Beach and at Base Borden.

While some survey respondents (12) identified that they would like to see an indoor pool in Mulmur, the population base does not support the development of an indoor pool (typically provided at 1 pool per 30,000 to 40,000 residents). Therefore, the development of an indoor pool in Mulmur is not recommended over the Plan period.

Fitness Studios / Multi-Purpose Rooms

In order to offer a suite of programs to residents, having the appropriate space(s) to hold the programs is important. The need for appropriate space for a variety of programs (fitness or otherwise) was identified by 9 survey respondents, as well as workshop attendees. Survey respondents indicated that they access these facilities in Creemore (for yoga, tai chi, and pickleball), Orangeville, Shelburne, Alliston, Wasaga Beach and Everett.

The opportunity exists for inclusion of multi-purpose space as part of a renewed / revitalized NDCC and/or through the development of a new facility in Mansfield in the future.

Youth and Senior Space

Space for youth and older adults can be dedicated or non-dedicated space. Providing non-dedicated space for youth and older adults enables increased interactions with all generations.

From a regional perspective, Orangeville currently provides dedicated space for both youth and older adults, while Shelburne provides older adult space for residents. Engagement activities identified the need for more opportunities for both youth and older adult programming to be offered in Mulmur. These programs could be provided within multi-purpose space as part of a renewed / revitalized NDCC and/or at a future facility in Mansfield.

Walking Track

Indoor walking tracks are increasingly being included as part of new ice and/or gymnasium spaces. Walking clubs for older adults often utilize these facilities during the non-prime hours, animating the facility during the day which often have low utilization.

Weight / Cardio Room

Weight / cardio room are typically supplied by private providers. The current supply of weight / cardio rooms in region (both public and private) provides options for Mulmur residents. Survey respondents indicated that they currently access these facilities in Orangeville, Shelburne, Owen Sound, Wasaga Beach, Alliston, and Base Borden.

3 survey respondents indicated that they would like to see a weight / cardio room in Mulmur, however these facilities require oversight staffing and are therefore not recommended to be offered by the Township.

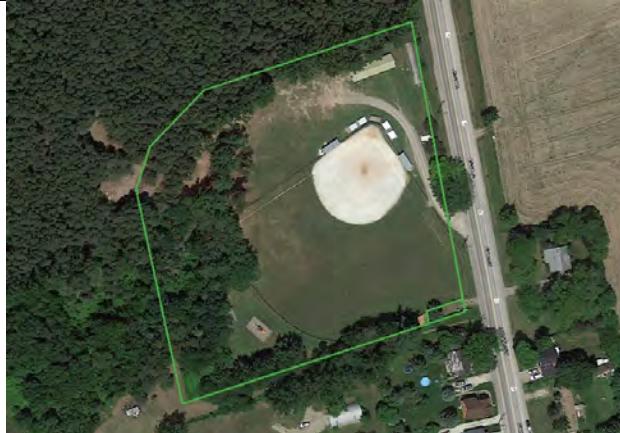
Recommendations: Prospect for a New Community Centre

18. Contingent on the replacement ice arena and multi-use recreation facility being located in Honeywood, over the Plan period and as the population grows in Mansfield, continue to monitor community demand for flexible indoor recreation space that can accommodate a variety of structured and unstructured activities in Mansfield. This would likely be a dry use facility (no ice, no pool) as a long-term proposition (beyond the Plan period). The facility could include a multi-use activity court / gymnasium, flexible community space for programming and rentals, and/or meeting rooms.

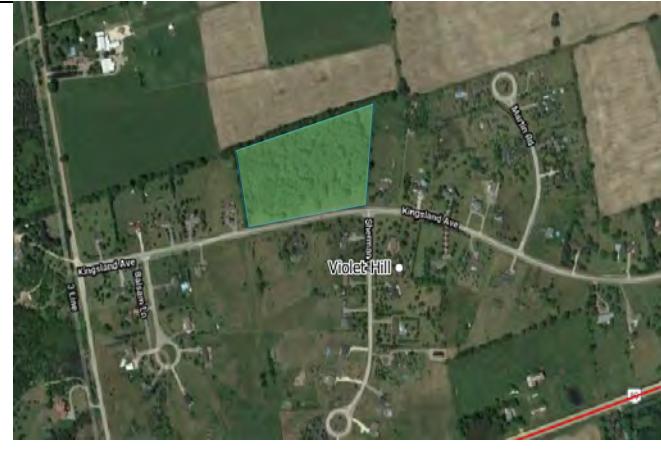
7 Parkland & Trails

7.1 Parkland Supply

The Township owns and maintains parkland for recreational uses in 3 locations totaling 7.1 hectares:

Park Name	Features	Map
Honeywood Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Size: 3.19 ha• 1 ball diamond (unlit junior)• Playground• Memorial Structure• Adjacent to NDCC and Fire Hall	
Mansfield Ball Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Size: 1.61 ha• 1 ball diamond (unlit senior)• Playground• Park Building (concession, washrooms, picnic pavilion)• Benches	
Devonleigh Park (Mansfield Subdivision)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Size: 2.33 ha• Basketball Court• Playground• Walking path• Open lawn• Benches	

There is also maintained open space behind the Township offices in Terra Nova that, while not designated parkland, has the potential to be used for recreation activities or other amenities. It is also important to note that there is a naturalized parcel of land (not currently maintained as parkland) owned by the Township in Violet Hill.

Other Township- Owned Open Space	Features	Map
Township Offices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size: 1.0 ha • Maintained open space only • No amenities 	 <p>Maintained open space</p>
Kingsland Ave., Violet Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size: 3.7 ha • Naturalized / forested parcel • No amenities 	

Beyond the municipal supply, there are 809 hectares of Dufferin County Forest Tracts, and over 500 hectares of Ontario Parks properties that are publicly accessible for recreational purposes.

7.2 Parkland Standard of Provision

Based on the three properties designated as parkland, the current standard of provision of parkland is 2.0 hectares per 1,000 residents. This is a comparable standard to other municipalities of similar characteristics. If the open space at the Township offices and in Violet Hill is included, the standard of provision would increase to 3.4 hectares per 1,000 residents.

	Total	Area	Current Standard	Comparable Target
Parkland	3	7.1 ha	2.0 ha per 1,000 population	2.0 - 2.5 ha per 1,000 population in rural locations

To maintain a minimum standard of 2.0 ha per 1,000 population over the Plan period, an additional 0.7 hectares of parkland will be required by 2030 based on population growth estimates.

7.3 Parkland Development & Design

The design and development of parks has traditionally been led by the Township. Certain park projects and specific facility development may also involve developer and/or community volunteer contributions to fundraising and resourcing for design and construction of specific park projects.

Section 2.4.3 of this report summarizes the key trends and practices related to the design and development of parkland. Through implementation, these trends can serve to enhance the overall user experience and contribute to resident's quality of life. Ease of access to, and inclusivity within, parks, open space and trails encourages use by a broad range of users.

Designing a linked and easily navigable network of parks and trails, incorporating a variety of amenities and barrier-free designs, designing for active and passive uses as well as structured and unstructured play, and providing the appropriate parking facilities (vehicular, bicycle or otherwise) are important considerations for the Township in the future. As parks are developed and/or redeveloped, all park, trail and open space amenities must be designed to AODA standards.

It is becoming common practice to engage with the community throughout the park design and development process to ensure the amenities that are identified as needed are considered for inclusion. The Township should investigate ways in which the community can be involved as it relates to park development and/or redevelopment.

As part of the planning for a new multi-use recreation facility in Honeywood to replace the NDCC, and due to the relocation of the building to another location on the site, the park area designated for outdoor recreation will need to be relocated and designed appropriately. The opportunity for the Townships of Mulmur and Melancthon to work together to develop and operate / maintain the outdoor areas, in addition to the indoor facility, should be explored.

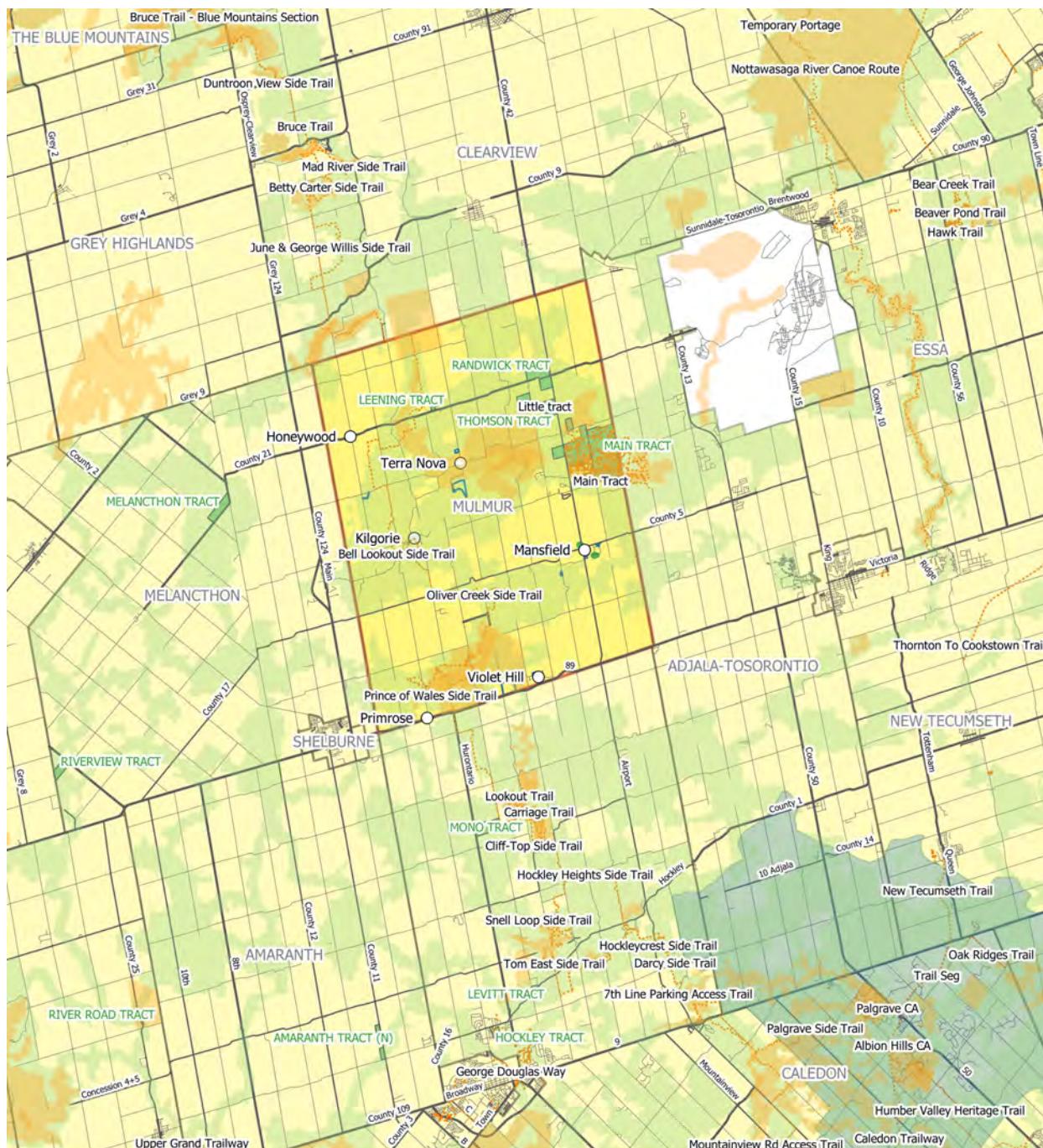
Recommendations: Parkland

19. Maintain a minimum parkland provision standard of 2.0 hectares of parkland per 1,000 residents over the course of the Plan period. This results in an additional 0.7 hectares of parkland by the year 2030 based on estimated population growth.
20. Maintain existing parkland within the settlement areas as outdoor recreation hubs for their respective communities.
21. As new subdivisions are planned and designed, the Township should ensure that each neighbourhood has appropriate access to parkland and/or open space.
22. Ensure that new parks are designed with the user's comfort, safety, and accessibility in mind, through use of CPTED (or similar) principles, as well as adhering to AODA Design Standards.
23. Encourage and facilitate the community's participation in park design, development and renewal projects by obtaining public input during the planning and design process, fostering partnerships and joint ventures in park development/renewal, and promoting awareness of park projects and initiatives through effective public communications.

7.4 Trail Network

There are approximately 130 kilometres of trails within Mulmur, however none are under Township ownership. The local trail network is comprised of 80 kilometres of trails within Dufferin County Forest Tracts, and 50 kilometres of Bruce Trail which connects to a broader network of trails across Ontario.

Exhibit 15: Mulmur's Local and Regional Trail Network

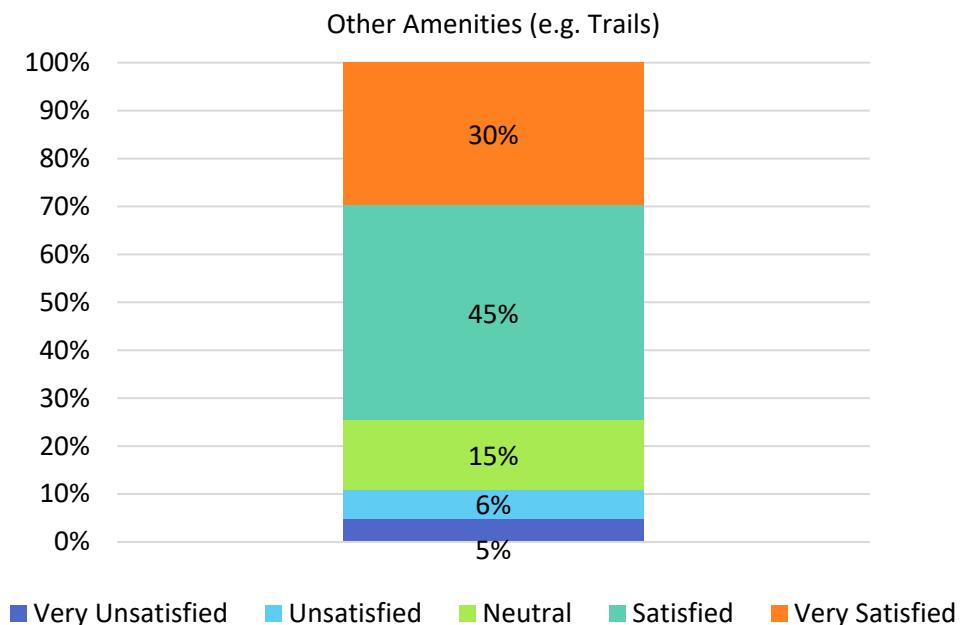


67% of survey respondents (n=209) indicated that they use other amenities not owned by the Township, a majority of which identified use of the Bruce Trail and/or the trails within the Dufferin County Forest Tracts.

In general, respondents were satisfied with the trails provided in Mulmur. Specific comments regarding improvements to the Dufferin County Forest Tract Trails included:

- Increasing the shared use of single-track trails to include equestrian, bicycle, pedestrian, dog walkers, etc., and providing sharing etiquette (through signage) for users; and
- Improved signage, trail maps, loop identifiers and markers, and visitor information.

Please rate your satisfaction with Other Amenities that are not Municipally-Owned, Including Trails



With a growing older adult population across the province, walking for leisure or exercise is increasing as a top recreational activity being undertaken. Trails and active transportation routes are therefore a key consideration as part of the overall recreational network in Mulmur.

Trails in Mulmur are used by not only residents of the Township but also visitors and tourists. Ensuring that adequate trail-related information is available to visitors as well as residents will be important going forward. Use of technology such as smart phone applications (app), could be employed to provide trail routing information, trail etiquette, and locations for parking, that could be accessed from anywhere. It is understood that Dufferin County is currently in the process of developing such an app; Mulmur should work to support this effort.

Additionally, subdivision planning is an opportunity to create connectedness within and beyond neighbourhoods and to allow access to parkland, open space and the broader regional trail network. Requiring these key connections as a condition of the development process should be set out through Official Plan policies.

Recommendations: Trail Network

24. Work with Dufferin County and local stakeholders, trail groups and the community to identify required improvements and barrier-free access opportunities within the Dufferin County Forest Tracts, as well as to determine locations for trail-related amenity improvements (e.g. parking, signage, portable washrooms, etc.).
25. Develop policies in the Township's Official Plan to require the dedication of land for pedestrian and bicycle pathways as a condition of the subdivision of land, as provided for under the Planning Act (s. 51(25)(b)).

8 Outdoor Recreation Amenities

Mulmur's indoor recreation facilities are complemented by an inventory of outdoor assets, providing residents with the opportunity to engage in both active and passive recreation and leisure pursuits. These facilities are concentrated in the Mansfield and Honeywood settlement areas.

8.1 Ball Diamonds

Supply & Utilization

There are currently 2 ball diamonds in the Township's supply, one located at Mansfield Ball Park and one located adjacent to the NDCC in Honeywood.

It is understood that the Mansfield Ball Diamond is booked by baseball groups, namely Adult Men's Baseball and Mansfield Minor Baseball, for regular practices and games during the summer months. Based on data provided by the Township, the diamond is understood to be well used, with bookings accounting for nearly 50% of available time on weekday evenings and weekends (prime time hours²).

Exhibit 16: Mansfield Ball Diamond Prime Time Utilization, 2017-2019

	2017	2018	2019
Adult Men's Baseball	58	56	60
Mansfield Minor Baseball	305	292	237
Total Prime Time Hours Booked	363	348	297
Total Prime Time Hours Available	795	742	636
Prime Time Utilization Rate (%)	46%	47%	47%

Note: The total hours available differs from year to year based on the number of weeks the ball diamond is available for play, as maintained by the Township.

The ball diamond at the NDCC was built in 1978 and is not currently used for any formal practices or game play.

Standard of Provision

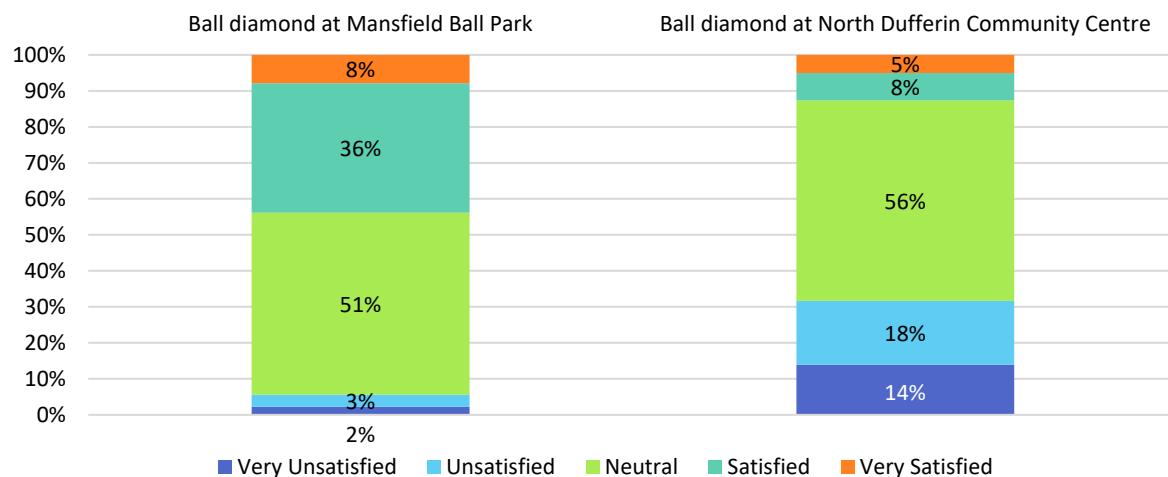
With 2 ball diamonds in the current supply, the Township is providing ball diamonds at a standard of 1 diamond per 1,739 residents. Based on population growth estimates, the standard can be expected to decrease to 1 diamond per 2,145 residents by 2031. Typically, ball diamonds are targeted to be provided at a standard of 1 per 3,000 to 3,500 residents. This is deemed to be an appropriate target for Mulmur considering local conditions and other external variables.

² Prime time hours can be defined as weekday evenings between 4pm and 9pm, and all day on weekends (8am to 9pm).

What We Heard

Engagement activities indicated the need for upgrades and/or refurbishment of both existing diamonds to improve usability by the community – many comments related to the improvement of the NDCC ball diamond were general in nature due to its poor current state, while specific suggestions for improvement included outfield diamond maintenance and lighting at Mansfield Ball Park.

Please rate your satisfaction with ball diamonds (n=168)



Respondents to the public survey indicated that they also use ball diamonds outside of Mulmur, most notably in Shelburne, Hornings Mills, Badjeros, Orangeville, Dundalk, Lisle and Grand Valley.

Based on population standards, utilization rates and what we heard from the community, there is no need for additional ball diamonds over the Plan period. With Mansfield Ball Diamond being the main ball facility in the Township, this asset should be maintained and potentially improved for player satisfaction. Working with local user groups, the Township should continue to monitor demand and ensure field conditions meet the requirements for game play.

As observed on site, and identified through engagement activities, the ball diamond in Honeywood is aged with infield/outfield limits not well defined as a result of inactivity and is a smaller size facility than the diamond in Mansfield and therefore can not easily accommodate youth and adult play. In general, this speaks to a lack of demand in this location and is impacted by the relative distance from the more populous areas in the Township's southern portion. It is recommended that the Township decommission the ball diamond in Honeywood to enable the development of a new multi-use recreation facility on the site, which is envisioned to be complemented by alternative outdoor recreation opportunities, and/or alternative recreation amenities, as appropriate.

Recommendations: Ball Diamonds

26. Continue to maintain the ball diamond at Mansfield Ball Park in good condition for continued use by the community over the Plan period. Explore the feasibility of undertaking improvements to the ball diamond at Mansfield Ball Park including field leveling, netting replacement, track maintenance, the provision of shaded spectator seating areas, and batting cage improvements. This process should commence immediately and include engagement with current ball diamond user groups.
27. Require ball diamond user groups to provide registration numbers on an annual basis. The collection of this data will enable the Township to monitor and assess ball diamond utilization and capacity more accurately on an on-going and periodic basis over the longer-term.
28. Assess the feasibility of investing in lighting at the Mansfield Ball Park to enable extended seasonal and evening play / increase the capacity of this facility.
29. Formally decommission the ball diamond at Honeywood Park.

8.2 Basketball Courts

Supply & Utilization

There is currently one basketball court in the Township located at Devonleigh Park in the Mansfield Subdivision, installed in 2011. Use of this amenity is understood to be on a casual basis, as is typical for municipal outdoor basketball courts.

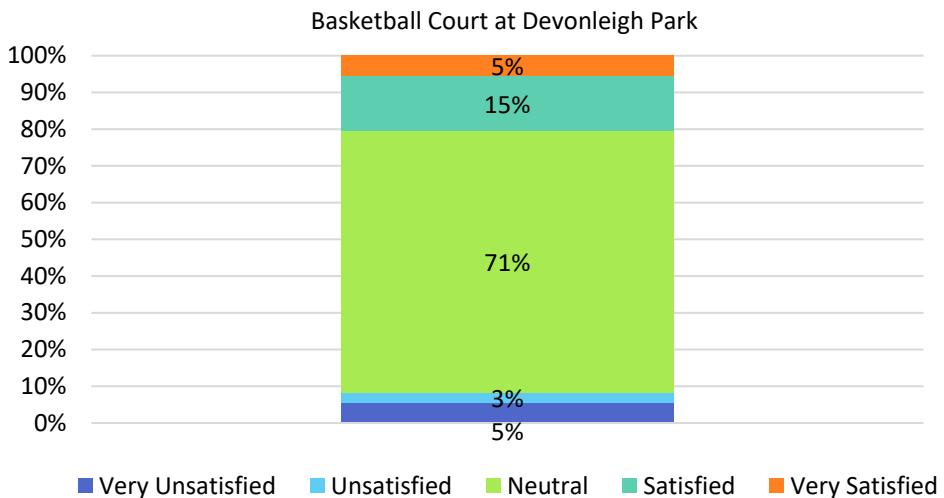
Standard of Provision

Standards for basketball courts are typically based on the youth population – those aged 10-19 years. With one basketball court, the Township currently provides 1 court per 430 youth. If the percentage share of youth is to remain consistent to 2030, and with no change in the supply, the standard of provision is expected to decrease to 1 court per 722 youth by 2030, which is within an acceptable range. Comparable targets in similar communities is typically 1 basketball court per 800 youth.

What We Heard

Through consultation, it is understood that residents also use basketball courts / nets in Shelburne and Orangeville. Respondents to the public survey indicated that the nets at Devonleigh Park are in need of repair / replacement, and some would like to see an additional basketball court in Mulmur, potentially in Honeywood at the NDCC site.

Please rate your satisfaction with basketball courts (n=73)



Based on population standards and engagement activities there is no need for additional basketball courts over the Plan period.

Recommendations: Basketball Courts

30. Continue to maintain the basketball court at Devonleigh Park in good condition for continued use by the community over the Plan period. Plan for net repair / replacement in the short-term to improve usability of this amenity.

8.3 Playgrounds

Supply

There are currently 3 playgrounds within the Township's supply, at the NDCC, Mansfield Ball Park, and Devonleigh Park. This is supplemented by a playground at Primrose Elementary School which is maintained by the local school board.

Standard of Provision

Within an urban context, playgrounds are often targeted to be provided within 500 to 800 m of major residential areas without any major barriers impeding access (i.e. railways, major roads, waterways, etc.). With Mulmur being largely rural in nature, playgrounds have historically been provided within the settlements areas and co-located with other amenities (e.g. at the NDCC and Mansfield Ball Park). More recently, with newer development in the Mansfield area (Mansfield Subdivision), parkland, and subsequently playground amenities, have been provided to serve these residents. This methodology and standard of provision is recommended to continue as new development occurs.

Condition

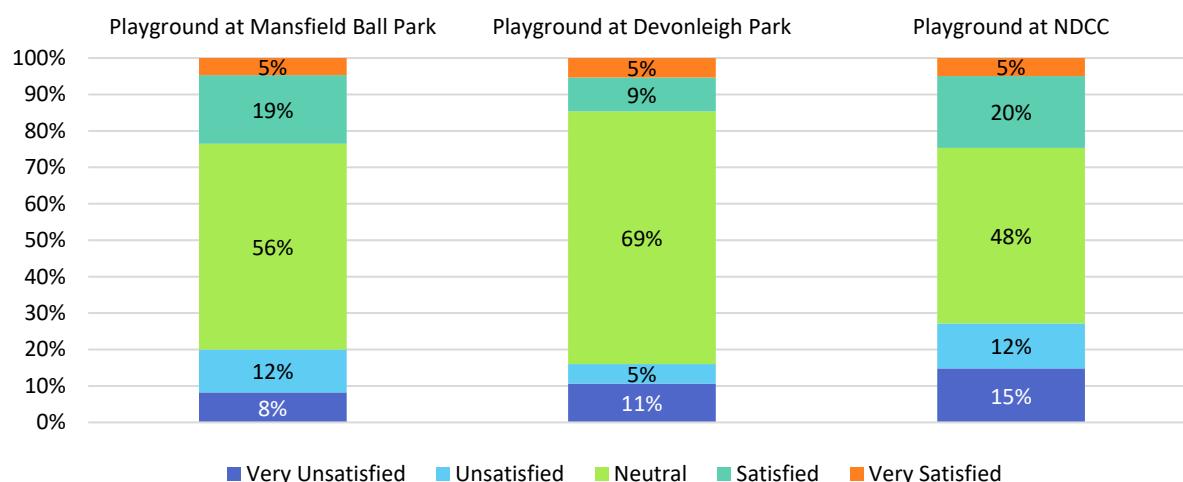
The playgrounds at the NDCC and Devonleigh Park are nearing end of life (installed in 2006), while playground at Mansfield Ball Park has approximately 5 years left in useful lifespan (installed in 2011).

What We Heard

Respondents to the public survey identified the need for playground upgrades at NDCC and Mansfield Ball Park. The location of both playgrounds were identified as unsafe – with the NDCC playground being too close to the road, and the Mansfield Ball Park playground being situated far from the road near the wooded area.

Based on survey results, the highest level of dissatisfaction was with the NDCC playground, while respondents noted that the playground in Devonleigh is not suitable for toddlers, did not have enough variety, and there is no swing set.

Please rate your satisfaction with playgrounds (n=241)



Survey respondents indicated that they also use playgrounds located in Alliston, Orangeville, Shelburne, Collingwood and Hornings Mills. Some of these facilities, especially those located in the larger communities, provide a broader variety of play structures for children of all ages and abilities, and are often co-located with other recreation amenities for children and youth within parks.

Strategy for Playgrounds

The Township should continue to maintain existing playgrounds in good condition for community use, addressing current standards for safety and accessibility of play structures through the development of a playground replacement strategy. Typically, when a play structure reaches the 14-year mark, replacement should begin to be planned for.

With the anticipated development of a new multi-use recreation facility in Honeywood to be located on the eastern side of the site (where the playground is currently located), the playground will need to be decommissioned in the short-term to enable building construction to occur. The playground should be replaced in an appropriate location on site; this should be determined through a detailed site planning exercise.

Recommendations: Playgrounds

31. Develop a playground replacement strategy through appropriate asset management planning. Any play structure that has reached a 14-year age trigger should be phased for replacement immediately.
32. The Township should seek to replace the playground at Devonleigh Park immediately, considering a range of user ages and abilities in the design. Engagement with the local community should be undertaken to ensure that local needs are met.
33. Decommission the playground at Honeywood Park (NDCC site) in the short-term. A new playground is recommended to be developed elsewhere on the site. If Honeywood is the chosen site for a new multi-use recreation facility, the planning for this facility (and the site as a whole) should be undertaken with the community's engagement.
34. When the play structures at the Mansfield Ball Park require replacement, consider relocating it within the park to improve safety of users. This should occur in the medium-term.
35. Review and consider trends and innovations in playground design and development, with a potential for alternatives to traditional playground structures (i.e. naturalized playgrounds, etc.). This may help to reduce maintenance requirements in the future.
36. Develop additional playgrounds on newly acquired parkland as part of future subdivision planning to serve new neighbourhoods as they are developed.

8.4 Other Outdoor Recreation Amenities

Similar to the analysis undertaken for indoor recreation facilities, a high-level review of other outdoor recreation amenities that are not currently provided by the Township was completed to assess future opportunities over the plan period and beyond.

Soccer / Multi-Use Fields

At present, soccer is typically accommodated in nearby communities, with survey respondents indicating that they use soccer fields in Shelburne, Orangeville, Clearview, and at Base Borden. It should be noted that there is a junior size soccer field at Primrose Elementary School, however the quality of the field is unknown at this time.

The popularity of emerging field sports, such as cricket, ultimate frisbee, rugby, etc., is growing across the province, and is typically concentrated in larger urban areas. The demand for dedicated fields for these emerging sports is currently being met elsewhere and there is no demand for the Township to provide these amenities.

While there was no express demand identified through community engagement for soccer fields, opportunities exist to provide flexible / unstructured field space to accommodate a variety of activities at the renewed / revitalized NDCC site or alternative location (e.g. Mansfield). Additionally, there is outdoor space at the Township offices that have the potential to accommodate smaller-size mini soccer field(s), however, sports fields are often best provided in conjunction with other outdoor recreation amenities (e.g. playgrounds, sport courts, etc.).

Tennis & Pickleball Courts

There are no tennis courts currently being provided by the municipality, and therefore tennis is accommodated in nearby communities. Survey respondents indicated that they use courts in Creemore, Orangeville, Alliston, and Mono.

Pickleball is widely recognized as one of the fastest growing sports in North America. This sport can be played indoors in a gym type setting or outdoors on court facilities (2 **pickleball** courts generally fit on 1 tennis court).

Multi-use court facilities that can accommodate a variety of court sports such as tennis, **pickleball**, and basketball are a growing trend in outdoor recreation and should be explored by the Township as new parkland is developed and/or redeveloped.

Splash Pads

Splash pads are currently provided in the nearby communities of Alliston, Orangeville, Everett, and Thornton. While there are instances where small rural municipalities have decided to invest in splash pads, these facilities are typically provided at a standard of 1 splash pad per 2,500 to 5,000 children. With a number of splash pads located within a short drive and with a

limited population base in Mulmur, the development of a splash pad is not recommended over the Plan period.

Outdoor Pools

Survey respondents indicated that they travel to use the outdoor pools located in nearby communities, namely Shelburne and Stayner. Today, outdoor pools are often provided based on the historical existence of these facilities within a municipality, with few municipalities developing new outdoor pools. An outdoor pool is not recommended to be developed over the Plan period.

BMX / Skateboard Parks

At present, skateboard and/or BMX facilities are provided in Orangeville, Shelburne, Collingwood, and Dundalk. BMX and/or Skateboard parks provide unique recreation opportunities for children and youth and are typically provided at a community level in areas of concentrated populations, often at a standard of one per 5,000 youth (aged 10-19 years). While Mulmur's current and future population base does not necessarily meet this threshold, providing recreational opportunities for youth, as a target population, is often an important focus for municipalities. Therefore, the potential exists to explore opportunities to provide skateboard / BMX facilities in Mansfield as part of new parkland and/or indoor recreation facility development.

Outdoor Ice-Skating Rinks

Outdoor ice-skating rinks are typically provided when there is demand from the local community and are often developed in communities where local groups will assist with the operations and maintenance requirements.

At present, outdoor ice rinks are provided in nearby Orangeville, Shelburne, Collingwood, and Barrie. While only a limited number of survey respondents identified that they would like to see the development of an outdoor ice rink at Devonleigh Park, the Township could explore the feasibility to develop an outdoor rink through partnership with a local community group(s) for operation and maintenance.

Outdoor Exercise Equipment

Outdoor exercise equipment (e.g. trim trail) provides opportunities for recreation for all ages and abilities and is often developed when there is local demand. These facilities, when co-located with other outdoor or indoor (e.g. walking track) recreational amenities, can be appealing features for recreation users.

Recommendations: Other Outdoor Recreation Amenities

37. As new parkland is developed in Mansfield, consider planning for the development of new multi-use courts in the medium or long term for local use. A multi-use court facility can accommodate a variety of court sports, including tennis, pickleball, and basketball.
38. Investigate the feasibility of developing a skateboard / BMX park to improve the offer of recreation amenities for youth in Mulmur. This would best be suited to be located in Mansfield, where new subdivisions, and therefore parkland, are being developed.
39. Work with local community groups to determine the feasibility and willingness to develop and maintain / operate an outdoor ice rink at Devonleigh Park or an alternative location in Mulmur.
40. Explore opportunities for the development of outdoor exercise equipment. Appropriate locations for developing outdoor exercise equipment may include at the Township Offices (if co-located with other amenities) or at a preferred location in Mansfield.

9 Implementation Strategy

This Master Plan is designed to direct municipal decision-making to address priorities for planning and investment in parks and recreation. Recommendations related to the development of new facilities and repurposing of existing ones require detailed consideration of how these required changes will come about – that means further design and concept planning, but also an assessment and technical feasibility of repurposing. All of which will require public review and approval.

The Township will need to further evaluate and investigate the feasibility of implementing individual recommendations/actions through formal study (as may occasionally be required) as well as on an annual basis as part of the municipal planning and budgetary process.

9.1 Reviewing & Updating the Plan

While a range of staff support and partnerships will be required to implement the recommendations, commitment and administrative oversight from senior management will be critical for effective implementation.

Individual recommendations crosscut a range of municipal divisions including Recreation, Public Works, Planning, and Finance. The development of an Interdepartmental Working Group is recommended to provide an appropriate mechanism for regularly reviewing and evaluating progress and successful achievement of targets of this Plan and will enable accountability.

Annual progress in the implementation of this Master Plan should be reviewed to determine, and re-adjust as necessary, the timing of recommendations to align with shifts in the municipal planning environment, actual population growth and any changes in facility utilization or provision.

9.2 Detailed Phasing Framework

This section summarizes the general timeframe for implementing recommendations of this Plan, organized in terms of their anticipated timing and suggested priority level. Some actions commence with due diligence (as in the case of facilities) moving through to full implementation. Other recommendations are immediate requirements – this is particularly true of those policy and administration related requirements which set the tone for future recreation planning priorities.

The timing assigned to individual recommendations is considered to an estimate and provides a general indication of when the need to implement the actions could be considered, with consideration of other future variables.

9.2.1 Recommendations (2020-2030)

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
1	Maintain the current distribution of recreation amenities in the Township with Honeywood and Mansfield as primary service areas, and Terra Nova as a secondary service area. Future asset management priorities should also be considered.					
2	Implement and update the 2016 Asset Management Plan, as per O. Reg. 588/17, retaining a specific and enhanced focus on recreation and community facilities, open space, and parks in addition to the traditional emphasis on hard infrastructure.			Year 3		
3	The location of any major recreation infrastructure (e.g. sports fields, community centres, etc.), as well a future replacement and/or expansion of existing facilities, should represent the most appropriate location based on considerations of land ownership, site suitability, co-location with other municipal recreation infrastructure, and capital costs associated with servicing and development.					
4	Maintain a Community Development Model for the delivery of recreation in the Township. Under this model, where volunteer and agency groups have historically serviced the recreation programming needs of the community, the Township should continue to support these initiatives through the provision of access to facilities for activities.					
5	The Township should give consideration to staffing requirements necessary to successfully implement the Township's recreation mandate. Specifically, consider expanding the job description of the NDCC Management role to encompass a broader range of job responsibilities including responsibility for indoor and outdoor recreation, community development of programming opportunities and co-ordination of all recreation and leisure services provided and/or facilitated by the Township. This permanent, full-time job description includes management of the NDCC and events at the Township's facilities.			Year 2		
6	Investigate opportunities for new and/or expanded partnerships to improve service levels, enhance program delivery, and leverage public funding.					

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
7	Continue the cost-sharing agreement with the Township of Melancthon for the operation and maintenance of the NDCC / a new multi-use recreation facility in Honeywood.					
8	Work with community groups and local partners to expand the suite of traditional and non-traditional programs offered through new or expanded partnerships (e.g. Library, County, sports groups, Ontario Parks, and other agencies), ensuring programming for all age groups, with a special focus on youth and seniors. This can help to enhance the utilization of existing recreation infrastructure.					
9	As programming levels increase, develop a methodology to track program registrations and assess the rate of take-up for programs offered by the Township or its partners. Continuous tracking can help determine the complement of programs that should be offered in the future.				Year 4	
10	Develop a 'Community Guide' for the Township that includes recreation and leisure resources. The guide should include a community calendar of events and provides details on all programs offered in Mulmur (municipal / non-municipal), complete with contact information of organizers for programs that are not directly delivered by the Township. This should be an online / digital information tool with hardcopies located in key municipal facilities or distributed directly to residents and provided on an annual or semi-annual basis.			Year 2		
11	Review, on an annual basis, the user fees and pricing schedule for facility and park rentals and programming fees (as appropriate). Rate setting should be informed by principles for cost recovery and subsidization, as determined by the Township.					
12	Immediately initiate the development of a) funding strategy to assess and secure sources of capital funding for a new replacement single-pad multi-use recreation facility. A range of sources should be explored, including all levels of government and potential non-profit partners; and b) operational business case for a new multi-use community centre.		Year 1	+ Year 2 as required		

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
13	Conditional on the development of a funding strategy and operational business case for a new multi-use recreation facility, initiate the design progression required to move the project towards implementation. This includes detailed program requirements (to be confirmed through a public engagement process, and discussions with staff and Council), schematic design, and design development phases.			Year 2 - 4		
14	The Township should seek to design, develop, and commission a new multi-use recreation facility and community centre within 5 years.				Years 5-6	
15	With the successful implementation of a new multi-use recreation facility, decommission the existing NDCC building.					Year 7
16	Expand the promotion of the community room at the Township Offices as viable and affordable location for events and programming rentals (Priority but “hold” due to health restrictions)		Hold	Year 2		
17	Evaluate the potential for increased revenue opportunities through enhanced programming (municipal or non-municipal) that are suitable for the community room at the Township Offices.		Hold	Year 2		
18	Contingent on the replacement ice arena and multi-use recreation facility being located in Honeywood, over the Plan period and as the population grows in Mansfield, continue to monitor community demand for flexible indoor recreation space that can accommodate a variety of structured and unstructured activities in Mansfield. This would likely be a dry use facility (no ice, no pool) as a long-term proposition (beyond the Plan period). The facility could include a multi-use activity court / gymnasium, flexible community space for programming and rentals, and/or meeting rooms.					Years 7+
19	Maintain a minimum parkland provision standard of 2.0 hectares of parkland per 1,000 residents over the course of the Plan period. This results in an additional 0.7 hectares of parkland by the year 2030 based on estimated population growth.					

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
20	Maintain existing parkland within the settlement areas as outdoor recreation hubs for their respective communities.					
21	As new subdivisions are planned and designed, the Township should ensure that each neighbourhood has appropriate access to parkland and/or open space.					
22	Ensure that new parks are designed with the user's comfort, safety, and accessibility in mind, through use of CPTED (or similar) principles, as well as adhering to AODA Design Standards.					
23	Encourage and facilitate the community's participation in park design, development and renewal projects by obtaining public input during the planning and design process, fostering partnerships and joint ventures in park development/renewal, and promoting awareness of park projects and initiatives through effective public communications.					
24	Work with Dufferin County and local stakeholders, trail groups and the community to identify required improvements and barrier-free access opportunities within the Dufferin County Forest Tracts, as well as to determine locations for trail-related amenity improvements (e.g. parking, signage, portable washrooms, etc.).			Year 3		
25	Develop policies in the Township's Official Plan to require the dedication of land for pedestrian and bicycle pathways as a condition of the subdivision of land, as provided for under the Planning Act (s. 51(25)(b)).			Year 2		
26	Continue to maintain the ball diamond at Mansfield Ball Park in good condition for continued use by the community over the Plan period. Explore the feasibility of undertaking improvements to the ball diamond at Mansfield Ball Park including field leveling, netting replacement, track maintenance, the provision of shaded spectator seating areas, and batting cage improvements. This process should commence immediately and include engagement with current ball diamond user groups.					

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
27	Require ball diamond user groups to provide registration numbers on an annual basis. The collection of this data will enable the Township to monitor and assess ball diamond utilization and capacity more accurately on an on-going and periodic basis over the longer-term.	Blue				
28	Assess the feasibility of investing in lighting at the Mansfield Ball Park to enable extended seasonal and evening play / increase the capacity of this facility.			Year 3		
29	Formally decommission the ball diamond at Honeywood Park.			Year 2		
30	Continue to maintain the basketball court at Devonleigh Park in good condition for continued use by the community over the Plan period. Plan for net repair / replacement in the short-term to improve usability of this amenity.	Blue				
31	Develop a playground replacement strategy through appropriate asset management planning. Any play structure that has reached a 14-year age trigger should be phased for replacement immediately.		Year 1			
32	The Township should seek to replace the playground at Devonleigh Park immediately, considering a range of user ages and abilities in the design. Engagement with the local community should be undertaken to ensure that local needs are met.		Year 1			
33	Decommission the playground at Honeywood Park (NDCC site) in the short-term. A new playground is recommended to be developed elsewhere on the site. If Honeywood is the chosen site for a new multi-use recreation facility, the planning for this facility (and the site as a whole) should be undertaken with the community's engagement.			Year 3		
34	When the play structures at the Mansfield Ball Park require replacement, consider relocating it within the park to improve safety of users. This should occur in the medium-term.				Year 5	
35	Review and consider trends and innovations in playground design and development, with a potential for alternatives to traditional playground structures (i.e. naturalized playgrounds, etc.). This may help to reduce maintenance requirements in the future.	Blue				

#	Recommendation	Ongoing	Additional Recommendations			
			Immediate (Year 1)	Short-Term (Year 2-3)	Medium Term (Year 4-6)	Long Term (Year 7-10)
36	Develop additional playgrounds on newly acquired parkland as part of future subdivision planning to serve new neighbourhoods as they are developed.	Blue				
37	As new parkland is developed in Mansfield, consider planning for the development of new multi-use courts in the medium or long term for local use. A multi-use court facility can accommodate a variety of court sports, including tennis, pickleball, and basketball.				Year 6	
38	Investigate the feasibility of developing a skateboard / BMX park to improve the offer of recreation amenities for youth in Mulmur. This would best be suited to be located in Mansfield, where new subdivisions, and therefore parkland, are being developed.				Year 4	
39	Work with local community groups to determine the feasibility and willingness to develop and maintain / operate an outdoor ice rink at Devonleigh Park or an alternative location in Mulmur.			Year 2		
40	Explore opportunities for the development of outdoor exercise installations. Appropriate locations for developing outdoor exercise installations may include at the Township Offices (if co-located with other amenities) or at a preferred location in Mansfield.			Year 3		

9.3 Capital Cost Implications

For the Township to plan effectively over the long-term related to recreation facilities and programs, the following provides an indication of the anticipated capital cost implications associated with those notable recommendations for which capital (one-time) costs apply. The relative capital costs are shown in general terms – actual costs will need to be developed by Township staff through implementation plans and long-range budgeting processes.

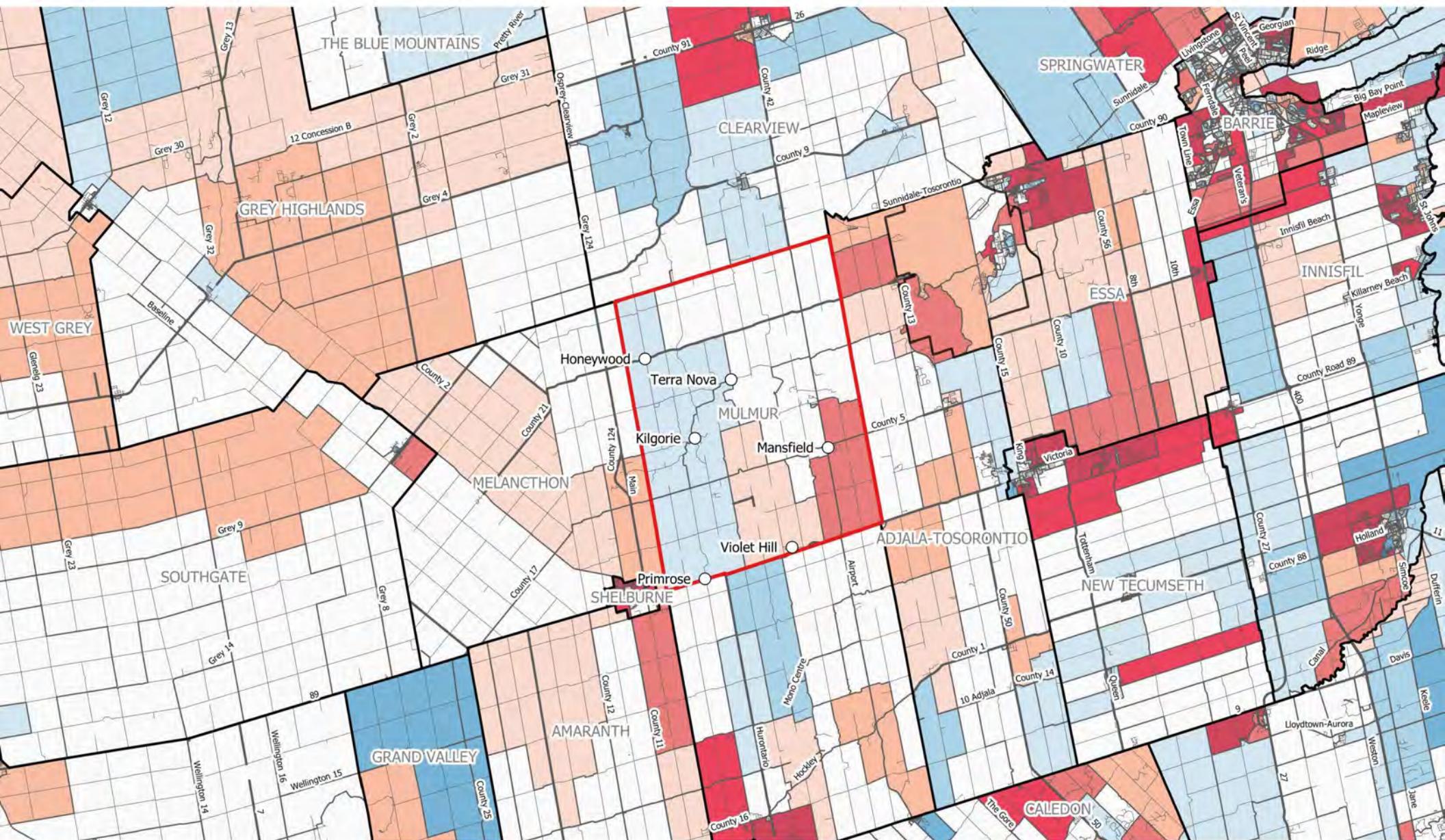
It is important to note that many of the recommendations have other resource implications related to staff time, and operations and maintenance considerations.

Capital Cost Implications:

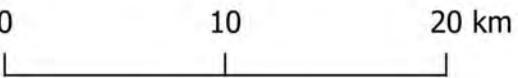
\$ - under \$50,000
\$\$ - \$50,000 - \$1M
\$\$\$ - over \$1M

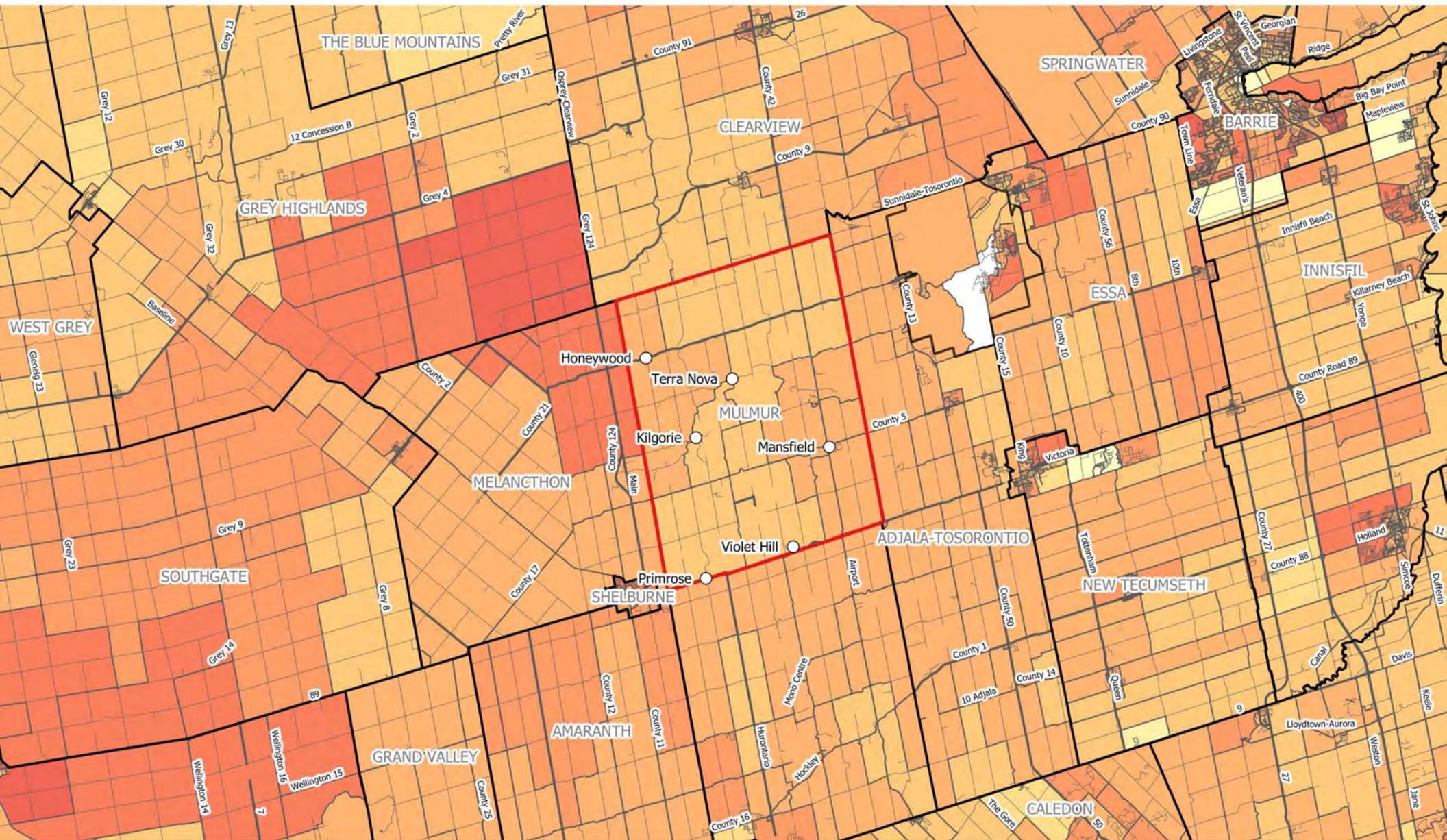
#	Action	Capital Cost Implications
2	Update Asset Management Plan to include Recreation Assets	\$
11	Funding Strategy for new Multi-Use Recreation Facility	\$
12	Design Process for new Multi-Use Recreation Facility	\$\$
13	Develop new Multi-Use Recreation Facility	\$\$\$
25	Mansfield Ball Diamond General Improvements (depending on level of improvements undertaken)	\$+
27	Mansfield Ball Diamond Lighting	\$\$
29	Devonleigh Park Basketball Net Repair / Replacement	\$
31	Devonleigh Playground Replacement	\$\$
35	Develop new playgrounds as neighbourhoods develop	\$\$
36	Multi-Use Court Facility	\$\$
37	Skateboard / BMX park	\$\$
39	Outdoor Exercise Equipment	\$

Appendix A: Demographic Mapping

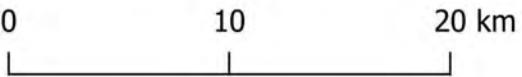


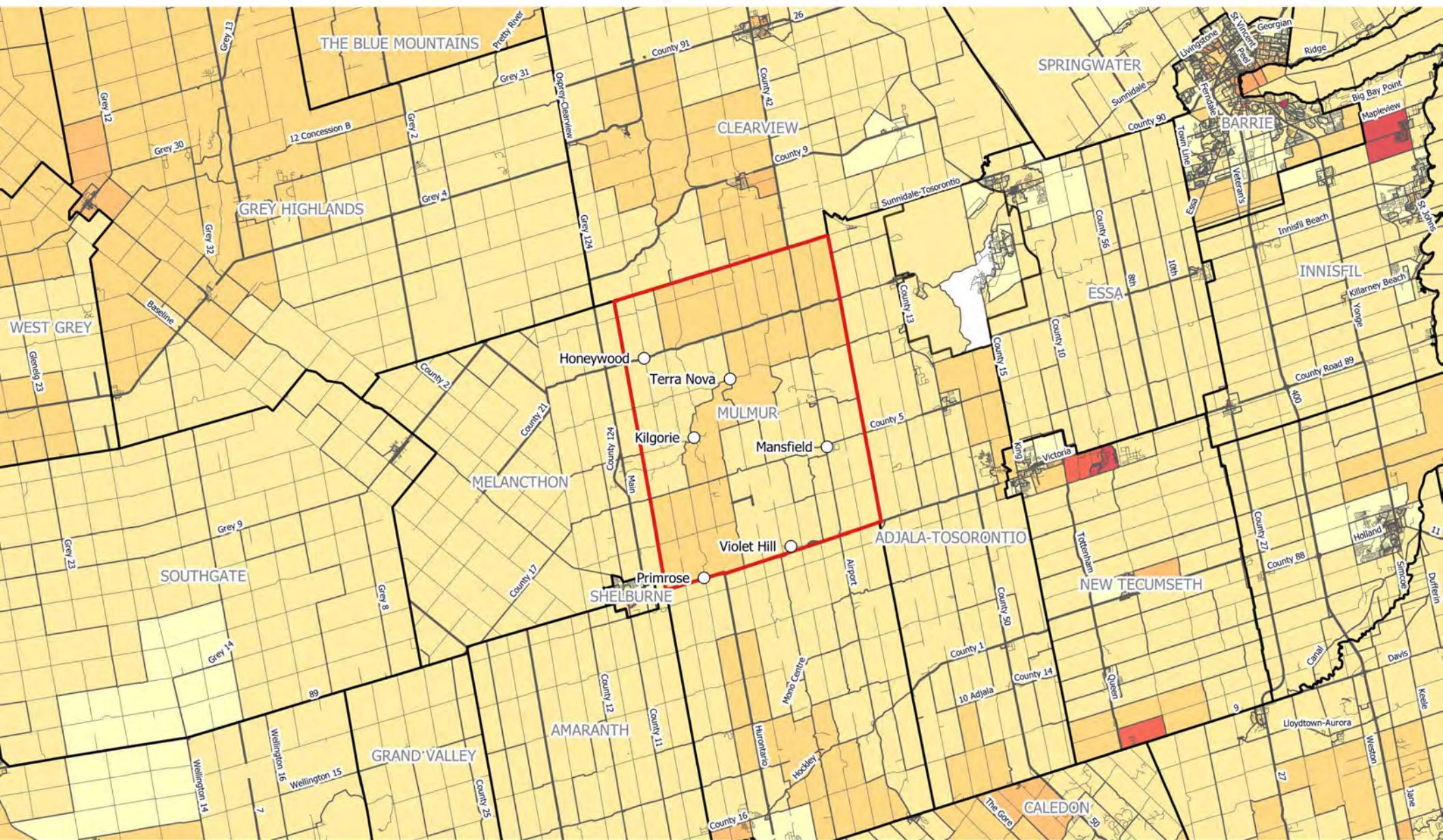
Population change, 2006-2016





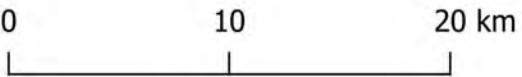
Under 19, percent total population, 2016

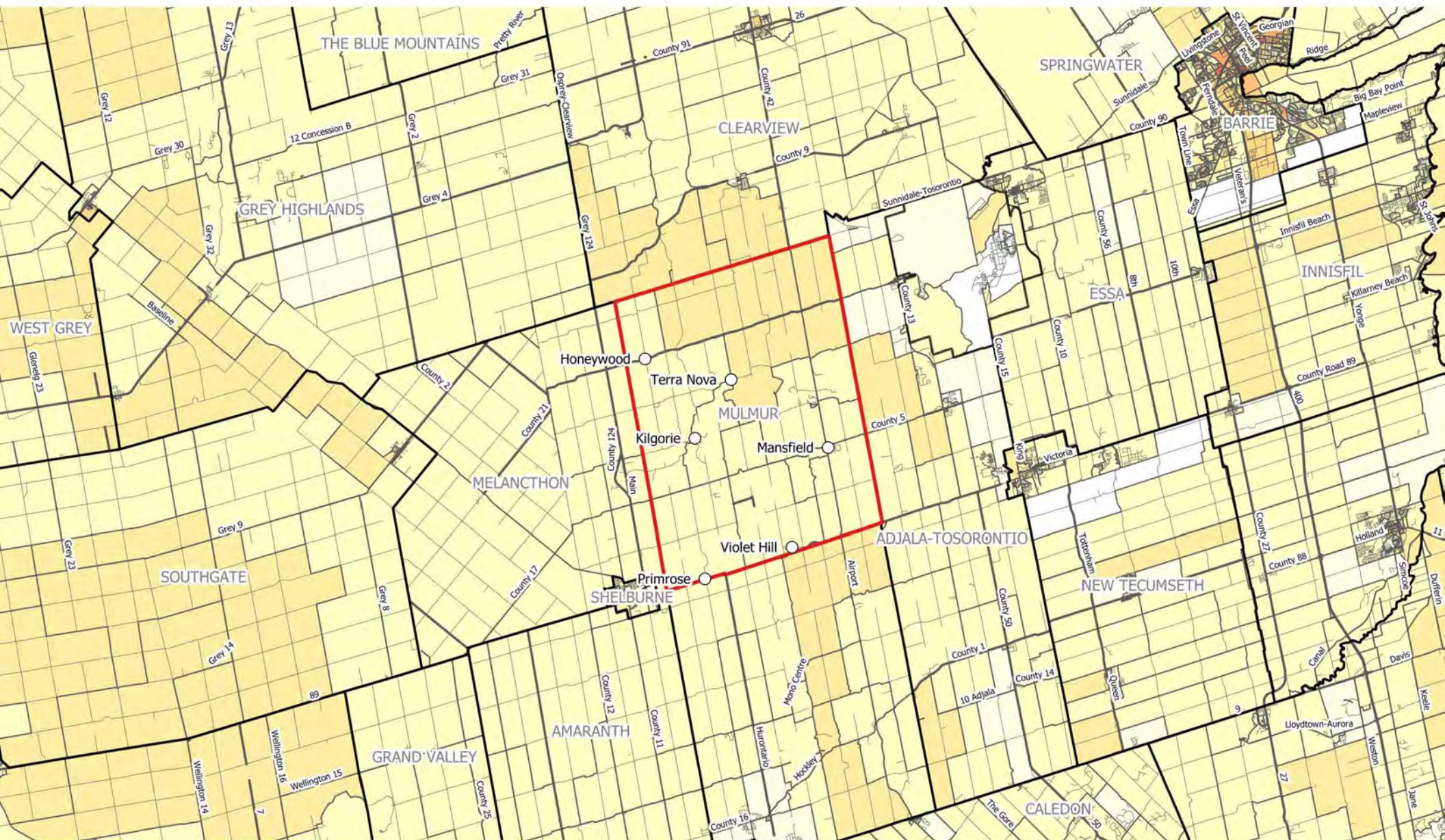




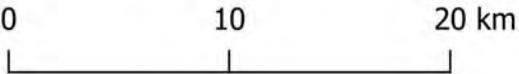
Over 65, percent total population, 2016

0% - 10%	30% - 40%	60% - 70%
10% - 20%	40% - 50%	70% - 80%
20% - 30%	50% - 60%	80% - 86%





Population within the Low-income cut-off, after tax (LICO-AT)







ELECTION OF THE WARDEN MINUTES

December 11, 2025, 6:00 pm

Dufferin County Administration Office

55 Zina Street

Orangeville ON L9W 1E5

Councillors Present: Warden Janet Horner (Mulmur)
 Councillor John Creelman (Mono)
 Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)
 Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)
 Councillor Shane Hall (Shelburne)
 Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)
 Councillor Gail Little (Amaranth)
 Councillor James McLean (Melancthon)
 Councillor Wade Mills (Shelburne)
 Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)
 Councillor Lisa Post (Orangeville)
 Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)
 Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)
 Councillor Todd Taylor (Orangeville)
 Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

Staff Present: Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer
 Michelle Dunne, Clerk
 Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
 Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
 Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer
 Rajbir Sian, Director of Development and Tourism
 Gary Staples, Chief Paramedic
 Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity
 Brenda Wagner, Director of Health and Human Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chief Administrative Officer called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer, shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. INTRODUCTIONS

The Chief Administrative Officer introduced the members of Council.

The Chief Administrative Officer recognized the past Wardens currently on Council:

- John Creelman – 2001 and 2002 (Deputy Mayor, Mono)
- Wade Mills – 2022, 2023 (Mayor, Shelburne)
- Darren White – 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2024 (Mayor, Melancthon)
- Janet Horner - 2025

The past Wardens in attendance were introduced:

- Ed Crewson - 1999 and 2000 (Shelburne)
- John Oosterhof - 2005, 2007 and 2008 (Grand Valley)

4. REMARKS FROM THE 2025 WARDEN

The 2025 Warden, Janet Horner, addressed Council. She thanked Council for their support and collaboration throughout the past year. Councillor Horner also thanked staff for their assistance.

5. ELECTION OF 2026 WARDEN

The Deputy Clerk noted that nominations for the 2026 Warden were to be submitted to the Clerk's Office by December 5, 2025.

Two nominations were received for the position of Warden:

Councillor Horner, moved by Councillor Gerrits, seconded by Councillor Nix
Councillor Post, moved by Councillor McLean, seconded by Councillor Creelman
Both nominees addressed Council.

6. VOTE

The vote for Warden was conducted through a secret ballot. The Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer acted as the Returning Officer. The Returning Officer retired from the room to conduct the count, accompanied by Councillor Gerrits and Councillor McLean as scrutineers.

Results

Votes Cast - 15
Ballots Spoiled - 0
Councillor Horner - 7
Councillor Post - 8

The Deputy Clerk declared Councillor Post to be the Warden Elect for the 2025-2026 term.

7. MOTION TO DESTROY THE BALLOTS

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits
Seconded by: Councillor McLean

THAT the Returning Officer be directed to destroy all ballots from the election of 2025-2026 Warden.

CARRIED

8. OATH OF OFFICE FOR 2026 WARDEN

The Clerk administered the Oath of Office for the Warden Elect Post.

9. PRESENTATION OF THE CHAIN OF OFFICE, GAVEL AND WARDEN'S PIN

The Chief Administrative Officer presented the Chain of Office, gavel and Warden's pin to Warden Post.

10. INCOMING WARDEN REMARKS

Warden Post addressed Council. She thanked members of Council for putting their trust in her and is looking forward to continuing to make progress on current initiatives.

11. RECESS

Warden Post called a recess at 6:33 pm.

Warden

Clerk



DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 8, 2026, 5:00 pm

Dufferin County Administration Office

55 Zina Street, Orangeville ON L9W 1E5

Doors open at 4:30 pm

Councillors Present: Warden Lisa Post (Orangeville)
Councillor John Creelman (Mono)
Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)
Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)
Councillor Shane Hall (Shelburne)
Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)
Councillor Janet Horner (Mulmur)
Councillor Gail Little (Amaranth)
Councillor Wade Mills (Shelburne)
Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)
Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)
Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)
Councillor Todd Taylor (Orangeville)
Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

Councillors Absent: Councillor James McLean (Melancthon) (prior notice)

Staff Present: Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer
Michelle Dunne, Clerk
Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer
Rajbir Sian, Director of Development and Tourism
Gary Staples, Chief Paramedic
Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity
Brenda Wagner, Director of Health and Human Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

Warden Post called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Warden Post announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast. The recording of this meeting will also be available on our website in the future.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Warden Post shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. ROLL CALL

The Clerk verbally took a roll call of the Councillors in attendance.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Mills

Seconded by: Councillor Nix

THAT the agenda and any addendum distributed for the January 8, 2026 meeting of Council, be approved.

CARRIED

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

Seconded by: Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the minutes of the Election of the Warden and the regular meeting of Council on December 11, 2025, be adopted.

CARRIED

7. PROCLAMATIONS, DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Choices Shelter and Support Services

Keith Ward, Board Chair, and Jaime Edge, Executive Director, Choices Shelter and Support Services, delegated to Council regarding shelter operations.

Councillor John Creelman (Mono) joined the meeting at 5:06 pm.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions from the public.

9. PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

9.1 Shelter Operations Update 2

Moved by: Councillor Taylor

Seconded by: Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-001, Shelter Operation Options Update, dated January 8, 2026, be received;

AND THAT Council direct staff to implement Option 1 (comprehensive review of existing housing and homelessness programs across Dufferin County).

CARRIED

9.2 2026 Draft Budget Review

9.2.1 Budget Supplemental

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer and Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated January 8, 2026, to provide supplemental information to the budget package.

Moved by: Councillor Mills
Seconded by: Councillor Hall

THAT the report from Manager Corporate Finance, Treasurer and Chief Administrative Officer, Report No. CS-2026-001, Budget Supplemental, dated January 8, 2026, be received.

CARRIED

9.2.2 Budget Presentation

The Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, presented the 2026 draft budget. Each department was reviewed, along with some potential changes to some divisions.

Councillor Taylor (Orngeville) left the meeting at 6:55 pm.

Warden Post called a recess at 6:59 pm. The meeting resumed at 7:12 pm.

Council discussed making the following changes to the 2026 draft budget:

Additions:

- Shelburne By-Pass Environmental Assessment contribution \$300,000
- Road Safety Master Plan \$200,000
- Increase Capital Contribution \$300,000
- Increase purchase of new traffic counters from one unit to two units \$10,000

Savings:

- Reduce administrative operating costs -\$500,000
- Salt management changes -\$200,000
- Remove vacant Planning position from the budget -\$126,000
- Reduce equity projects -\$138,000

- Wage Market Review delayed implementation approximately -\$215,000
- Remove Physician Recruitment grant -\$50,000
- Reduce Rescue Calls -\$45,000

Savings to be applied to the 2027 budget:

- Remove Loose Leaf Collection -\$151,000
- Remove Rescue Calls

Apply the follow Reserves:

- Rate Stabilization Reserve -\$250,000
- Additions -\$500,000
- Capital Asset Fund -\$350,000

Staff will prepare further information to present at the January 22, 2026 Council meeting. If required, there will be a special meeting of Council to discuss the budget on January 29, 2026.

10. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

There was no strategic plan update this month.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

12. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

12.1 Scrap Tire Disposal

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

WHEREAS Dufferin County residents and businesses depend on reliable access to scrap tire disposal services to prevent illegal dumping, fire hazards, and environmental harm;

AND WHEREAS the Province's transition to a Producer Responsibility system requires tire manufacturers to meet annual collection obligations through Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs);

AND WHEREAS multiple PROs have recently met their annual quotas and are now slowing or pausing scrap tire pickups across Ontario, creating widespread service disruptions;

AND WHEREAS rural communities such as Dufferin County are at heightened risk of stockpiling, non-compliance, and illegal dumping due to limited disposal options;

AND WHEREAS consumers have already paid tire recycling and environmental fees at the time of purchase, yet are now experiencing reduced or unavailable access to the very disposal services those fees were intended to support;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. **Dufferin County Council express serious concern regarding the instability of Ontario's scrap tire recycling system under the current Producer Responsibility framework.**
2. **Council request that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) conduct an immediate review of the tire recycling program and take steps to ensure year-round, province-wide collection services—particularly in rural areas like Dufferin County.**
3. **Council request that the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) investigate whether PROs' service reductions comply with their regulatory obligations and take enforcement action where necessary.**
4. **Council urge the Province to implement temporary stabilization measures, including mandating minimum year-round pickup capacity and establishing contingency plans to prevent illegal dumping and environmental risk.**
5. **Council direct staff to share this motion with all local municipalities within Dufferin County, Dufferin-Caledon's Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Ontario Tire Dealers Association (OTDA), the Association of Municipalities**

of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Local Conservation Authorities, the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA), other Ontario municipalities

6. **Council direct staff to monitor any local impacts resulting from service disruptions and report back as necessary;**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to report back on actions taken to stabilize the tire recycling system and protect rural communities from environmental and public-safety risks.

13. MOTIONS

14. CLOSED SESSION

15. BY-LAWS

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

Seconded by: Councillor Hawkins

THAT By-Law 2026-01 through to By-Law 2026-03, inclusive, be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

CARRIED

15.1 2026-01 Borrowing By-Law

A by-law to authorize the borrowing of money to meet current expenditures of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin during the year 2026.

Authorization: Council - January 8, 2026

15.2 2026-02 Amend Traffic By-Law (Reduce speed Dufferin Road 21 and implement Community Safety Zone)

A by-law to amend By-Law 2005-32, Schedule "G" and Schedule "I", to regulate traffic on roads under the jurisdiction of the County of Dufferin

Authorization: Council - December 11, 2025

15.3 2026-03 User Fee By-Law

A by-law to approve fees and charges for services and activates provided by the County of Dufferin and to repeal By-Law 2025-02.

Authorization: Council - December 11, 2025

16. OTHER BUSINESS

The HART (Homelessness Addictions Recovery and Treatment) Hub grand opening will be January 23, 2026 at 1:00 pm. Council can RSVP to the Clerk.

The next Council meeting on January 22, 2026 will begin at 10 am to allow Councillors to attend the Dufferin Board of Trade Annual State of Business in Dufferin Breakfast.

17. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

2026-04 Confirmatory By-Law - January 8, 2026

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on January 8, 2026.

Moved by: Councillor Horner

Seconded by: Councillor Gerrits

THAT By-Law 2026-04 be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

CARRIED

18. NEXT MEETING

The next Council meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 10 am in the Sutton Room at 55 Zina Street, Orangeville.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

Seconded by: Councillor Hawkins

THAT the meeting adjourn.



DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 22, 2026, 10:30 am

Dufferin County Administration Office, Sutton Room

55 Zina Street, 2nd Floor

Orangeville ON L9W 1E5

Councillors Present: Warden Lisa Post (Orangeville)
Councillor John Creelman (Mono)
Councillor Guy Gardhouse (East Garafraxa)
Councillor Chris Gerrits (Amaranth)
Councillor Earl Hawkins (Mulmur)
Councillor Janet Horner (Mulmur)
Councillor Gail Little (Amaranth)
Councillor James McLean (Melancthon)
Councillor Wade Mills (Shelburne)
Councillor Fred Nix (Mono)
Councillor Philip Rentsch (Grand Valley)
Councillor Steve Soloman (Grand Valley)
Councillor Todd Taylor (Orangeville)
Councillor Darren White (Melancthon)

Councillors Absent: Councillor Shane Hall (Shelburne)

Staff Present: Sonya Pritchard, Chief Administrative Officer
Michelle Dunne, Clerk
Rebecca Whelan, Deputy Clerk
Scott Burns, Director of Public Works/County Engineer
Aimee Raves, Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer
Rajbir Sian, Director of Development and Tourism
Gary Staples, Chief Paramedic
Rohan Thompson, Director of People & Equity
Brenda Wagner, Director of Health and Human Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

Warden Post called the meeting to order at 10:33 am.

Warden Post announced that the meeting is being live streamed and publicly broadcast. The recording of this meeting will also be available on our website in the future.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Warden Post shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

3. ROLL CALL

The Clerk verbally took a roll call of the Councillors in attendance.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Councillor Mills

Seconded by: Councillor Creelman

THAT the agenda and any addendum distributed for the January 22, 2026 meeting of Council, be approved.

CARRIED

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

5.1 Councillor Taylor - Budget Supplemental No. 2

Councillor Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in regard to agenda item 10.11 - Budget Supplemental No. 2, the Wage Market Review section of the budget, as a family member is employed at Dufferin County.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Moved by: Councillor Nix

Seconded by: Councillor Horner

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of Council on January 8, 2026, be adopted.

CARRIED

7. PROCLAMATIONS, DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Black History Month - February 2026

Warden Post proclaimed February 2026 as Black History Month in the County of Dufferin.

7.2 Economic Developers Council of Ontario

Stephanie Crilly, Executive Director, Economic Developers Council of Ontario, delegated to Council on why economic development is important to Dufferin County and the lower tier municipalities.

Councillor Hawkins (Mulmur) joined the meeting at 10:36 am.

Councillor Rentsch (Grand Valley) joined the meeting at 10:57 am

Councillor Gardhouse (East Garafraxa) joined the meeting at 11:06 am.

7.2.1 Letter of Support

Correspondence from the Economic Developers Council of Ontario, dated December 22, 2025, to advocate maintaining Economic Development services at the County level.

7.3 Headwaters Communities In Action

Jennifer Payne, Executive Director, Headwaters Communities In Action, shared the 2025 year end partnership activities report.

Councillor Little (Amaranth) left the meeting at 11:32 am, returning at 11:34 am.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions from the public.

9. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

Councillor Mills (Shelburne) left the meeting at 11:35 am.

The following agenda items were requested to be moved to Section 11 for discussion:

- Item 10.5 - Procedural By-Law Review
- Item 10.9 - Bill 60 - Community Services Impacts
- Item 10.10 - Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy
- Item 10.11 - Budget Supplemental No. 2

10. PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

Moved by: Councillor Creelman

Seconded by: Councillor Taylor

THAT Items 10.1 to 10.7 be received, and any recommendations set out below, be approved.

CARRIED

10.1 Monthly Update from Outside Boards

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer, dated January 22, 2026, to provide an update on outside boards.

THAT the report of the Chief Administrative Officer, Report No. CAO-2026-003, with respect to Reports from Outside Boards, dated January 22, 2026, be received.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.2 Call for Consultation: Rural Development Action Plan

A report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, dated January 22, 2026, to seek approval to submit comments regarding the Rural Development Action Plan.

THAT the report from the Director of Community Development and Tourism, Report No. PD-2026-02, titled Call for Consultation: Rural Development Action Plan, dated January 22, 2026, be received;

AND THAT comments within this report be submitted to the consultation survey before the February 6, 2026 deadline.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.3 Fourth Quarter Procurement Report

A report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer and Procurement Manager, dated January 22, 2026, to provide a quarterly update on all Request for Tenders and Request for Proposals (RFP) over \$75,000.

THAT the report from the Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer and the Procurement Manager, Report #CS-2025-006, titled Fourth Quarter Procurement Report, dated January 22, 2026, be received.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.4 Restricted Acts after Nomination Day (Lame Duck) Provisions

A report from the Clerk, dated January 22, 2026, to seek approval to delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer in the event of a lame duck period.

THAT the report from the Clerk, Report # CAO-2026-01, titled Restricted Acts after Nomination Day (Lame Duck) Provisions, dated January 22, 2026, be received;

AND THAT a by-law be prepared to delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer with respect to the actions set out in the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Section 275(3) during the period which Council may be restricted from certain acts, as set out in Section 275 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.5 Dufferin Oaks Funding Update

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated January 22, 2026, to provide details of one time funding received by Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care Home.

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-003, Dufferin Oaks Funding Update, dated January 22, 2026, be received.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.6 Older Adults Strategy Implementation Update

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated January 22, 2026, to provide an update on the implementation of the Older Adults Strategy.

THAT the report from the Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-004, Older Adults Strategy Implementation Update, dated January 22, 2026, be received.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

10.7 Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later Updated Report

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated January 22, 2026, to share the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Report: Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later.

THAT the report from Director of Health and Human Services, Report #HHS-2026-005 Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later – Updated Report dated January 22, 2026, be received;

AND THAT Council endorses the report's advocacy recommendations for increased federal and provincial investment in housing and homelessness solutions;

AND THAT staff be directed to continue implementing system-level improvements and report back on progress and funding opportunities.

CARRIED BY CONSENT

11. DISCUSSION OF REPORTS SEPARATED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

11.1 Procedural By-Law Review

A report from the Clerk, dated January 22, 2026, to share details of the Procedural By-Law review.

Councillor Mills (Shelburne) returned to the meeting at 11:38 am.

Moved by: Councillor Mills

Seconded by: Councillor Gardhouse

THAT the report from the Clerk, Report No. 2026-002 Procedural By-Law Review, dated January 22, 2026, be received.

CARRIED

11.2 Bill 60 – Community Services Impacts

A report from the Director of Health and Human Services, dated January 22, 2026, to share the potential impacts of Bill 60: Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025.

Moved by: Councillor Nix

Seconded by: Councillor Hawkins

THAT the report from Director of Health and Human Services, Report No. HHS-2026-002, Bill 60 – Community Services Impacts, dated January 22, 2026, be received;

AND THAT staff be directed to draft a letter outlining concerns regarding Bill 60 Community Services impacts to the Province and report back to the next Council meeting.

11.3 Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy

A report from the Director of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated January 22, 2026, to seek approval of the Reserve and Reserve Fund policy and to recommend changes to existing reserve funds.

Moved by: Councillor Mills

Seconded by: Councillor Creelman

THAT the report from Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, Report No. CS-2026-003, Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy, dated January 22, 2026, be received;

AND THAT the draft Reserve and Reserve Fund Policy as attached, be approved;

AND THAT the following reserves be closed and associated final year end balances transferred as indicated in the report:

- **Broadband Internet Reserve**
- **Accessibility Reserve**
- **Information Technology Equipment Reserve**
- **Software Upgrades Reserve**
- **OCLF (Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund) Reserve**
- **Primrose Facility Upgrade Reserve**
- **Waste Services Reserve**
- **Remote Work/Hybrid Meetings Reserve**
- **Recycling Revenues Reserve**
- **Miscellaneous Contingency Reserve**
- **Dufferin Oaks Donation Reserve**

- **Rail Corridor Easement Reserve**
- **Rail Easement Reserve Fund**
- **County Forest Reserve Fund**
- **Child and Youth Reserve Fund**

CARRIED

11.4 Recess

Warden Post called a recess at 11:54 am. The meeting resumed at 12:05 pm.

11.5 Budget Supplemental No. 2

Councillor Taylor declared a conflict on this item. (Councillor Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in regard to agenda item 10.11 - Budget Supplemental No. 2, the Wage Market Review section of the budget, as a family member is employed at Dufferin County.)

A report from the Chief Administrative Officer and Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, dated January 22, 2026, to provide a supplemental information update to the budget package. As Councillor Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in relation to the Wage Market Review, it was discussed separately while he was absent. Council discussed the remaining portions of the budget upon Councillor Taylor's return to the meeting.

Councillor Taylor (Orngeville) left the meeting at 12:15 pm during the Wage Market Review discussion and returned at 12:25 pm.

THAT the report from Manager of Corporate Finance, Treasurer, Report No. CS-2026-004, Budget Supplemental No. 2, dated January 22, 2026, be received;

AND THAT the 2026 budget with tax levy requirements of \$_____ be approved.

Moved by: Councillor Creelman
Seconded by: Councillor Nix

THAT the motion be deferred to the Special meeting of Council on January 29, 2026.

CARRIED

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Town of Grand Valley

Correspondence from the Town of Grand Valley, dated December 11, 2025, to terminate their Building Services agreement effective January 1, 2027.

Moved by: Councillor Gardhouse
Seconded by: Councillor Horner

THAT the correspondence from the Town of Grand Valley, dated December 11, 2025, regarding termination of their Building Services agreement, be received.

CARRIED

13. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

13.1 Planning and Building Services Task Force

Moved by: Councillor McLean

WHEREAS residents, builders, and developers in Dufferin County have raised concerns regarding the complexity, timelines, and costs associated with planning and building approvals;

AND WHEREAS County Council recognizes that planning and building services are delivered within provincially legislated frameworks and under significant regulatory, operational, and resourcing pressures;

AND WHEREAS Council wishes to strengthen its understanding of these frameworks, processes, and constraints in order to better support effective governance and informed decision-making;

AND WHEREAS housing affordability continues to deteriorate, making access to appropriate housing increasingly difficult for many residents of Dufferin County;

AND WHEREAS both the provincial and federal governments have identified housing delivery as a priority, emphasizing collaboration, efficiency, and accountability while maintaining public safety and legislative compliance;

AND WHEREAS Council has previously established councillor-led task forces that worked collaboratively with staff and stakeholders, resulting in constructive and actionable recommendations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Dufferin establish a Planning and Building Services Task Force to support shared learning, dialogue, and continuous improvement related to planning and building approval processes;

AND THAT the Task Force's mandate is to identify opportunities—within existing provincial legislative and regulatory frameworks—to enhance service delivery, transparency, communication, and overall customer experience, without interfering with statutory decision-making authority;

AND THAT the Task Force be comprised of:

- **three (3) County Councillors,**
- **up to five (5) local developers or industry representatives, and**
- **relevant County staff with subject-matter expertise, as designated by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO);**

AND THAT the Task Force provide a forum for staff to present and explain current processes, legislative requirements, operational constraints, workload considerations, and best practices, and to identify areas where efficiencies may be achievable;

AND THAT the Task Force shall not review individual applications, files, or personnel matters, and shall conduct its work in a manner that respects confidentiality and professional independence;

AND THAT the Task Force may engage in information-gathering activities informed by staff expertise and professional judgment;

AND THAT the Task Force's findings and recommendations be reported to County Council no later than October 2026, in advance of the municipal election.

14. MOTIONS

14.1 Scrap Tire Disposal

Moved by: Councillor Gerrits

Seconded by: Councillor Horner

WHEREAS Dufferin County residents and businesses depend on reliable access to scrap tire disposal services to prevent illegal dumping, fire hazards, and environmental harm;

AND WHEREAS the Province's transition to a Producer Responsibility system requires tire manufacturers to meet annual collection obligations through Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs);

AND WHEREAS multiple PROs have recently met their annual quotas and are now slowing or pausing scrap tire pickups across Ontario, creating widespread service disruptions;

AND WHEREAS rural communities such as Dufferin County are at heightened risk of stockpiling, non-compliance, and illegal dumping due to limited disposal options;

AND WHEREAS consumers have already paid tire recycling and environmental fees at the time of purchase, yet are now experiencing reduced or unavailable access to the very disposal services those fees were intended to support;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1. Dufferin County Council express serious concern regarding the instability of Ontario's scrap tire recycling system under the current Producer Responsibility framework.**
- 2. Council request that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) conduct an immediate review of the tire recycling program and take steps to ensure year-round, province-wide collection services—particularly in rural areas like Dufferin County.**
- 3. Council request that the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) investigate whether PROs' service reductions comply with their regulatory obligations and take enforcement action where necessary.**
- 4. Council urge the Province to implement temporary stabilization measures, including mandating minimum year-round pickup capacity and establishing contingency plans to prevent illegal dumping and environmental risk.**
- 5. Council direct staff to share this motion with all local municipalities within Dufferin County, Dufferin–Caledon's Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Ontario Tire Dealers Association (OTDA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Local Conservation Authorities, the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA), other Ontario municipalities**
- 6. Council direct staff to monitor any local impacts resulting from service disruptions and report back as necessary;**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to report back on actions taken to stabilize the tire recycling system and protect rural communities from environmental and public-safety risks.

CARRIED

15. CLOSED SESSION

16. BY-LAWS

17. OTHER BUSINESS

Warden Post reminded Council of the HART Hub Grand Opening on January 23, 2026 at 1 pm. Council is asked to let the Clerk know if they will be attending.

18. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW

2026-05 Confirmatory By-Law - January 22, 2026

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin at its meeting held on January 22, 2026.

Moved by: Councillor Mills

Seconded by: Councillor Taylor

THAT By-Law 2026-05 be read a first, second and third time and enacted.

CARRIED

19. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be a special meeting to discuss the 2026 budget on Thursday, January 29, 2026 at 5 pm in the Sutton Room at 55 Zina Street, Orangeville. On Thursday, February 12, 2026, there will be Statutory Public Meeting beginning at 6:30 pm followed by a regular Council meeting at 55 Zina Street, Orangeville.

20. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:29 pm.

Moved by: Councillor Horner

Seconded by: Councillor Little

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED



Council Highlights

County of Dufferin
55 Zina Street, Orangeville, Ontario

For Immediate Release: January 23, 2026

Dufferin County Council met on January 22, 2026 for a Council meeting. For the full Council meeting agenda and minutes, please see the County's [Meeting Agendas and Minutes page](#).

Here are the highlights of the January 22 meeting:

- [**Dufferin County proclaims February Black History Month in Dufferin**](#)
- [**Dufferin County to submit comments on the Government of Canada's Rural Development Action Plan**](#)
- [**Staff provided update on Older Adult Strategy Implementation Plan**](#)
- [**County Council endorsed advocacy recommendations for increased federal and provincial investment in housing and homelessness solutions**](#)
- [**County Council received report on Community Service impacts of *Bill 60 - Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025***](#)
- [**County Council approved motion to express serious concern regarding the instability of Ontario's scrap tire recycling system under the current Producer Responsibility framework**](#)

Dufferin County proclaims February Black History Month in Dufferin

Warden Lisa Post proclaimed February Black History Month in Dufferin County.

This year marks 30 years of Black History Month in Canada. Throughout February, Canadians are invited to learn more about and celebrate the diversity and accomplishments of Black Canadians across the country. Black History Month is also a time to reflect on Canada's painful history and the systemic barriers that Black communities continue to face, including anti-Black racism and discrimination, and to reaffirm our shared responsibility to address them.

Dufferin County to submit comments on the Government of Canada's Rural Development Action Plan

The federal department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (IESD) is developing a Rural Development Action Plan to support rural-inclusive federal initiatives, targeted rural-specific initiatives, and rural stakeholder and partner engagement.

To help inform the development of the Rural Development Action Plan, the government is seeking consultation through a survey where submission can be made until February 6, 2026.

Dufferin staff have summarized responses from recent business visits conducted through data collection work with KPMG, as well as other stakeholder feedback, to submit a response to the survey.

Staff provided update on Older Adult Strategy Implementation Plan

The County's Older Adults Services Review includes many recommendations and the Implementation Plan translates these findings into actionable steps across eight priority areas: housing, long-term care, in-home supports, health and community services, social isolation, caregiver support, communications, and organizational capacity.

County staff provided an update on progress to date, with early implementation steps beginning in Spring 2025 and planned implementation continuing through 2027. The Implementation Plan focuses on housing engagement, transportation expansion, mental health outreach, caregiver supports, and the development of a centralized information hub.

Progress on the Older Adults Strategy is moving forward steadily, with early steps already improving access to transportation, health services, and caregiver supports. Ongoing efforts to build capacity, enhance communication and advocate for additional funding will continue.

County Council endorsed advocacy recommendations for increased federal and provincial investment in housing and homelessness solutions

County staff presented a report to Council with updated data on homelessness in Ontario from AMO, in conjunction with the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association and Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association. "Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later Updated Report", shows continued growth despite increased investment.

Key findings include:

- 84,973 Ontarians experienced homelessness in 2025, a 7.8% increase from 2024 and nearly 50% since 2021.
- People are staying homeless for longer periods of time. Chronic homelessness now accounts for 53% of all homelessness (45,111 people).
- Rural communities saw a 31% increase.
- Encampments: Nearly 2,000 reported across Ontario.
- 42 out of 47 Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSM) reported encampments
- Municipalities Under Pressure One Year Later Updated Report Page 2 of 3 Collaboration
- Housing waitlist: Over 301,000 households with an average wait time of 65 months.
- Future projections: Homelessness could double by 2035 under steady conditions and triple under an economic downturn.
- Funding gap: Despite \$4 billion invested in 2025, homelessness continues to rise.

In Dufferin County, the trend identified in the report is in line with what is being experienced locally. County Council approved staff's recommendation to continue to advocate for increased federal and provincial investment. Staff will also continue to implement system-level improvements and report on progress and funding opportunities.

County Council received report on Community Service impacts of *Bill 60 - Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025*

The Province recently introduced [Bill 60 – Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act](#) and part of the Bill includes changes to the Residential Tenancies Act.

Staff reported to Council that Bill 60 introduces significant changes that will accelerate eviction timelines and reduce tenant protections. While intended to streamline processes, these updates risk increasing housing instability, disrupting communities and placing additional strain on municipal services and social supports.

The potential rise in evictions and rental turnover could lead to higher rents and reduced affordability, compounding existing challenges for vulnerable populations. Staff informed Council that proactive planning and collaboration with community partners will be essential to mitigate these impacts and uphold the County's commitment to equity, stability, and well-being for all residents.

County Council passed motion to express serious concern regarding the instability of Ontario's scrap tire recycling system under the current Producer Responsibility framework

Dufferin County residents and businesses depend on reliable access to scrap tire disposal services to prevent illegal dumping, fire hazards, and environmental harm, and under the Province's transition to a Producer Responsibility system, tire manufacturers are required to meet annual collection obligations through Producer Responsibility Organizations. Multiple PROs have recently met their annual quotas, and are now slowing or pausing scrap tire pickups across Ontario, creating widespread service disruptions, including in Dufferin County.

County Council passed a motion to request that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks conduct an immediate review of the tire recycling program and take steps to ensure year-round, province-wide collection services—particularly in rural areas like Dufferin County. Staff were directed to monitor local impacts resulting from service disruptions and report back as necessary, and Council are requesting that the Province report back on actions taken to stabilize the tire recycling system and protect rural communities from environmental and public-safety risks.

About Dufferin County Council

Dufferin County Council consists of 15 members representing each of the eight municipalities in Dufferin. Council meeting processes are set out in the County's Procedural By-Law.

Dufferin County Council and Committee meetings can be watched live on the [County's website](#).

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Megan Ball, Manager of Communications
mball@dufferincounty.ca



Economic Development Committee Minutes

January 8, 2026 – 9:30 AM

Present: Daryl Stansfield, Chair
Kim Lyon
Savannah Rogers
Diana Morris
Roseann Knechtel, Secretary

Regrets: Lisa Thomson

1.0 Call to Order by the Secretary

The Secretary called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

2.0 Appointment of a Chair

Moved by Rogers Seconded by Lyon

That Daryl Stansfield be appointed Chair of the EDC Committee for the year 2026.

Carried.

3.0 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Rogers

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

4.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Morris and Seconded by Lyon

That the minutes of December 17, 2025 are approved.

Carried.

5.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests - None

6.0 Administration

6.1 Mulmur 175

a) Swag and Handouts

Members reviewed the Swag and Handout materials created to date. Direction was given to allow for all colour options in the 175 Store and to investigate alternative mug options in a larger size.

b) Family Day Winterfest

The Secretary confirmed the sponsorship of a cookie decorating station as part of the event.

c) Bruce Trail End to End

Savannah Rogers provided an update on the Bruce Trail End-to-End Challenge that is set to commence in the Spring. Members agreed to get quotes for badges.

d) March Break Community Days

Members discussed providing a complementary feature such as hot chocolate or children's craft. The Secretary will reach out to the Ski Club to confirm.

e) Maple Madness

Members discussed volunteering opportunities to flip pancakes, as well as asking the Rosemont District Fire Association.

f) Township Event Names

Members discussed possible names for the event and agreed to the "Mulmur 175 Celebration BBQ".

5.1 2025 EDC Year-End Report

Members reviewed and amended the report for submission to Council.

5.2 Dufferin County EDC - Deferred

1. Items For Future Meetings

2. Adjournment

Recommendation: That the meeting adjourns at _____ a.m. to meet again on _____ @ 9:30 a.m. or at the call of the Chair.

6.0 Items For Future Meetings

6.1 Mulmur 175:

- a) Family Day Winterfest Recap
- b) March Break Community Days
- c) Maple Madness
- d) Spring Market
- e) Township Event

6.2 Dufferin County EDC

7.0 Adjournment

Moved by Stansfield and Seconded by Rogers

That the Economic Development Committee adjourns the meeting at 10:38 a.m. to meet again on February 27, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.



MULMUR-MELANCTHON FIRE BOARD MINUTES

January 21, 2026

Present: Bill Neilson, Chair – Melancthon Township
Earl Hawkins – Mulmur Township
Ralph Moore – Melancthon Township
Mathew Waterfield – Fire Chief
Jeff Merkley – Acting Deputy Fire Chief
Roseann Knechtel – Secretary

Regrets: Kim Lyon, Vice Chair – Mulmur Township

1. Call to Order by the Secretary

The Secretary called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. Appointment of a Chair and Vice Chair

Moved by Hawkins Seconded by Moore

That the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board appoint Bill Neilson as Chair and Kim Lyon as Vice Chair for the year 2026.

Carried.

3. Appointment of a Secretary

Moved by Hawkins Seconded by Moore

That the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board appoint Roseann Knechtel as Secretary for the year 2026.

Carried.

4. Land Acknowledgement

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting upon the traditional Indigenous lands of the Tionontati (Petun) and Treaty 18 territory of the Anishinaabe peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place and we also recognize the contributions Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country as a whole.

5. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Moore Seconded by Hawkins

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Moore Seconded by Hawkins

That the minutes of December 17, 2025 be approved.

Carried.

7. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - None

8. Administration

8.1 Fire Department Tour

Members conducted a tour of the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Hall.

8.2 Annual Review of Bylaws and Agreements

- **Township of Mulmur - Establishing and Regulating By-law 2013**
- **Township of Melancthon – Establishing and Regulating By-law 2014**
- **Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board Agreement**

Members reviewed the by-laws and agreements, noting the need to update the establishing and regulating by-laws for each Township. Discussion ensued on timing for the updates in relation to proposed fire board changes. By-laws are anticipated to be updated in late 2026 / early 2027.

8.3 Annual Review of Policies

- **Procedural Policy**
- **Abuse and Neglect Policy**
- **Capital Asset Policy 2020**
- **Code of Conduct Policy**
- **Disposition of Land Policy 2023**
- **Hiring Policy 2021**

- **No Towing Policy 2020**
- **Procurement Policy 2021**
- **Progressive Discipline Policy 2021**
- **Use of Hall and Equipment Policy 2020**
- **Wage Administration Policy 2023**

Members reviewed the above noted policies and did not identify any changes or updates required.

8.4 Fire Service Levels Discussion

It is recommended that a meeting with the Township Clerk's and Fire Chief be scheduled to discuss fire service levels in relation to the updates required for the Establishing and Regulating By-laws.

8.5 Draft Performance Review Policy

Members reviewed the draft policy and discussed timing of the reviews in relation to hiring and elections. The Fire Chief is to review "Schedule B – Fire Chief Annual Performance Appraisal" to confirm areas being evaluated are applicable and that no changes are required for the next meeting.

Direction was provided to draft a policy for the review of the Deputy Chief and Captains as well, for consideration at the next meeting.

8.6 Township of Melancthon Correspondence

Members received the correspondence and directed the Chief to work directly with the Township of Melancthon to provide the required information.

8.7 Fire Boards General Discussion – None

8.8 General Fire Chief Update

Chief Waterfield updated Members on Department activities, noting:

- A total of 130 calls for service in 2025 (111 in 2024).
- 3 calls for service to date in 2026 (all MVC's).
- A drop in medical calls with the implementation of the new medical priority dispatch system.
- The forecasted purchase of an ARGO in 2026.
- Current issues with the Department generator – in the process of obtaining quotes.

9. Information Items

9.1 Accounts

9.2 2025 Budget to Actual

9.3 Township of Mulmur: MMFB 2026 Budget Resolution

Moved by Moore Seconded by Hawkins

That the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board receive the information items as presented.

Carried.

10. Items for Future Meetings

10.1 Deputy and Captain Performance Review Policies

10.2 Fire Chief Performance Review Policy

10. Adjournment

Moved by Hawkins Seconded by Moore

That we do now adjourn at 7:00 p.m. to meet again on March 18, 2026 at 5:30 pm, in person at the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Hall, or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.



INFORMATION

Council Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy Update

February 4, 2026

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to outline the changes made to the Township's Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy.

Background:

In 2019, Council approved the Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy. This policy was established in accordance with the requirements of Section 270(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, which mandates that municipalities adopt and maintain policies respecting pregnancy and parental leaves for Council Members.

As part of the Township's ongoing policy review and modernization, staff completed a review of the 2019 Policy and has prepared an updated policy for consideration.

While the core principles of supporting Council Members' statutory rights remain unchanged. The 2026 Policy however, is more comprehensive and provides enhanced definitions, detailed procedures and administration.

2026 Key Policy Changes:

- Expanded Definitions now include: Act, Council, Member, Leave, Pregnancy Leave, Parental Leave, Parent, and Township.
- Provides clearer interpretation of when leaves may begin and procedures for resuming duties.
- Formalizes notification procedures, improving administrative clarity.
- More explicitly affirms Members' continued engagement and support during leave.

Next Steps:

A by-law is provided later in the meeting for consideration.

Submitted by: Roseann Knechtel, Clerk

Schedule A – 2019 Council Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy

Schedule B – Draft 2026 Council Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy



Approved by COUNCIL MOTION #36-19: February 6, 2019

PREGNANCY AND PARENTAL LEAVE FOR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Purpose:

This policy provides guidance on how the Township of Mulmur addresses a Council Member's pregnancy or parental leave in a manner that respects a Council Member's statutory role as an elected representative.

Scope:

In accordance with Section 270 of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, Chapter 25*, this policy applies to Members of Council.

Definitions:

Pregnancy and/or Parental Leave – an absence of 20 consecutive weeks or less as a result of the Member's pregnancy, the birth of a Member's child or the adoption of a child by the Member in accordance with Section 259 (1.1) of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Procedure:

Council supports a Member of Council's right to pregnancy and/or parental leave in keeping with the following principles:

- A Member of Council is elected to represent the interests of his or her constituents.
- A Member's pregnancy and/or parental leave does not require Council approval and his or her office cannot be declared vacant as a result of the leave.
- Council reserves the right to appoint a replacement on any Board or Committee as needed for the duration of the pregnancy and/or parental leave.

Notwithstanding, at any point in time during a Member's pregnancy or parental leave, the Member reserves the right to exercise his/her delegated authority on matters within the Township. The Member shall provide written notice to the Clerk of their intent to lift any of the Council-approved, temporary delegations and exercise their statutory role or delegated authority.

Responsibilities:

Members of Council and staff are responsible for adhering to the parameters of this policy.



Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy

Policy Statement

The Township of Mulmur recognizes the Member of Council's right to take leave for the Member's pregnancy, the birth of the Member's child or the adoption of a child by the Member in accordance with the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001.

Purpose:

This policy provides guidance on how the Township of Mulmur addresses a Member of Council's pregnancy or parental leave in a manner that is consistent with the *Municipal Act* and respects a Member's statutory role as an elected representative.

Scope:

In accordance with Section 270 of the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, this policy applies to Members of Council.

Definitions:

Act means the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, as amended.

Council means the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur.

Leave means a pregnancy or parental leave

Member means an elected member of the Township of Mulmur's Council.

Pregnancy Leave means temporary leave entitlement for a person giving birth to a child.

Parental Leave means temporary leave entitlement for a Parent.

Parent means a natural or adoptive parent, or a person who is in a relationship of some permanence with the natural or adoptive parent of the child and intends to treat the child as their own.

Township means the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur.

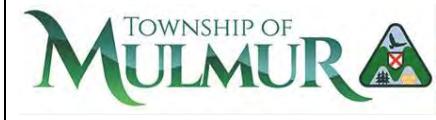
Policy Statement(s):

1. In accordance with Section 259 (1.1) of the Act a Member is eligible up to twenty (20) consecutive weeks of Pregnancy Leave and/or Parental Leave, not to extend beyond the end of the Member's term of office.
2. A Member's Leave does not require Council approval. Council will not declare the Member's seat vacant on account of the Member's absence(s) from Council meetings while on Leave.



Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy

3. For Pregnancy Leave, the Leave may start up to 20 weeks before a Member's expected date of delivery.
4. For Parental Leave, the Leave may begin on the earlier of the date the child is born or the date the child first comes into the care, custody, or control of the Member.
5. The Member shall notify the Clerk, in writing, of their intent to take such Leave at least two weeks before the start of the Leave or as soon as possible after commencing the Leave. The notice should include:
 - The anticipated start date of the Leave and the expected date of return; and
 - Information about which duties, if any, will continue to be undertaken by the Member during the Leave.
6. Council may temporarily appoint a Member of Council to Boards and Committees to replace the Member on Leave, on an as needed basis, unless the Member on Leave has first given notice to the Clerk that they wish to continue to attend the meetings of the external Boards and Committees to which they are appointed by way of a resolution of Council.
7. In the event the Member on Leave is a Councillor with the County of Dufferin, the Township may appoint a Member of Council to fulfill the temporary vacancy in accordance with Section 267 of the Act.
8. At any time during a Member's Leave, the Member will provide written notice to the Clerk if they wish to return to such appointments. Any temporary appointments will be revoked, effective the date of return of the Member.
9. Despite being on Pregnancy Leave or Parental Leave, a Member may exercise all rights and privileges of their office at any time during their leave. This includes but is not limited to attending meetings and casting a vote on any matter before Council and/or Boards and Committees for which they are entitled. The Member will advise the Clerk if they choose to attend Council and/or Board and Committee meetings during their leave.
10. The Member is entitled to continue to receive communication for the Township (access to Council packages, emails, meeting invitations, etc.), as if the Member were not on Leave, in accordance with the request of the Member.
11. Members on Leave continue to receive all remuneration and reimbursements in accordance with the Council Remuneration Policy for the duration of their leave.
12. Members will continue to have access to all equipment supplied by the Township, including but not limited to, access to information technology equipment, email and office services.
13. The Member shall provide written notice to the Clerk of any changes to their return date at least two weeks prior to their expected return. Upon return from leave, the Member will



Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy

resume all appointments to Council, Committees and Boards that they previously held before the leave, unless Council decides otherwise.

Administration

The Clerk shall be responsible for monitoring the application of this policy and for receiving complaints and/or concerns related to this policy. The Integrity Commissioner may investigate complaints against Members related to this policy.



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INFORMATION

2025 Annual Investment Activity Report

The Township's Investment Policy establishes practices and procedures to invest public funds with the highest return on investment with the maximum security, preservation of capital and appropriate liquidity while meeting daily cash flow demands and conforming to the statutory requirements of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended.

We were able to secure interest rates from 2.40% - 3.15%. Below is a summary of the interest earned broken down by each account.

	Interest Earned
General Account	\$ 100,041.91
Development Charges	\$ 21,750.63
Park Land Dedication	\$ 6,453.81
Mansfield Cemetery	\$ 1,320.40
Honeywood Cemetery	\$ 753.50
Water Rate Stabilization	\$ 631.30
Water Capital Reserves	\$ 19,045.95
Arena Capital Reserves	\$ 4,581.06
Total Interest Earned	\$ 154,578.56

Overall, the Township earned \$154,578.56 (2024 - \$175,305.44) in interest on its investments.

Submitted by: Heather Boston, Treasurer
Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO



758070 2nd Line E
Mulmur, Ontario
L9V 0G8

Local **(705) 466-3341**

Toll Free from 519 only **(866) 472-0417**

Fax **(705) 466-2922**

INFORMATION

2025 Annual Statement of Development Charge Reserve Funds

Pursuant to Subsection 43 of the *Development Charge Act, 1997* S.O. 1997, c. 27 (DCA), the Treasurer shall present a financial statement to Council regarding the development charges reserve funds. The Treasurer's statement must include, for the preceding year,

- a) statements of the opening and closing balances of the reserve funds and of the transactions relating to the funds;
- b) statements identifying,
 - i. all assets whose capital costs were funded under a development charge by-law during the year,
 - ii. for each asset mentioned in subclause (i), the manner in which any capital cost not funded under the by-law was or will be funded;
- c) a statement as to compliance with subsection 59.1 (1); and
- d) and other information that is prescribed.

The Township is in compliance with the DCA. Schedules A of this report reflects the required reporting under the DCA, as amended by Bill 73.

A statement of Development Charge reserve fund balances and transactions in 2025, by service area, is listed as Schedule A.

Submitted by: Heather Boston, Treasurer

Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO

Figure 1
Township of Mulmur
Annual Treasurer's Statement of Development Charge Reserve Funds

Description	Public Works (Facilities and Fleet)	Fire Protection Services	Parks and Recreation Services	Library Services	Growth Studies	Total
Opening Balance, January 1, 2025	\$66,446.91	\$247,092.86	\$369,923.67	\$2,761.65	\$38,738.25	\$724,963.34
<u>Plus:</u>						
Development Charge Collections	\$16,798.42	\$7,759.84	\$59,881.94	\$1,278.73	\$23,574.62	\$109,293.55
Accrued Interest	\$3,343.07	\$1,544.29	\$11,917.17	\$254.48	\$4,691.61	\$21,750.62
Transfer from Capital						
Repayment of Monies Borrowed from Fund and Associated Interest ¹						\$0.00
Sub-Total	\$20,141.49	\$9,304.13	\$71,799.11	\$1,533.21	\$28,266.23	\$131,044.17
<u>Less:</u>						
Amount Transferred to Capital Funds ²	\$117,187.26					\$117,187.26
Amount Transferred to Operating Funds ²						\$0.00
Amounts Refunded						\$0.00
Amounts Loaned to Other D.C. Service Category for Interim Financing						\$0.00
Credits ³						\$0.00
Sub-Total	\$117,187.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$117,187.26
Closing Balance, December 31, 2025	(\$30,598.86)	\$256,396.99	\$441,722.78	\$4,294.86	\$67,004.48	\$738,820.25

¹ Source of funds used to repay the D.C. reserve fund

² See Attachment 1 for details

The Municipality is compliant with s.s. 59.1 (1) of the *Development Charges Act*, whereby charges are not directly or indirectly imposed on development nor has a requirement to construct a service related to development been imposed, except as permitted by the *Development Charges Act* or another Act.

Attachment 1
Township of Mulmur

Attachment 2**Township of Mulmur****Statement of Reserve Fund Balance Allocations**

Total		\$0	\$0	\$0
--------------	--	------------	------------	------------

Service:	Services Related to a Highway
Balance in Reserve Fund at Beginning of Year:	\$724,963.34
60% of Balance to be Allocated (at a minimum):	434,978.00

Projects to Which Funds Will be Allocated

Project Description	Project Number	Total Growth-related Capital Cost Remaining to be Funded	Share of Growth-related Cost Allocated to Date	Share of Growth-related Cost Allocated - Current Year
Shelburne Fire Hall expansion		191,400		
Shelburne Library expansion		4,500		
Official Plan Update		48,000		
Zoning By-law Update		24,000		
Development Charges Study		13,820		26,180
Sand Storage Building				100,466
Fire Service Vehicles		161,957		
New paving		117,187		
Total		\$560,864	\$0	\$126,645



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INFORMATION

2025 COUNCIL & COMMITTEE REMUNERATION REPORT

Pursuant to the provision of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Section 284 the Treasurer of the municipality shall in each year on or before March 31 provide to the Council an itemized statement of remuneration and expenses paid in the previous year to each member of Council in respect to his or her services as a member of Council or as an officer of the municipal corporation. Remuneration and expenses paid to each person mentioned in Subsections 1(b) and 1(c) of Section 284 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* in respect of his or her services as a member of the board or anybody in the preceding year are also to be disclosed. The following remunerations and expenses were paid under authority of Section 284 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* as provided under the Township of Mulmur by-laws and the by-laws of other applicable jurisdictions.

	Salary	Per Diems	Total Remuneration	Mileage	Conferences /Expenses	Total
<u>Councillors</u>						
Janet Horner	\$ 19,895.88	\$ 580.00	\$ 20,475.88	\$ 139.40	\$ 1,667.33	\$ 22,282.62
Earl Hawkins	\$ 16,143.36	\$ 1,575.00	\$ 17,718.36	\$ 320.95	\$ 230.70	\$ 18,270.01
Patricia Clark	\$ 14,556.12	\$ 2,388.27	\$ 16,944.39	\$ 361.04	\$ 230.70	\$ 17,536.14
Andrew Cunningham	\$ 14,556.12	\$ 450.00	\$ 15,006.12	\$ 42.79	\$ 230.70	\$ 15,279.62
Kim Lyon	\$ 14,556.12	\$ 750.00	\$ 15,306.12	\$ 116.71	\$ 230.70	\$ 15,653.53
<u>Council Totals</u>						
	\$ 79,707.60	\$ 5,743.27	\$ 85,450.87	\$ 980.90	\$ 2,590.15	\$ 89,021.92
<u>Committee Members</u>						
Per Diems						
PSB - Cheryl Russell		\$ 300.00				\$ 300.00

Submitted by: Heather Boston, Treasurer

Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO



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INFORMATION

2025 Annual Procurement Report

Per by-law 28-2025,

The Treasurer shall submit an annual procurement information report to Council to provide the following information about the Township's activities:

- (a) Procurement activities with a procurement value equal to or greater than the CFTA;
- (b) The circumstances and details of any emergency purchase(s) with a procurement value equal to or greater than the CFTA Threshold; and
- (c) The circumstances and details of all non-competitive procurements with a procurement value equal to or greater than the CFTA Threshold.

Attached in Schedule A is a summary of the 2025 procurement activities equal to or greater than the CFTA Threshold of \$133,800.

Submitted by: Heather Boston, Treasurer

Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO

Corporation of the Township of Mulmur- Quotation and Tender Results 2025

The following Quotations and Tender were awarded by the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur. The bid submission highlighted in yellow indicates the Successful Bidder

Requests for Tenders	Successful bidder is the lowest qualified compliant bid
RFT#2025-03- Bridge 8 Reconstruction	
Company	Subtotal for all Work (Lump Sum, Excluding HST)
2585284 Ontario Inc. o/a Beton	\$832,798.50
Alexman Contracting Inc.	\$921,070.00
Arnott Construction Limited	\$775,300.00
Clearwater Structures Inc.	\$972,307.50
Esposito Bros. Construction Ltd.	Bid submission deemed incompliant
HugoMB Contracting Inc.	\$925,273.50
Marbridge Construction Ltd.	\$897,460.00
Unique Builders Inc.	\$749,150.00
Urbanlink Civil Ltd.	\$803,450.00



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INFORMATION

County of Dufferin Road Network Rationalization Plan Implementation Update

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council information on the implementation of the County of Dufferin Road Network Rationalization Plan within the Township of Mulmur.

Background:

A Road Network Rationalization Plan (Plan) aims to optimize a road network (roads and bridges/culverts) so that the network functions holistically for the purpose it serves and that the infrastructure is maintained to the appropriate standard and by the appropriate agency. The County of Dufferin's most recent Plan was completed in 2016. In February 2022, County Council directed staff to update the Plan and move forward with implementation. The Plan was updated and validated the original recommendations regarding infrastructure transfers to and from the County.

Dufferin County and Township of Mulmur staff have met on a couple of occasions over the past year to discuss implementation of the Plan at an operations level as well as share information. Staff discussed minimum maintenance standards, traffic counts, winter maintenance plans, infrastructure conditions and various other topics. Staff shared bridge inspection reports for the bridge and culverts that are being transferred to update our respective asset management plans.

On January 9, 2026, Dufferin County confirmed that County Council approved June 1, 2026, as the effective date for the transfer of road, bridges/culverts. The County will assume control of 10th Sideroad from Dufferin County Road (CR) 19- County Road -18 (Airport Road). The Township will assume control of CR-19 from Highway 89 to CR-18. As a result of the transfer in road responsibilities, the Township will have 7.2 kilometers less lane kilometers to maintain. Four (4) bridges located on the Mulmur-Toronto Townline and one (1) bridge along the Mulmur Melancthon Townline will also be transferred to the Township. Two (2) culverts along 10th Sideroad will be transferred to the County.

On September 11th, 2025, the County of Dufferin presented the findings of the road safety audit at the intersection of CR-19/CR-17. Short term priorities included an Ontario Traffic Manual stop warrant analysis, speed limit review and vegetation management to address sight light issues. The results of the stop warrant analysis confirmed that additional stop signs were not warranted for traffic traveling both eastbound and westbound approaching CR-19. Township staff worked jointly with County staff to introduce lower speed zones approaching CR-19 from the east and west that came into effect on November 5, 2025.

Analysis

From an operations perspective, there is some work still to do to integrate winter maintenance on Prince of Wales (CR-19) into our existing plow routes. Staff have some follow-up traffic monitoring to complete to confirm service levels. Integrating the Prince of Wales plow route into our existing routes will need to be completed prior to November 2026.

Four structures on the Mulmur-Tosorontio Townline that are being transferred are referenced in boundary agreements between the County of Dufferin and County of Simcoe. Any existing agreements or arrangements with Dufferin County related to the infrastructure being transferred will cease to be in effect as of the June 1st, 2026, transfer date. Our intent is to approach the County of Simcoe to enter into road agreements covering this infrastructure to align with the transfer date.

The Dufferin Living Snow Fence Program has been operational since 2013 but the financial incentive to plant trees 40 m from the roadway has not been well received. On the Prince of Wales roadway we are taking on there are some landowners who have installed snow fences to reduce blowing snow issues. We will follow with the County of Dufferin to maintain the arrangements they had with these landowners.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

It's in our Nature: Live - We commit to providing a balanced community and providing quality services. We will encourage increased community building and respectful social interactions to enrich the lives of Mulmur residents. We will provide a range of communications and facilities to promote play, growth, connection, active living and recognize the changing demographics of Mulmur

Financial Impacts:

At its July 10th, 2025, meeting, County Council approved a fund transfer of \$ 102,330 to be paid to the Township of Mulmur over a 10-year period.

Environmental Impacts:

Implementing the Plan will likely result in minimally less environmental impact from an operational perspective as the volume of road kilometres to maintain is down slightly. There may be an impact based on the differing approaches to salt application between the County and Township.

Next Steps:

Staff will proceed with the key steps outlined herein to ensure the successful implementation of the Road Network Rationalization Plan within the Township by June 1, 2026 and before the commencement of winter operation.

Submitted by: Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure

Approved by: Tracey Atkinson, CAO



January 9, 2026

Tracey Atkinson, Chief Administrative Officer
Chris Wolnik, Director of Infrastructure
Township of Mulmur
758070 2nd Line E.
Mulmur, ON L9V 0G8

Via email: cwolnik@mulmur.ca, and tatkinson@mulmur.ca

Re: Dufferin County Road Network Rationalization Plan - Implementation
Road and Large Structures Infrastructure Transfers

At its September 11th, 2025 regular meeting, Dufferin County Council approved **June 1st, 2026**, as the effective date for the transfer of certain roads (including structures thereon) and structures (including all those located on non-County Roads) between the County and affected local municipalities as outlined in the attached report, *Road Network Rationalization Plan – Infrastructure Transfer Date* (Report #PW-2025-008). The report provides background information on the rationale, timing, and coordination necessary to support this transition.

The objective of the Road Network Rationalization Plan is to ensure that the ownership and maintenance responsibilities for roads and structures are properly aligned with their primary function and jurisdictional use.

This correspondence constitutes formal notice of the upcoming transfer of infrastructure between the County of Dufferin and the Township of Mulmur, including those identified below:

Infrastructure	Location	Transferred Ownership
Dufferin County Road 19 (including structures thereon)	King's Highway 89 to Dufferin County Road 17	Township of Mulmur
10 Sideroad	Dufferin County Road 19 (Prince of Wales Road) east to Dufferin County Road 18	County of Dufferin
Structure 004-0027	Mulmur-Melancthon Townline	Township of Mulmur
Structure 030-0215 Structure 030-0214 Structure 004-0008 Structure 004-0007	Mulmur-Toronto Townline	Township of Mulmur



Maps illustrating the locations of roads and structures scheduled for transfer are attached to this email. These are further detailed in the Road Network Rationalization Plan document, which can be made available upon request.

Please be advised that some infrastructure listed aligns with current boundary agreements between the County of Dufferin and the County of Simcoe. Any existing agreements or arrangements with Dufferin County related to the infrastructure being transferred will cease to be in effect as of the transfer date June 1st, 2026. Where applicable, new agreements may be required, including those noted below:

Infrastructure	Location	Associated Jurisdictional Partner
Structure 030-0215		
Structure 030-0214		
Structure 004-0008	Mulmur-Toronto Townline	County of Simcoe
Structure 004-0007		
Structure 004-0027	Mulmur-Melancthon Townline	Township of Melancthon

In addition to the transfer of the identified infrastructure in this notice, Dufferin County Council approved, at its July 10th, 2025 regular meeting, that a total concession amount of \$102,330 to be paid to the Township of Mulmur. Following the transfer of all infrastructure, the total concession payment is to be paid in even, annual installments over a 10-year period, adjusted by the construction price index annually. Existing documentation surrounding concession payments, detailed infrastructure inventories, other technical or administrative materials will be provided by the County of Dufferin to aid in the transfer of this infrastructure.


We are committed to working collaboratively to ensure a smooth and coordinated transition. Additional existing documentation surrounding concession payments, detailed infrastructure inventories, and other technical and administrative materials. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you for your continued partnership and cooperation.

Sincerely,

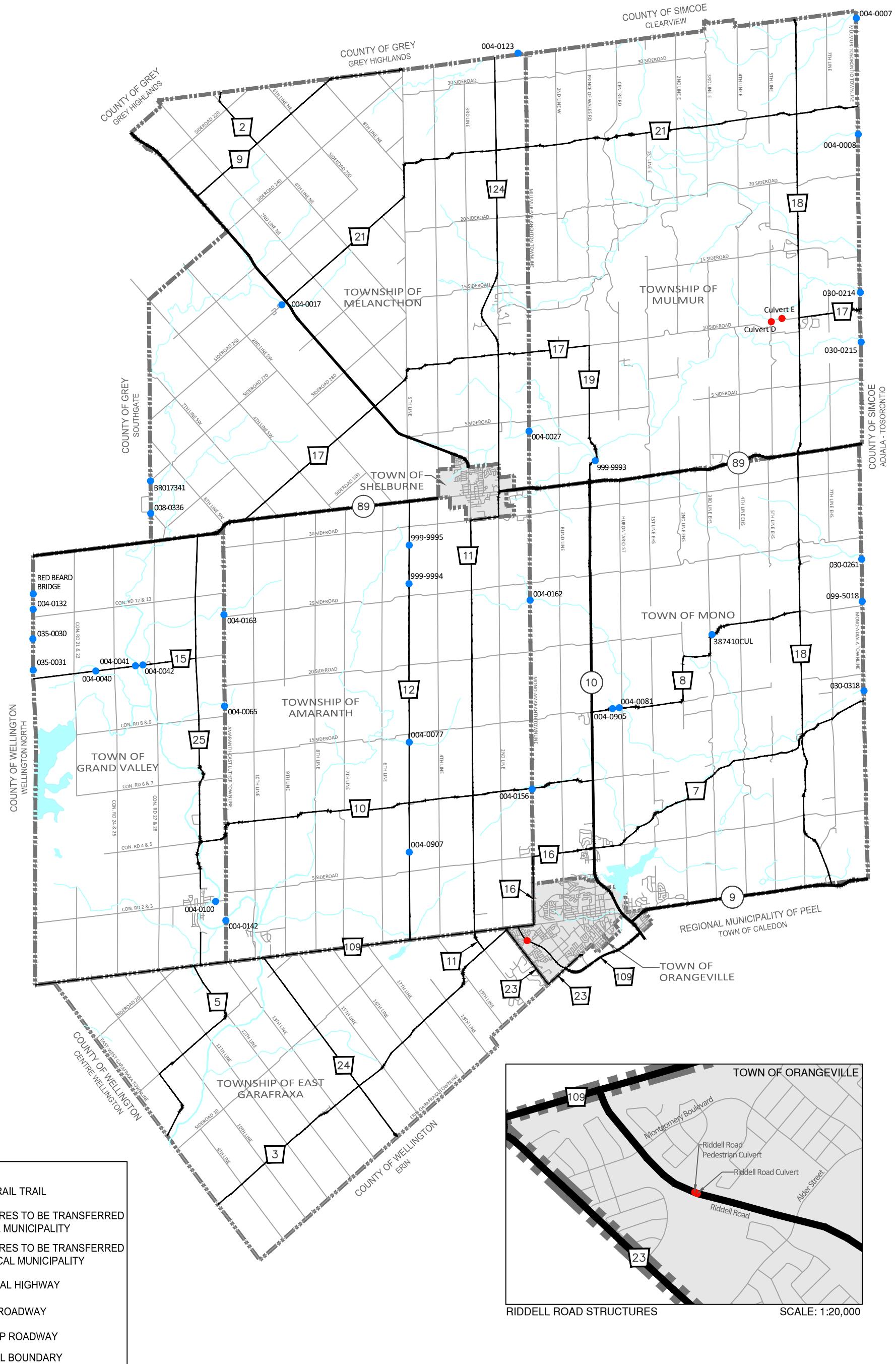
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Burns'.

Scott Burns, C.E.T., P.Eng.
Director of Public Works / County Engineer
County of Dufferin
cc. Roseanne Knechtel, Clerk (rknechtel@mulmur.ca)





NORTH



ADDRESS: 30 CENTRE STREET, ORANGEVILLE, ONTARIO, L9W 2X1
TEL. NO.: (519)-941-2816 X 2600

REV.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	DRAWN BY: B.G.	DATE 10/20/2025	DRAWING TITLE: COUNTY OF DUFFERIN ROAD RATIONALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION PLAN STRUCTURES
				DESIGNED BY: 	DATE 	
				CHECKED BY: M.H.	DATE 10/20/2025	
				APPROVED BY: 	DATE 	
REVISIONS				DWG 1 OF 1		SCALE 1:170,000 DRAWING NO. 1



Public Meeting for a Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment Z01-2026 / Mujunen

The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur will hold a Public Meeting pursuant to Sections 34 of the Planning Act (1990) to consider an amendment to the Zoning By-law. The public meeting will be held in person and electronically at Mulmur Township Offices, 758070 2nd Line East on **February 19, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.** Visit www.mulmur.ca to obtain meeting details.

PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT: To restrict uses in an Estate Residential zone to satisfy a condition of consent.

LANDS AFFECTED: The Zoning By-law Amendment affects the lands described in the table and identified in the blue outline on the key map below.

ROLL NUMBER	221600000201600
OWNER	Ari & Virpi Mujunen
STREET ADDRESS	507487 Highway 89
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	CON 4 E E PT LOT 1



A copy of the proposed amendment is available for review at the municipal office during regular office hours. Anyone wishing to address the Township with respect to the proposal may do so at the public meeting. Persons unable to attend the public meeting may provide written comments up until the time of the public meeting. If you wish to be notified of the decision on the proposed application, you must make an oral or written request to the Township of Mulmur. If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to Mulmur Township before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT). Furthermore, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the OLT unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.



Notice of Open House and Public Meeting

Township of Adjala-Tosorontio Proposed New Official Plan

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio will hold a statutory Open House and Public Meeting pursuant to subsection 17(15) and 17(16) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended, regarding a proposed new Official Plan under Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended.

Purpose and Effect

The Township of Adjala-Tosorontio has released a draft of its proposed new Official Plan for public review and consultation. The new Official Plan will replace the Township's current Official Plan (2000) and modernize land use planning policy to responsibly and sustainably guide the Township's growth until 2051. As the new Official Plan also impacts what you can do with your property, and how your community will be shaped, we encourage you to learn more and share your insights on this important Township initiative. You are invited to participate in the community engagement opportunities listed below and provide your feedback, either in person (or virtually for the Public Meeting only), in writing, or via email.

Subject Lands

The new Township of Adjala-Tosorontio Official Plan applies to all lands within the municipal boundary of the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio. Accordingly, no key map is included in this notice.

Open House

The Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11, 2026, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. and will be held in the Public Room of the Township's Municipal Office, 7855 Sideroad 30, Alliston. The session will include a presentation by Township Planning Staff and following the presentation, there will be an opportunity for the public to review the proposed new Official Plan and ask questions.

Public Meeting

The February Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2026, with the open session starting at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers of the Township's Municipal Office, 7855 Sideroad 30, Alliston. The meeting will include a Public Meeting for the purpose of the proposed new Official Plan with a



presentation by Township Planning Staff and following the presentation there will be an opportunity for the public and Council to ask questions, make comments or seek clarification.

There will be a commenting period from January 12, 2026, to February 18th at noon, 2026. People can send their written comments through letters, faxes or emails. The Clerk's contact information can be found below:

Robin Reid
Clerk
Township of Adjala-Tosorontio
7855 Sideroad 30 Alliston ON L9R 1V1
P: (705) 434-5055 ext. 263 F: (705) 434-5051
Email: clerk@adjtos.ca

Written comments received will not be placed on the agenda; however, they will be received by the Clerk's Department and kept on record with the file, reviewed by the Planning Department, and entered into the public record at a future date.

And take notice that the meeting will be live-streamed by the municipality through our iCompass portal.

Additional Information

A copy of the proposed new Official Plan text and map schedules, along with additional information is available on the Township's website at adjtos.ca/draftop.

Notification of Adoption

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed New Official Plan, you must make a written request to the Township Clerk, Township Municipal Office, 7855 Sideroad 30, Alliston, L9R1V1 or email clerk@adjtos.ca. Such requests must include the name and mailing address/email address to which such notice should be sent.

Approval Authority

Please note that the County of Simcoe is the approval authority for the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio Official Plan. If you wish to be notified of the decision of the County of Simcoe on the proposed New Official Plan, you must make a written request to the County Clerk, County of Simcoe, 1110 Highway 26, Administration Centre, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6, or via email at: clerks@simcoe.ca



If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the County of Simcoe to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio before the new Official Plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Adjala-Tosorontio before the new Official Plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

Notice of Collection, Use, and Disclosure

Please note that comments may not be replied to individually, but all comments will be collected and reviewed by Township staff, for consideration in the final Official Plan and recommendations to Council. The content and any personal information in comment submissions will become part of the public record and may be provided to Council in an agenda package available to the public. All information submitted to the Township is subject to the Municipal Freedom of Information Act and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). If you have concerns regarding the public release of your Official Plan comments, please contact the Township Director of Corporate Services/Clerk at clerk@adjtos.ca or call 705-434-5055 x263.

Dated at Alliston this January 12, 2026

Fight Sex Trafficking

National Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Day, February 22, 2026

Humiliation; Abuse; Violence; Terrifying Threats; Separation from Family and Friends! It's not what a young person signs up for but it's what happens when young girls and boys are trafficked into the world's commercial sex trade. It's the human tragedy behind human trafficking and it's happening in our homes, our schools and our Dufferin-Caledon community.

Six years ago, the Rotary Club of Orangeville and Compass Community Church formed a volunteer-driven group called CRYNoT (Compass Rotary Youth – No Trafficking) to raise awareness and promote education about the threat of human trafficking in our area. Bob Burnside who initially spearheaded CRYNoT suggests that "The first thing in addressing human trafficking is to realize that it exists, its origins and symptoms and the devastating results."

We know that young people in Dufferin-Caledon are being lured into sex trafficking through manipulation by predators, promises of love, affection and gifts, provision of drugs and alcohol, threats and violence. Community and victim service groups and law enforcement professionals are here for us regarding the risks, signs and prevention of this sinister crime. Their support places a human face on what is a billion-dollar business based on the coercion of vulnerable youth.

Since the pandemic, exploitation has primarily moved online making it easier for predators to contact and lure at-risk youth, the average being 13 years of age. Police inform us that there are over 6,000 unique advertisements for sex services every day in the digital realm and many are related to sex trafficking. The whole scope of the tragedy is frankly shocking.

The prevention of sex trafficking requires a total community effort. If you suspect someone is being trafficked or you need help, contact the following:

Call 911 to report a crime

Caledon-Dufferin Victim Services 905-951-3838

Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline 1-833-900-1010

Go to CRYNoT.ca for valuable resources or to request a Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation

The crime of sexual exploitation is likened to modern day slavery. As one of our CRYNoT members says, "Being trafficked has been described as "hell on earth". By creating awareness CRYNoT hopes to spare young people in our community from falling victim to predators."

[Website](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

(On your Township letterhead)

Proclamation

February 22, 2024 Human Trafficking Prevention Awareness Day

February 7, 2024

Whereas, the Rotary Club of Orangeville and Compass Community Church formed a volunteer-driven group called CryNot (Compass Rotary Youth - No Trafficking) to raise awareness and promote education about the threat of human trafficking in our area; and

Whereas, the mission of CryNot is to reduce and eliminate human trafficking by raising awareness, fostering collaboration among like groups and organizations, education, and equipping responsible adults with connections and resources available to defeat the Human Trafficking threat;

Now Therefore, I, Mayor Janet Horner, on behalf of Council, do hereby proclaim February 22, 2024, as "Human Trafficking Prevention Awareness Day" in the Township of Mulmur.

Mayor Janet Horner



**City of
Peterborough**

Office of the City Clerk, City Hall
500 George Street North
Peterborough, Ontario
K9H 3R9

December 3, 2025

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier for the Government of Ontario;
Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Minister of the Solicitor General;
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO);
Mary ten Doeschate, Peterborough Police Services Board Chair; and
Councils of each of Ontario's municipalities.

Subject: Sustainable Funding for Police Services Request

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at its meeting held on November 3, 2025, is forwarded for your consideration.

Moved by Councillor Crowley
Seconded by Councillor Vassiliadis

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to maintain a police service; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to constitute a municipal board to have policing responsibility for the municipality, or enter into a written agreement for an alternate provision of policing services; and

Whereas the City of Peterborough has constituted a municipal board; and

Whereas municipalities, across Ontario, with a police service board, are required to “ensure adequate and effective policing is provided in the area for which they have policing responsibility in accordance with the needs of the population in the area and having regard for the diversity of the population in the area” and

Whereas police service boards within municipalities where court proceedings are conducted are required to ensure the security of judges, other judicial officials, members of the public participating in court proceedings, ensuing the secure



**City of
Peterborough**

custody of persons in custody who are on or about the premises, including persons taken into custody at proceedings; and

Whereas the provision of court security is not part of providing adequate and effective policing; and

Whereas the cost of providing court security is a cost of the municipality, regardless of whether all matters originate within that municipality; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are required to have and maintain critical infrastructure, including appropriate police facilities and equipment, to ensure adequate and effective policing is provided; and

Whereas municipalities across Ontario are experiencing increased police operating and capital costs directly related to new compliance and operational standards required under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019; and

Whereas these cost increases stem from provincially mandated requirements — including training, certification, technology, reporting, and staffing obligations — necessary to bring local police services into compliance with the Act; and

Whereas municipalities have no discretion in implementing these measures and limited ability to absorb the resulting financial pressures within existing budgets; and

Whereas policing is a provincially legislated responsibility, yet municipalities are bearing the brunt of the costs to implement provincial mandates;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

Council request that the Province of Ontario provide targeted financial assistance to municipalities to offset any additional costs that are directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, and not general increases to police budgets; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that:

Council urge the Province of Ontario to review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities so that communities with growing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that:

Council request that the Province of Ontario provide stable sustainable funding to offset costs associated with the provision of providing court security services; and



City of
Peterborough

That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Solicitor General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Peterborough Police Services Board Chair, and all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
City Clerk

January 26, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Doug Ford:

At its regular meeting on January 22, 2026, Dufferin County Council passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Dufferin County residents and businesses depend on reliable access to scrap tire disposal services to prevent illegal dumping, fire hazards, and environmental harm;

AND WHEREAS the Province's transition to a Producer Responsibility system requires tire manufacturers to meet annual collection obligations through Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs);

AND WHEREAS multiple PROs have recently met their annual quotas and are now slowing or pausing scrap tire pickups across Ontario, creating widespread service disruptions;

AND WHEREAS rural communities such as Dufferin County are at heightened risk of stockpiling, non-compliance, and illegal dumping due to limited disposal options;

AND WHEREAS consumers have already paid tire recycling and environmental fees at the time of purchase, yet are now experiencing reduced or unavailable access to the very disposal services those fees were intended to support;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1. Dufferin County Council express serious concern regarding the instability of Ontario's scrap tire recycling system under the current Producer Responsibility framework.**
- 2. Council request that the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) conduct an immediate review of the tire recycling program**

and take steps to ensure year-round, province-wide collection services—particularly in rural areas like Dufferin County.

3. **Council request that the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) investigate whether PROs' service reductions comply with their regulatory obligations and take enforcement action where necessary.**
4. **Council urge the Province to implement temporary stabilization measures, including mandating minimum year-round pickup capacity and establishing contingency plans to prevent illegal dumping and environmental risk.**
5. **Council direct staff to share this motion with all local municipalities within Dufferin County, Dufferin-Caledon's Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Ontario Tire Dealers Association (OTDA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Local Conservation Authorities, the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA), other Ontario municipalities**
6. **Council direct staff to monitor any local impacts resulting from service disruptions and report back as necessary;**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province be requested to report back on actions taken to stabilize the tire recycling system and protect rural communities from environmental and public-safety risks.

Thank you,

Michelle Dunne

Michelle Dunne
Clerk

Cc Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
 Sylvia Jones, Dufferin-Caledon MPP
 Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
 Ontario Tire Dealers Association
 AMO
 ROMA
 Conservation Authorities - NVCA, SVCA, CVCA, GRCA, TRCA
 Dufferin Clerks



OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Phone: (807) 274-5323 | Fax: (807) 274-8479

Mailing Address: 320 Portage Avenue

Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9

Email: town@fortfrances.ca

Website: www.FortFrances.ca

January 26, 2026

Re: Resolution # 2025 - Call on Province of Ontario to Establish an Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program (OACAP)

On January 12, 2026, Council of the Town of Fort Frances passed the following into resolution:

Whereas the Fort Frances Municipal Airport serves the Town of Fort Frances, the District of Rainy River, and the First Nation communities of the Southern Treaty #3 region; and

Whereas the Fort Frances Municipal Airport plays a vital role in supporting medevac flights, wildfire response operations, business travel, tourism, and the movement of essential goods for the entire region; and

Whereas the termination of scheduled passenger air service in May, 2024 resulted in the loss of eligibility to funding through the federal Airport Capital Assistance Program (ACAP); and

Whereas other provinces, including British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, have recognized the importance of regional airports by establishing dedicated provincial funding programs, and Ontario currently does not; and

Whereas maintaining aging airport infrastructure has become increasingly difficult without predictable provincial support; and

Whereas regional airports serve broader provincial and regional interests, and municipalities cannot shoulder the financial burden alone.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Fort Frances hereby calls upon the Province of Ontario to:

- 1. Establish an Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program (OACAP) to provide dedicated annual funding for small and regional airports; and*
- 2. Ensure eligibility for a broad range of capital projects, including safety upgrades,*

equipment replacement, and runway maintenance; and

3. Engage municipalities in program design, ensuring local needs and realities are reflected in funding criteria; and

4. Recognize the essential role of airports in medevac and emergency services, especially in remote and northern communities.

Moved by Michael Behan, Seconded by Steven Maki, Carried.

For more information about this resolution, please contact the Office of the Clerk

Chelsea Greig, Municipal Clerk | cgreig@fortfrances.ca

Ally Lewis, Communications Coordinator & Deputy Clerk | alewis@fortfrances.ca

January 15, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A2
Mark.carney@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister

Re: Support for the City of Welland's Call to Action for Justice and Protection of Canada's Children

At their Regular Meeting of Council on January 15, 2026, the Council of the Town of Aylmer endorsed the following resolution:

Whereas the Town of Aylmer supports the City of Welland's call to action for justice and protection of Canada's children; and,

Whereas the safety and well-being of children is a fundamental responsibility shared by all levels of government; and,

Whereas recent incidents involving sexual offences against children have deeply affected communities across Ontario and Canada, raising serious concerns about public safety and the adequacy of existing legislative protections; and,

Whereas violent sexual crimes against children represent some of the most serious offences under the Criminal Code of Canada and have lifelong impacts on victims, families, and communities; and,

Whereas municipalities play a critical role in advocating for policies that protect residents and promote safe communities; and,

Whereas there is a growing concern that gaps in bail, sentencing, parole eligibility, and offender monitoring allow high-risk individuals to re-enter communities pre-maturely, placing children at continued risk;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Aylmer formally urges all levels of government to review and strengthen legislation and policies related to violent and sexual offences against children, including but not limited to:

1. Bail and Sentencing Provisions - ensuring that individuals charged with or convicted of violent sexual offences against children are subject to the strictest possible bail conditions and sentencing outcomes that reflect the severity of these crimes;
2. Parole and Early Release - limiting parole eligibility, statutory release, or other forms of early release for offenders convicted of sexual offences against children who pose ongoing risks to public safety;
3. Sex Offender Monitoring - strengthening the National Sex Offender Registry and related provincial tools to improve accuracy, enforcement, and timely access to information for law enforcement; and
4. Victim and Community Safety - prioritizing the protection of children and community safety within the justice system above administrative or procedural efficiencies;

And be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to:

The Premier of Ontario
The Attorney General of Ontario
The Solicitor General of Ontario
The Prime Minister of Canada
The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Member of Provincial Parliament, Rob Flack
Member of Parliament, Andrew Lawton
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and;
All 444 Ontario Municipalities

And be it further resolved that Council encourages municipalities to adopt similar resolutions to work collaboratively to present a unified municipal voice advocating for stronger protections for children across Canada.

Yours sincerely,

Owen Jaggard
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk | Town of Aylmer
46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, ON N5H 1J7
519-773-3164 Ext. 4913 | Fax 519-765-1446
ojaggard@town.aylmer.on.ca | www.aylmer.ca

CC:

Hon. Doug Ford doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
Hon. Doug Downey doug.downey@pc.ola.org
Hon. Michael S. Kerzner michael.kerzner@pc.ola.org
Hon. Sean Fraser sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca



285 County Road 44, Box 130
Kemptville, ON K0G 1J0
T: 613) 258-9569
clerk@northgrenville.on.ca

January 2, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation
Province of Ontario

RE: Support for Enhanced School Bus Safety and the Implementation of Stop-Arm Camera Systems

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria,

On behalf of the Grenville 1 O.P.P. Detachment Board, we are writing to express our strong support for enhanced school bus safety measures across Ontario, including the implementation of school bus stop-arm camera systems and other child-safety technologies.

Illegal passing of stopped school buses remains a persistent and dangerous problem in Ontario, occurring an estimated 30,000 times per day. These violations place children at serious risk and continue to result in preventable injuries and fatalities. Municipalities require additional tools to address this issue effectively and consistently.

The Grenville 1 O.P.P. Detachment Board supports provincial investment in and expansion of school bus stop-arm camera systems under Part XIV.3 (School Bus Camera Systems) of the Highway Traffic Act. These systems have proven effective in deterring dangerous driving behaviour, improving compliance, and enhancing accountability. Provincial funding and support would enable municipalities to implement these technologies equitably and at scale.

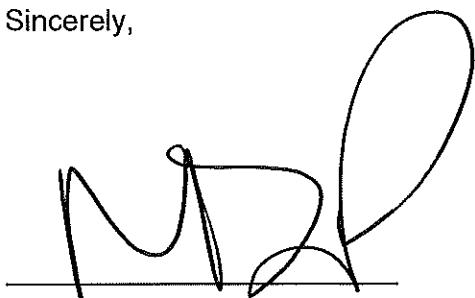
Grenville 1 O.P.P. Detachment Board also proudly supports the Let's Remember Adam – Stop for the School Bus campaign, launched in memory of Adam Ranger, a five-year-old child who tragically lost his life when a driver failed to stop for a school bus displaying its flashing lights and stop arm. Adam's story underscores the urgent need for stronger enforcement, public education, and modern safety solutions to protect children travelling to and from school.

We respectfully call on the Province of Ontario to continue advancing this life-saving work by providing municipalities with the funding mechanisms, legislative support, and implementation guidance necessary to deploy stop-arm cameras and complementary safety technologies province-wide.

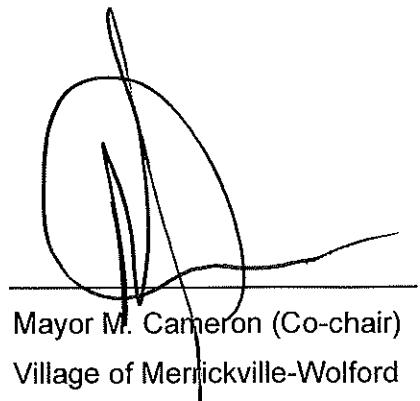
Protecting children is a shared responsibility. With provincial leadership and municipal partnership, we can take meaningful action to prevent further tragedies and ensure Ontario's roads are safer for students and families.

Thank you for your consideration and continued commitment to road safety.

Sincerely,



Mayor N. Peckford (Co-chair)
Municipality of North Grenville



Mayor M. Cameron (Co-chair)
Village of Merrickville-Wolford

cc:

The Honourable Steve Clark, Government House Leader
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities

Enclosed: Co-signing Template

[Municipality Name]
[Municipal Address]

[Date]

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation
Province of Ontario

Re: Municipal Support for School Bus Safety and Stop-Arm Camera Systems

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria,

On behalf of the **[Council / Municipality / Township / City] of [Municipality Name]**, I am writing to express our strong support for enhanced school bus safety measures across Ontario, including the implementation of school bus stop-arm camera systems and other child-safety technologies.

Illegal passing of stopped school buses remains a serious and widespread issue throughout the province, occurring an estimated 30,000 times per day. These violations place children at unacceptable risk and continue to result in preventable injuries and fatalities. Municipalities require effective, modern enforcement tools to address this dangerous behaviour.

[Municipality Name] supports provincial investment in and expansion of school bus stop-arm camera systems under Part XIV.3 (School Bus Camera Systems) of the *Highway Traffic Act*. These systems have demonstrated success in deterring illegal passing, improving driver compliance, and strengthening accountability. Provincial funding and implementation support would help ensure municipalities of all sizes can deploy this technology equitably.

We also support the Let's Remember Adam – Stop for the School Bus campaign, launched in memory of Adam Ranger, a five-year-old child who tragically lost his life when a driver failed to stop for a school bus displaying its flashing lights and stop arm. This tragedy highlights the urgent need for continued public education, enforcement, and the use of technology to better protect children travelling to and from school.

We respectfully call on the Province of Ontario to provide municipalities with the necessary funding tools, legislative support, and implementation guidance to advance school bus stop-arm camera systems and complementary child-safety initiatives across Ontario.

Protecting children on our roads is a shared responsibility. Through strong provincial leadership and municipal partnership, meaningful progress can be made to prevent further tragedies and enhance road safety for families across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

[Name]
[Title – Mayor / Reeve / Warden]
[Municipality Name]

cc:

The Honourable Steve Clark, Government House Leader
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Municipalities



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**
555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6



Northumberland County Council Resolution

SENT VIA EMAIL

January 28, 2026

Honourable Kinga Surma (Minister of Infrastructure),
Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing),
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance),
Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South),
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO),
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM),
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM),
All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Correspondence, 'Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)'

At a meeting held on January 21st, 2026 Northumberland County Council approved Council Resolution # 2026-01-21-052, adopting the recommendation below from the January 5, 2026 Public Works Committee meeting:

Moved by: Deputy Warden Mandy Martin
Seconded by: Councillor John Logel

"That the Public Works Committee having considered correspondence from the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal, the Municipality of South Huron and the Township of Puslinch recommend that County Council support the correspondence and direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Kinga Surma (Minister of Infrastructure), the Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing), the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy (Minister of Finance), Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM), Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and all Ontario Municipalities."

Council Resolution # 2026-01-21-052

Carried



**The Corporation of the
County of Northumberland**
555 Courthouse Road
Cobourg, ON, K9A 5J6

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at bennett@northumberland.ca or by telephone at 905-372-3329 ext. 2238.

Sincerely,
Tonia Bennett

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read "Tonia Bennett".

Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Northumberland County

VIA EMAIL

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
All Upper- and Lower-Tier Municipalities in Ontario

Please be advised that at its Regular Council meeting held on Monday, September 29, 2025, the Council of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF)

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality and quality of life in Ontario's rural and small urban communities;

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities;

WHEREAS in 2022 the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026;

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities' ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt;

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing;

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data, demographic projections, climate resilience metrics and rural equity considerations.
5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs or project overruns without reallocating core funding.

6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.
7. The Clerk of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal forward this resolution to:
 - o The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
 - o The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
 - o The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 - o The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
 - o Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
 - o Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
 - o Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
 - o The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
 - o All upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario

If you have any questions, please contact me at the email address below.

Sincerely,



Natalie Charette
Interim Clerk
clerk@twpec.ca



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON
322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
N0M 1S6
Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

October 23, 2025

Via email: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier's Office
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear Hon. Doug Ford,

Re: Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their October 20, 2025, Regular Council Meeting:

418-2025
Moved By: Aaron Neeb
Seconded by: Jim Dietrich

That South Huron Council supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025, Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

That this supporting resolution and originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, MPP Thompson, AMO, OSUM, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

Result: Carried

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Kendra Webster, Legislative & Licensing Coordinator
Municipality of South Huron
kwebster@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 232



Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
VIA EMAIL:
premier@ontario.ca

Marit Stiles, MPP
Leader of the Official
Opposition
VIA EMAIL:
mstiles-qp@ndp.on.ca

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

November 28, 2025

Hon. Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
VIA EMAIL:
kinga.surma@pc.ola.org

Hon. Rob Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs
and Housing
VIA EMAIL:
rob.flack@pc.ola.org

RE: 6.17 Municipality of South Huron Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund & 6.18 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on November 19, 2025 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2025-382:

Moved by Councillor Hurst and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the Consent Agenda item 6.17, 6.18 Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal Council Resolution regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund be received for information; and

That the Township of Puslinch Council supports the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal September 29, 2025 Resolution and the Municipality of South Huron Resolution of October 20, 2025 regarding Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF); and

That this supporting resolution and originating correspondence be circulated to the Premier, Leader of the Official Opposition, Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of



TOWNSHIP OF
PUSLINCH

EST. 1850

Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Finance, MPP Racinsky, ROMA, AMO, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Justine Brotherston
Municipal Clerk

CC: Minister of Finance, MPP Racinsky, ROMA, AMO, FCM, all Ontario municipalities.

January 29, 2026

Dear Mayor and Council,

We, the undersigned, all owners of properties directly bordering the Town of Mulmur municipal office site, are writing to register our objection to the proposal to construct a permanent public pickleball/multi-use court at the Town's office site.

It is our concern that the noise and traffic generated by users will negatively impact our quality of life and the value of our properties. The necessary noise generated at the Town's site is already considerable, given the to-and-fro of road maintenance equipment. While the disturbance of municipal maintenance vehicles results from an approved and expected use of the site, the additional disturbance of an outdoor public recreation facility is not anticipated by those who have purchased properties next to a municipal office—an area which, outside of expected maintenance vehicle activity times, is generally tranquil. Given the geographic elevation of the Town's site, it is likely that the entirety of Terra Nova, as well as the surrounding area to the north, east and west, will also be impacted by the additional noise generated.

There is a designated municipal recreational site in reasonable proximity to the Town's office site, the Honeywood Community Centre, which is currently undergoing publicly funded refurbishment and improvements, and seems a more logical and considerate location for a public pickleball/multi-use court.

We hereby request to be informed, in writing, of all discussion and consideration by the Mayor and Council regarding the public pickleball court proposal and any future proposed projects or undertakings that entail a permanent change of property use at the Town's office site. Contact information is provided below.

n.b. Numerous articles outlining the high decibel levels emitted by pickleball court activity, the prevalence of community complaints regarding these facilities, the associated lawsuits and subsequent costly remediations involving the construction of noise barriers and/or the ripping out of the courts are available online and easily searched.

Sincerely,

Lee Benson DDDC.Creative@gmail.com
Troy Edwards tf.edwards.62@gmail.com
(758051 2nd Line East)

Bob Bennett: Lbbennett1@gmail.com
Laura Bennett: Lbbennett1@gmail.com
Stella Bennett: c/o Lbbennett1@gmail.com
Liz Bennett-Black: Lizblack062@gmail.com

Steve Black: Lizblack062@gmail.com
(758056 2nd Line East)



The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

By-Law No. - 2026

Being a by-law to adopt the estimates of all sums required during the year and to strike the rates of taxation, and to further provide for penalty and interest in default of payment thereof for the year 2026

Whereas the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur has, in accordance with the *Municipal Act* 2001, Section 312, as amended, considered the estimates of the Municipality and now find it necessary that the following sums be raised by means of taxation for the year 2026;

And whereas Section 312 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001, as amended provides that the Council of a local municipality shall, after the adoption of the estimates for the year, pass a bylaw to levy a separate tax rate on the assessment in each property class;

And whereas Section 312(4) of the said Act requires tax rates to be established in the same proportion to tax ratios;

And whereas certain regulations require reductions in certain tax rates for certain classes or subclasses of property;

And whereas tax ratios determining the relative amount of taxation to be borne by each property class have to be set by the County of Dufferin;

And whereas the Assessment Roll updated and adopted Current Value Assessment upon which the 2026 taxes are to be levied, as revised by the Court of Revision, as follows:

<u>ASSESSMENT CLASS</u>	<u>ASSESSMENT</u>
Residential	849,309,000
New Multi Residential	0
Multi Residential	0
Commercial Full (Occupied)	12,226,200
Commercial New Construction	0
Vacant Units & Excess land	525,700
Vacant Land	376,000
Industrial (Occupied)	98,000
Industrial New Construction	0
Industrial Small Scale Farm Busn 2	50,000
Industrial Small Scale Farm Busn 1	50,000
Vacant Units & Excess Land	0
Vacant Land	0
Full, Shared PIL	58,500
Full, Shared PIL Excess Land	0
Aggregate Extraction	1,734,000
Landfill	0

Pipeline	39,500
Farmlands	203,460,900
Managed Forests	56,041,400
Total	<u>1,124,009,200</u>

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur enacts as follows:

1. That the estimates be adopted and the following amounts be levied therefore in the manner as set out hereinafter:

Municipal, General Purposes	\$5,585,731
------------------------------------	--------------------

2. That tax rates for the Township of Mulmur's portion of the tax bill are hereby adopted to be applied against the whole of the assessment for real property as set out in the following table:

<u>ASSESSMENT</u>	<u>TAX RATE</u>
Residential	0.602011%
New Multi Residential	0.662212%
Multi Residential	0.842815%
Commercial Full (Occupied)	0.734453%
Commercial New Construction	0.734453%
Vacant Units & Excess Land	0.734453%
Vacant Land	0.734453%
Industrial (Occupied)	1.323461%
Industrial New Construction	1.323461%
Industrial Small Scale Farm Busn 2	1.323461%
Industrial Small Scale Farm Busn 1	1.323461%
Vacant Units & Excess Land	1.323461%
Vacant Land	1.323461%
Full, Shared PIL	1.323461%
Full, Shared PIL Excess Land	1.323461%
Aggregate Extraction	1.076909%
Landfill	0.711276%
Pipeline	0.506953%
Farmlands	0.132442%
Managed Forests	0.150503%

3. That every owner be taxed according to the tax rates in this bylaw, together with such tax rates as are properly set by the County of Dufferin for County purposes and the Province of Ontario for education purposes, and such taxes shall become due and payable as follows:
4. That the taxes shall become due and payable in two instalments as follows for all property classes:

- a) August 26, 2026
- b) October 21, 2026

The above referenced due dates shall not apply where a schedule of monthly pre-authorized payments has been set up to the satisfaction of the Treasurer.

5. That in the event that the Provincial "OPTA" system does not have the necessary date to provide on Commercial and Industrial tax capping to permit processing tax bills for these instalment dates then the Treasurer is authorized to process tax bills for the remaining tax classes and to establish later tax instalment due dates for the Commercial and Industrial tax classes on a separate tax bill.
6. That any instalment or any part of any instalment of rates, taxes and assessments not paid on the due date, a penalty shall be added of one and one quarter per cent (1.25%) on the first day of default and on the first day of each calendar month thereafter in which default continues, as set out in the *Municipal Act, 2001*. The penalty rate charge shall not apply if a schedule of monthly pre-authorized payments has been set up to the satisfaction of the Treasurer.
7. That the Treasurer shall add all or any arrears for special charges such as development charges, fees regarding registered tax properties, water operating and water capital, etc. Service charges for cutting weeds pursuant to any statute or by-law to the respective properties chargeable thereto and that the same shall be collected by the collector in the manner as other rates or levies.
8. That the Treasurer is hereby authorized to mail or cause to be mailed the notice specifying the amount of taxes payable by any person liable for taxes, to the address or place of business of the person or persons to whom such notice is required to be given.
9. That taxes are payable at the Township of Mulmur Municipal Office, 758070 2nd Line East, Mulmur, Ontario L9V 0G8.

This bylaw shall come into force and effect upon the date of the final reading thereof.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed on this 4th day of February 2026.

.....
JANET HORNER, MAYOR

.....
ROSEANN KNECHTEL, CLERK



The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

By-law No. - 2026

Being a by-law to establish a policy for pregnancy and parental leaves for Members of Council for the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

Whereas section 270 (1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 as amended (the "Municipal Act") states that a municipality shall adopt and maintain a policy with respect to pregnancy leaves and parental leaves of members of council;

And whereas the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur deems it necessary to adopt and update the Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy;

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur hereby enacts as follows:

1. That the Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy, substantially in the form attached hereto as Schedule "A", shall form part of this By-law.
2. That this by-law may be cited and referred to as the "Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council By-law"
3. That this by-law shall come into force and effect on the date of passing
4. That any other policy or by-law inconsistent with this by-law be hereby repealed.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed on this 4th day of February, 2026.

Janet Horner Mayor

Roseann Knechtel Clerk



Pregnancy and Parental Leave for Members of Council Policy

Policy Statement

The Township of Mulmur recognizes the Member of Council's right to take leave for the Member's pregnancy, the birth of the Member's child or the adoption of a child by the Member in accordance with the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001*.

Purpose:

This policy provides guidance on how the Township of Mulmur addresses a Member of Council's pregnancy or parental leave in a manner that is consistent with the *Municipal Act* and respects a Member's statutory role as an elected representative.

Scope:

In accordance with Section 270 of the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001*, this policy applies to Members of Council.

Definitions:

Act means the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, as amended*.

Council means the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur.

Leave means a pregnancy or parental leave

Member means an elected member of the Township of Mulmur's Council.

Pregnancy Leave means temporary leave entitlement for a person giving birth to a child.

Parental Leave means temporary leave entitlement for a Parent.

Parent means a natural or adoptive parent, or a person who is in a relationship of some permanence with the natural or adoptive parent of the child and intends to treat the child as their own.

Township means the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur.

Policy Statement(s):

1. In accordance with Section 259 (1.1) of the Act a Member is eligible up to twenty (20) consecutive weeks of Pregnancy Leave and/or Parental Leave, not to extend beyond the end of the Member's term of office.
2. A Member's Leave does not require Council approval. Council will not declare the Member's seat vacant on account of the Member's absence(s) from Council meetings while on Leave.



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3. For Pregnancy Leave, the Leave may start up to 20 weeks before a Member's expected date of delivery.
4. For Parental Leave, the Leave may begin on the earlier of the date the child is born or the date the child first comes into the care, custody, or control of the Member.
5. The Member shall notify the Clerk, in writing, of their intent to take such Leave at least two weeks before the start of the Leave or as soon as possible after commencing the Leave. The notice should include:
 - The anticipated start date of the Leave and the expected date of return; and
 - Information about which duties, if any, will continue to be undertaken by the Member during the Leave.
6. Council may temporarily appoint a Member of Council to Boards and Committees to replace the Member on Leave, on an as needed basis, unless the Member on Leave has first given notice to the Clerk that they wish to continue to attend the meetings of the external Boards and Committees to which they are appointed by way of a resolution of Council.
7. In the event the Member on Leave is a Councillor with the County of Dufferin, the Township may appoint a Member of Council to fulfill the temporary vacancy in accordance with Section 267 of the Act.
8. At any time during a Member's Leave, the Member will provide written notice to the Clerk if they wish to return to such appointments. Any temporary appointments will be revoked, effective the date of return of the Member.
9. Despite being on Pregnancy Leave or Parental Leave, a Member may exercise all rights and privileges of their office at any time during their leave. This includes but is not limited to attending meetings and casting a vote on any matter before Council and/or Boards and Committees for which they are entitled. The Member will advise the Clerk if they choose to attend Council and/or Board and Committee meetings during their leave.
10. The Member is entitled to continue to receive communication for the Township (access to Council packages, emails, meeting invitations, etc.), as if the Member were not on Leave, in accordance with the request of the Member.
11. Members on Leave continue to receive all remuneration and reimbursements in accordance with the Council Remuneration Policy for the duration of their leave.
12. Members will continue to have access to all equipment supplied by the Township, including but not limited to, access to information technology equipment, email and office services.
13. The Member shall provide written notice to the Clerk of any changes to their return date at least two weeks prior to their expected return. Upon return from leave, the Member will



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resume all appointments to Council, Committees and Boards that they previously held before the leave, unless Council decides otherwise.

Administration

The Clerk shall be responsible for monitoring the application of this policy and for receiving complaints and/or concerns related to this policy. The Integrity Commissioner may investigate complaints against Members related to this policy.



The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur

By-law No. - 2026

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur for February 4, 2026

Whereas Section 5(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, provides that the powers of a municipality shall be exercised by Council;

And whereas Section 5 (3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, provides that municipal powers shall be exercised by by-law;

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur hereby enacts as follows:

1. All actions of the Council and Committees of Council of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur for the aforementioned date in respect to every report, motion, by-law or other action passed and taken by Council or Committees of Council, including the exercise of natural person powers, are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed by its separate by-law.
2. The Mayor of the Township and the proper officers of the Corporation of the Township of Mulmur are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action, to obtain approvals where required and except where otherwise provided, to execute all documents necessary in that behalf.

Passed on this 4th day of February 2026.

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Janet Horner, Mayor

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Roseann Knechtel, Clerk