

Corporation of the County of Bruce Planning and Development

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Committee Report

To: Warden Mitch Twolan

Members of the Planning and Development Committee

From: Kara Van Myall

Director of Planning and Development

Date: September 17, 2020

Re: Delegation By-law Housekeeping Update

Staff Recommendation:

That a by-law be introduced to effect housekeeping changes to the delegation by-law that clarify the scope of the authority delegated to staff for approval of local official plan amendments and consents; and

That By-law number 2020-031 be repealed.

Background:

In April 2020 Council passed By-law 2020-031 and repealed By-law 4321. The new By-law updated Council's delegation of authority with regard to local official plans and consents in two main ways: to shift the authority to approve local official plan amendments from Planning and Development Committee to staff; and to clarify and limit the scope of the authority that is delegated to staff.

The scope of staff authority in By-law 2020-031 was intended to be clarified for both consents and local official plan amendments. Upon further review and with having the By-law in practice, it is noted that a) the By-law did not effectively limit the staff authority on local official plan amendments as was intended; and b) the by-law should be restructured to more clearly separate the local official plan amendment and consent provisions to make it more understandable.

Limiting the Scope of Staff Approvals to "Undisputed" Applications:

The Draft By-law attached introduces the terms "undisputed consent" and "undisputed local official plan amendment" to provide the clarity of when an application would be brought to Planning and Development Committee.

The delegated authority would only be authorized to approve applications where:

- Staff recommend approval;
- The local municipality is in support; and
- There are no unresolved objections/concerns raised during the commenting period from agencies and/or the public.

Our understanding is that the above approach meets Committee's desire to not only streamline the development process for routine approvals but brings back to Committee applications that are complex or controversial for their review and decision.

Broader awareness will be generated for Committee on approvals through the Communication in the Field monthly report and the new Planning Dashboard which provides a quarterly count of staff approvals.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There are no financial, staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

The County Clerk reviewed the By-law.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Goal 5: Eliminate Our Own Red Tape

A. All work processes designed for the fewest steps and the easiest completion.

E. Focus on the internal and external customer/client needs first.

Written by: Mark Paoli, Manager of Land Use Planning

Approved by:

Sandra Datars Bere

Chief Administrative Officer