

A Simply Grand *Plan*

What is an Official Plan?

The County of Brant is developing a **new Official Plan**. This is a multi-year process.

The Official Plan contains the framework and long-term vision to:

- **Guide how the land will be used today and in the future,**
- **Manage growth and development.**

Policies will be created to direct how we:

- Build healthy and complete communities
- Manage growth, development, and housing
- Protect what we value: heritage, agriculture, water and woodlands
- Become resilient, adaptable and livable
- Plan for current and future infrastructure
- Move within and access the community (transportation and mobility)
- Develop our economy and ensure prosperity

Did you know?

The County of Brant's last Official Plan was finalized in 2012.

The Official Plan is prepared with input from the community, careful listening, short and long term planning, strategic thinking and creating key policies that are consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and the Provincial Policy Plans.

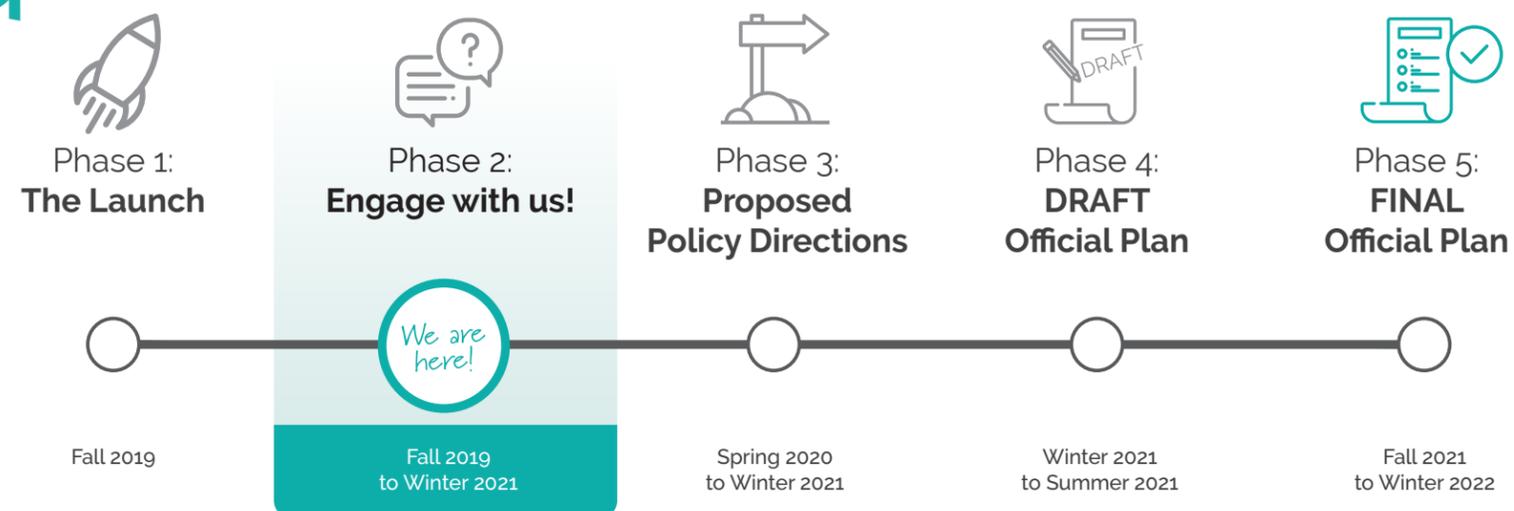
Why do we need an Official Plan?

An Official Plan is a legal statutory planning document required by the province that describes the County's land-use strategy as required by the Growth Plan.

The County of Brant's Official Plan:

- Makes the public aware of the County's general land use planning policies
- Makes sure that growth is coordinated and meets our community's needs
- Helps all members of our community understand how their land may be used now and in the future
- Helps decide where roads, watermains, sewers, garbage dumps, parks and other services will be built
- Provides a framework for establishing municipal zoning bylaws to set local regulations and standards, like the size of lots and height of buildings
- Provides a way to evaluate and settle conflicting land uses while meeting local, regional and provincial interests
- Shows Council's commitment to the future growth of our community

What is the process and timeline to complete a new Official Plan?



How can the public get involved?

Encourage the public to take part in planning the future of our community by:

- Finding out as much as they can about the proposed Official Plan www.brant.ca/NewOfficialPlan
- Thinking about how the plan might affect them, their property and our community
- Completing a survey
- Attending information sessions, including open houses and public meetings that are held to discuss the plan
- Voicing opinions at the public meetings or making written submissions to Council, one of which they must do in order to qualify for the right to appeal
- Working with Council and the municipal staff to resolve their concerns

Roles and Responsibilities related to developing and adopting a new Official Plan:

The Province of Ontario:

- Provides the Provincial Policy Statement and Provincial Policy Plans (Growth Plan, Greenbelt Plan, Source Protection Plans) that reflect broad provincial/inter-regional planning
- Act as the approval authority for the Official Plan
- Provide education and training to municipalities
- Provide technical input to municipalities
- Offer research and information

County of Brant Council:

- Provide information to the public about the new Official Plan process and public engagement opportunities
- Provide early consultation to the public
- Apply local interests to decision-making
- Make decisions that are consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement and Provincial Policy Plans
- Adopt an up-to-date Official Plan
- Make decisions on planning applications by applying the policies from the Official Plan

The Public:

- Stay informed (subscribe to www.brant.ca/NewOfficialPlan for updates)
- Provide input at public meetings, express views on development proposals and participate in making policy.

What if a member of the public has concerns, comments or input?

If the public has concerns, input or comments, it is strongly encouraged to participate and let council know about it early in the process. Council will then have time to think about the concern and how these issue may affect policy directions, and may make changes before the plan is adopted.

The public should be aware that they do not have the right of appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) on most planning applications if they have not made oral submissions at a public meeting or provided Council with written submissions before the Official Plan is adopted.

Questions?

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For more information, visit:

www.brant.ca/NewOfficialPlan

www.ontario.ca/document/citizens-guide-land-use-planning/official-plans