

**Township of Southgate**  
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## **Staff Report PL2021-041**

**Title of Report:** Southgate Official Plan Review Consultant RFP  
**Department:** Clerks  
**Branch:** Planning Services  
**Council Date:** May 5, 2021

### **Recommendation:**

**Be it resolved that** Council receive Staff Report PL2021-041 for information; and  
**That** Council approve the draft Official Plan Review RFP and direct staff to take all necessary actions to advertise the Official Plan Review RFP.

### **Background:**

At the March 3, 2021 Council Meeting, Council accepted staff report PL2021-013 and directed staff to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the preparation of an Official Plan for the Township of Southgate.

### **Staff Comments:**

Attachment 1 is a draft RFP for a new Township of Southgate Official Plan.

The Official Plan is required to be updated periodically to ensure that it conforms with Provincial legislation and Provincial Policy changes as well as upper tier Official Plan Policy.

To provide an example of why the Official Plan needs to be reviewed I offer the following: The Township Official Plan was drafted in a time with different values, pressures, and constraints. It was never conceived, in the Official Plan over its 20 year time horizon, that Dundalk and Southgate would be experiencing the growth pressures that they currently are. It does not speak to the current housing needs of the population or the affordability of that housing supply. There is also no policy or even acknowledgement with respect to climate change.

These are just a few examples of issues that the Township Official Plan should review and provide policy and direction on. It is a legislative requirement that the Township Official Plan be reviewed and updated periodically to avoid the plan becoming inoperative as a result of conflicting policies with Provincial and upper tier policies.

Most importantly however, a community changes over time and policy, and mapping should be updated to reflect the current values of a community.

For the above reasons staff have put together the attached RFP for Council's consideration and are recommending approval of the document.

## Financial Impact or Long-Term Implications

There is no financial cost impact to the municipality in 2021 to cover the cost of the Official Plan Review Planning consultant project will be funded by the Planning reserve that is at \$85,000.00.

## Communications & Community Action Plan Impact:

This report has been written and presented to Council to communicate accurate information to the public.

## Goal 1 - Attracting New and Supporting Existing Businesses and Farms

**Action 1:** The residents and businesses of Southgate envision a growing and diverse local economy, which respects our agricultural background development, and development will be underway.

**Strategic Initiatives 1-E (2019-2023):** By 2023, the Township will have updated the Official Plan and zoning bylaw to provide flexibility for business, help to reduce processing requirements, and help to provide more opportunity for success.

## Concluding Comments:

1. That Council receive this staff report as information.
2. That Council approve the Official Plan Review RFP to source a Planning consultant to complete the project.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Municipal Planner:** Original Signed By  
Clinton Stredwick, BES, MCIP, RPP



**CAO Approval:** Original Signed By  
Dave Milliner, CAO

## Attachments:

- Attachment #1 – Draft Official Plan Review Planning Consultant RFP