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Parks and Open Space

Highlights:

- Differentiates between "human" and "natural" aspects of open space
- Reduces the number of land use designations from three (Significant Natural Features; Major Recreation; and Cemeteries) to two designations (Natural Open Space System and Major Recreation, Cemeteries and Open Space)
- References various Parks and Open Space Master Plans (City & Region) which will be reviewed on a regular basis
- Recognizes collaboration with Region and Grand River Conservation Authority on developing an Urban Greenlands Strategy in the future

- Parkland Dedication Formula:
    - Greater of 5% or 1 hectare / 300 units for residential development
    - 2% for industrial / commercial development
    - City may accept "cash in lieu" of land to be dedicated
- Stormwater management areas dedicated to the City not part of parkland dedication
- Support for community gardens and temporary farmers' markets
- Acquire land to meet future cemetery, recreation, parks & open space demand
- Cooperate with School Boards to integrate parks and schools sites
- Consider the need for provision of neighbourhood or community parks when dealing with undeveloped or surplus school sites

Produced by the City of Cambridge Planning Services Department
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Countryside / Aggregates

<u>Highlights of Proposed Changes</u>:

1. Countryside

- Countryside – not contemplated for inclusion in the urban area
- Countryside Line – long term boundary (Map 1B)
- Protected Countryside – permanently protected as agricultural land
- "Prime Agriculture" = Class 1-3 soils and "Rural" = Class 4-7 soils/existing non-farm lots
- New lot creation permitted only for:
    - Surplus farms dwellings designated under the Heritage Act
    - Residential Infilling (in "Rural" only not in "Prime Agriculture")
    - Farm lots (minimum 40 hectares for newly created and retained parcels)
    - Agriculture – related uses
    - Woodlands / Conservation lands to a public body or non-profit entity
    - Minor boundary adjustments
- Blair Village is within the Rural area and also has added considerations of Protected Countryside, Environmentally Sensitive Landscape, Core Environmental Features and is a Heritage Conservation District
- "Prime Agriculture" and "Rural" permits agricultural and related uses, with residential infilling only considered in "Rural"
- New land uses and lots must comply with minimum distance separation formulae
- City's grading By-law applies to placing of fill, removal of topsoil

2. Aggregates

- Various elements of the Regional Plan regarding aggregate policies have been appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board, including:
    - Source water protection relating to aggregate extraction
    - Vertical zoning of mineral aggregate extraction
    - Aggregate extraction below the water table
    - Subwatershed scale hydrogeological studies
    - Aggregate extraction within Environmentally Sensitive Policy Areas
- New Official Plan Aggregate policies reflect the Regional Plan policies including those that are under appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board