



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Plan the Bruce: Good Growth Discussion Paper

Prepared By: Matt Farrell, Building and Planning Manager/CBO

Department: Building and Planning

Date: Oct. 18, 2021

Report Number: BLDG-2021-10-28

File Number:

D08 - BLDG21

**Attachments: Plan the Bruce Good Growth Discussion Paper
Letter to Bruce County Planning**

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby receives for information Report Number BLDG2021-10-28 prepared by Matt Farrell, Building and Planning Manager/CBO.

Background:

The County of Bruce is currently reviewing its Official Plan and has prepared Reports and Discussion Paper around several of the Plan's Guiding Principles.

On September 16th, the Planning and Development Committee endorsed the Plan the Bruce: Good Growth Discussion Paper as a foundation for developing policies in the new Official Plan. This paper makes recommendations on managing growth within the County including managing the municipal servicing infrastructure, maintaining a distinct settlement area structure, planning for permanent and seasonal population growth, and develop a plan monitoring and evaluation framework. A copy of the Final Discussion Paper is attached to this report.

Discussion:

Township Staff previously reviewed the Interim Good Growth Discussion Paper and met with County Staff and the project consultants to discuss concerns we had with several of the recommended policy directions.

The Plan is proposing the establishment of a Regional Market Area as defined by the Provincial Policy Statement which would essential direct where growth should occur.

If the urban areas within Huron-Kinloss were to become fully developed, new growth would be directed elsewhere.

Through the population projections, the Plan has determined that our Urban Areas will not be fully developed before the year 2046 and is stating that now adjustments and associated infrastructure planning are required. Township staff does not believe this is accurate and feels the inclusion of this policy will constrain growth within the Township.

The County is holding Special Council Meeting to discuss the County's review of its Official Plan on October 21st. The purpose of the Special Council Meeting is to discuss the Official Plan Review process and assist in identifying updates that may be required to the County Official Plan.

Staff has recently met with staff from neighbouring municipalities as well as from BM Ross to discuss the shared concerns we have. After this discussion, it was felt that the Township should go on record as part of the Special County Meeting with the concerns staff has about the Good Growth Discussion. A copy of the draft letter that was sent is also attached to this report

Financial Impacts:

None at this time however future work may be needed to justify our concerns are valid.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are a prosperous community that continues to grow in a sustainable manner by investing in infrastructure.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Matt Farrell, Manager of Building and Planning/CBO

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer