



TOWNSHIP OF
ASHFIELD - COLBORNE - WAWANOSH

Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh

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Notice of Delay of Public Meeting

April 9, 2021

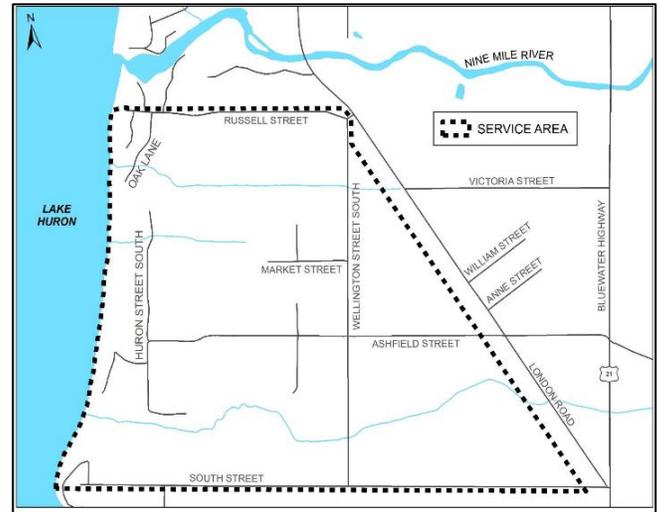
To allow sufficient time for landowners to understand and participate in the Servicing Master Plan Process.

The public meeting scheduled for April 27, 2021 has been postponed.



Why is the meeting being delayed?

On March 24th, Council set a date of April 27th to host a Public Meeting to share with the public the progression of the Port Albert Servicing Master Plan. Since the scheduling of the Public meeting, it is evident that there are some misunderstandings circulating regarding the purpose of the Servicing Master Plan and its process. We would like to take the opportunities presented to slow the process down, help landowners better understand the importance of a Servicing Master Plan in the village of Port Albert and answer the questions that have come up in the meantime.



What is a Servicing Master Plan?

The Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh initiated a Master Plan for Servicing the village of Port Albert in May 2018. The Servicing Master Plan is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) which is an approved process under the Environmental Assessment Act by project engineer's BM Ross and Associates.

A Servicing Master Plan is a road map for all future development decisions in the Port Albert Settlement area. This is a dynamic long-term plan that provides a conceptual layout to guide future growth and development while at the same time improving on the existing infrastructure and drainage. This plan ensures that as development occurs in Port Albert that infrastructure needs are being met in the most effective and efficient manner while considering the environmental, social, and economic impact on the community.

What is the Purpose of a Servicing Master Plan?

The purpose of a Servicing Master Plan is to identify long range plans which integrate infrastructure requirements for existing and future land use with environmental assessment planning principles. These plans examine an infrastructure system, or group of related projects, to outline a framework for planning for subsequent projects and/or developments.

Master planning provides the Township with a broad framework through which the need and justification for specific projects can be established such that the environmental assessment process can be satisfied when development occurs.

A completed Master Plan would provide a system-wide approach to infrastructure planning to allow for proper drainage when development occurs within the Study Area. The work is to focus on optimizing each system to best service existing customers, and expand the systems to service future growth upon applications for development.

What has happened so far?

The Servicing Review is being undertaken to inventory and evaluate existing road, water, sewage and drainage infrastructure within the community and to investigate the most cost effective and efficient manner to provide additional servicing within established and future development areas of the community.

The first public meeting was held on September 7, 2019 where the Master Plan process was introduced, problems and opportunities were identified, and existing water and drainage opportunity and constraints were presented.

Since then, the consultants have completed a review of the potential impacts on the natural, social, and economic environments associated with each of the strategies identified.

Council had set a public meeting date of April 27th to present this information to the public and gather feedback. Comments that have been received since this announcement have shown that more time is needed to inform residents of what is happening, as well as clarify the process. While no formal notice of this meeting was sent out to landowners yet, the municipality has formally postponed this meeting and a new date will be set by Council at a later date.

To view a comprehensive timeline of the project thus far please visit the link in the **In the Meantime...** section.

In the Meantime...

Your participation in the Port Albert Servicing Master Plan is important. We want to make sure that everyone with an interest in this study can be involved and provide input. To assist with this, our Communications Team is re-vamping the project website to provide a comprehensive and concise overview of the project. Access to this information, as well as all notices, presentations and information on the project can be viewed on:

<http://www.acwtownship.ca/port-albert-servicing-master-plan/>

We ask that you review the material and direct any questions, comments or concerns to communications@acwtownship.ca.

By delaying the Public Meeting, we hope to allow all landowners sufficient time to read, understand and make inquiries on the project. We will endeavour to respond to the concerns with a goal of mutual understanding.