



Committee Report

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| To: | Chair and Members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee |
| Committee Date: | October 7, 2022 |
| Subject / Report No: | CCR-AAC-11-22 |
| Title: | Status of Official Plan Amendment 11 |
| Prepared by: | Tara Warder and Scott Taylor |
| Reviewed by: | |
| Lower Tier(s) Affected: | All |
| Status: | Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution CW136-22; Endorsed by County Council October 27, 2022, per Resolution CC87-22. |

Recommendation

1. That Report CCR-AAC-11-22 regarding the status of Official Plan Amendment 11 be received for information.

Executive Summary

This report provides background and context to the Agricultural Advisory Committee on the status of Official Plan Amendment 11.

Background and Discussion

At its meeting held September 8th, Grey County Committee of the Whole considered [Addendum to PDR-CW-23-21 Official Plan Amendment 11 Final Report](#) and directed a by-law be prepared which would adopt County of Grey Official Plan Amendment (OPA) 11 if passed. Prior to this report coming forward, Grey County held a public meeting as required by the *Planning Act*, and held ongoing public, stakeholder, and agency consultations throughout 2022. The comments and feedback received during this time were considered while drafting OPA 11.

At its meeting held September 22, 2022, Grey County Council deferred consideration of by-law 5145-22 Official Plan Amendment 11 to the October 13, 2022 Council meeting and expressed interest in consulting with the Agricultural Advisory Committee, specifically around the topic of On Farm Diversified Uses (OFDUs).

There are two main categories of policy changes proposed in OPA 11 which the Agricultural Advisory Committee may be interested in.

- 1) Policies designed to better protect and preserve old barns. Within the OPA 11 text these can be found at items # 19, 20 and 36. These changes stem from direction from the County's Agricultural Advisory Committee after receiving a presentation from Ontario Barn Preservation. A link to that presentation can be found here in the Attachments section of this report.
- 2) Policies designed to modify the OFDU provisions in the County Official Plan. These policy changes were requested from Solomon Martin and his planning consultant Kristine Loft. In the Attachments section of this report is Ms. Loft's memo to the County with her rationale for these proposed changes. In addition to the memo from Ms. Loft, County staff were also seeking to implement OMAFRA's direction from their Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas Guideline, which is also linked to in the Attachments section of this report. Within the OPA 11 text these can be found at items # 15, 17, 18, 19, 90, 91 and 92. These changes would have the effect of allowing for ODFUs on a wider array of farm sizes where the owner is a bona fide farmer. In some cases, technical studies (i.e. noise, traffic, or servicing studies) would be required in support of permitting these ODFUs.

For the purposes of this October 7th meeting, staff have prepared a presentation for the Committee's information which provides information specific to the agricultural community and proposed On Farm Diversified Use policies. Feedback received from the Committee at this meeting will be provided to County Council for its information when considering Official Plan Amendment 11.

Legal and Legislated Requirements

There are no legal or legislated requirements related to the additional consultation from the Agricultural Advisory Committee. A statutory public meeting was held February 3, 2022 as required by the *Planning Act* and comments were received by staff since that time and incorporated into the proposed plan amendment. The proposed Official Plan Amendment was processed in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning Act*.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no further financial implications resulting from this report.

Relevant Consultation

- Internal – Clerk's and Planning
- External – the public, agencies, and municipalities

Appendices and Attachments

[Addendum to PDR-CW-23-21 Official Plan Amendment 11 Final Report](#)

[Draft Official Plan Amendment 11 Text](#)

[ODFU Request Memo from Kristine Loft](#)

[Summary of Comments Received from September 8, 2022 to September 22, 2022](#)

[Provincial Guideline on Permitted Uses in Prime Agricultural Areas](#)

[Ontario Barn Preservation Presentation](#)

[Link to the County's OPA 11 Website](#)