

# **THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS**

## **STAFF REPORT**

**DATE:** September 21, 2021

**TO:** Committee of the Whole

**FROM:** Ken T. Kelly, Chief Administrative Officer

**SUBJECT:** Investigate Housing Options on Surplus Municipal Land

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to direct staff to research initiatives and programs implemented by other municipalities including the issuance of a request for interest / expression of interest for partners in the development of creative housing options so future decisions can be made on the use of surplus lands owned by the Municipality;

**AND THAT** a follow up report be presented to Council no later than March 30, 2022.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Municipality owns several parcels of land designated as residential within Almonte ward. Bylaw 19-125 establishes the process to be followed to declare land surplus and to dispose of these lands.

Schedule A of the Land Sale Bylaw includes the listing of lands that Council considers surplus to the needs of the Municipality. Council can add lands to or remove them from Schedule A of the bylaw at any time.

Currently the Municipality holds several acres along Victoria St, Augusta St., Maude St, and McDermott St. None of these lands are parkland or designated community space.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The surplus lands along Victoria St, Augusta St., Maude St, and McDermott St. have been vacant for some time and no plan for their development exists. The lands are zoned residential.

Staff are seeking direction from Council on the use of these lands as part of a program to develop additional affordable housing stock to meet the needs of Mississippi Mills residents and prospective residents.

Bylaw 19-125 will have to make these surplus lands exempt from the Sale process and allow Council to sell below market value and does not require an appraisal.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Staff issue a request for interest / expression of interest to determine potential housing development partners within the community.
2. Staff research programs and initiatives in other municipalities to leverage surplus municipal land to develop housing options.
3. Staff work with our real estate agency of record to list and sell the lands along Victoria St, Augusta St., Maude St, and McDermott St. at market value.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The research will be conducted by internal staff and no additional budget will be required.

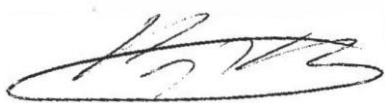
If Council decides to use surplus lands as part of its contribution to future projects to develop additional housing options in Mississippi Mills it will forego the funds from a potential sale. This will be a decision of Council at a later time.

An appraisal of the surplus lands is required under By-law 19-125 as part of the disposition process. This would be a good mechanism to account for the significant contribution that the Municipality would be making towards future projects.

**SUMMARY:**

Staff are seeking Council direction to research options for the use of surplus lands to facilitate additional housing options in the municipality versus the sale of these lands at market value. Any disposition or sale will be a future decision of Council.

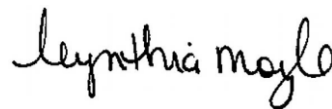
Respectfully submitted by,



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Ken T. Kelly,  
Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed by:



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Cynthia Moyle,  
Acting Clerk