



GEORGINA

Council Highlights

Town of Georgina Communications Division
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Georgina Town Council Sept. 27

Alice Avenue Drainage Improvement Assessment Study – update and next steps

Council received the report which provided an update of the key findings of a study which has been completed to assess stormwater drainage concerns in the area of Alice Avenue and present proposed solutions. The study recommends reconstruction of existing ditches and replacement of culverts as the preferred solution. By implementing this option, the Town will take proactive steps to mitigate the historic flooding concerns in the Alice Avenue area.

Udora Gravel Roads Upgrade Project update and award of phase 2 – detailed design

Council received the report regarding the Udora Gravel Roads Upgrade Project update and award of phase 2 for detailed engineering design services to Jacobs (also known as CH2M Hill Ltd.). Award of the contract will continue to move the project towards construction to upgrade the roads in the area. On June 9, 2021, Council provided direction to staff to assume the roads within the Estonian Summer Homes Association Subdivision, and to begin the engineering work and continued public consultation process to improve the roads to an acceptable standard as an all-season gravel road surface.

Response to various heritage-related matters and implications of Bill 23 – Ontario Heritage Act

Council received the report respecting an update on various heritage-related matters and an overview of amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act implemented through Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act. Council approved a budget of \$100,000 to retain a heritage consultant to conduct an assessment of the Town's Heritage Register, including the previous Georgina Heritage Advisory Committee's recommendation to include seven additional properties onto the register and to initiate any heritage designation process as directed by Council prior to Jan. 1, 2025.

Motion from Councillor Naomi Davison on homelessness in Georgina

WHEREAS there is a growing housing affordability and homelessness issue in the Town of Georgina and;

WHEREAS there is a strong desire to be more proactive in addressing these issues and supporting those individuals and families, including children, more adversely affected by not being able to secure adequate housing or shelter and;

WHEREAS access to adequate housing is a key social determinant of health and a basic human right and;

WHEREAS York Region has requested by way of resolution from their Council and is currently coordinating a two-acre contribution of Municipal lands from all lower tier municipalities, including a contribution from the Town of Georgina, to be set aside for the purposes of the creation of affordable and attainable housing and;

WHEREAS York Region Community and Health Services has a mandate to undertake research and analysis, create policies, develop and deliver programs and provide shelter and subsidized housing and;

WHEREAS York Region Community and Health Services currently has capacity for emergency shelter beds in York Region and also offers stabilization programs to offer support to keep individuals and families in their homes and;

WHEREAS York Region Community and Health Services includes multiple experts and teams dedicated to the delivery of supports, services, shelter and housing and;

WHEREAS York Region is holding a special meeting of its Council regarding housing and homelessness on Nov. 23, 2023 and;

WHEREAS York Region in 2024 will be consulting on and developing its next provincially mandated ten-year housing and homelessness plan, including a homelessness system plan and a community housing plan;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Council of the Town of Georgina directs its staff to similarly organize a special meeting of its Council in conjunction with Regional staff as a local follow-up to York Region's Special Council meeting as outlined above. Such meeting shall include but not be limited to:

* The scope and depth of the affordable housing and homelessness issue in Georgina by including specific communities where feasible and;

* The current state of supports, identifying any potential gaps and barriers and investigating opportunities for improved services in the Town of Georgina including that emergency shelter beds be available within the Town of Georgina where feasible, and investigating opportunities for improved services in the Town of Georgina and;

* Best practice approaches with regard to addressing issues regarding affordable and attainable housing including identifying potential suitable location(s) for multi-unit subsidized housing and shelter facilities and;

* Planned and current actions being taken by York Region to address affordable and attainable housing; including any planned or current capital projects and;

* Identify any opportunities where the Council of the Town of Georgina and its staff, residents, social service agencies, faith-based groups or any other applicable party can support York Region in these efforts and;

* For the purposes of the above-mentioned Georgina Special Council meeting as described above, that staff be directed to ensure partner agencies some of which are identified above generally, be invited to such meeting for consultative and community engagement purposes and;

* That the above-mentioned Georgina Special Council meeting occur no later than the end of Q1, 2024.

2. That Council directs staff to immediately ensure that all Georgina communication channels have information on how to access York Region housing, homelessness and social supports and other wraparound services.

3. That Council directs staff to continue to collaborate with York Region Community and Health Services to investigate best practice regarding providing safe access to showers at low cost or no cost, with onsite access to Regional wraparound services, where feasible, within Town facilities.
4. That Council directs staff to continue to consult with York Region on specific actions that can be taken to facilitate increased affordable housing and community (social) housing units in Georgina that include, but are not limited to, identifying the utilization of surplus Town lands, adoption of financial incentives at both tiers, alternative forms of built housing such as but not limited to tiny homes, advocacy engagement of the Province and Federal governments regarding funding and that staff report back no later than Q2 2024.
5. That a copy of this motion be sent to York Region Chair Emmerson and the York Region Commissioner of Community and Health Services of York Region for their information and continued collaboration.

Additional Council Information

Comprehensive minutes of Georgina Town Council Meetings, which detail the full list of Council decisions, are available under [Agendas and Minutes](#) on the Town website once they have been ratified by Council.