



GEORGINA

Media Release

Town of Georgina Corporate Communications
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For Immediate Release

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Georgina Town Council Meeting – Public Statement

Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Decision - Maple Lake Estates Inc. lands

The planning approvals for the Maple Lake Estates Inc. (MLE) site date back to 1987 when an Order-In-Council affirmed an Ontario Municipal Board decision from 1984. Despite these longstanding approvals, the Town has declared its desire to work with all parties to protect the woodlands and wetlands on the MLE site. Council for the Regional Municipality of York and the Board of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) support the Town's position.

As a result of the Town's Official Plan review, the existing Official Plan policies upon the MLE site were, in accordance with York Region's Official Plan and Provincial plans and policies, carried forward and approved by the Region in accordance with Region's Official Plan. This Official Plan review process resulted in an appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) (formerly the Ontario Municipal Board) in which the existing land use designation and development/servicing policies upon the MLE site were challenged.

The LPAT, in its decision released on December 19, 2019, ordered that a significant portion of the MLE site shall be designated as Environmental Protection Area in the Town's Official Plan. The Tribunal also stated that the existing development/servicing policies for the MLE site are to be maintained.

As the existing zoning on the MLE lands was not before the Tribunal, it was not within the Tribunal's jurisdiction to address the zoning that is currently in effect upon the subject lands. The Planning Act requires that all zoning by-laws conform to a municipality's Official Plan. As the Official Plan designation has now changed on a significant portion of the MLE lands as a result of the Tribunal's decision, the Town will, unless there is a Review Request filed by any of the other parties with respect to the decision, commence a conformity exercise to implement the appropriate zoning for the subject lands, as well as for other areas of the Town that require updated zoning in accordance with the Town's Official Plan as required under the Planning Act. More details respecting the proposed process, timing, etc. of this Zoning By-law conformity exercise will be the subject of a staff report to Council to be considered in the second quarter of 2020.

For persons who wish to review the history of the MLE site, the Town directs you to the [dedicated webpage](#).

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