



**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MEMORANDUM**

Page: 1
File: S03
Pending #:

TO: MAYOR A. NUTTALL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

WARD: ALL

NOTED: M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: LAND NEEDS UPDATE

DATE: DECEMBER 11, 2024

The City of Barrie is forecasted to experience significant population and employment growth to 2051. To address this growth, the City of Barrie, the Township of Oro-Medonte, the Township of Springwater and the County of Simcoe have agreed to engage in facilitated discussions to identify mutually acceptable solutions to accommodate anticipated growth. The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has tasked the Office of the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator to assist in these discussions. Discussions have been ongoing for several months. Hemson Consulting was jointly retained to evaluate the need for additional residential and employment lands at the boundaries of Barrie/Springwater and Barrie/Oro-Medonte. Hemson Consulting has completed this initial work and the report is being presented to Council on December 11, 2024. The report will also be posted on the City's website. The councils of the townships of Springwater and Oro-Medonte will also receive this information at the same time.

The study determined that there is a need for additional land for residential development and for comprehensive community/employment area uses in the City of Barrie. The study provides a range of the amount of land needed for both residential and employment to accommodate the forecasted growth in Barrie to 2051 (between 390 ha to 930 ha). In particular, there is an identified need for shovel-ready lands and parcels for expansion of existing users and new larger users. Recent and planned growth suggests that achieving Official Plan targets in Barrie will be challenging without additional lands.

Each municipal council will consider the Joint Land Needs Analysis and Study. The next step would be to agree upon a plan for further analysis of options for accommodating growth. This further analysis would be undertaken by Hemson Consulting. This work would take into consideration several criteria including, but not limited to, availability of water, wastewater and other infrastructure, protection of natural features and ecological functions, compatibility with existing uses, financial impacts on the applicable municipalities and consistency with Provincial Plan policies and Conservation Authority plans and policies. The parties would be expected to cost share for this additional study.

Although the continued facilitation discussions are confidential, the municipalities involved are committed to providing regular updates to keep their respective communities informed. It is the City's intention that details regarding the discussions will continue to be shared publicly. Any potential decisions that may result from the facilitation process will be considered in an open, transparent forum. Also, as part of the further work that Hemson Consulting will undertake, they will make recommendations on an appropriate consultation strategy, including government ministries, agencies, municipal staff and councils, Indigenous communities and the general public.



**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MEMORANDUM**

**Page: 2
File: S03
Pending #:**

A presentation will be made to Council on December 11, 2024 with the results of this first stage of work by Hemson Consulting.