

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Melanie Knight, Director of Development Services and Engineering

SUBJECT: **Official Plan Amendment 28 – OPA 28
Rural Villages and Rural Vitality
Municipality of Mississippi Mills**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Committee of the Whole recommend that Council direct staff to initiate Official Plan Amendment 28 – Rural Villages and Rural Vitality and any associated Zoning By-law Amendment and Site Plan Control By-law changes, as detailed in this report and outlined in the Project Framework contained in Attachment A.

BACKGROUND:

As part of Council's Strategic Plan, Official Plan Amendment 28 is identified as one of the deliverables to achieve the goal of a Welcoming, Inclusive, Active, Health Community.

To achieve this deliverable, Development Services and Engineering Department has included Official Plan Amendment 28 on the workplan for 2024. The attached Project Framework provides the structure for the project including an overview of the project scope (topics), public consultation approaches and key milestones for the project.

DISCUSSION:

As indicated in the attached Project Framework, there are specific topics which have been outlined to be addressed as part of Official Plan Amendment 28.

In addition to the anticipated Official Plan policy changes, further amendments will be made to the Zoning By-law to align permitted uses and specific use provisions with the new Official Plan policies. Changes to the Site Plan Control By-law may also be necessary to align with any Official Plan policy and Zoning By-law changes.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

With the ongoing recruitment for the role of a Policy Planner within the Department, the overall approach for the project is largely anticipated to be completed with the staffing complement (with the addition of the Policy Planner).

As part of the 2024 budget, \$40,000 of capital funds have been allocated to the project. Budget allocation is anticipated to be dedicated towards advertising, public consultation, and if necessary, consulting services to address specific land uses/themes identified in the Project Framework which may require subject matter expert input or study.

SUMMARY:

Rural villages and the rural area are strong social, economic and environmental contributors to the vitality of the Municipality. Staff are of the opinion that in addition to addressing one of the objectives of the Strategic Plan of Council, Official Plan Amendment 28 and any associated Zoning By-law Amendments are a necessary and appropriate approach for the rural planning framework of Mississippi Mills.

The Official Plan Amendment will ensure that the policies are aligned with current Provincial policy and planning trends and provide a municipal planning framework that is supportive of the rural villages and the rural areas, all of which play an important role in the vitality of Mississippi Mills.

All of which is respectfully submitted by,

Approved by,



Melanie Knight MCIP, RPP
Director of Development Services and
Engineering

Ken Kelly
CAO

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Attachment A – Project Framework