

**Ministry of
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July 18, 2024

Rebecca Whelan
Deputy Clerk/Information Management Coordinator
County of Dufferin
30 Centre Street
Orangeville, ON, L9W 2X1
Email: rwhelan@dufferincounty.ca

**Re: County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendment 3
Phase 1 of Municipal Comprehensive Review
MMAH File No.: 22-OP-237156**

Dear Rebecca Whelan,

I am writing to you regarding the County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendment 3 (OPA 3). Provincial staff have completed their review of OPA 3 to ensure consistency with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 (PPS), conformity with A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2019 (APTG), as well as compliance with the *Planning Act*.


During the review of OPA 3, the Ministry engaged directly with Indigenous communities and consulted the public through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) posting 019-7419. Nine (9) submissions were received through the ERO proposal notice for OPA 3. However, some of the comments on OPA 2 jointly addressed OPA 3 as well for a total of sixteen (16) related comments. Five (5) comments were directly submitted to the Ministry. The comments mainly focused on site-specific redesignation requests to facilitate housing development, and a perceived lack of clarity regarding the proposed employment land use designation outlined on Schedules B and B1.

Two modifications are proposed to OPA 3 based on the Ministry's review and the feedback received from partner ministries. The modifications would ensure that terminology used on the Official Plan schedules reflect applicable PPS definitions and terminology.

Please find attached a copy of the draft decision with proposed modifications. A rationale for each proposed modification is included in the draft decision with references to the relevant provincial policies. If you have any questions or would like to request changes to the proposed modifications, please let us know at your earliest convenience. If the enclosed proposed modifications are satisfactory, please let us know ideally by August 2, 2024. Ministry staff would be pleased to meet virtually with you to discuss further.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Ian Kerr, Regional Director, Western Municipal Services Office, by email at Ian.Kerr@ontario.ca, or Erick Boyd, Manager, Community Planning and Development, Western Municipal Services Office, by email at Erick.Boyd@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,



Dellarue Howard
Planner

C. Silva Yousif – Senior Planner, County of Dufferin.

Appendix A

Rationale for Proposed Modifications to County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendment 3

Modification 1 – The PPS 2020 defines both “Rural Areas” and “Rural Lands”. This modification ensures that the terminology used on Schedule C aligns with the focus of the Official Plan policies.

Modification 2 – This modification removes language which suggest that the Natural Heritage System depicted on Schedule E1 is a preliminary assessment that has not been finalized.