

**Report to
Rapport au:**

**Ottawa Board of Health
Conseil de santé d'Ottawa
16 September 2019 / le 16 septembre 2019**

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**Submitted by
Soumis par:**

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Ward: CITY WIDE / À L'ÉCHELLE DE LA VILLE File Number: ACS2019-OPH-MOH-0007

**SUBJECT: NEW OFFICIAL PLAN – HIGH LEVEL POLICY DIRECTIONS -
PRESENTATION**

**OBJET: NOUVEAU PLAN OFFICIEL – ORIENTATIONS STRATÉGIQUES
GÉNÉRALES – PRÉSENTATION**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive, for information, a presentation on the Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development report “New Official Plan – High Level Policy Directions” (ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0031), tabled at the August 22, 2019 joint meeting of the Planning Committee and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee.

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Conseil de santé de la circonscription sanitaire de la ville d'Ottawa reçoive, à titre d'information, une présentation sur le rapport de la Direction générale de la planification, de l'infrastructure et du développement économique intitulé « Nouveau Plan officiel – Orientations stratégiques générales » (ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0031), soumis à la réunion conjointe du 22 août 2019 du Comité de l'urbanisme et du Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales.

BACKGROUND

An Official Plan provides a vision for the future growth of the city and a policy framework to guide the city's physical development. In [February 2019](#), Council approved the workplan for producing a new Official Plan for the City of Ottawa. This includes regulating land use; managing growth and change in the urban, suburban and rural areas; planning for public works and infrastructure; planning for new communities and existing areas undergoing change; and preserving natural systems providing for the wise use of resources.

On [April 10, 2019](#), Council approved a timeline that would result in adoption of a new Official Plan by March 2021.

A Public Health Perspective

The new Official Plan is an important tool for promoting health and developing communities where people can thrive. This includes elements such as walkable neighborhoods, access to safe and convenient active transportation infrastructure, and places that mitigate and adapt to the health impacts of climate change.

The Board of Health recognized this in adopting its [2019-2022 Strategic Priorities](#), namely to “Influence the social and physical environments that support health and well-being” and the annual goal to build “healthy communities by design.” Promoting healthier built environments is also a requirement under the Ontario Public Health Standards.

Accordingly, two Ottawa Public Health (OPH) staff are currently co-locating part time within Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development (PIED) to help embed healthy public policy in the new Official Plan.

As part of the [public engagement](#) thus far, discussion papers were released in March 2019 outlining the big issues facing the city, which form some of the main themes of the Official Plan review and identify areas for moving forward. This included a paper titled “the Building Blocks for a Healthy Ottawa.”

DISCUSSION

The PIED report “[New Official Plan – High Level Policy Directions](#)” (ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0031), tabled at the August 22, 2019 joint meeting of the Planning Committee and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, presents preliminary high-level policy directions for the new Official Plan to address issues the city will face over the proposed 25-year planning horizon. These challenges include: addressing housing affordability and climate change; ensuring the city grows in a way that is financially sustainable; supporting a high-quality transit system; and continuing to maintain a high quality of life for residents throughout the city in an equitable manner.

To achieve this, the report proposes shifts in how the City approaches five foundational planning issues: growth management; mobility; a refined set of designations to better address neighbourhood context; updated policies relating to natural systems and new policies throughout the Plan to address climate change, public health and energy evolution; and, new policies relating to employment lands and economic development.

Public consultations will take place through September 2019 and will inform the development of detailed policy directions scheduled to go to City Standing Committees in December 2019.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

For further details regarding rural implications, see report [ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0031](#).

CONSULTATION

The City will be carrying out public consultations on the high-level policy directions as described in the [ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0031](#) report through September 2019. Comments will inform the development of detailed policy directions scheduled to go to Committees in December 2019.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments to receive this report and presentation for information.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

For further details regarding asset management implications, see report [ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0031](#).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

There are no direct accessibility impacts.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

For further details regarding environmental implications, see report [ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0031](#).

DISPOSITION

This is provided for the Board of Health's information.