

City Clerk's Office
Planning and Housing Committee
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NOTICE OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

To be held by Planning and Housing Committee
(Pursuant to Subsections 26(3)(b) of the Planning Act)

Proposed City-Initiated Official Plan Amendment 583 pertaining to Updates to the Environment and Climate Change policies of the Official Plan

DATE OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING: MAY 31, 2022
TIME OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING: 9:30 a.m., or as soon as possible thereafter
PLACE OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING: Council Chamber, City Hall, 100 Queen Street West and by Video Conference

PROPOSAL - PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The City of Toronto is currently undertaking a Municipal Comprehensive Review and Provincial Growth Plan conformity exercise (MCR/Conformity Exercise) of the City of Toronto Official Plan. A copy of the current Official Plan can be viewed or downloaded from the City's website: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/official-plan-guidelines/official-plan/>.

As part of the Official Plan Review, City Council approved a work plan that included a review of environmental policies and the development of official plan policies based on conservation objectives related to: water, energy, air quality improvement, integrated waste management, and stormwater master plans.

In response to the above direction, Planning and Housing Committee approved for consultation a set of draft Official Plan updates as part of the Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR). The draft policies are intended to bring the Official Plan in conformity with A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2020) (the "Growth Plan"); the Provincial Policy Statement (2020); the Greenbelt Plan (2017); and the Food and Organic Waste Policy Statement (2018). The draft policies also address City Council direction to support TransformTO recommendations for the Net Zero Strategy and the 2019 declaration of a Climate Emergency.

The *Planning Act* requires that if an Official Plan is being revised under Section 26 of that *Act*, a Special Public Meeting must be held on any proposed amendments to revise the Official Plan and that an Open House be held if the Official Plan is being revised to ensure that the public has an opportunity to review and ask questions about the information and material made available in advance of the Special Public Meeting. The holding of public hearings on the Official Plan Amendment may be delegated by Council to the Planning and Housing Committee under Section 24 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* and the *Toronto Municipal Code*. Two Public Open Houses for this part of the Official Plan Review were held on April 12, 2022.

As part of the City of Toronto's MCR/Conformity Exercise, this Official Plan Amendment (OPA 583) is in conformity with the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2020), is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) and has regard to matters of provincial interest under Section 2 of the *Planning Act*. The Official Plan Amendment will be submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for approval pursuant to Section 26 of the *Planning Act*.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Official Plan is substantially in conformity with relevant provincial plans and policies requirements related to the environment, climate change and conservation policies. Minor modifications are required to improve alignment and reflect Growth Plan language. Beyond Growth Plan conformity, the Municipal Comprehensive Review provides an opportunity to enhance policy requirements and to clarify messaging in order to further advance climate resilience and mitigation. Outcomes of this update to the Official Plan's environment and climate change policies will support the City's declaration of a climate emergency and reflect Council-approved updates to TransformTO - Toronto's recently updated Net Zero Strategy which outlines a pathway to achieve net zero emissions in Toronto by 2040.

Official Plan policy updates were made to address key themes related to advancing net zero targets and climate mitigation action, improving resilience and adaptation, and reducing waste and advancing a circular economy. Proposed updates include: language to identify the City's net zero emissions targets; introduction of the concept of embodied emissions from materials; minimizing extraction and discharge of clean groundwater into the sewer system; reducing vulnerabilities to the potential impacts of climate change; introducing language related to the City's circular economy and zero waste goals; ensuring adequate soil volume for new trees and enhancing protection for mature and native trees; encouraging the reuse of excess soil; and integrating the impacts of a changing climate into stormwater management plans. Language refinements have been made to policies to reduce fossil fuel use and support the use of low carbon fuel sources throughout the Official Plan. Under Schedule 3, the Energy Strategy, required as part of a complete application, is proposed to be renamed 'Net Zero Emissions Strategy'.

Proposed Official Plan mapping updates include: new maps to identify the Water Resource System; an update of Map 9 Natural Heritage System to include water resource features, to align with the Ravine and Natural Feature Protection bylaw regulated area, and to add a new layer that identifies areas that contribute to resilience of the natural heritage system; four new Environmentally Significant Areas (ESA) and additions to two existing ESAs; an update to Map 12b to add a new Provincially Significant Wetland.

At its meeting on March 25, 2022 Planning and Housing Committee adopted for the purpose of initiating consultation, Our Plan Toronto: Draft Environment and Climate Change Official Plan Policies (Item PH32.6). This included draft policies and direction to undergo consultation of the draft policies presented. This Report can be accessed at: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2022.PH32.6>

At its meeting on June 29, 2020, City Council approved the recommended approach and work plan for the Growth Plan Conformity and Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) - Work Plan (Item PH 14.4). This report can be accessed at: <https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2020/ph/bgrd/backgroundfile-147670.pdf>

Detailed information regarding the proposal, including background information and material including a copy of the draft Official Plan Amendment will be available online at www.toronto.ca/OurPlan by contacting Jane Welsh, Project Manager, Jane.Welsh@toronto.ca (416-392-9709).

A copy of City Planning's Final Report on the proposed Official Plan Amendment will be available on the City's website at: www.toronto.ca/legdocs/agendas.html on May 24, 2022.

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

The Planning and Housing Committee will receive input and review OPA 583, the policy amendments and any other material placed before it in order to make recommendations on the draft Official Plan Amendment. These recommendations will then be forwarded to Toronto City Council for its consideration.

You can follow the meeting at www.youtube.com/TorontoCityCouncilLive.

You are invited to make representations to the Planning and Housing Committee in person, by video conference or by telephone to make your views known regarding the proposal.

Send written comments by email to phc@toronto.ca or by mail to the address below. You can submit written comments up until City Council gives final consideration to the proposal.

If you want to address the committee meeting directly, please register by email to phc@toronto.ca or by phone at 416-397-4579, no later than 12:00 p.m. on May 30, 2022. If you register we will contact you with instructions on how to participate in the meeting.

For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, contact the City Clerk's Office, City Clerk, Attention: **Nancy Martins, Administrator, Planning and Housing Committee, 100 Queen Street West, 10th Floor, West Tower, Toronto ON M5H 2N2, Phone: 416-397-4579, Fax: 416-392-2980, e-mail: phc@toronto.ca.**

The Planning and Housing Committee may request you to file an outline of your presentation with the Clerk.

Special Assistance: City Staff can arrange for special assistance with some advance notice. If you need special assistance, please call 416-397-4579, TTY 416-338-0889 or e-mail phc@toronto.ca.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the City of Toronto on the proposed Official Plan Amendment, you must make a written request to the City Clerk, attention: Nancy Martins, Administrator, Planning and Housing Committee, at the address, fax number or e-mail set out in this notice.

People writing or making presentations at the public meeting: The *City of Toronto Act, 2006*, the *Planning Act*, and the *Toronto Municipal Code* authorize the City of Toronto to collect any personal information in your communication or presentation to City Council or its committees.

The City collects this information to enable it to make informed decisions on the relevant issue(s). If you are submitting letters, faxes, e-mails, presentations or other communications to the City, you should be aware that your name and the fact that you communicated with the City will become part of the public record and will appear on the City's website. The City will also make your communication and any personal information in it - such as your postal address, telephone number or e-mail address - available to the public, unless you expressly request the City to remove it.

Many Committee, Board, and Advisory Body meetings are broadcast live over the internet for the public to view. If you speak at the meeting you will appear in the video broadcast. Video broadcasts are archived and continue to be publicly available. Direct any questions about this collection to the City Clerk's Office at 416-397-4579.

Compliance with Provincial laws respecting Notice may result in you receiving duplicate notices.

Dated at the City of Toronto on April 22, 2022.

John D. Elvidge
City Clerk