

## **Planning and Development Services**

Planning and Development Services manages the growth and physical form of the Town of Aurora through land use and infrastructure planning in addition to administering the Ontario Building Code. Planning and Development Services provides professional planning advice to Council, Town departments, the public and Council endorsed committees on a variety of planning, engineering and land use policy matters including Planning Act Applications. In addition, public input is actively solicited on land use related to development applications and policy reviews. Heritage Planning oversees the Town's heritage portfolio proactively identifying and conserving significant heritage resources.

Planning and Development Services delivers its activities and support to internal and external clients through four divisions: Development Planning, Policy Planning & Economic Development, Engineering & Capital Delivery and Building.

#### **Net Budget by division**

	2022		2023	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Budget (\$000's)				
Development Planning	1,151.9	(576.5)	1,138.6	(1,504.3)
Policy Planning & Economic Development	703.9	684.0	744.8	724.9
Engineering & Capital Delivery	1,818.7	627.7	2,007.3	791.8
Building	2,619.7	443.5	2,678.4	397.1
Building Reserve	-	(443.5)	-	(397.1)
Net Budget	6,294.3	735.2	6,569.1	12.4
<b>Budget Change</b>			274.8	(722.8)
Permanent Full-Time Staffing (FTE):				
Opening Staffing				41.0
New				1.0
Conversion				-
Approved Staffing				42.0

#### **Planning and Development Services divisions**

Planning and Development Services is comprised of four multi-disciplinary divisions each headed by a manager who reports directly to the Director, Planning and Development Services. These divisions are:

#### **Development Planning**

Development Planning is responsible for processing development applications in accordance with the goals and objectives of the Town's Official Plan, particularly: re-zoning, official plan amendments, subdivisions, site plans and committee of adjustment applications in

accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act and provincial policy. Heritage planning oversees the Town's heritage portfolio playing an active role in the identification and conservation of significant heritage resources.

## Policy Planning & Economic Development

Policy Planning & Economic Development is responsible for updating the Town's Official Plan and secondary plans to ensure conformity with provincial plans and the York Region Official Plan. Other responsibilities include long range planning, growth management, policy reviews and special studies, and liaising with external partners. The division is also responsible for implementing the Economic Development Strategic Plan, reviewing appraisals and acquiring and disposing of real property interests.

#### **Engineering & Capital Delivery**

Engineering & Capital Delivery is responsible for the delivery of capital projects, engineering design standards, review tendering, construction, contract administration/inspection and asset management of the Town's infrastructure (roads, bridges, sidewalks and streetlights). Other responsibilities include traffic and transportation management, energy and climate change planning.

#### **Building**

Building is responsible for the administration of the Ontario Building Code including Aurora's comprehensive zoning by-law. The division issues building permits and provides inspections for all new or renovated buildings within the Town of Aurora to ensure buildings are constructed to meet the health and safety provisions of the Ontario Building Code, the Building Code Act and other applicable law and standards.

Planning and Development Services supports the implementation of the Strategic Plan and other key plans

Planning and Development Services provides key services in support of the growing population, business community and transportation network.

The chart to the right shows the volume of development quantified by building permits over the past few years. The volume in 2022, up to September 30<sup>th</sup>, is expected to exceed the volume for 2020.



#### Strategic Plan connections

Planning and Development Services supports multiple objectives in the Strategic Plan in the areas of community, economy, and natural environment.

#### Community

Objective 1: Improve transportation, mobility, and connectivity

- Work with York Region and Metrolinx to improve transit infrastructure and commuter transportation options
- Explore partnership options to support the transportation needs of the Town's changing demographics
- Consider transportation capacity when determining the location of new municipal services/amenities
- Examine traffic patterns and identify potential solutions to improve movement and safety at key intersections in the community
- Explore partnership options to support the transportation needs of the Town's changing demographics

#### Objective 2: Invest in sustainable infrastructure

- Maintain and expand infrastructure to support forecasted population growth through technology, waste management, roads, emergency services and accessibility
- Develop policies to ensure that growth is phased and coordinated with existing and planned infrastructure
- Establish policies and programs that enhance the accessibility and safety of new and existing facilities and infrastructure

#### Objective 5: Strengthening the fabric of our community

- Collaborate with the development community to ensure future growth includes housing opportunities for everyone
- Work with the development community to meet intensification targets to 2051 as identified in the Town's Official Plan
- Work with residents and stakeholders to protect and enhance the character of existing stable neighborhoods when accommodating the planned residential intensification
- Work with residents and stakeholders to manage the significant changes that will
  impact the community as a result of growth through residential intensification
- Update the Town's Official Plan to consider the potential impact of infill growth as the Town transitions to a mature municipality
- Develop a coordinated approach to Town planning that manages growth, plans for the necessary infrastructure, and aligns fiscal accountability

#### **Economy**

Objective 1: Promoting economic opportunities that facilitate the growth of Aurora as a desirable place to do business

- Work with the Aurora Economic Development Corporation to create, implement and regularly update a community wide Economic Development Strategic Plan, and redevelopment of the downtown
- Work with regional, provincial, and national partners to promote Aurora as a preferred location for international investment
- Leverage partnerships with local boards, chambers, and business organizations to promote Aurora as a preferred location for business

Objective 2: Supporting small business and encouraging a more sustainable business environment

 Continue to work closely with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and the business community to better understand and address local business needs and promote business retention/expansion

#### **Natural Environment**

Objective 1: Encouraging the stewardship of Aurora's natural resources

- Develop, implement, and regularly update a corporate environmental plan
- Advance and improve policies to ensure the protection of the Town's urban tree canopy

Objective 2: Promoting and advancing green initiatives

- Investigate a program that promotes and actively supports innovative green buildings and infrastructure
- Continue to invest in green initiatives and infrastructure to promote environmentalism locally
- Develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Town of Aurora

## Other Key Department Plans

- Official Plan (draft 2022)
- Green Development Standards (2022)
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan (2022)
- Community Energy Plan (2021)
- Active Transportation Plan (in progress)

#### Supporting Plans

The Planning and Development Services Department also contributes to other key corporate plans and initiatives including:

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

- Public Art Master Plan
- Accessibility Plan
- Sport Tourism Strategy

#### **2022 Accomplishments**

#### **Development Planning:**

- Launch of the new online Planning Application Status Map provides information on plans of subdivisions/condominiums, site plan applications, Official Plan amendments and Zoning Bylaw amendments, providing the public with all the application information right at their fingertips
- New Committee of Adjustment signage, providing for an interactive new feature for residents to get instant access to Application details easily without having to call in or navigate the website

#### **Economic Development & Policy:**

- Aurora's Official Plan (draft)
- Aurora's Green Development Standards Town of Aurora
- Economic Development campaign launch and new website

#### **Engineering and Capital Delivery:**

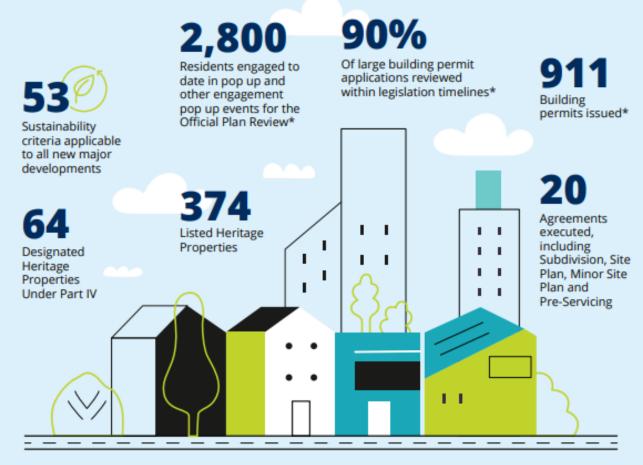
 Climate Change Adaptation Plan: the adaptation plan is based on a climate risk assessment of Town-owned infrastructure as defined in the Town of Aurora 2021 Second Generation Asset Management Plan and helps Aurora align with provincial and regional direction on climate change

## **Building Division:**

The Building Division has invested in technology improvements over the past two years. In 2020, electronic plan review software was implemented. This allowed customers to submit applications electronically. This eliminated the need for paper submissions and the need for our clients to physically come to Town Hall. Further improvements to the building permit process will come in late 2022 or early 2023, where an online portal for the submission of building permit applications will be implemented.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

## Planning & Development Services



115

Active planning applications including 51 new development planning applications and 42 Committee of Adjustment applications



**33** 

Actions in the Councilendorsed Climate Change Adaptation Plan the Town will prioritize to protect infrastructure assets and reduce its carbon footprint 9.2km

Of roads paved, **9.9 km** of sewers and water mains inspected and assumed, and **22** unassumed subdivisions actively inspected

<sup>\*</sup>FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 2022

## **Operating Budget**

#### **Overview**

The operating budget for Planning and Development Services is approved to decreased by \$722,800 in 2023. The main driver of the decrease relates to increase in site plan application and engineering application revenues. The approved Budget includes an addition of one traffic analyst position to address traffic growth concerns.

#### **Operating financial summary**

\$000's		Net Actual Results		2022	2022	2023	
		2020	2021	Net Fcst*	Budget	Budget	
Expenditures		4,939.9	6,076.9	5,877.0	6,294.3	6,569.1	
Non-Tax Revenues		(4,837.8)	(6,302.2)	(6,205.2)	(5,559.1)	(6,556.7)	
Net Tax Levy		102.0	(225.2)	(328.2)	735.2	12.4	
% Tax Funded		2%	(4%)	(6%)	12%	0%	
Net Budget Change	\$		(327.3)	(103.0)	1,063.4	(722.8)	
	%		(320.7%)	45.7%	(324.0%)	(98.3%)	

<sup>\*</sup>Net forecast as of October 31, 2022

## **Operating Budget priorities for 2023**

Planning & Development Services priorities for 2023 include:

#### Planning applications and building permits

Continue to process planning applications, building permits and undertake building inspections to ensure the health and safety and well-being of the public in a timely and efficient manner that respects the legislative requirements and timelines of the Planning Act and the Ontario Building Code.

#### Capital asset management

Continue to deliver the Town's 10-year capital program in accordance with the Town's Asset Management Plan and the Council approved Capital Budget to ensure that desired asset service levels are maintained, creating safe and sustainable municipal infrastructure.

## **Economic Development**

Continue to deliver implement the actions identified in the Council-approved Economic Development Strategic Plan and Implementation Matrix. Working with the Aurora Economic Development Corporation, the actions and any budget implications are managed through the Economic Development Operating Budget.

## **Incremental Budget changes**

	2	023
	FTE	\$000's
Starting Budget	41	735.2
Base		
Salaries & Benefits including COLA, step increases, gapping and other approved staffing actions	-	204.5
Site plan applications revenue increase	-	(404.3)
Site plan fee for planning engineering revenue increase	-	(401.8)
Adjustments to other planning and development fees	-	(108.4)
Recovery from capital reserves for engineering project management	-	(27.4)
Minor adjustments to other revenues and administrative costs	-	2.2
Net increase to building services fees	-	(91.1)
Reduction to building services reserve draw		46.4
	-	(780.0)
Maintaining Service Levels for Growth		
Traffic analyst to support growth and urbanization	1	108.8
Six-month gapping for new positions	-	(54.4)
Growth in grading review fee	-	(2.2)
	1	52.2
Enhancements and Transformation		
Environmental initatives project expenses		5.0
	-	5.0
Budget Change	1	(722.8)
Approved Budget	42	12.4

The business case for the new position follows on the next page.

#### **Business Case**

Accommodate growth while managing Town's traffic and transportation assets in a sustainable way

Engineering Services Budget Change Type: Growth

Recommendation:	Financial Impact	
That a new Traffic/Transportation Analyst position be created in the Engineering Division. This role will be responsible to review and comment on traffic and transportation components of proposed developments, particularly site plan and subdivision agreements, planning and co-ordination of data collection activities on municipal roads, conducting traffic studies, compiling statistical records, preparing reports, tender documents related to traffic for capital projects and managing enquiries related to traffic operations. This position is in addition to the current Traffic/Transportation Analyst position with the Engineering Division. This second position of Traffic Analyst will ensure the Town responds timely and appropriately to traffic related matters generated by future projected growth.	# FTE Wages & Benefits Staffing costs Recoveries Net Tax Impact	1.0 \$106,300 2,500 - \$108,800

#### Rationale/Benefits:

As the population, employment and economic activity within the Town continues to increase, the Town seeks to develop and maintain an integrated set of road network and infrastructure solutions that continue to accommodate vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, and transit users, while streamlining the improvements to preserve the small-town community characteristics of the Town, and particularly the Town's historic downtown core. Also, the Town seeks to encourage alternative mobility options and provide more accessible, convenient, and direct connections to major transit stations and public transit.

The Traffic/Transportation Analyst reviews and addresses existing transportation needs through development applications as well as capital projects related to traffic, transportation and road rehabilitation and reconstruction.

The main purpose in addressing transportation needs is to address existing transportation requirements and challenges as well as provide support for the growth of the Town to 2041, through long-term infrastructure planning and policy solution. As the Town growths through intensification, in the next years, there are increasing challenges to address related to the road network shortcomings and identify improvements and active transportation connections to meet future traffic demands.

The key elements of adding this position to the team will include:

- Work on transportation studies including reviewing the need for various traffic control devices, parking controls, traffic calming measures and monitoring changes in traffic patterns
- Provide response to enquiries from Council, the public, other departments, and outside agencies relating to transportation and traffic matters, including safety, traffic signals, regulatory signage, and by-laws etc.
- Organize and complete traffic calming projects as per the requirements of the Town's Traffic Calming Policy
- Analyze the impact of development proposals including transportation impact studies for subdivisions, site plans, zoning and official plan applications and makes recommendations on any changes to those studies
- Preparation of technical reports and provide recommendation(s) in relation to inhouse traffic operation studies and transportation planning studies, including traffic-related input to the road needs evaluation
- Preparation of by-laws for the implementation of parking regulations, stop sign control, traffic calming measures, turning restrictions etc.

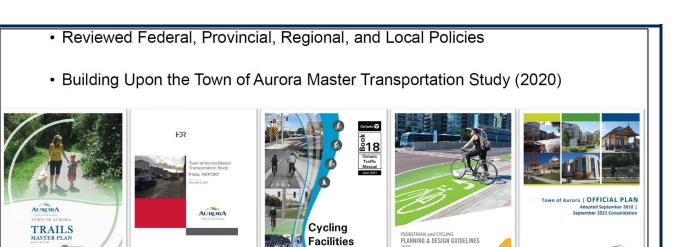
#### Impact of Not Proceeding or Delay:

Should the implementation of this position be delayed, the Town risks being unable to deliver on its current transportation needs through development applications as well as capital projects related to traffic and transportation.

In the coming years, as the Town growths through intensification, there are increasing challenges to be addressed related to the road network shortcomings. Also, there is the need to identify improvements and active transportation connections to meet future traffic demands through long term infrastructure planning and policy solution.

#### **Comparative Analysis / Performance Metrics:**

Aurora's Active Transportation Plan creates a multi-modal transportation network that supports the needs of all users including those who walk, bike, wheel, use transit and drive; supports community health, improves connectivity, coordinate with existing and future infrastructure projects, prioritize safety and accessibility, and increase sustainability.



Aurora's transportation system provides safe and accessible transportation options for all users and connects people to key destinations and transit while supporting community health and sustainability.

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## **Capital Budget**

#### **Overview**

Planning and Development Services plans to spend \$28.2 million in 2023 on capital projects of the total approved \$62.4 million in Capital Budget Authority. This includes \$46.5 million for asset management projects, \$13.5 million for growth and new projects and \$2.4 million studies and other.

#### **2023 Capital Budget Authority**

	Drevieusly	2023 Budget		Capital Budget Authority Cash Flow				
(\$000s)	Previously Approved Budget	Capital Budget Authority*	Budget Change	Actuals to Dec/21	2022 Forecast	2023	2024+	
Asset Management	30,531.1	46,495.1	15,964.1	13,695.3	5,692.4	25,517.0	1,590.5	
Growth & New	12,928.4	13,506.7	578.3	9,121.2	2,721.9	1,663.7	-	
Studies & Other	1,400.4	2,408.4	1,008.0	959.4	293.9	1,055.1	100.0	
Approved Budget	44,859.8	62,410.2	17,550.4	23,775.8	8,708.2	28,235.8	1,690.5	
Capital Programs								
Roads R&R	27,692.6	37,743.7	10,051.1	12,636.5	5,073.7	19,042.9	990.5	
Storm Sewer R&R	1,873.5	7,721.5	5,848.0	1,046.6	270.7	6,404.2		

<sup>\*</sup> Includes all active project budgets, adjustments to project budgets and new budget commitments

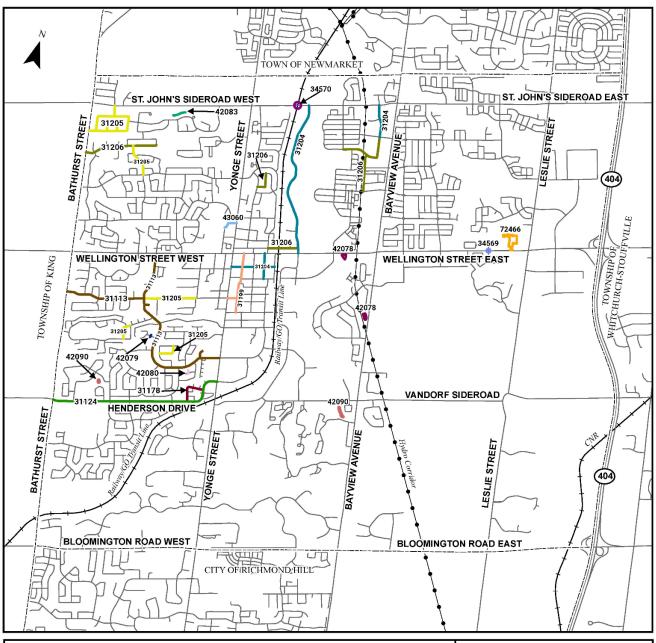
#### **Capital Program**

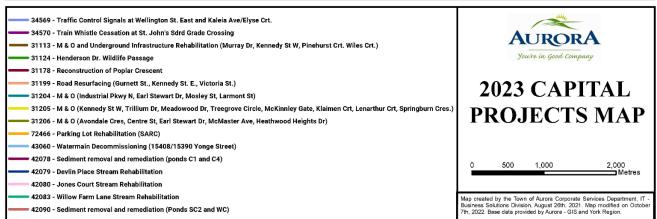
The 2023 Capital Budget includes capital program approval for fleet asset management capital projects. These programs provide the Town the flexibility to move funding between projects while not exceeding the Capital Budget Authority for the capital program and the planned 2023 capital cash flow. The detailed list of projects in the program are included in Tab 16 – Asset Management Capital.

## 10-Year Capital Plan

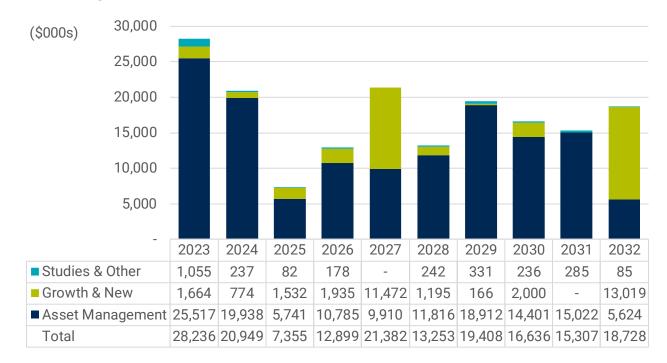
The 10-Year Capital Plan includes \$174.2 million in capital projects. To make the 10-Year Capital Plan affordable, \$19.9 million of roads asset management capital projects were removed from the plan. The projects were removed due to the funding constraints on the reserves. Delays in these projects may lead to higher operational maintenance costs and reduced level of service. The 10-year plan will still invest \$137.7 million in asset management capital projects. This represents 79% of the 10-year plan. Most of the planned spending in 2023 is to support asset management.

## Map of projects with 2023 Capital Budget Authority





#### 10-Year Capital Plan



#### **Key capital initiatives**

The capital plan for Planning and Development Services supports infrastructure, transportation, policy, and economic development through planned strategic capital projects. The 2023 Budget includes the following key projects to support these initiatives:

## 10-year road reconstruction and rehabilitation program

The 10-year road reconstruction and rehabilitation program is based on a comprehensive asset management plan that ensures the Town's desired road and related asset levels of services are maintained. This program includes reconstruction or rehabilitation projects in each year of the plan. The location of the projects is included on the map on the previous page.

#### Creek rehabilitation and flood control program

Planning and Development Services also manage the capital projects that support creek management and flood control in the Town. These projects are informed by the Stream Management Master Plan and Flood Relief Study. This master plan identifies the areas of concern and a range of opportunities to address them directly through broader watershed management strategies.

## Town of Aurora – Stormwater Management Inspection, Maintenance and Prioritization Services

The Town has partnered with LSRCA to deliver professional services for inspection and maintenance prioritization of the conventional stormwater management features and Low

Impact Development (LID) controls. The Town's Operational Services department is leading these efforts interconnected with Engineering, Asset Management and the Town's graphical information system (GIS). Engineering will be leading several capital projects, included in the 10-Year Capital Plan, to address the maintenance and rehabilitation of stormwater management ponds.

### Town-wide parking lot assessment/study

As part of the Town's proactive approach to managing its infrastructure assets, the Town is looking at maintaining its parking lot inventory. Well managed infrastructure fosters prosperity, growth, and quality of life for a community's residents, businesses, and visitors. Engineering staff assessed the existing Town's parking lot inventory and looked at opportunities for improvements as recommended by the LSRCA Parking Lot Design Guidelines to Promote Salt Reduction, AODA Design Guidelines and Facility Accessibility Design Guidelines, Engineering Design Guidelines, Comprehensive Zoning By-law, Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan, Community Energy Plan and EV Chargers Policy. Several capital projects related to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of parking lots were included in the 10-Year Capital Plan based on the recommendations of the study.

## Economic Development Strategic Action Plan

The next generation of the Economic Development Strategy will take the form of a strategic action plan that outlines specific initiatives that supports the new Official Plan, the Aurora Promenade, downtown revitalization, and business retention and expansion. Developed in partnership with the Aurora Economic Development Corporation, the updated strategy will provide direction and guide the Economic Development section's activities through 2030.

## Downtown streetscape and lighting

The Aurora Promenade Design Guidelines and Streetscape Plan were originally developed in 2013. In 2021, PDS and Operations staff began the process of updating the plan to incorporate the additions and changes to the Official Plan, the Aurora Promenade Secondary Plan, accessibility requirements, Green Development Standards, downtown revitalization efforts, and consultation regarding the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) update.

#### Progress on departmental objectives

These objectives were established during previously approved budgets. The following provides a status update on the progress of completing the objectives.

#### **New objectives**

#### **Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan**

The Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan (ECDM) provides a roadmap for corporate energy and carbon management at the Town of Aurora. It focuses mostly on energy use and greenhouse gas emissions at Town's facilities, contributing 85% of the Town's GHG emissions, while also addressing other sources of emissions from the Town's operations, such as Town-owned fleet and water/ wastewater facility emissions. The plan does not include activities by the broader community within Aurora's municipal boundary, which is addressed under the Community Energy Plan (CEP). This project identifies short and long-term capital projects and strategies supporting asset management plans, while mapping out a course to extend the life of these assets and reduce operating and maintenance costs over the remaining useful life. The plan will identify a sequence of GHG reduction measures that optimize and reduce operating costs overtime. The plan provides a pathway towards achieving a minimum of 80% reduction by 2050 compared to 2018, aligning with targets set out in the CEP. In addition to providing the Town with a roadmap to achieving GHG emissions targets, the ECDMP fulfills the Ontario Regulation 507/18 requirements, with a deadline of July 1, 2024.

#### Energy retrofit program business case

As recommended in the Community Energy Plan (CEP), the Town will develop a business case for the Residential and Commercial Existing Building Retrofit Program. The objectives of this program are to address the most common high energy uses within residential and commercial buildings and offer a holistic approach to improving its energy efficiency. The Town will hire a consultant for the development of a business case and investment-ready designs for the deepenergy retrofit program.

#### Natural capital asset management planning for municipal infrastructure

The study should align with the Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure, O. Reg. 588/17, and should include recommended stewardship plans and maintenance best practices to enhance and protect the Town's natural capital assets. Green infrastructure is defined in the Provincial Policy Statement as "natural or human-made elements that provide ecological and hydrological functions and processes and includes natural heritage features and systems, parklands, stormwater management systems, street trees, urban forests, natural channels, permeable surfaces, and green "roofs". The dual benefits for climate change adaptation and mitigation provided by green infrastructure make these assets incredibly valuable to the Town's overall approach to climate action, while also advancing other community priorities like recreation, health, and livability. Additionally, as green infrastructure assets are living systems and do not depreciate like other built infrastructure that degrades

over time, these assets need to be managed differently than traditional built infrastructure with an emphasis on maintaining and preserving natural and green spaces in a healthy state, particularly in key areas like riparian buffers and low-lying areas that will receive the greatest benefits for avoided flood damage.

#### Pavement Condition Assessment

The road network is a critical component of safe and efficient transportation services and represents one of the highest value asset categories in the Town's asset portfolio. It includes all municipally owned and maintained roadways in addition to supporting roadside infrastructure including, but not limited to pavement, curbs, and sidewalks. Pavement management systems are widely used by transportation agencies to maintain safe, durable, and economic road networks. The current pavement management philosophy is to: "apply" the right treatment to the right road at the right "time." Decisions on road rehabilitation are primarily managed through data-driven pavement modelling and management tools. The Town uses Road Matrix as the pavement modelling and management tool. This tool considers the road condition and the road classification in order to recommend the most cost-effective rehabilitation treatments within a finite funding envelope. The Town performs the Pavement Condition Assessment and the Road Needs Study every four to five years. The condition of pavement is measured by the Pavement Quality Index (PQI) and knowing and tracking the PQI allows the Town to assess if its road network is deteriorating over time under the current funding practices.

#### **Completed objectives**

# Expanded economic development mandate and the creation of an Office of Economic Development

Council approved the Economic Development Strategic Plan in July 2019. Economic Development Corporation was established, and Board members were recruited. An Economic Development Strategy "Implementation Matrix" was created and approved by Council. Subcommittee work continues with several project underway with a focus on business attraction, target sector marketing and downtown revitalization support. Implemented the patio expansion program in response to COVID-19 and worked with the Chamber on support programs for businesses.

#### Climate Change Adaptation Plan

The Climate Change Adaptation Plan provides a strategy to undertake several measures to protect various infrastructure across Aurora from potential climate change impacts. The cost of these measures will be incorporated into the Town's future Capital and Operating Budgets on a priority basis for consideration as part of the budget process. Examples of the adaptation measures include improving the resilience of the stormwater system to both extreme precipitation and drought events and incorporating future climate projections into future

cooling system upgrades. In total, the adaptation plan identifies 33 asset-specific adaptation actions that the Town should prioritize.

#### **Objectives in progress**

#### Preparation of Green Sustainable Development Guidelines

Staff received funding as part of the 2020 Capital Budget plan to procure consulting services to complete Town-wide Green Development Guidelines in accordance with the direction of the Official Plan. The project was launched in mid-2021 with stakeholder consultations being completed in Fall 2021 and presentation to Council in early 2022 for adoption of the GDS Phase I, "Green and Growing, Aurora's Green Development Standards." A website, instructional video and online compliance form was launched. Proudly, the GDS introduces 53 sustainability criteria applicable to new all major developments. Phase II to be implemented following the adoption of the Official Plan and potential Community Improvement Plan update in 2023.

#### <u>Aurora's Green Development Standards - Town of Aurora</u>

#### Digitized and enhance the planning application process through Cityview

Working through planning applications such as site plan control applications and Committee of Adjustment applications with Building Division and IT to help better utilize existing infrastructure to better organize application status. Additionally, a new interactive mapping tool was launched to provide development application information online.

#### Planning Application Status Map

### **Economic Development mandate**

The Economic Development Strategic Plan identified 30 actions as part of the implementation matrix, with 80% completed/started/ongoing, with 20% planned to start in 2023. One of the actions was working with the Aurora Economic Development Corporation to launch the new economic development campaign/brand "Emerging Aurora" to highlight and build awareness of the many businesses and entrepreneurs in Town. Campaign included a first ever Emerging Aurora business event that brough together key stakeholders in the healthcare and Healthtech industry. Emerging Aurora was front and centre at the 2022 Collision Conference in Toronto with York Region. Campaign continues through 2023.

#### Business and Development - Town of Aurora

# Implementation of transitioning to a paperless operating environment for Building Code plan examination through the purchase of Cityview Portal software

A digital process for plan examination was implemented in 2021 to improve internal and external efficiencies by purchasing software for marking up blueprints. This transformed the Building Division to a paperless online digital building permit process. Phase 2 is currently

being implemented by the CityView portal for online submission of applications and payment of building permit fees. The go live date for this phase is late 2022 or early 2023.

Implement succession planning and training; new technologies drive changes to the Ontario Building Code which requires the Town to continue providing proper training to Building staff

Building Inspectors continue to upgrade their Building Code qualifications to large and complex buildings. Courses have been taken through the OBOA. Inspectors will be taking the examinations for qualifications in that category of Building in 2023. As part of the Division's succession plan, the Zoning Plan Examiner is reviewing building permit applications for small projects and will be upgrading their qualifications under the large buildings category.

#### Town-wide Active Transportation Master Plan

Staff acted on the recommendations of the Aurora Transportation Master Plan to create an Active Transportation Master Plan and establish a connected network of cycling routes, trails, sidewalks, and walking paths that would provide Aurora's residents with active and healthy lifestyle options and the ability to travel throughout the Town and beyond with ease and without having to rely on a vehicle. The project is ongoing, and it is expected to be completed by the end of Q1 2023.

#### Registrar of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest Review

Development Planning staff initiated a review of the Town's Registrar of Properties of Cultural Value or Interest. A consultant was selected to consolidate the existing list and to provide evaluations of properties to assist staff in making informed decisions as it relates to legislated municipal processes under the Ontario Heritage Act. The project was completed in June 2022.

#### Official Plan Review

The Draft OP and Draft Promenade/MTSA Secondary plan were released in summer 2022 for public review and comment. Staff and the consultant team will be preparing for a public open house in the fall prior to prepare a revised draft of the Official Plan. Project completion scheduled for late 2023.

#### Community Improvement Plan (CIP) update

Staff received Council approval to proceed with an update to the Community Improvement Plan. Community consultation was conducted and currently staff are reviewing the feedback, best practices, and business case analysis to bring to a public meeting in early 2023. Intent is to follow the Official Plan's approval and seek adoption of the updated CIP in late 2023.

## **Abandoned objectives**

None

