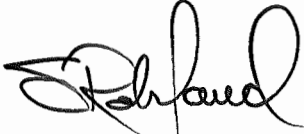


Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	October 21, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	GRIDS 2 and the Municipal Comprehensive Review – Council Workshop (PED17010(e)) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Heather Travis (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4168
SUBMITTED BY:	Steve Robichaud Director, Planning and Chief Planner Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

The City is undertaking an update to the Growth Related Integrated Development Strategy (GRIDS), known as GRIDS 2, which is a long term growth strategy to allocate forecasted population and employment growth from 2031 to 2041. The forecasts for Hamilton project an increase of 40,000 jobs and 100,000 people between 2031 and 2041. A municipal comprehensive review (MCR) is a requirement of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) at the time of an Official Plan review to bring the City's Official Plans into conformity with the Provincial plans. The MCR is broad and encompasses many inter-related components, and must be completed prior to any expansion of the urban boundary. Many of the studies that are required as part of the MCR are also part of a growth strategy. As such, the MCR is being completed concurrently with GRIDS 2, which has the benefit of combining the public and stakeholder consultation into one process, and efficiently using staff time and resources.

These projects are important to the long-term growth and development of the City. A special Council workshop is being held to assist Council with gaining a deeper understanding of the first GRIDS process (approved in 2006) and the issues and topics to be considered for GRIDS 2 and MCR. Staff have prepared a presentation for the workshop with the following primary themes:

- A brief history of GRIDS, including a review of the GRIDS evaluation process and selection and implementation of the preferred growth option;
- An overview of GRIDS 2 and the MCR, including the project work plan;

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OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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- A discussion on significant planning considerations to be addressed as part of GRIDS 2 /MCR:
 - Residential Intensification;
 - Designated Greenfield Area density; and,
 - Employment Areas;
- A consideration of potential Land Needs Assessment targets and scenarios;
- Looking ahead to the evaluation of growth options, including restrictions and opportunities; and,
- A review of next steps and upcoming decision points.

The format of this workshop is on information sharing and education. There are no recommendations being put forward at this meeting. The intent of the presentation is to provide this background and contextual information to Committee to facilitate deeper understanding of the material and answer questions which may arise. The workshop is open to the public for viewing in person and live streaming.

A full copy of the presentation will be available to members of Council prior to the workshop date.

Next steps:

Staff will be holding public open houses and a stakeholder workshop in late November / early December to discuss many of the themes addressed at the workshop. Staff are anticipating completion of the Land Needs Assessment in February of 2020, followed by additional consultation and review of growth options in late 2020. These timelines are tentative could be impacted by policy changes at the provincial level.