

OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

2022 Community Consultation

In 2022 the Municipality designed and launched an extensive community consultation process to gather insights about Meaford's Official Plan update.

This give persons many ways to participate, including: joining meetings of Council's Advisory Committees; online workshop and community discussions; questionnaire; and in-person meetings with other local citizens.

Throughout the process we invited citizens, friends, and interested persons to share ideas, join in dialog, and consider each other's points of view about Meaford's future and hundreds of local citizens have participated.



CALIBRATION

Community Groups Outreach
Community Connectors Outreach

JAN-FEB
JAN-APRIL

This helped us connect with interested citizens that would be able to assist with in-person interviews and also to reengage with the community after the most isolating COVID-19 restrictions.

On-line Questionnaire

JAN-MARCH

Over 400 responses confirmed themes such as: small town character; sensitive community design; access to nature; all-ages friendly community; walkability; heritage protection; opportunities for families; healthy community design; pride of place; downtown revitalization; sustainability; accessibility; and, sense of belonging.



DISCOVERY AND LEVEL SETTING

Community Chat

FEBRUARY 23

Close to 100 persons participated in the discussions facilitated by a team of Ryerson Masters of Planning students, exploring themes like:
A) Housing | the current condition & future needs;
B) Complete Communities | how to incorporate missing voices into the planning process;
C) Access | providing barrier free access to all;
D) Community Character | who gets to decide community character

ADVISORY COMMITTEES SERIES 1

Parks Advisory Committee workshop
BIA - workshop
Wellbeing Advisory Committee workshop
Accessibility Advisory Committee workshop
Heritage Advisory Committee workshop
Econ. Development Advisory Committee

MARCH 2
MARCH 16
MARCH 23
APRIL 6
APRIL 13
APRIL 27

Each Committee meeting included a review of the Official Plan's function and why it needs to be updated. There was also discussion about the relationship to the policies of the Official Plan and the specific work of each of the Committees. Committee members were provided materials and guidance on how to engage with local citizens so that they could to gather their ideas over a 6 week period in preparation for the follow-up session.



COLLABORATION AND IDEATION

COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS

Downtown Development and Key Public Lands
Urban Character and Settlements
Rural Character and Settlements
Agricultural Development and Rural Lands

APRIL 19
APRIL 21
APRIL 26
APRIL 28

With a "kitchen table" workbook to help persons prepare for the sessions various themes were discussed, including:
heritage, sensitive development, access, public realm, housing
walkability, urban design, business diversity, housing
protecting agriculture, sprawl development, services / facilities
protecting / diversification of agriculture, rural and urban relationships

ADVISORY COMMITTEES SERIES 2

Parks Advisory Committee workshop
BIA - workshop
Wellbeing Advisory Committee workshop
Accessibility Advisory Committee workshop
Heritage Advisory Committee workshop
Econ. Development Advisory Committee

MAY 11
MAY 18
MAY 25
JUNE 1
JUNE 8
JUNE 15

In the second round of meetings the Committees addressed the following themes:
connectivity, accessibility, "blue spaces", nature access
diversity of businesses, downtown context, public realm
strengthen Wellbeing Plan by integrating elements into policies
accessibility, public realm, strengthen policies, equity
sensitive urban design, public realm, pedestrian oriented
support diversity of businesses, downtown growth, public realm

