

# Township of Essa

## New Official Plan



# WELCOME!

Join us for a conversation about the future  
and how we plan for our communities to  
grow and thrive

**Wednesday September 25th 2024,  
5pm-7pm  
Angus Recreation Centre**

# Township of Essa

## New Official Plan



### What is an Official Plan?

A key document that lays out where and how we plan to grow into the future, and guides where we live, work, and play.

### What is the Township doing?

#### **DEVELOPING A NEW OFFICIAL PLAN!!**

The project to update policies and develop a new Official Plan was started in 2020 and is ongoing

### Why are we doing this?

The Township is required to develop policies to guide growth to 2051 and bring our Official Plan into conformity with the latest Provincial guidance.

### **Let's talk about the next 30 years**

The Township is projected to grow more than 30% by 2051, adding close to 11,000 new residents and over 3,700 new jobs. Let's talk about how and where we plan to grow!  
**Your input will help shape the directions and policies for the New Official Plan.**



# Five Key Themes for the New Official Plan



## **Rural Essa – Agricultural Lands**

Planning for the protection of farmland and growth of the agri-food industry in Essa



## **Natural Essa – Protecting the Environment**

Protecting nature and directing development away from sensitive environmental areas



## **Growing Essa – Housing and Jobs**

Providing support for a range of housing types and more opportunities for business and job growth



## **Resilient Essa – Services and places and spaces to play and gather**

Planning for healthy, walkable communities, with a range of parks and open spaces, libraries, and recreational areas.



## **Connecting Essa – How we move through the community**

Designing for streets to support different ways to travel through the community including by car, bus, walking, or rolling



## **Rural Essa: Issues and Opportunities**

- Increasing land values and land speculation
- Agricultural industry changes, with traditional operations becoming less viable
- Increase in housing demand in rural areas and the need for more infrastructure to support growth
- Increased pressure on natural heritage features
- Increased fragmentation of rural land

**Add a sticky note and tell us what issues you think need to be addressed or opportunities that should be considered as part of the New Official Plan**



## **Natural Essa: Issues and Opportunities**

- Increased growth pressure on natural heritage features
- Increased pressures on water resources and stormwater management infrastructure
- Enforcement of natural heritage protection

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## **Growing Essa: Issues and Opportunities**

- Planning for a range of housing types and jobs
- Providing services and infrastructure to support growth
- Balancing growth with other priorities including protecting nature, agricultural sustainability, and servicing availability
- Supporting the supply of more affordable housing

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## **Resilient Essa: Issues and Opportunities**

- Designing for healthy and walkable communities with a range of areas to live, work, and play
- Age-friendly, accessible, and inclusive design
- Climate change considerations in the design of public spaces, infrastructure, and buildings
- Coordination across all levels of government to achieve our goals

**Add a sticky note and tell us what issues you think need to be addressed or opportunities that should be considered as part of the New Official Plan**



## **Connecting Essa: Issues and Opportunities**

- Meet long term needs for moving people and goods
- Support growth and improve community connections
- Address the growing vehicle-per-household numbers and the associated on-street parking enforcement issues
- Provide more trails and routes for people to choose to walk, roll, or cycle
- Explore options for more transit services within Essa and to neighbouring communities

**Add a sticky note and tell us what issues you think need to be addressed or opportunities that should be considered as part of the New Official Plan**



# Stay in Touch!



Stay up to date with our progress and take the survey by September 30th, 2024 on our project website: [\*\*essatownship.on.ca/official-plan-review\*\*](https://essatownship.on.ca/official-plan-review)



Share your ideas, input and concerns by email:  
**[Officialplan@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:Officialplan@essatownship.on.ca)**

