



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A8

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE – NEW OFFICIAL PLAN



You're Invited! The Town and its consultant team (WSP) will be hosting a Public Information Centre (PIC) to provide members of the public and community stakeholders with a summary of the comments that were received during the first phase of the new Official Plan project and provide information on next steps.

Why is the Town Hosting a PIC?

The Town of Essex is preparing a new Official Plan that will guide the Town's growth and land use planning for the next 25 years. As part of this project, the Town is also preparing a new Secondary Plan for the community of Colchester.

In 2024, the Town and its consultant team (WSP) completed a Draft of the new Official Plan and Colchester Hamlet Secondary Plan. The new Official Plan will align with the Provincial Planning Statement, adopted in 2024, and the County of Essex's new Official Plan, adopted in 2024.

Key proposed elements of the new Official Plan include protecting farmland, a new land use structure for growth, policies for compact and mixed-use development, a focus on active transportation and public spaces, climate change policies, and updated industrial and employment policies. Additionally, the Colchester Hamlet Secondary Plan is proposed to be updated to better align with community priorities.

The Town held three (3) Public Open Houses to present the first drafts of the Official Plan and Colchester Hamlet Secondary Plan to the public and obtain public feedback to help inform a future draft.

The Open Houses were held in Colchester, Essex Centre, and Harrow. As a result, the Town received hundreds of comments from citizens and stakeholders on the proposed Official Plan and Secondary Plan. The Town now wishes to share a summary of the feedback with you!



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PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

Date: Thursday, May 22nd, 2025

Time: Doors Open at 5:30pm. Presentation to start at 6:00pm with Question and Answers to follow.

Location: Harrow and Colchester South Community Centre in the Harrow Arena (243 McAfee Street)

RSVP: There is limited space for attendees. Participants are encouraged to RSVP to this event by contacting officialplan@essex.ca with the number of individuals in their party and will be accommodated on a "first come first serve basis". If you are unable to attend, or if space is limited, the presentation will be made available on the project website.

Participants are requested to provide their questions, if any, in advance of the meeting to officialplan@essex.ca

Stay Involved!

We encourage you to stay involved and share your input on the development of the new Official Plan and Colchester Hamlet Secondary Plan. Additional consultation efforts will continue through this next phase of the project. Drafts of the new Official Plan and Secondary Plan are available for review on the Town's website: www.essex.ca/officialplan. The website will continue to be updated as new information becomes available; therefore, we encourage you to subscribe to this Page. Hard copies of the drafts will continue to be available for review at our Gesto Municipal Office, **2610 County Road 12, Essex, ON, N8M 2X6**.

Learn more at www.essex.ca/officialplan

