

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. The foreground shows a mix of green and yellow fields, with a farm complex including several red barns and white silos. In the background, there are more fields, some with trees, and a few small buildings under a clear sky.

Township of Amaranth Official Plan Review

Kick-off Council Meeting

August 6th, 2025


MHBC | PLANNING
URBAN DESIGN
& LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE



TOWNSHIP OF
AMARANTH

AGENDA

Presentation Overview

- a. Purpose of today's meeting
- b. Introduction to project team
- c. Project background and schedule
- d. Planned community engagement
- e. Work completed to date
- f. Discussion & Questions
- g. Closing comments
- h. Contact Information



Meeting Purpose

The purpose of today's meeting is to:

- ❑ Officially 'kick-off' the project for the community and Council;
- ❑ Introduce the study team;
- ❑ Share project scope and schedule; and,
- ❑ Gain feedback on important questions / issues to address through Official Plan review to help frame areas of focus as the project moves forward.



Project Team

MHBC

- Brings land use planning expertise.
- Completed recent Official Plan updates including those for:
 - Kincardine
 - Huron-Kinloss
 - Saugeen Shores
- Completed LEAR study for Township of Amaranth.
- Team members: Pierre Chauvin, Nick Bogaert, Chelsea Brooks, Jasmin Brinovcar



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Project Background

- The current Official Plan was adopted in 2004 and approved in 2005.
- The *Planning Act* requires municipalities to conduct a review of their Official Plans every five years, with comprehensive update every 20 years.
- Updates ensure that the Official Plan is consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) and conforms to the Dufferin County Official Plan.



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Key Project Tasks

- Implement Dufferin County Official Plan policy direction.
- Implement Land Evaluation and Area Review findings.
- Update natural heritage and sourcewater protection mapping and policies in alignment with County Official Plan.
- Update agricultural lot creation policies in alignment with Dufferin County Official Plan.
- Review settlement area boundaries and consider re-allocation.
- Add policies for additional residential units (ARUs).
- Update policies for on-farm diversified uses and agriculture-related uses in accordance with Provincial policy.
- Update existing schedules and policies to incorporate recent approvals, information and reports.

Project Schedule

PHASE 1 (July – October)

Review background material and current Official Plan and prepare Background Report. Provide Background Report for public consultation.

PHASE 2 (October – January)

Prepare draft Official Plan update, present to Council and consult with community regarding draft policies.

PHASE 3 (January – March)

Finalize draft Official Plan based on feedback, hold statutory public meeting, finalize Official Plan update, present final Official Plan to Council for adoption.

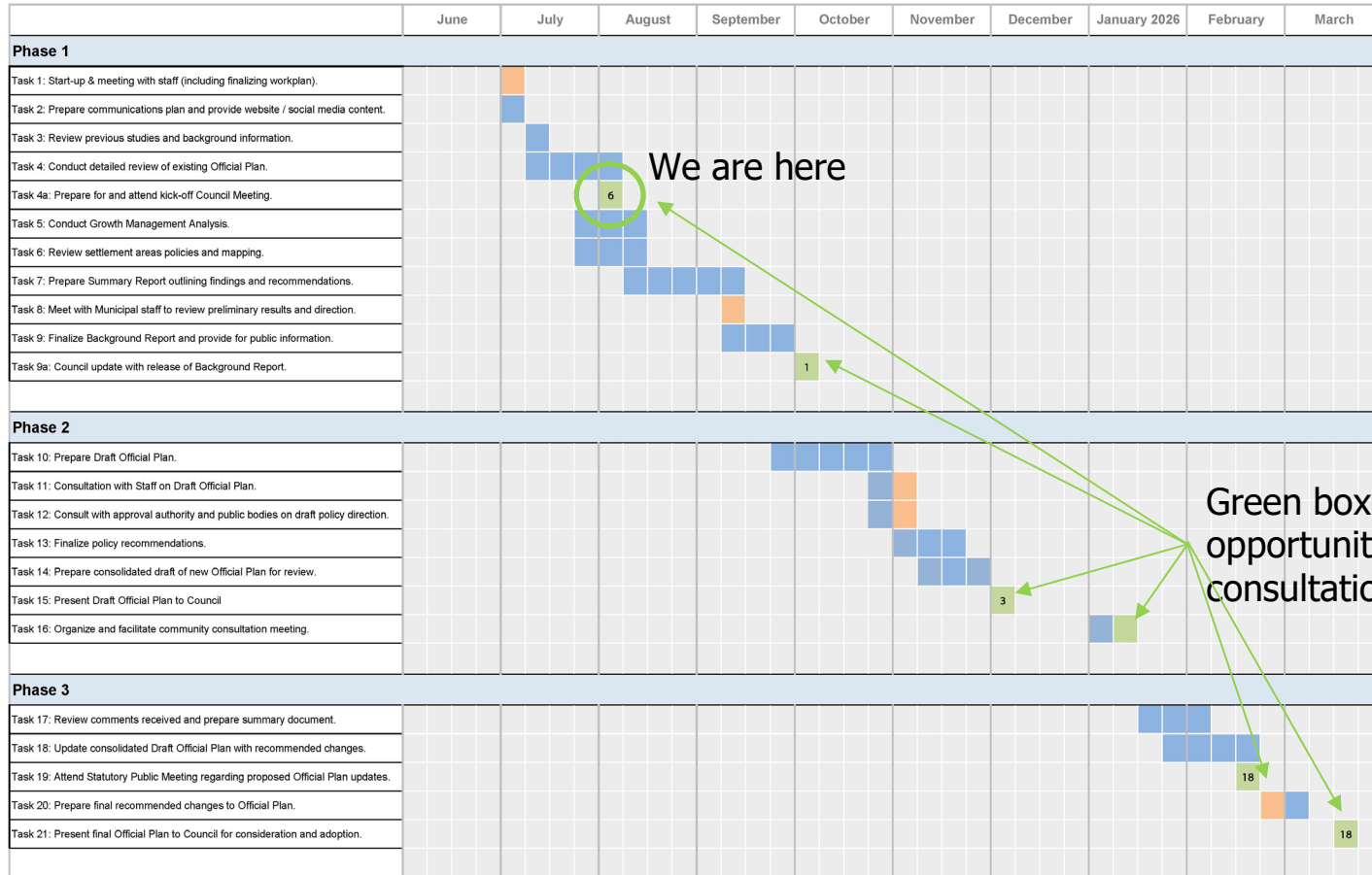


Planned Community Engagement

- Community engagement program proposed to ensure that public is aware of and understands the project.
- Consultation includes newsletters, online presence, community/Council meetings, meetings with Municipal staff, agencies and stakeholders.
- Community engagement program has been designed to the applicable requirements of the *Planning Act*.

PROJECT SCHEDULE - TOWNSHIP OF AMARANTH OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

(July 2025)



Milestone

- Meeting with staff / Steering Committee
- Open House / Public meeting / Council Meeting



How to Participate

- Sign-up for the email update list – *link will be added on the Township's OP Review webpage*
- Attend & participate in community/Council meetings:
 - Kick-off meeting today
 - Background Report Update at Council Meeting October 1st
 - Draft Official Plan Update at Council Meeting December 3rd
 - Community Consultation meeting early January 2026
 - Statutory Public Meeting on February 18th
 - Final Official Plan presented at Council Meeting March 18th
- Provide feedback to the project team (contact details on last page of presentation)



Work Completed to Date

- Start-up meeting with Township staff to review scope and topics.
- Review of existing Official Plan and background documents.
- Compilation of base data and information.
- Commencement of comprehensive review of Official Plan.



Discussion

Questions to consider:

- What should the Township look like in 20 years?
- What issues is the Township likely to be facing over the next 20 years?
- Are the current Official Plan goals still applicable?
- Any other issues / topics to address?



Closing

We look forward to working on this exciting project in the Township of Amaranth. We encourage residents and landowners to get involved to help shape updates to the Official Plan, a key document that guides land use in the Township.

Thank you for your input!



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Thank you!



Any questions?

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