

# Town of Newmarket Official Plan Review

## Council Workshop #1

Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023



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# Purpose of Today's Workshop



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- Today's Workshop focuses on **five** areas of concentration.
- **Present preliminary** policy directions to Council and facilitate discussion around “Big Moves” proposed for the updated Official Plan.
- **Receive input** on preliminary policy directions and “Big Moves” to inform the Draft Policy Directions Report.
- **Answer any questions** that Council may have regarding the Official Plan Review (OPR) and preliminary policy directions.





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# Questions for Consideration



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- Do the **Draft Vision** and **Guiding Principles** for the **Official Plan Review** align with what we've heard and the emerging vision for the Town?
- Do the preliminary "Big Moves" reflect **key feedback received** about the areas of concentration presented today?
- Are there any "Big Moves" **not contemplated** that should be considered?





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# Project Updates



# Where We Are in the Official Plan Review Project

**We are here!**





# Engagement by the Numbers

## Official Plan Visioning Workshop



## South of Davis Drive Area Study Walking Tour



## South of Davis Drive Area Study Walking Workshop



## Community Working Group Meetings



## Visioning Survey

### Official Plan Review Visioning Survey



### South of Davis Drive Area Study Visioning Survey



## Community Pop-ups

### South of Davis Drive Area Study Community Pop-ups



### Official Plan Review Community Pop-ups



*WSP note: There is a pop-up scheduled for July 22nd*

## Project Website

### South of Davis Drive Area Study



### Official Plan Review



*\*Results are as of July 18, 2023*



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# What We Heard



# What We Heard – Official Plan Review



- Use **existing infrastructure** for **placemaking opportunities** such as using the school property after school hours for community activities.



- Encourage a **range of housing** in the Town of Newmarket is, including affordable and age-friendly housing.



- Support **business opportunities**, such as, encouraging growth from different sectors including food services, healthcare and social assistance, arts, entertainment, and recreation.



- Create **transit-oriented, bike-friendly, walkable, accessible, and connected development**, supporting overall connectivity throughout the Town.



- Prioritize **safety** during transportation improvements, such as having dedicated bike lanes.



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# Emerging Vision and Guiding Principles



# What is a Vision Statement?



**Guides the direction of the policy in the Official Plan.**

**Represents the fundamental values and principles within the community.**

**Does not have to be a single statement.**

# Emerging Vision for Newmarket

The Town of Newmarket will grow as a **sustainable, complete and connected** community that provides a **high quality of life**, supports a **strong economy** and is a **destination** for all to enjoy. Newmarket is to be **equitable and accessible**, celebrating its inclusive and diverse community.



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# What are Guiding Principles?



Fundamental  
**interconnected**  
statements of  
intent

Reflect  
community  
values

Guide the  
**implementation** of  
policies in the  
Official Plan

Crucial to  
achieving a  
**long-term**  
**vision**  
for Newmarket



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# Emerging Guiding Principles for Newmarket



**A Connected  
Community**



**A Green and  
Resilient  
Community**



**A Vibrant,  
Diverse and  
Accessible  
Community**



**A Complete  
Community**



**A Place to  
Be and Visit**







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# Preliminary Policy Directions for the Updated Official Plan



# “Big Moves” for the Updated Official Plan

## “Big Moves” are significant policy changes proposed for the updated Official Plan

- “Big Moves” include **conformity** and **consistency** requirements, but go beyond to position Newmarket to be flexible, resilient, and a place where people want to work, play, and live.
- “Big Moves” are proposed for each **area of concentration**.
- “Big Moves” are **interrelated** and **coordinated** in support of the Draft Vision and Guiding Principles.





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# Growth Management



# Growth Management “Big Move”

## Introduce a New Town Structure and Identify Local Growth Opportunities

- The Town Structure will establish a **hierarchy for growth**, directing where growth should occur, and conversely, which areas should be protected.
- The Town Structure will include elements designated by the Region, such as **Regional Corridors, Regional Centres, and MTSAs**.
- The Town can identify **areas for local growth** including **local centres, local corridors, and support corridors**.
- The current Official Plan establishes an “Urban Structure”. This contemplates land use designations.



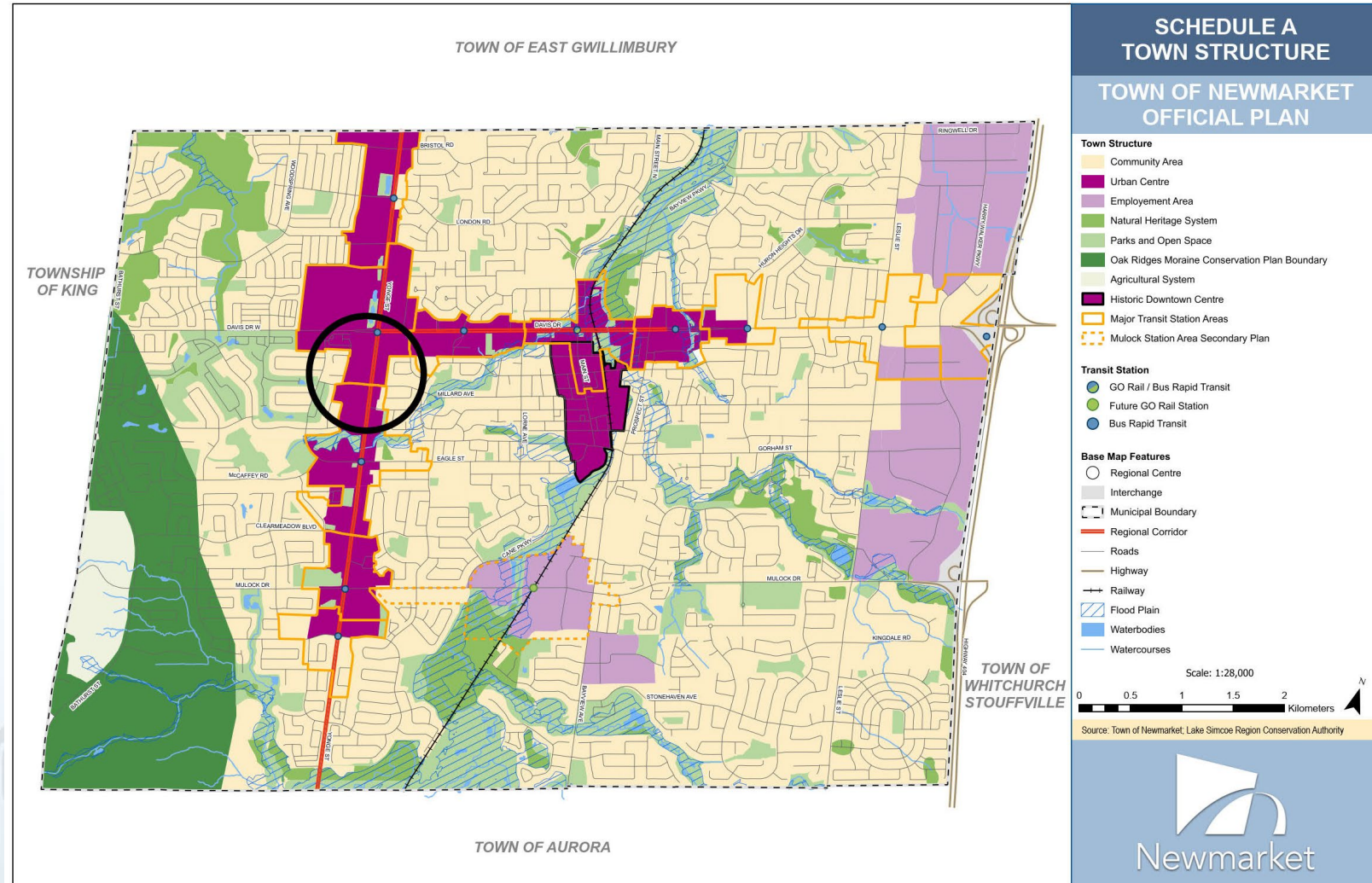
### **Relationship between Town Structure and Complete Communities**

The Town Structure will demonstrate how the Town will **accommodate residents, jobs, and housing** while protecting, maintaining, and enhancing the **natural environment**. These are all elements of complete communities.

# Growth Management “Big Move”

## Introduce a New Town Structure and Identify Local Growth Opportunities

- Draft Town Structure for discussion purposes to identify **local opportunities** for new elements.







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# Climate Change and Sustainability



# Climate Change and Sustainability “Big Move” #1

## Integrate Climate Change into the Town’s Planning Framework

- Climate change and sustainability policy directions are closely related to all **areas of concentration**.
- Permissions for **local energy generation, waste diversion** measures, collaboration and coordination with local electrical distribution companies, and support for financial incentives and tools for **retrofits** should be introduced.
- Revision and updates are required to floodplain and hazard land policies to ensure the **protection of public health and reduce flood risk**.
- Urban design policies should include reference to designing and building communities to reduce the impacts of **extreme heat**.



### Opportunities to Address Climate Change

Climate change and sustainability can be addressed through **multiple areas of concentration**.

Opportunities to address climate change and sustainability are identified throughout the workshop.



# Climate Change and Sustainability “Big Move” #2

## Initiate Plans, Strategies, and/or Actions that Respond to and Prepare for Climate Change

- The Town and community have expressed climate change and sustainability as a **priority**.
- A standalone section on climate change should include, at a minimum:
  - Directing the Town and Council to apply a **climate lens** in decision making.
  - Providing necessary direction to implement and regularly update the **Community Energy Plan**.
  - Establishing and implementing **green development standards**.
  - Preparing a **climate change mitigation and/or adaptation strategy or plan**.
  - Establishing **woodland and canopy cover targets**.
  - Support and enhance **urban agriculture** and access to healthy, local food.



### Climate Change Adaptation versus Mitigation

Policy areas can address climate change mitigation and adaptation. **Mitigation** refers to efforts undertaken to reduce or prevent **GHG emissions**. **Adaptation** is the ability to respond to severe climate events.





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# Transportation



# Transportation “Big Move” #1

## Introduce Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Measures

- There are several options for TDM strategies that can respond to **accessible and sustainable multi-modal transportation options**.
- Increase **connectivity to transit and active transportation facilities** as a requirement through the site plan approval process.
- Consider removing **parking minimum requirements** for new developments in appropriate areas, subject to criteria.



### Relationship Between Land Use Planning and Transportation

Reducing vehicle emissions can be achieved by designing and **prioritizing active transportation, transit-supportive development, and intensification**. There is a close relationship between these objectives and the **proposed Town Structure**.



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# Transportation “Big Move” #2

## Support a Hierarchy of Mobility that Prioritizes Sustainable Transportation

- Transportation and growth management are closely related to climate change and sustainability.
- The Province and Region direct municipalities for transportation systems to be **safe, energy efficient, and resilient** to manage growth.



### Key Drivers for the “Big Move”

The Town’s Community Energy Plan (2019) found that transportation fuels accounted for a large majority of energy consumption in Newmarket. Transportation accounts for **60% of total emissions** in Newmarket.



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# Employment



# Employment “Big Move” #1

## Planning for Employment and Mixed-Use Areas

- The Official Plan must anticipate the **evolving nature** of the local and regional economies (e.g., knowledge-based economy) and reflect the **diverse needs** of industry and businesses of all sizes over the long term.
- Policies must also offer a **degree of flexibility** and nimbleness that allows for relatively rapid responses to unforeseen changes, which can be a critical competitive advantage relative to competing markets.



### Key Drivers for the “Big Move”

Newmarket’s target growth for 2051 is **58,100 jobs**, an increase of approximately **22%**. Employment Areas are a vital component of the Town’s land use structure to plan for complete and competitive communities

# Employment “Big Move” #2

## Accommodating Growth in a Maturing Municipality

- The Town will need to rely on **intensification** to accommodate future employment growth.
- A share of Newmarket’s employment area lands are **underutilized** and has future intensification potential.
- There is an opportunity to accommodate future employment growth in a **diversified capacity** in Strategic Growth Areas.
- Strong market attributes can accommodate high-growth potential knowledge-based sectors.
- There is a need to prioritize and encourage **office** and **mixed-use development** in Strategic Growth Areas (e.g., MTSAs).





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# Servicing and Infrastructure



# Servicing and Infrastructure “Big Move” #1

## Establish an Integrated Approach to Water and Wastewater and Stormwater Infrastructure Projects

- Responsibility for servicing is shared between Newmarket and York Region. York Region identifies **servicing allocations**. The Town identifies **how and where to direct growth**.
- Policies that should be introduced in the updated Official Plan to implement this “Big Move” includes:
  - Encourage Master Plans for servicing and infrastructures to be **coordinated** among different systems and **improve alignment** between servicing goals and timelines for implementation;
  - Incorporate the “**One Water**” approach from the Regional Water and Wastewater Master Plan;
  - Identify **opportunities for growth** based on the Town Structure and servicing capacity.

# Servicing and Infrastructure “Big Move” #2

## Build Climate Resilient Servicing and Infrastructure

- Sustainable energy sources and efficient management of water resources are important factors for a resilient community.
- Policy directions to implement the “Big Move” includes but is not limited to:
  - Including supportive policies to implement recommendations of the **Town’s Community Energy Plan** (e.g., district energy).
  - Incorporate standards for **energy efficiency** in green development standards to inform the review of development applications.
  - Incorporate LID policies into stormwater management policies that address the **benefits and use of LID technologies** and consideration of LIDS on **private and public lands**.



### What is low impact development?

An approach to stormwater management that manages rain as close as possible where it falls.

It includes a set of **site design strategies** and **small-scale structural practices** including bioswales, permeable pavement, raingardens, green roofs, etc.





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# Next Steps



# Next Steps

- Attend **Council Workshop #2** on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Facilitate **Community Working Group #3** and a **Focus Group**.
- Host a **Public Open House** to receive input on the preliminary policy directions.
- Touchbase with Council to receive endorsement of the **Policy Directions Reports**.



# Opportunities to Stay Involved

- Visit [heynewmarket.ca/NEWmarketOP](https://heynewmarket.ca/NEWmarketOP) for the latest project updates and opportunities to remain involved.
- Register on the **webpage** to receive project updates and stay informed.
- Submit questions or comments to the Town at [newmarketop@newmarket.ca](mailto:newmarketop@newmarket.ca).





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# Questions and Discussion





# Questions for Consideration

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# Thank you!

## Town of Newmarket OPR Council Workshop #1

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