



Committee Report

To: Warden Mitch Twolan
Members of the Planning and Development Committee

From: Kara Van Myall
Director of Planning and Development

Date: January 23, 2020

Re: Plan the Bruce Update

Staff Recommendation:

The Plan the Bruce Update report is for information.

Background:

The goal for the new County Official Plan is to produce a high-level, plain language guiding document that informs how the community grows and develops over the next 25 years (2045).

Highlighting the 2019 work from the Bruce GPS - 8 Guiding Principles from the Discussion Papers to the new OP. The Guiding Principles are being developed and communicated using short, clear titles:

Good Growth
Communities

Homes
Heritage

Connecting
Natural Legacy

Agriculture
Business

The work of these eight Discussion Papers will culminate in the preparation of a new County Official Plan. This next phase of the Official Plan work is being promoted under the name “Plan the Bruce” with the logo shown below.



Guiding Principle Project Updates:

The following section reports briefly on our progress at time of writing this report, and work that is planned for the next few months, on the Guiding Principles that have active projects.

Plan the Bruce: Agriculture

We have met twice with Project Advisory Committee, compiled provincial LEAR, soils, cropping, and tile drainage mapping and adjacent Official Plans in GIS, conducted mapping site visits, and prepared a draft profile of agriculture in Bruce County. In the upcoming months we will interview experts in the agricultural community and in the agri-business sector, make refinements to the LEAR map, complete a Draft Discussion Paper, review it with the Project Advisory Committee, and get feedback from the public. We plan to present the Discussion Paper to Planning and Development Committee in April.

Plan the Bruce: Homes

We have connected with Human Services to review the County Housing data and analysis. In the upcoming months we plan to interview housing stakeholders and complete the research on best practices and available tools. We plan to present the Discussion Paper to Planning and Development Committee in April.

Plan the Bruce: Natural Legacy

We have met with Project Advisory Committee, Technical Group, and Stakeholders, obtained mapping data from stakeholders, and drafted a mapping discussion paper. Next steps are to complete Ecological Targets Discussion Paper, review it and the Mapping Discussion Paper with the Project Advisory Committee, and release to the public. In the upcoming months we will develop a portal for public information to provide an opportunity for public engagement with the project, identify a preferred set of targets, and begin to produce the proposed natural legacy mapping. We plan to present the Discussion Paper to Planning and Development Committee in July.

Plan the Bruce: Good Growth

We recently released a Request for Proposal for consulting services to prepare growth forecasts and growth strategy. In the upcoming months we plan to hire the consultant and begin data collection. We plan to present the Discussion Paper to Planning and Development Committee in July.

Plan the Bruce: Heritage

The consulting team (Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants) has started to reach out to stakeholders and review available data sources. In the upcoming months they will be doing research and preparing background reports that will provide the historical context, legislative framework, literature review and a review of corporate experience. The papers will support the development of the Archaeological Master Plan and the Cultural Action Plan. We plan to present the Discussion Paper to Planning and Development Committee in October.

Communication and Engagement:

A communications plan has been developed with the objective of building and expanding on the interest that was generated by Bruce GPS so that the Official Plan will reflect the Bruce County at large. Key tactics are listed below:

- Advisory Committees include a cross section of the community and can assist with promoting the projects
- Regular updates to County Planning and Development Committee
- Delegations to Local Councils
- Project website at www.planthebruce.ca
- Social media posts to generate traffic to the project website
- Radio interviews
- Media releases
- Posters
- Pop up booths at community events.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

The Plan the Bruce Discussion Paper work described above is in the 2020 budget.


Interdepartmental Consultation:

Human Services

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Written by: Mark Paoli, Manager, Land Use, Planning and Development

Approved by:



Bettyanne Cobean
Acting Chief Administrative Officer