

Building a Connected City Together

New Official Plan Launch

Planning & Strategic Initiatives Committee
February 26, 2024

Building a Connected City Together



The new Official Plan will reflect who we are, what we value, and the Kitchener we can become - a thriving city that offers well-being, potential, and quality of life – for everyone.

What will we consider?



- The new OP will have to consider matters of Regional official plan and provincial plan conformity
- The new OP will be an opportunity to explore:
 - Housing supply, choice, and affordability;
 - Energy transition and climate change;
 - Complete, walkable communities;
 - Sustainable, safe, and equitable transportation options;
 - Parks, open spaces, and community infrastructure;
 - Where and how we grow, and what is needed to support that growth;
 - Creating an economically-thriving city; and
 - Ensuring equity in the Official Plan process, in the policies that result, and the usability of the Official Plan.

When will we do it?



2024

- Undertake technical studies
- Establish community working group
- Initiate broad community engagement on technical inputs

2025

- Begin drafting new Official Plan
- Undertake continuous engagement with the community working group, broader community, and collaborators

2026

- Present new Official Plan to City Council

Engagement Principles



1. Provide meaningful opportunities to shape the plan
2. Build community capacity for informed engagement
3. Build trusting relationships
4. Strive for representation
5. Elicit a broad range of ideas

Establishing a Community Working Group is a key component to the engagement process

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The new Official Plan provides an opportunity for the community, Council, and staff to be bold in the policies that guide Kitchener's future and be bold in how we work collaboratively over the next 2 years to set the stage for the Kitchener of tomorrow.