

Elgin County Council Highlights



Council Receives Population Housing and Employment Forecasts and Associated Needs Analysis

Elgin County's Official Plan update is currently underway and to support this update, Hemson Consulting has been updating long-range growth outlooks including: Growth forecasts to 2046 and 2051 and a Lands Needs Assessment. The report finds that there has been increased population growth in Elgin since 2016. This growth is concentrated in Central Elgin, Bayham, Malahide and Aylmer, but growth pressures are widespread and present in all communities.

The full report is included in the June 28, 2022 County Council Agenda Package.

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Terrace Lodge Remains on Budget and On-Time with Tremendous Community Fundraising Support

As the 2022 construction season enters its second half, Phase One of the Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Project is progressing in general conformity to the approved construction schedule, and at this time is on track to move to Phase Two in late 2022. A 4-week schedule delay experienced thus far in 2022 was predominantly the result of a Construction Labour Action by a number of trades throughout the Province, resulting in suspension of work for a number of trades. A detailed summary of construction progress achieved to this point of 2022 is as follows;

- January 2022 – Exterior sheathing installation, interior metal stud framing and door frame installation, roofing system installation progressing.
- February 2022 – Exterior window frame and glazing installation proceeding. Mechanical and electrical rough-in proceeding, receiving addition elevator shaft construction started.
- March 2021 – Exterior window frame and glazing installation continuing, mechanical and electrical rough-ins continuing, roofing system cap sheet installation progressing.
- April 2022 – Brick veneer installation (south wing), installation of air/vapour barrier (north wing), the start of drywall installation (North wing)
- May 2022 – Brick veneer installation ongoing, drywall ongoing, receiving area addition wall framing and sheathing completed.
- June 2022 – Exterior brick veneer and siding installation ongoing, drywall ongoing, receiving addition roof nearing completion.

The project can be followed on the communications website:

<https://engageelgin.ca/tlredevelopment>.

The Fundraising Committee continues to plan, coordinate, implement and evaluate its activities in support of the Comforts of Home fundraising campaign. This campaign is designed to enhance the Terrace Lodge Redevelopment Project with amenities that will provide a more home-like environment for the residents. \$288,741.00 has been donated towards the campaign to date. You can follow the progress as regular updates are made to the online catalogue at www.donatetoterracelodge.ca.

Human Resources Policy Updates

Mileage Policy

County Council approved the amended HR Policy 10.50 Mileage, adopting the Canadian Revenue Agency's recommended mileage rate of \$0.61 per kilometre. The County's previous rate of \$0.45 per kilometre had not been adjusted in over a decade.

Dress Code Policy

County Council also approved an amended HR Policy 2.20 Dress Code. Amendments focused on modernizing the existing code to be consistent with comparator trends, and equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) requirements.

The Dress Code policy must support staff in safely and comfortably fulfilling the duties of their jobs. Given the diversity of position responsibilities across the organization, the dress code policy cannot be overly prescriptive, but must instead focus on overall corporate expectations, safety, and professionalism. Any references to gender-specific requirements have been removed or amended; ensuring Human Rights Code compliance and support for EDI.

Complete updated policies are included in the June 28, 2022 County Council Agenda Package.

Council Approves Updated Strategy for Economic Development and Tourism

Elgin County Council has approved a new Economic Development Strategy for 2022–2025. This strategy affirms the County's commitment to re-evaluate how it spends its time and resources so that Economic Development and Tourism can better support local entrepreneurs and foster an environment of opportunity for the County, its residents and businesses.

This Strategy will direct the efforts of the department over the next four (4) years, and staff will develop a detailed action plan to support the Strategy, which will include performance indicators, timelines, and required resources. The performance indicators will ensure that the priorities and actions outlined in the strategy meet the needs of the community. As staff engage with the community, they will review what they hear and improve the strategy to ensure that the County provides the best support possible to Local Municipal Partners and the business community.

The complete 2022–2025 Economic Development and Tourism Strategy is contained in the June 28, 2022 County Council Agenda Package.

Council Receives Affordable Housing Summary

As part of its 2022 Action Plan associated with the 2020–2022 Council Strategic Plan, Elgin County Council identified housing as one of its priorities for 2022. Council requested a summary of actions being taken by the County, its partners, and senior levels of government related to affordable housing. A summary report was presented to Council that included Federal Government Budget initiatives related to affordable housing, a summary of the Province of Ontario’s Bill 109, the More Homes for Everyone Act, and a list of housing initiatives currently being undertaken by Elgin County.

For the full summary please see the June 28, 2022 County Council Agenda Package.

Traffic Signal Modernization – Contract Award

County Council awarded the contract for Traffic Signal Modernization to Fortran Traffic Systems Inc. for a one-year term and authorized staff to extend the contract for an additional four (4) one-year terms, in accordance with section 7.6 of the Procurement Policy, subject to satisfactory performance during the initial one-year contract term, pricing and budget approval.

Council Approves Draft Plan of Subdivision for Straffordville

Elgin County Council granted draft plan approval to the Draft Plan of Subdivision proposed by CJD Engineering Ltd. File No. 34T-BY2101. The subject lands are located on lands known municipally as 8341 Sandytown Road in Straffordville approximately 100 m north of the intersection of Sandytown and Heritage Line in the community of Straffordville. The owner is requesting draft approval of a 5.9 ha plan of subdivision composed of 39 single-detached building lots to be developed in two phases (one phase of 13 lots, and the second phase of 26 lots), as well as a stormwater management block; a block containing a pumping station; and associated road widening.

Full details and conditions of approval are included in the June 28, 2022 County Council Agenda Package.

For the complete June 28, 2022 County Council Agenda Package please visit the Elgin County [website](#).