

**DRAFT**

**OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA**

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA



October 28, 2019

**TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENTS**

<b>OPA No./ OMB Order</b>	<b>Date in Effect</b>	<b>Text Section(s)</b>	<b>Schedule(s)</b>
No. 18	Pending	New 4.5 and 9.12	"A" and "A-1" Strawberry Island

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# Section 1 – Introduction

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

The Township of Ramara was established as an independent municipality on January 1, 1994 after the amalgamation of the former Townships of Rama and Mara. It assumed responsibility for all local planning functions including overall planning, zoning, consents, subdivisions, and site planning. The Township used the separate Official Plans of the two former Townships until 2003 when a new comprehensive Official Plan was approved. This new Plan was intended to conform and be consistent with both the Provincial policy in place at the time, and the first County of Simcoe Official Plan, which had been approved in 1999.

According to Section 26 of the *Planning Act*, it is the responsibility of municipalities to perform an update of their existing Official Plan every five years. When the County initiated the update to the County Official Plan in 2009, it was agreed that all 16-member municipalities within the County would await the completion of the County update prior to updating the lower-tier Official Plans. This would ensure that lower-tier planning policies would be consistent with the upper-tier policies of the County. After the County Official Plan was approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs in 2016, the Township of Ramara initiated the process for updating the 2003 Official Plan.

In 2017, the Township initiated the Official Plan Update process with the preparation of background studies and community consultation. Since it had been 14 years since the Official Plan was updated, there was a significant amount of material and information that had to be integrated into the new Plan, including:

- *2014 Provincial Policy Statement;*
- *2017 Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe;*
- *Simcoe County Land Budget, 2015;*
- *Township of Ramara Corporate Strategic Plan, 2017;*
- *Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, 2009.*

Aside from new planning-related documents, the new Official Plan also integrates public comments, First Nation consultation and changes to the *Planning Act*.

### 1.2 Purpose of the Official Plan

The Township of Ramara Official Plan contains goals, objectives, and policies that guide Township Council, its committees, boards, officials, and the public with regard to land use and physical changes and their effects on economic, environmental and community considerations in the Township. The Official Plan incorporates implementation measures and procedures that

# Section 1 – Introduction

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may be used by the Township to achieve the objectives, to inform the public, and to obtain the public's views on proposed changes. The Plan is the basis for balancing the local public interests of residents, businesses, and landowners in the Township. In considering the public interest, Township Council will have regard to encouraging economic development to achieve the benefits of environmental protection and community well-being considerations.

The goals and objectives contained in this Official Plan may be achieved by policies and programs that are beyond the scope of this Plan.

## **1.2.1 Status and Effect of the Plan**

The *Planning Act* requires that the Township of Ramara prepare, adopt and update an Official Plan.

The County of Simcoe has the authority under the *Planning Act* to approve the Township of Ramara Official Plan. The County may approve all or part of the Township Official Plan and may modify the Official Plan, where necessary to be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014 (PPS) and to conform with the Growth Plan, 2017 and the County of Simcoe Official Plan. The County of Simcoe approves all amendments to the Township Official Plan.

The Township shall undertake no public work and no by-law may be passed by the Township that does not conform with the Official Plans of the County and the Township.

The Township's Official Plan may be more restrictive than the policies contained in the County Official Plan, however, in the event of a conflict, the County Official Plan prevails.

The Official Plan contains implementation measures that are wholly or partially within the jurisdiction of the Township of Ramara, under the *Planning Act*.

The Official Plan is used in the exercise of local planning authority and responsibilities with regard to official plan amendments, Zoning By-law amendments, subdivision plans, consents, variances to the Zoning By-law, development permits, site plan review and community improvement.

The Official Plan is to be read in its entirety and the relevant goals, objectives and policies are to be applied to each planning issue and situation.

## **1.2.2 Review and Amendment of the Official Plan**

It is the intent of the Township that the Official Plan policies and the implementation measures will be continuously monitored to reflect changes in the planning environment. Periodically, Township Council may initiate amendments to the Official Plan.

Anytime, any person or public authority that has an interest in the Official Plan may initiate amendments to the Official Plan.

# Section 1 – Introduction

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At least once every ten years after the Official Plan comes into effect, the Township Council is required to update the Plan in order to comply with changes in planning policy at the Provincial and Upper-tier levels. Revisions to the goals and objectives are substantive and will be considered comprehensively. Revisions to the Plan policies and implementation measures will reflect any changes to the goals and objectives.

## **2.0 BASIS OF THE PLAN AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TOWNSHIP**

Ramara Township has a land area of 417.3 square kilometres. The Township is located on the eastern shores of Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching within the County of Simcoe. It is the fifth largest municipality in land area within Simcoe County.

The physiography of the Township is diverse and complex. The area is divided between the Great Lakes Lowland and the Canadian Shield. It is within the physiographic regions of the Simcoe Lowlands, the Carden Plain and the Georgian Bay Fringe.

Ramara is a vibrant and growing rural community that provides settlements for families and older persons and has a diversified rural/agricultural economy. There are nine existing settlement areas identified within the Township: Atherley-Uptergrove, Brechin, Cooper's Falls, Gamebridge, Lagoon City, Longford Mills, Sebright, Udney and Washago. Most of the population lives in these settlement areas with the remainder along the shorelines and in the rural/agricultural areas.

### **2.1 Municipal Vision**

*A diverse community living in harmony and preserving Ramara's country setting. Whether permanent or seasonal, with urban and rural roots, all inhabitants are committed to conserving Ramara's natural and cultural heritage, natural resources and lifestyle.*

### **2.2 Population Profile**

Based on 2016 Census of Canada data, the Township of Ramara had a population of approximately 9,488 residents (Statistics Canada, 2017). Since 2001, the Township has experienced an average annual growth rate of approximately 0.68% per year. This compares with an average annual growth rate of 1.81% for the County of Simcoe and 1.19% for the Province of Ontario. The growth is attributed to net migration to the Township. People moving into the Township account for the largest share of population growth compared with people born to families in the Township.

The Township has a large and growing number of older persons. Persons aged 55 years and over account for 45% of the resident population. This compares with 30% for all of Ontario. This reflects Ramara as a destination for seniors and retirees.

## Section 2 – Basis of the Plan

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### 2.3 Economy

Ramara's economy can generally be characterized as 'Rural'. It is focused on the strengths of the primary industries of agriculture and aggregate production, and the local tourism industry.

#### 2.3.1 *Agricultural Industry*

The mainstay of the agricultural industry in Ramara is crop production. In 2016, there were 140 Census Farms operating in the Township with about 40% operating as beef and dairy farms and the remainder operating primarily for crop production.

The southern part of Ramara, south of the shield consists primarily of prime agricultural areas. This land is the most suitable for crop production and is a priority for protection and growth.

#### 2.3.2 *Aggregate Industry*

There are currently 14 licensed quarries on approximately 1,560 hectares and eight licensed sand and gravel pits on 140 hectares within the Township of Ramara. This equates to a total of 1,700 hectares of licensed aggregate operations and a total annual extraction limit of 7.4 million tonnes. More than 95% of the extraction limit is devoted to the quarries. The primary trucking routes used by most quarries and pits in the Township are County Road 169, Highway 12, County Road 47 and County Road 44.

#### 2.3.3 *Tourism Industry*

Ramara's tourism industry is an integral component of the local economy. There are two major segments within this industry, seasonal tourism and casino related tourism.

Recreational activities characterize the seasonal tourism industry and is centred around the waterways and lakes in and surrounding the Township as well as winter activities. The large number of seasonal dwellings demonstrates the importance of this segment that are located on the shores of Lake Simcoe, Lake Couchiching, Lake St. John, Lake Dalrymple, Green River, Talbot River and Black River.

Furthermore, the area immediately south of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Lands, known as the Rama Road Corridor, is an important tourist and destination commercial node.

#### 2.3.4 *Commercial Land Use*

Local commercial development within the settlement areas serves residents of Ramara, especially Brechin, Atherley-Uptergrove and Washago. Grocery stores, gas stations, variety stores, coffee shops, restaurants, personal service shops and other retail and service shops are located throughout the Township. These commercial businesses also serve the seasonal population and visitors to the Township.

## Section 2 – Basis of the Plan

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Specialty stores such as antique shops, arts and crafts stores, gift shops, golf courses and commercial recreation establishments serve both the seasonal visitors as well as the casino visitors.

### **2.3.5 Industrial Land Use**

To encourage further development of secondary and tertiary industries, the Township created the Ramara (formerly Mara) Industrial Park in 1986. Approximately 39 hectares immediately south of Brechin were designated industrial. Municipal water and wastewater service the area. Additional industrial lands are located to the south of the Ramara Industrial Park and are suitable for dry-industries.

### **2.3.6 Labour Force**

Ramara's employed labour force is estimated to be 4,370 people. Approximately 22% of the labour force works within the Township, either at home or at a usual place of work, with 45% working elsewhere in Simcoe County and the remainder beyond those borders.

There are many seasonal employment opportunities within the Township that can be attributed to aggregate operations, construction, and tourism.

The Township will continue to encourage and promote local economic development to provide a diversified economic base and increased employment opportunities within Ramara and to decrease the number of people commuting to jobs elsewhere in the County and beyond.

## **2.4 Chippewas of Rama (Mnjikaning) First Nation**

The reserve was established in 1836. It is located on eight separate parcels of land, in former Rama, and on several islands in Lake Couchiching, and has a total area of 10.67 km<sup>2</sup>. The community is outside the jurisdiction of the Township of Ramara. There are approximately 1,800 members, 1,000 of which are currently living on the reserve. Casino Rama, and its associated entertainment centre and hotel, located on the reserve is the primary economic activity and employer and provides economic prosperity for the County of Simcoe.

## **2.5 Plan Foundation – Trends and Forecasts**

### **2.5.1 Population**

It is estimated that by the year 2031, Ramara's population will approach 13,000 people. This is an average annual growth rate of 2.5% over 15 years. This projected population is viewed as a reasonable projection and compares favourably with the County of Simcoe projection for the Township. The projection is based on allocations from the County of Simcoe, through Schedule 7 of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

## Section 2 – Basis of the Plan

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### **2.5.2 Housing (Permanent Occupancy)**

According to the 2016 Census, there are over 4,000 dwellings occupied by permanent residents in the Township, of which 91% are in the form of single detached units. Almost half the housing was built prior to 1981. The average number of persons per household is 2.3. The relatively older median age of the Township (26%) explains the lower person per unit rate. Approximately 23% of households in the Township contain one person.

It is estimated that, to accommodate the projected 2031 population, approximately 1,400 new dwelling units are needed. Residential growth will be primarily directed to the existing settlement areas according to Provincial and County policies. A 15-year supply of housing is feasible within the Township's existing settlement areas.

### **2.5.3 Seasonal Dwellings and Population**

There are an estimated 2,000 seasonal dwellings with a potential population of 4,600 people.

The estimated existing total permanent resident and seasonal population is approximately 14,100 people. There will be limited opportunity for new seasonal dwellings on existing lots.

## **2.6 Policy Framework**

### **2.6.1 Planning Act**

Section 16 of the *Planning Act* provides the basis for municipalities to establish Official Plans that contain “goals, objectives and policies established primarily to manage and direct physical change and the effects on the social economic and natural environment of the municipality or part of it”. As noted in Section 17 of the *Planning Act*, the upper-tier municipality (Simcoe County) is responsible for the approval of the lower-tier (Ramara) municipal Official Plan.

### **2.6.2 Provincial Policy Statement**

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) issued under Section 3 of the *Planning Act*, came into effect on April 30, 2014. It is a statement of provincial interest on land use planning matters including managing growth and employment, economic development, housing, infrastructure, natural heritage, natural and human-made hazards, cultural heritage and mineral and aggregate resources. All planning authorities “shall be consistent with” the PPS regarding all planning matters including the development or updating of Official Plans and in making decisions on planning applications. Careful regard has been made to ensure that this Plan is consistent with the policies of the PPS. The goals, objectives, policies and guidelines reflect the provincial interest and meet the stated intent set out in the PPS.

### **2.6.3 Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2017)**

In 2006, the Province issued the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe through the *Places to Grow Act*, 2005. The Growth Plan, which was updated in 2017, is intended to guide

## Section 2 – Basis of the Plan

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decisions respecting transportation, infrastructure planning, land-use planning, housing, natural heritage, agriculture and resource protection. Although the PPS provides overall policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use and development, the Growth Plan prevails where there is a conflict, with two exceptions: natural environment and human health. Municipalities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe, including the Township of Ramara, are required “to conform with” the policies of the Growth Plan.

Under the Growth Plan, the Province has issued mapping associated with Natural Heritage Systems and Agricultural Systems. The details of this mapping have been incorporated into the Schedules of this Plan, as required by the Province.

### **2.6.4 County of Simcoe Official Plan**

The County of Simcoe Official Plan was approved and came into full force and effect on December 29, 2016. This plan sets out the upper-tier and lower-tier municipal policy structure. It provides guidance on broad land use planning, growth management, environmental protection and it implements the Provincial Policy Statement and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The Township of Ramara Official Plan is in conformity with the County Official Plan.

### **2.6.5 Local Basis for the Official Plan**

- To form the basis of planning for population and employment growth to the year 2031 as identified in the County of Simcoe Official Plan;
- To analyze and protect natural functions in County Greenlands and local natural heritage systems;
- To provide policies to implement the County and local greenlands systems and to incorporate identified natural features into growth management strategy;
- To identify existing settlement areas;
- To map prime agricultural areas;
- To map Special Development Areas, such as the Rama Road Economic Employment District, and direct development related to these economic generators to these areas;
- To maintain at least a 10-year supply of land designated and available for new residential development and/or intensification including at least a 3-year supply of residential lots with servicing capacity in draft approved or registered plans;
- To identify flood plains, fill lines and hazard lands, where available;
- To provide for a range of housing types, densities and costs to meet the needs of current and future residents within the Official Plan and Zoning By-law;



## Section 2 – Basis of the Plan

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- To contain cultural heritage resource policies for the development and maintenance of inventories of locally significant cultural heritage resources; and
- To contain policies to address the mineral aggregate resource policies of the County Plan.

### **2.6.6 Township of Ramara Strategic Plan**

In the spring of 2017, the Township of Ramara presented its Corporate Strategic Plan 2017 – 2022. The Strategic Plan is a five-year road map for staff and Council to follow that will help shape the future of the Township. The vision and mission statements, included in the Corporate Strategic Plan, should provide a basis for the goals and objectives of this Plan. They are as follows:

**Vision:** *A diverse community living in harmony and preserving Ramara’s country setting. Whether permanent or seasonal, with urban or rural roots, all inhabitants are committed to conserving Ramara’s natural and cultural heritage, natural resources and lifestyle.*

**Mission:** *The Township of Ramara will achieve the Vision by working cooperatively. Ramara staff and Council will **provide guidance through the Township’s Official Plan**, policies, budget process and service delivery to help assist and direct all community stakeholders. Our Vision will remain foremost in our minds as we provide services for our community and plan for growth.*

Six strategic priorities were identified in the Strategic Plan through consultation with ratepayers, community leaders and Township staff and Council. For each strategic priority, goals have been identified followed by the actions required to achieve those goals. Included in those strategic priorities are planning for growth and development, protecting significant natural heritage features and supporting a thriving agricultural sector.

## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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### 3.0 COMPREHENSIVE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

#### 3.1 Growth and Settlement Areas

##### Goal

To accommodate and manage projected growth and investment opportunities to the year 2031, considering the diversity of uses, activities, experiences and opportunities within existing settlement areas.

##### Objectives

1. Increase the number and variety of housing, employment, educational, cultural, recreational and other opportunities and experiences within settlement areas.
2. Encourage growth of residential, business and tourism related uses within settlement areas.
3. Increase densities and encourage infilling and intensification within settlement areas.
4. Provide for the orderly and logical extension of existing development within settlement areas.
5. Encourage the establishment of the Village Settlement Areas (Brechin, Lagoon City and Atherley-Uptergrove) as destinations for tourism, retail and health services.
6. Utilize existing infrastructure to increase capacity for growth within settlement areas.
7. Coordinate land use planning, particularly within the Rama Road Corridor, with the Mnjikaning (Chippewas of Rama) First Nation.

#### 3.2 Housing

##### Goal

To provide an optimum pattern of land use in order to provide a variety and choice of housing, consistent with population projections.

##### Objectives

1. Recognize the rural nature of the Township.
2. Direct a majority of residential development to locations where appropriate levels of infrastructure and *public service facilities* are or will be available to support current and projected needs, including Village Settlement Areas.

## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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3. Maintain at least a 10-year supply of land that can accommodate residential growth through intensification and redevelopment.
4. Maintain sufficient servicing capacity to provide at least a three-year supply of residential units through lands suitably zoned to facilitate residential intensification and redevelopment and land in draft approved and registered plans.
5. Enhance the range of housing choice, types, sizes, densities to meet the social, health and well-being requirements of current and future residents, including special needs requirements.
6. In consultation with the County of Simcoe, establish minimum targets for the provision of housing that is affordable to low and moderate-income households.
7. Encourage residential intensification and infilling within the Village Settlement Areas and establish development standards for residential intensification and redevelopment which minimize the cost of housing and facilitate compact urban form while maintaining the appropriate levels of public health and safety.
8. Recognize the importance of shoreline residential areas, both seasonal and year-round populations, and endeavor to maintain the character of shoreline residential communities.
9. Where appropriate, allow for the conversion of seasonal dwellings to permanent dwelling occupancies.

### **3.3 Community Well-Being and Accessibility**

#### **Goal**

To have regard for the community well-being of all people and to provide accessible access to all community services.

#### **Objectives**

1. Improve opportunities for all persons with disabilities, including accessibility.
2. Accommodate community-based social, education, health, cultural, religious and recreation facilities.
3. Provide for a public participation process that allows for opportunities to be heard, all viewpoints considered, and consensus building within the community.
4. Minimize the threat to life and the destruction of property from flooding, wave uprush, and other natural hazards.
5. Identify the location of existing and former waste disposal sites.

## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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6. Identify procedures for assessing contaminated sites.

### **3.4 Employment**

#### **Goal**

To provide the Township with employment opportunities, including an appropriate mix of jobs, local stores and services.

#### **Objectives**

1. Provide opportunities for retail, personal service, office and other business to locate in the settlement areas, primarily serving the needs of the residents.
2. Provide for the needs of the traveling and visiting public, within the development areas of the Township.
3. Provide a range of locations for economic activities.
4. Provide for the development of employment lands in the core areas of designated settlement areas.
5. To promote development on the lands traditionally designated for industrial uses for a broader range of industrial and compatible commercial uses so as to promote economic diversity and strength in the Township.
6. Encourage the development of tourism-related employment uses.
7. Develop recreational commercial uses that contribute to the overall attraction of the Township as a destination.
8. To ensure that new commercial and industrial development is not located where it would jeopardize existing and future residential applications, disrupt recreational, or impact environmentally sensitive areas.
9. Home-based, agriculture-related, and on-farm diversified uses should be encouraged where appropriate and where consistent with other Plan policies and objectives.

### **3.5 Tourism and Recreation**

#### **Goal**

To encourage the establishment of tourism and recreational uses within the Township and to encourage the expansion and/or redevelopment of existing tourist establishments. The Township shall promote recreational opportunities for the both the permanent and seasonal

## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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population. The Township also recognizes the Rama Road Corridor and area near Casino Rama as a vital tourism area that stimulates economic prosperity within the Township.

### Objectives

1. Provide opportunities for both active and passive recreational and tourist-related activities throughout the Township.
2. Recreation activities should be consistent with the objective of protecting and conserving natural heritage resources.
3. To retain and acquire waterfront lands for public access, wherever feasible.
4. Identify all existing tourist and recreational uses and encourage the establishment of tourism opportunities.
5. Recognize the importance of tourism as a primary economic driver that is vital to the sustainable growth of the Township.
6. Encourage tourism opportunities related to resource-based recreational uses.
7. Promote Destination Commercial development in the Rama Road Corridor.

### 3.6 Municipal Servicing

#### Goal

To provide for adequate, efficient, cost-effective wastewater treatment, water supply, surface water drainage and waste management facilities and services, and where necessary and required, in conjunction with the appropriate government agency.

#### Objectives

1. Encourage development that is environmentally appropriate, sustainable, innovative, efficient, and cost-effective in terms of its form, water usage and wastewater disposal.
2. Ensure that existing water and wastewater systems:
  - a) can be sustained by the water resources upon which they rely;
  - b) are feasible, financially viable and comply with all regulatory requirements; and
  - c) protect human health and the natural environment.
3. Intensification and redevelopment within settlement areas on existing municipal sewage and water services should be promoted, wherever feasible.

## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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4. Provide for efficient waste diversion and collection in conjunction with the County's waste disposal function.
5. Protect municipal source water through the control and regulation of hazardous land uses and activities within municipal Wellhead Protection Areas and Intake Protection Zones.

### **3.7 Natural Heritage System and Water**

#### **Goal**

To protect, conserve and enhance natural areas, including key natural heritage features and key hydrologic features and functions, and to protect and preserve the unique or special physical attributes of landforms.

#### **Objectives**

1. Prohibit development and site alteration within key natural heritage and key hydrologic features.
2. Protect the connectivity of all natural heritage and hydrologic features and functions by maintaining and improving, where possible, linkages.
3. Protect and restore the quantity and quality of surface water and ground water features to the greatest extent possible.
4. Restrict development and site alteration in or near sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features.
5. Encourage private landowner stewardship practices in both the urban and rural/agricultural parts of the Township, including water conservation.
6. Direct growth to settlement areas where it will have the least impact on natural heritage and hydrologic features and functions.
7. Create a network of privately and publicly owned natural heritage features and linkages.
8. Identify and protect areas within the Provincial Natural Heritage System.

### **3.8 Agricultural**

#### **Goal**

To identify and protect lands which display high agricultural potential for present and future agricultural uses.

## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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### Objectives

1. Preserve prime agricultural areas for agricultural, agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses.
2. Implement an agricultural system within the Township, in accordance with the Provincial Agricultural System.
3. To implement the guidelines of the Minimum Distance Separation Formulae when considering proposals for development within the Township.
4. Prohibit the creation of lots within the agricultural system areas.

### 3.9 Mineral Aggregate Resources

#### Goal

To identify significant mineral aggregate resources capable of extraction and which support the production of aggregate materials as part of the economic development of the Township.

#### Objectives

1. Ensure that identified high potential mineral aggregate resource areas are sufficiently separated from settlement areas and sensitive land uses and features, such as residential dwelling units and natural heritage features in order to avoid land use conflicts and impacts.
2. Ensure adequate and safe access and haul routes associated with mineral aggregate resource operations.
3. Haul routes within and through the Township shall be established and maintained in conjunction with other road authorities and the aggregate industry.
4. Ensure that the Township's interests are considered in the evaluation of new and expanding mineral aggregate operations.
5. Licensed mineral aggregate operations and future expansions and mineral aggregate resource areas shall be protected by appropriate setbacks from the impact of incompatible land uses.

### 3.10 Transportation

#### Goal

To provide an adequate and integrated transportation network and corridors for the efficient and safe movement of people and goods within the Township, as well as major development areas.

## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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### Objectives

1. Provide for the efficient and safe movement of local traffic and visitor traffic within the Township.
2. Provide for a hierarchy of public roadways as a network within the Township.
3. Enable the safe and efficient movement of pedestrians and cyclists within settlement areas and for access to settlement areas.
4. Provide for all-season recreational trails for cycling, walking, and snowmobiling.
5. Accommodate airport development that is compatible with existing and planned land uses.

### 3.11 Cultural Heritage Resources

#### Goal

To conserve built heritage resources, cultural heritage landscapes, archaeological resources and important landforms.

#### Objective

1. In considering land use changes, provide for the assessment of cultural heritage resources, where appropriate.
2. Where new development is proposed, consult with First Nations, wherever possible, in conserving cultural heritage and archaeological resources.

### 3.12 Community Improvements

#### Goal

To encourage the maintenance, *development*, *redevelopment* and rehabilitation of the physical environment to promote community improvement within the municipality. It is intended that such improvement shall increase the Township's economic and tourism base, promote job creation, and ensure the continuity of the Township's established quality of life.

#### Objectives

1. To encourage by all possible means private sector efforts to upgrade existing properties and facilities.
  - a. Where financially feasible to continue to develop and improve municipal physical, social and recreational facilities and services.



## Section 3 – Comprehensive Goals and Objectives

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2. To participate in and/or encourage projects and programs which improve the Township's physical environment and expand the economic base

# Section 4 – Growth Management Strategy

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## 4.0 GROWTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

### 4.1 Settlement Area Objectives

1. Direct planned residential, educational, recreational, cultural and employment related growth to appropriate settlement areas;
2. Provide for the planned, efficient, compact development of the settlement areas;
3. Identify development lands for each settlement area;
4. Direct a majority of growth to those settlement areas with existing municipal water and wastewater treatment services;
5. Provide for private communal water supply and wastewater treatment services where environmentally and financially feasible and limit extent of partial services;
6. Develop a local road system for safe and convenient local vehicular and pedestrian traffic movement and minimize vehicular – pedestrian conflicts;
7. Encourage business development to provide employment opportunities for the existing and future residents of the Township;
8. Provide for commercial uses that cater to and serve local needs of the residents and business of the settlement and the surrounding rural and agricultural community;
9. Provide social, educational, cultural, health and recreational opportunities for local residents and the surrounding rural and agricultural community;
10. Encourage the development of settlement areas as *complete communities*;
11. Minimize land use conflicts with the rural, agricultural and natural resource activities; and
12. Protect natural heritage features and areas and conserve key hydrologic features and functions, within settlement areas and within subwatersheds.

#### 4.1.1 Settlement Area Policies

1. There are nine recognized settlement areas in the Township of Ramara:
  - Atherley-Uptergrove
  - Brechin
  - Cooper's Falls
  - Gamebridge
  - Lagoon City

## Section 4 – Growth Management Strategy

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- Longford Mills
- Sebright
- Udney
  
- Washago

### 4.1.2 Classification of Settlement Areas

Township settlement areas are divided into two types: Village Settlement Areas (Full (or Future) Services) and Rural Settlement Areas (Partial Services).

1. **Village Settlement Areas (Full Services)** are intended to function as core areas of the Township. They will accommodate most of residential, institutional, employment and non-resources related growth of the Township during the life of this Plan.
  - a. Classification as a Village Settlement Area is based on the following criteria:
    - i. The level of municipal or communal water supply and wastewater treatment service or the opportunity to provide full municipal services;
    - ii. The size of residential population;
    - iii. The presence of public and private, cultural, education, health and recreational uses and services;
    - iv. The variety of existing services in the settlement areas; and
    - v. The opportunity to accommodate planned growth within existing designated lands.
  - b. The Village Settlement Areas (Full Services) include:
    - o Brechin
    - o Lagoon City
    - o Atherley-Uptergrove (not currently municipally serviced)
  - c. Preferred water supply and wastewater treatment services for new development are municipal. However, other forms of servicing within the Atherley-Uptergrove Village, such as partial and individual on-site servicing, may be permitted subject to the policies of the County of Simcoe Official Plan and the hierarchy of services provided in the Provincial Policy Statement.
2. **Rural Settlement Areas** are characterized by lower population, limited cultural and recreation services and economic uses; have not been identified as areas for major growth; or are generally located at a municipal boundary. The existing Rural Settlement Areas include:

## Section 4 – Growth Management Strategy

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- Cooper's Falls
  - Gamebridge
  - Longford Mills
  - Sebright
  - Udney
  - Washago
- a. Preferred water supply and wastewater services for new development are private individual or communal.

### **4.1.3 Settlement Area General Policies**

1. Settlement related development shall occur within the boundaries of the settlement areas through specific Village designations.
2. Land use designations within the Villages will generally establish:
  - a. the development lands within the settlement area;
  - b. the existing or opportunity for municipal or communal services;
  - c. consideration of well protection areas;
  - d. subwatershed limits and local drainage boundaries and patterns;
  - e. location of central stormwater management systems and facilities;
  - f. the existing and appropriate future location of community, institutional, recreation and cultural uses such as schools, libraries, parks and day nurseries;
  - g. the extent of key natural heritage features and functions including groundwater recharge and discharge areas to be protected and conserved;
  - h. the transportation network including the local road network, arterial and collector road systems, all-season walkways, bicycle paths, trails and transit;
  - i. urban design guidelines; and
  - j. monitoring protocols for surface and groundwater quantity and quality, key natural heritage features and functions as well as stormwater management.

### **4.1.4 Rural Settlement Area General Policies**

Rural Settlement Areas will be limited in spatial extent to existing Official Plan designations and any growth will generally take place through infilling by severance of land.

## Section 4 – Growth Management Strategy

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### 4.2 Rama Road Economic Employment District Objectives

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe identifies a portion of the Rama Road Corridor as a special economic area known as the Rama Road Economic Employment District, as shown on Schedule “A1” It is not a settlement area, but an employment area. It is a major centre of economic growth in the Township and the County. Development will be in accordance with the directive issued by the Minister of Infrastructure on September 24, 2012. *Major retail* uses are not permitted.

In order to reflect the policies of the Growth Plan and the County Official Plan, the Township shall:

1. Stimulate growth of tourism and commercial activities, as destinations, by improving existing services and facilities for existing and future demand and utilization and encourage new and expanded visitor facilities;
2. Promote and provide for casino related recreational and commercial growth; and
3. Provide for the efficient and safe movement of local traffic and visitor traffic within and through the Rama Road Economic Employment District.

# Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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## 5.0 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INFRASTRUCTURE

### 5.1 Water Supply

1. Water required for residential, non-residential and agricultural purposes will be obtained from groundwater and surface water resources within the Township subject to provincial statutes and regulations.
2. Water supplied for all land uses may be provided by the Township or individually by landowners or communally by private owners. Partial Services are only permitted in accordance with Section 6.2 of this Plan.
3. Water distribution systems may be owned and operated by the Township or communally by private owners.
4. All public and private water taking, water supply and water distribution systems and individual supply shall be designed and operated according to provincial statutes and regulations and municipal by-laws and guidelines.
5. The Township and any landowner/developer shall individually or jointly prepare servicing feasibility and environmental assessment studies to determine appropriate alternative water supply options based on the following criteria:
  - a. Where more than 5 residential lots or dwelling units are proposed or may potentially be developed.
  - b. The proposed development and area wide or watershed development potential;
  - c. Physical and environmental constraints on water supply and distribution;
  - d. Potential impacts on groundwater and surface water quantity and quality resources;
  - e. Costs and benefits of supply, distribution, operation and maintenance of systems;
6. Alternative water supply options in Villages (Full Service Settlement Areas) shall include:
  - a. Water supply and distribution systems owned and operated by the Township;
  - b. Privately owned and operated communal systems, where new development is proposed;
  - c. New municipal or communal water supply and distribution systems in conjunction with new municipal or communal wastewater treatment systems; and

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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- d. Where municipal or communal wastewater treatment systems exist, any settlement expansion for new development shall be serviced by municipal or communal water supply and distribution systems; and
  - e. Any infilling development that proposes more than 5 residential lots or dwelling units within an existing settlement area and is to be serviced by individual water supply systems shall be supported by a settlement capability study and/or servicing feasibility study.
7. Alternative water supply options in Rural Settlement Areas (Partial Service Settlement Areas) shall include:
- a. Individual water supply systems where 5 or fewer residential lots or dwelling units are proposed within the Rural Settlement Areas; and
  - b. Privately owned and operated communal systems.
8. Alternative water supply options in the Rama Road Economic Employment District shall include:
- a. Water supply and distribution systems owned and operated by the Township;
  - b. If necessary, privately owned and operated communal systems in conjunction with new communal wastewater treatment systems; and
  - c. Please note that individual water supply systems for new development are not preferred.
9. In considering the feasibility of privately owned and operated communal water supply, the Township shall determine the desirability of entering into a responsibility agreement regarding future ownership and liability in the event of default.

### **5.2 Wastewater Treatment**

1. Wastewater treatment required for residential, non-residential and agricultural purposes is intended to protect the quality of surface water and groundwater quality according to federal and provincial standards.
2. Protection of water quality is intended to achieve human health and environmental health objectives.
3. Wastewater treatment for all land uses may be provided by the Township or individually by private landowners or communally by private owners. Partial Services are only permitted in accordance with Section 6.2 of this Plan.

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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4. Wastewater treatment systems may be owned and operated by the Township or communally by private owners.
5. All wastewater treatment systems and individual treatment shall be designed and operated according to provincial standards and regulations and municipal by-laws and guidelines.
6. The Township and any landowner/developer shall individually or jointly prepare servicing feasibility and environmental assessment studies to determine appropriate alternative wastewater treatment options based on the following criteria:
  - a. where more than 5 residential lots or dwelling units are proposed or may potentially be developed.
  - b. the proposed development and area wide or watershed development potential;
  - c. physical and environmental constraints on wastewater treatment and collection;
  - d. potential impacts on groundwater and surface water quality resources;
  - e. costs and benefits of treatment, collection, operation and maintenance of systems;
7. Alternative wastewater treatment options in Villages (Full Service Settlement Areas) shall include:
  - a. Wastewater treatment and collection systems owned and operated by the Township;
  - b. Privately owned and operated communal systems, where new development is proposed;
  - c. New municipal or communal wastewater treatment and collection systems in conjunction with new municipal or communal water supply systems;
  - d. Where municipal or communal water supply systems exist, any settlement expansion for new development shall be serviced by municipal or communal wastewater treatment and collection systems; and
  - e. Any infilling development that proposes more than 5 residential lots or dwelling units within an existing Settlement Area and is to be serviced by individual wastewater treatment systems shall be supported by a settlement capability study and/or servicing feasibility study.
8. Alternative wastewater treatment options in Rural Settlement Areas (Partial Service Settlement Area) shall include:
  - a. Privately owned and operated communal systems for new, proposed development within the Rural Settlement Areas; and



## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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- b. Individual wastewater treatment systems where 5 or fewer residential lots or dwelling units are proposed within the Rural Settlement Areas.
9. Alternative wastewater treatment options in the Rama Road Special Development Area shall include:
  - a. Wastewater treatment and collection systems owned and operated by the Township;
  - b. If necessary, privately owned and operated communal systems in conjunction with new communal water supply systems; and
  - c. Individual wastewater treatment systems for new development are not preferred.
10. Alternative wastewater treatment options in Shoreline Residential Areas shall include:
  - a. Expansion of existing communal wastewater treatment and individual wastewater treatment systems within existing areas and lot clusters; and
  - b. Provision of municipal wastewater treatment and collection systems, where feasible.
11. Alternative wastewater treatment options for any development not included in Sections 6.2.7 to 6.2.10 of this Plan shall be determined according to appropriate provincial and municipal regulations, standards and guidelines.
12. In considering the feasibility of privately owned and operated communal wastewater, the Township shall determine the desirability of entering into a responsibility agreement regarding future ownership and liability in the event of default.

### 5.3 Partial services

Partial services shall only be permitted in the following circumstances:

- a. where they are necessary to address failed individual on-site sewage services and individual on-site water services in existing development; or
- b. within settlement Villages and Rural Settlement Areas, to allow for infilling and minor rounding out of existing development on partial services provided that site conditions are suitable for the long-term provision of such services with no negative impact.

### 5.4 Stormwater Management

1. Stormwater management systems shall be designed and maintained for development and/or site alteration that exceeds five residential lots or units in Settlement Areas, Destination Commercial, Highway Commercial and Industrial designations.

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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2. Stormwater management facilities may be owned and operated by the Township or individually and communally by private owners.
3. All stormwater management facilities shall be designed and operated according to provincial standards, regulations and municipal by-laws and guidelines and conservation authority standards regarding water quality in Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching.
4. The stormwater management facilities shall be designed to maintain groundwater and water course base flow; protect surface and groundwater quality; protect aquatic species and natural area habitat; prevent erosion; and mitigate flood risk.
5. Development and/or site alteration proposals shall minimize impervious areas and maximize natural areas to achieve minimal surface water volumes and contaminant loadings.
6. The Township and land owner/developer shall individually or jointly prepare stormwater management studies and/or plans to determine appropriate alternative surface water management options.
7. In Shoreline Residential Areas, and on the shorelines of lakes and watercourses, the Township will prepare and adopt guidelines for stormwater management that shall be used to improve existing drainage patterns and facilities and that shall be considered where development and/or site alteration of existing lots and infilling is proposed. Stormwater management measures include maximum building coverage on individual lots; minimum setbacks from lot lines; provisions for swales and on-site ponds; maximum height of ground floors; maximum area of ground floor openings; maximum impervious area on individual lots; maximum heights and base areas of berms and walls; easements to convey surface water; width and depth of roadside ditches; communal stormwater detention/retention areas.

### **5.4.1 Low Impact Development**

1. An application for Site Plan Approval for a *major development* shall be accompanied by a Low Impact Development (LID) Evaluation as part of an overall Stormwater Management Report. This evaluation shall be prepared by a qualified professional to the satisfaction of the Township prior to any planning approvals. For the purposes of this policy, a *major development* is defined as a proposal with a proposed impervious surface area greater than 500 m<sup>2</sup>.
2. The LID Evaluation must demonstrate that the quality and quantity of surface and groundwater in the area will be maintained and/or enhanced using LID techniques. The Evaluation must also demonstrate that there will be no negative impacts on the associated aquatic features and their ecological function that depend on the contributing surface water or groundwater including wetlands, watercourses, and fish habitat. The LID Evaluation shall be prepared in accordance with the following:

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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- a) The Township's Comprehensive Stormwater Management Master Plan, to be prepared in accordance with Section 4.5-SA of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (2009);
  - b) Subwatershed Evaluations under Section 8.3-SA of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan;
  - c) Policies 4.8 to 4.11, and 6.40 of the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan;
  - d) Policy 1.6.6.7 of the Provincial Policy Statement; and
  - e) Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Technical Guidelines for Stormwater Management Submissions.
3. In particular, the LID Evaluation shall consider the suitability of the following techniques as part of the development proposal:
- a) rainwater harvesting to promote water re-use;
  - b) infiltration galleries to maintain water balance and reduce runoff;
  - c) enhanced swales to help improve water quality;
  - d) green roofs to provide evapotranspiration and aesthetic benefits; and
  - e) natural landscapes to minimize water use and consumption.
4. The LID strategies and techniques recommended in the LID Evaluation may be included as part of a site plan agreement, plan of subdivision/condominium, or any other agreements executed under the Planning Act, in order to ensure that the LID stormwater measurements are installed during construction and maintained in perpetuity.
5. Further to Section 5.4.1.10, and prior to the preparation of any Stormwater Management Report, the qualified professional shall consult with the municipality and conservation authority in order to establish the proper terms of reference for the Evaluation. Based on the magnitude, scale, and nature of the proposed development, the municipality in consultation with the conservation authority may scope the Evaluation.

### 5.5 Source Water Protection

Areas subject to Source Water Protection policies are shown on Schedule C of this Plan. However, policies related to the protection of source water resources are found in the Simcoe County Official Plan. Therefore, the Source Water Protection policies of the Simcoe County Official Plan should be consulted when considering development that may impact source water protection areas. Furthermore, the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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should also be consulted when conducting certain uses and activities within these source water protection areas.

### 5.6 Waste Management

1. The County of Simcoe is responsible for the development, operation, monitoring, maintenance and rehabilitation of all County-owned waste management facilities.
2. Schedule “E” in this Plan identifies known active and closed waste disposal sites in the Township. Any proposal for development and/or site alteration within the 500 metre D-4 Assessment Area of a waste disposal site shall consider the following impacts of these known sites in a D-4 Study prepared by the land owner to the satisfaction of the Township and/or the County of Simcoe:
  - Methane gas migration;
  - Noise, odour, dust or other nuisance factors;
  - Potential traffic impacts;
  - Ground and surface water contamination by leachate migration; and
  - Impact of proposed development/site alteration on leachate migration.
3. Where development is proposed within the D-4 Assessment Area of a County owned waste disposal site, or where the County is the D-4 Approval Authority, D-4 Studies will be required and peer reviewed and their proposed conditions including mitigation and monitoring will be subject to the approval of the appropriate County staff and implemented accordingly.
4. Where development is proposed within the D-4 Assessment Area of a private or local municipality owned waste disposal site, the Township will determine the need for D-4 Studies and peer reviews, and the implementation of the proposed conditions including mitigation and monitoring will be determined by the Township.
5. In the Comprehensive Zoning By-law, the Township shall add a holding provision to the lands identified on Schedule “E”. The Township may remove the holding provision when the required assessment of impacts has been completed to the satisfaction of the Township and the County of Simcoe.
6. Any new or expanded publicly or privately-operated waste management facility shall be subject to an amendment to this Plan.
7. Any proposal for the establishment or expansion of a public or private waste management facility shall be considered by the Township with regard to the environmental, social and economic impacts.
8. Any proposal for a waste disposal site, including a recycling facility that is subject to approval under the *Environmental Protection Act* shall be considered as waste management and shall require an amendment to this Plan.

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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9. The development of new or expanded sensitive land uses such as residential dwellings shall be separated from the boundary of existing and designated waste management facilities according to provincial criteria in effect.

### 5.7 Utilities

1. All major public and private operated electrical power, oil, gas and communication facilities locating within the Township shall be assessed to protect the interests of the Township as expressed in this Plan and shall have regard to the land use policies in Section 8 of this Plan.
2. All utility facilities proposed to be located, relocated or replaced within a road allowance under the jurisdiction of the Township shall be subject to public consultation.

### 5.8 Road Transportation

1. The Transportation Plan, shown as Schedule “F” in this Plan, supports the Township’s settlement and land use pattern. Roads are classified by jurisdiction and function, as follows:
  - Provincial highways – arterials
  - County roads – arterials
  - Township roads – collectors
  - Township roads – local streets

Township Roads that are Seasonal Roads are designated with a symbol on Schedule “F”.

Township roads intersections that may require further study by the Township and improvements are not identified on the Roads Plan.

2. Provincial Highways are designed for interregional transportation and have capacity for large daily volumes of traffic. Access to and from adjacent lands are restricted and are controlled by provincial government regulations.
3. County Roads are designed for intra-County transportation and have capacity for large volumes of traffic. Signs, setbacks and access to and from adjacent lands are restricted and are controlled by the County of Simcoe Official Plan and by-laws.
4. Township Roads are designed for intra-Township transportation and to provide access to and from adjacent lands and to connect to the provincial and county road network. Access is controlled by this Plan, Township control access by-laws and the use of 0.3 metre reserves.
5. Where feasible, access to new and changing development areas shall be from Township Roads rather than from provincial highways and County roads.

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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6. The Township shall identify and designate, by by-law, Township Roads as haul routes associated with licensed pits and quarries that are located within the Township according to guidelines and criteria that may be adopted for the design, operation and maintenance of these routes.
7. The designation of new public rights-of-way or the establishment of new, realigned or widened public roads or intersections under any jurisdiction that are subject to environmental assessment and approval do not require an amendment to this Plan.
8. The Township may protect a future right-of-way or widening for road and intersection improvements subject to appropriate planning Roads Needs Study and environmental assessment processes without amendment to this Plan and that widenings shall be dedicated to the Township, at no cost to the Township, as a condition of planning approval.
9. Unopened Township road allowances may be opened by by-law enacted by the Township pursuant to a land use proposal and/or subject to a Roads Needs or Roads Engineering Study, and subject to required Township agreements. Schedule “C” shall be amended to designate an opened Township Road as a collector or a local street.
10. The Township may assume or accept new road rights-of-ways designed, constructed and/or maintained to Township road design standards.
11. Seasonal Roads identified on this Plan may be improved and opened year-round by the Township subject to agreement with benefitting landowners. Schedule “F” of this Plan shall be amended to remove the Seasonal Road symbol. No new lot shall be created on a Seasonal Road.
12. The Township prefers the design of Township roads that are through roads or where there is provision for secondary access and discourages permanent “dead-end” or “cul-de-sac” roads.
13. The Township shall require road entrance permits for new or altered entrances to Township roads for safety, drainage and efficiency purposes.
14. Where necessary, any proposal for development and redevelopment of land and for all applications for new or expanded pits and quarries, shall be considered subject to a Traffic Impact Study and/or a Road Engineering Study, by the proponent, to address road and intersection capacity, safe access, design, road widening and turning lane requirement, surface drainage, and where appropriate, noise impact and attenuation.
15. The Township shall adopt municipal road design and maintenance standards for all Township Roads.
16. The establishment and maintenance of new or realigned private rights-of-way for multiple property access shall be administered by agreement, right-of-way or easement among landowners.

## Section 5 – Public and Private Infrastructure

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17. The Township shall not assume responsibility for the ownership, operation and maintenance of private rights-of-way. The Township Zoning By-law shall require minimum setbacks from private rights-of-way for all buildings and structures.
18. The Township may provide for cycling facilities within Township road rights-of-way, and other Township lands, and will encourage cycling facilities within provincial and county roads.
19. The design of new land use areas within settlement areas shall include provisions for cycling and walking facilities and other all-season trail systems.

### **5.9 Air Transportation**

1. Existing private aircraft landing strips and private airport facilities are recognized as integral to the transportation system within the Township.
2. Expansion to air facilities shall be considered by the Township with regard to land use policies of this Plan and any expansion shall ensure that projected aircraft noise is compatible with existing and planned land uses in the vicinity of the airport.

### **5.10 Rail Transportation**

1. The Township will encourage the grade separation of railway lines and major roads and the improvement of safe grade crossings on all roads.
2. The Township will consider closing grade crossings where deemed appropriate.

### **5.11 Parks and Open Space**

1. The Township recognizes that forests, parks and trails are integral to the enjoyment of all residents of the Township.
2. The Township will encourage the protection of existing woodlands within existing settlement areas as recreational urban forests for use by residents and visitors.
3. The Township will work jointly with the provincial and County governments to establish a strategy for the implementation of a Parks and Recreation Plan. Part of the implementation measures may include public acquisition, conservation easements, development rights bonus, property tax incentives and other measures permitted and encouraged by provincial statute, regulation and policy.

# Section 6 – General Development Policies

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## 6.0 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

### 6.1 General Policies

#### 6.1.1 *Interpretation*

1. This entire document, including definitions, tables and schedules constitute the Official Plan of the Township of Ramara.
2. The goals, objectives and policies of this Plan provide the stated intentions of Township Council.
3. The goals, objectives and policies considered together determine conformity with this Plan. Definitions, tables and schedules are to be interpreted in conjunction with the associated text in this Plan.
4. Township Council shall decide the interpretation of this Plan where differences of opinion arise as to the meaning and effect of any part of this Plan.
5. The boundaries of any land use classification shown on any schedule in this Plan are subject to minor variation without amendment to this Plan except where the boundaries coincide with fixed boundaries such as the limits of roads, hydro corridors, railways, watercourses and shorelines or where specifically fixed by this Plan.
6. Boundaries of natural area features and natural resource areas shown on any schedule in this Plan may be interpreted by Township Council subject to precise study and measurement and consultation with other agencies.
7. References to federal and provincial government statutes, regulations, policies and guidelines and to the County of Simcoe Official Plan includes amendments thereto.

#### 6.1.2 *Existing Uses*

Any legally existing land use at the date of approval of this plan that does not conform with the land use designations as shown on Schedule “A1” or the policies related thereto should eventually, as a general rule, cease to exist. However, it may be desirable to permit the extension or enlargement of such a non-conforming use in order to avoid unnecessary hardship. Such an enlargement or extension must require an application for permission under Section 45(2) of the *Planning Act*. An application for permission will be evaluated pursuant to the requirements under 45(2) of the *Planning Act*.

#### 6.1.3 *Lots of Record*

1. Where a lot having a lesser lot area, lot depth and/or lot frontage than that required herein, or a lot lacking frontage on a public road, or a lot which is deficient in any other way



## Section 6 – General Development Policies

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according to the policies of this Plan, is held under distinct and separate ownership from abutting lots as shown by a registered conveyance in the records of the Registry or Land Titles Office at the date of the adoption of this Plan, or where such a lot is created as a result of expropriation, such deficient lot may be used and a building or structure may be erected, altered or used on such smaller lot, provided that the owner complies with all other requirements of this Plan, subject to the following:

- a. The lot has frontage on an existing public road maintained year-round by the municipality and developed to a standard that meets the requirements of the Ministry of Transportation for subsidy purposes; or,
- b. The lot has frontage on a navigable body of water or is accessed by a private right-of-way, provided an appropriate zone category that clearly sets out expectations for municipal service delivery is applied to the lot.

### **6.1.4 Utilities**

The following uses, services and facilities owned and/or operated by or on behalf of any government agency and public or private utility are permitted in any land use designation:

1. Utilities, facilities and services for the transmission of water and wastewater, natural gas, roads, bridges and railway lines;
2. All electric power facilities, including generation, transmission lines, transformer and distribution stations;
3. All telecommunication facilities; and

The utilities must be in conformity with the land use policies of this Plan and shall be compatible in scale, magnitude and character with existing and planned land uses in the area.

### **6.1.5 Minimum Distance Separation**

1. All new development, including the creation of new lots, and new or expanding livestock operations, shall comply with the Minimum Distance Separation 1 (MDS 1) and Minimum Distance Separation 2 (MDS 2) Formulae and criteria as established by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (Publication 853, 2016) as amended from time to time.
2. MDS shall not apply to lands in the Village, Rural Settlement Area and Shoreline designation as identified on all land use schedules or vacation lots of record.

### **6.1.6 Mobile Homes, Manufactured Homes and Park Model Trailers**

New manufactured homes are permitted as single detached dwellings within appropriate land use designations. New development that includes mobile homes or park model trailers is not permitted within the Township.

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### **6.1.7 Individual Care Facilities**

1. In all Villages and Rural Settlement Areas, and where residential uses are permitted in other land use designations, individual care facilities shall be permitted.
2. Individual care facilities include group homes, residential care facilities, day nurseries and garden suites.
3. The Township Zoning By-law shall provide for these uses in specific zones and regulations for the establishment and enlargement of these permitted uses shall be included in the Zoning By-law.

### **6.1.8 Public Parks and Open Space**

Public parks and open space for use in settlement areas shall be acquired by the Township primarily through new plans of subdivision. Acquisition of land or alternatives will be undertaken under the provisions of the *Planning Act* as a condition of planning approval.

### **6.1.9 Wayside Pits and Quarries**

Wayside pits and quarries are temporary operations opened and used by or for a public authority solely for the purpose of a particular project or contract of road construction and not located on the road right-of-way.

The following policies shall apply to the establishment and operation of wayside pits and quarries and portable asphalt plants in the Township.

1. No Requirement for Amendment
  - a. Wayside pits and quarries used on public authority contracts shall be permitted, without the need for an amendment to this Plan or Zoning By-law, in any designation except a residential land use designation that is zoned for residential use, or land designated or zoned Natural Area Protection (or equivalent), provided that the use conforms to the *Aggregate Resources Act*.
  - b. Notwithstanding the above, wayside pits and quarries shall be prohibited in Villages, Rural Settlement Areas and Shoreline Residential areas.
2. Rehabilitation Requirements
  - a. A wayside pit or quarry must be rehabilitated to the standards required by the *Aggregate Resources Act*.
  - b. On prime agricultural lands, as defined in the Provincial Policy Statement 2014 and Growth Plan 2017, wayside pit and quarry operation may occur provided the agricultural rehabilitation of the site is professionally carried out and substantially the

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same acreage and average soil quality for agriculture are restored. Complete rehabilitation of prime agricultural lands is not required if:

- i. There is substantial quantity of mineral aggregate below the water table warranting extraction; or,
  - ii. The depth of planned extraction in a quarry makes restoration of pre-extraction agricultural capability unfeasible; and
  - iii. The applicant has considered alternative sources of supply (on prime agricultural lands where rehabilitation to agriculture is possible, on poorer quality agricultural lands, and on lands identified as designated growth areas) and found them unsuitable. Where no other alternatives are found, prime agricultural lands shall be protected in this order of priority: specialty crop areas, and Canada Land Inventory Classes 1,2 and 3; and
  - iv. Rehabilitation to agriculture is maximized in the remainder of the licensed area.
- c. Development Agreement

Prior to removal of any material from the subject site, the landowner may be required to enter into a development agreement with the Township. The agreement should include:

- i. Dust and noise control measures; and
- ii. An exact indication of the routes to be used by trucks and guarantees with respect to road damage.

In some instances, Council may consider it appropriate to waive the development agreement.

### **6.1.10 Portable Asphalt Plants and Portable Concrete Plants**

#### 1. No Requirement for Amendment

- a. Portable asphalt plants and portable concrete plants used by a public authority or their agent shall be permitted in Aggregate Resources, Agricultural and Rural designations without amendment to this Plan or the Zoning By-law.

#### 2. Separation Distances

- a. Portable asphalt plants and portable concrete plants must comply with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) recommended separation distances and must obtain the necessary approvals from the MOECP.

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### 3. Agricultural Lands

- a. Portable asphalt plants and portable concrete plants established on lands designated as Agricultural on Schedule “A1” of this Plan and comprised of specialty crop lands or Classes 1, 2 and 3 agricultural soils as identified by the Canada land Inventory mapping for Agriculture, may occur provided the agricultural rehabilitation of the site is professionally carried out and substantially the same acreage and average soil capability for agriculture are restored.

#### **6.1.11 Restricted Uses**

1. In any land use designation, uses shall be restricted to uses and activities that do not involve or produce excessive noise, vibration, odour, danger of fire or explosion, radiation or the release of noxious fumes, smoke, gases and other forms of air or water-borne contaminants.
2. The Township shall prepare and adopt, by resolution, a groundwater protection strategy and/or a wellhead protection area strategy applicable to municipal wells and water supply. The Township may amend this Plan and the Zoning By-law to identify areas of protection.
3. The groundwater protection and/or wellhead protection area Plan policies and Zoning By-law provisions shall identify certain non-residential land use activities that may pose a risk to the quality of municipal wells and water supplies.

#### **6.1.12 Lot Creation**

1. Where permitted by the Land Use Policies of this Plan, any application to create a new lot for any purpose shall be considered according to the provisions of the *Planning Act*, provincial policies and regulations, the County Official Plan, this Plan and the Zoning By-law.
2. Technical consents are permitted:
  - a. To create or alter any easement or right-of-way;
  - b. To correct or confirm valid title for a lot which has been previously recognized and held in distinct and separate ownership;
  - c. To make minor adjustments to the legal boundaries of lots to conform with existing patterns of exclusive use and occupancy, or to rectify problems created by the encroachment of buildings, structures, private water supply or private wastewater treatment systems on abutting lots; or
  - d. To make lot boundary adjustments between two abutting lots recognized by the Zoning By-law that does not result in the creation of any additional lot held, or

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capable of being held, in distinct and separate ownership pursuant to the *Planning Act*.

3. Where there is a potential to create more than 5 abutting lots on one property, as determined by hydrogeological, servicing and environmental studies, the lots shall be created by plan of subdivision.
4. Proposed lots to be created by consent or plan of subdivision shall comply with the following provisions:
  - a. Any proposed lot must have safe access and frontage on an open public road (County, Province or Township) that conforms with the standards of the road authority;
  - b. All proposed lots shall comply with the policies of the applicable land use designation as set out in Section 7.0 of this Plan and the Zoning By-law; and
  - c. A proposed waterfront lot that does not have frontage on a publicly-maintained road may be created in accordance with Section 7.7.7 of this Plan.
5. Proposed lots to be created by plan of condominium shall comply with the policies of the applicable land use designation as set out in Section 8 of this Plan and the Zoning By-law.
6. As a condition of approval for the creation of a lot or block, the Township may require a subdivision or consent agreement to be entered into between the Township and the owner of the lands to provide for Township concerns including but not limited to the installation of services, drainage, roads and facilities; the payment of various fees; and the dedication of lands for roads, daylighting triangles, 0.3 reserves, parkland and other public uses.
7. Conditions of approval that are required by the approval authority shall conform to this Plan and the Zoning By-law and may apply to the proposed severed and retained lots and to the plan of subdivision.
8. Where a lot or lots are proposed to be created by consent, plan of subdivision or plan of condominium, the size, configuration and location of the proposed residual land within the property shall conform with the provisions of this Plan and the Zoning By-law.

### **6.1.13 Home Occupation/Industry Use**

1. In any permitted dwelling unit, a home occupation or home industry is permitted as a secondary use.
2. The home occupation/industry shall not change the character or appearance of the building as a dwelling.
3. The Zoning By-law shall contain provisions regulating home occupation/industry uses.

## Section 6 – General Development Policies

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4. A Bed and Breakfast establishment shall be considered as a Home Occupation Use only within a permitted single detached dwelling unit or permitted habitable space within accessory buildings or structure.
5. A Bed and Breakfast establishment shall be limited to a maximum of 3 bedrooms used for overnight accommodation and shall not provide any dining facilities to other than registered guests.
6. Required parking spaces for a Bed and Breakfast establishment shall be located on the subject lot.
7. Access to a lot that permits a Bed and Breakfast establishment shall only be provided directly from a public road.
8. Notwithstanding Section 6.1.13.1, on a lot with an existing non-farm residential dwelling, one home occupation is permitted in an accessory building on the same lot as the occupant's dwelling in an Agricultural or Rural designation.

### ***6.1.14 Principal Main Line Railway Noise, Vibration and Safety***

1. Where appropriate, the Township should require the preparation of a railway noise study in consideration of the proposed development of new sensitive land uses, such as residential dwellings, requiring a planning approval that are located within 300 metres of the principal main line railway right-of-way, and that appropriate mitigation measures such as setbacks, berms and security fencing shall be required as a condition of any Township approval in consultation with the railway.
2. Where appropriate, the Township should require the preparation of a railway vibration study in consideration of the proposed development of new building and structures requiring a planning approval that are located within 75 metres of the principal main line railway right-of-way, and that appropriate mitigation measures, such as setbacks, berms and security fencing, shall be required as a condition of any Township approval in consultation with the railway.

### ***6.1.15 Setback from the High-Water Mark***

1. With the exception of boat houses, docks and other permitted shoreline structures, the setback for new buildings and structures from the existing high-water mark shall be 30 metres. Any variance from the setback established in the Zoning By-law for new buildings and structures, shall only be allowed by amendment to the Zoning Bylaw or by a minor variance permitted by the Committee of Adjustment.

# Section 6 – General Development Policies

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## 6.2 Natural Area Protection Policies

### 6.2.1 General

2. In order to properly manage and enhance the existing built Villages and Rural Settlement Areas, while protecting or improving the quantity and diversity of the natural environment, the Township will endeavor to take a strategic approach to planning for long-range development.
3. The Natural Heritage System, as identified by the Province of Ontario, is an environmental overlay that includes key hydrologic features, key hydrologic areas, and key natural heritage features as is shown on Schedule “A-2” to this Plan.
4. The implementation of the Township’s planning approach to the natural environment shall be achieved through the fostering of strong relationships between the municipality and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.
5. The Township and the Conservation Authority will co-ordinate their efforts in the review of development applications and the creation of long-range planning policies. The co-ordination of these bodies will develop an approach to planning that reflects the desired growth patterns of the Township and the needs of the natural environment in the context of the policies of this Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement (2014) and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2017).
6. The provisions of Section 6.2.2 to 6.2.5 of this Plan, inclusive, shall apply to natural area features that are not located within the Provincial Natural Heritage System of the Growth Plan. If a property is located within the Natural Heritage System of the Growth Plan, the Growth Plan provisions shall apply.

### 6.2.2 Objectives

Objectives for natural environmental features include the following:

1. Protect natural features and areas for the long term.
2. The diversity and connectivity of natural features in an area, and the long-term ecological function and biodiversity of natural heritage systems, should be maintained, restored, or, where possible, improved, recognizing linkages between and among natural heritage features and areas, surface water features and ground water features.
3. Prohibit incompatible land uses within significant and sensitive environmental features and areas.
4. Encourage the general public and the private development industry to participate in the co-ordination and implementation of sound management initiatives and practices as they relate to the identified natural environmental features of the Municipality.

## Section 6 – General Development Policies

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5. Identify, in consultation with the County of Simcoe, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and the Conservation Authority, significant woodlands, significant valleylands, and significant wildlife habitat, for the purposes of protection as specified in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), in accordance with Sections 6.2.10 and 6.2.12.
6. Direct development away from areas of natural or human-made hazards where there is an unacceptable risk to public health or safety or of property damage, and not create new or aggravate existing hazards.

### **6.2.3 Provincial Natural Heritage System**

The Province of Ontario, through the GPGGH (2017), has mapped and issued a *Natural Heritage System* to support a comprehensive, integrated, and long-term approach to planning for the protection of the region's natural heritage and biodiversity. The Provincial *Natural Heritage System* excludes lands within *settlement area* boundaries.

Section 4.2.2 of the GPGGH (2017) indicates that municipalities are required to incorporate the *Natural Heritage System* as an overlay in official plans, and to apply appropriate policies to maintain, restore, or enhance the diversity and connectivity of the system and the long-term ecological or hydrologic functions of the features and areas as set out in the policies of subsections 4.2.2, 4.2.3, and 4.2.4 of the GPGGH.

In accordance with Section 4.2.2 of the GPGGH, this Official Plan contains an “overlay” symbol on Schedule “A1” (Land Use Plan) and Schedule “A-2” (Natural Heritage System) that illustrates the boundaries of the *Natural Heritage System*, as issued by the Province of Ontario, within the Township of Ramara.

The *Natural Heritage System* overlay symbol is not a specific land use designation itself but is intended to show the areas within the Township that are subject to the *Natural Heritage System* policies of the GPGGH.

The boundaries of the *Natural Heritage System* overlay are consistent with mapping issued by the Province of Ontario, and where there is any discrepancy between the boundaries shown on Schedules “A1” and “A-2”, and the boundaries shown on Provincial mapping, the boundaries of the Provincial *Natural Heritage System* mapping shall prevail.

In accordance with Section 4.2.2.5 of the GPGGH (2017), in implementing the *Natural Heritage System*, upper- and single tier municipalities (e.g., the County of Simcoe) may, through a municipal comprehensive review, refine provincial mapping with greater precision in a manner that is consistent with the GPGGH. Based on this policy, the mapping of the *Natural Heritage System* as identified on Schedules “A1” and “A-2” of this Plan may be refined subsequent to a municipal comprehensive review of the County of Simcoe Official Plan.

Section 4.2.2, 4.2.3 and 4.2.4 of the GPGGH (2017) shall apply to the lands covered by the *Natural Heritage System* overlay symbol on Schedules “A1” and “A-2”.



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Schedule “A2” identifies *key natural heritage features* and *key hydrologic features* as mapped by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

At such time, as additional mapping of *key natural heritage features* and *key hydrologic features* becomes available, the Township will, in conjunction with the County of Simcoe, incorporate this information into this Plan as appropriate.

The provisions of Section 6.2.4 to 6.2.5 of this Official Plan, inclusive, shall apply to natural environment features that are not located within the *Natural Heritage System of the GPGGH* as shown on Schedules “A1” and “A2”.

Sections 6.2.13 (Natural Hazards) and 7.7.10 (Water Setbacks) shall apply throughout the Township, except where any of these matters are addressed by the GPGGH, in which case the provisions of the GPGGH shall apply.

### **6.2.4 Natural Area Features**

The Township recognizes the need to develop policies that will protect and where possible enhance the natural area features within the Township of Ramara. As such, this Plan recognizes the following natural environmental features and their functions (features not specifically linked to the *Natural Heritage System* of the GPGGH):

- Natural Hazards, including flooding hazards and erosion hazards
- Steep Slopes
- Unstable Soils
- Provincially *Significant Wetlands*
- Evaluated, Non-Provincially *Significant Wetlands*
- Unevaluated *Wetlands*
- *Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)*
- *Fish Habitat*
- *Significant Wildlife Habitat*
- *Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species*
- *Significant Woodlands*
- *Sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features*

## Section 6 – General Development Policies

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### 6.2.5 *Adjacent Lands*

All development and/or site alteration in all land use designations are subject to the general and specific Natural Area goals, objectives and policies in this Plan. However, for the purposes of Section 6.2, lands “adjacent” to a natural heritage feature shall be determined as follows:

- a) Within 120 metres of a *significant wetland*;
- b) Within 120 metres of a *coastal wetland*;
- c) Within 120 metres of an ANSI (Life Science);
- d) Within 50 metres of an ANSI (Earth Science);
- e) Within 120 metres of *significant woodlands*;
- f) Within 120 metres of *significant valleylands*;
- g) Within 120 metres of *significant wildlife habitat*;
- h) Within 120 metres of *fish habitat*.

### 6.2.6 *Natural Area Protection Designation*

The areas designated Natural Area Protection on Schedule “A1” of this Plan and identified on Schedule “A2” of this Plan, play an important role in the preservation of the Municipality’s natural environmental systems, including *wetlands*, watercourses and shoreline areas.

The Natural Area Protection designation also includes natural hazard areas and features, which may pose a threat to life and property due to inherent characteristics such as floodplains, unstable soils and steep slopes. The policies that apply to such areas are set out in Section 6.2.7 of this Plan.

### 6.2.7 *Environmental Impact Study*

1. Where determined by the Township, a proponent may be required to prepare an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) as part of any proposal for *development* or *site alteration*, where the potential exists for a negative impact on natural heritage features or their ecological functions on the lands or on *adjacent lands* identified in Section 6.2 of this Plan.
2. The scope of an EIS report, required by subsection d) above, may be determined by the Township in consultation with the Conservation Authority and/or the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

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3. All EIS reports shall be prepared by a qualified professional in accordance with Terms of Reference provided by the Township.

### 6.2.8 Wetlands

*Wetlands* are lands that are seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water, as well as lands where the water table is close to or at the surface. In either case, the presence of abundant water has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants. The four major types of *wetlands* are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens.

#### 6.2.8.1 Provincially Significant Wetlands

Provincially *Significant Wetlands* are identified as “Wetlands” on Schedule “A2”. The precise boundary and location of a Provincially *Significant Wetland* shall be determined in consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

In addition to the other policies of Section 6.2 of this Plan, the following policies apply to Provincially *Significant Wetlands* (PSW) and the lands within 120 metres of them.

- (a) *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted in Provincially *Significant Wetlands*.
- (b) *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted on *adjacent lands* to a Provincially *Significant Wetland* unless the ecological function of the *adjacent lands* has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated through the completion of an EIS in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.2.7 of this Plan that there will be no *negative impacts* on the natural features or their ecological functions.
- (c) A site plan or *development* agreement may be entered into between the developer and the Municipality to ensure that the recommendations of the Environmental Impact Studies are implemented.
- (d) Where areas identified as Provincially *Significant Wetlands* are determined by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and/or the Conservation Authority not to form part of a wetland, *development* shall be permitted in accordance with the adjacent land use designation. An amendment to the Zoning By-law, however, will be required.
- (e) The policies of this section shall not be applied to prevent the issuance of a building permit nor necessitate an Environmental Impact Study in support of a building permit on existing lots of record within 120 metres of an identified Provincially *Significant Wetland*, provided that the lot on which *development* is to occur is located in a designation other than Natural Area Protection, or, if located in the Natural Area Protection designation, satisfies all other applicable policies

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of Section 6.2 of this Plan. Notwithstanding this policy, an EIS shall be required on an existing lot of record if a change in zoning is required to permit new *development*.

### 6.2.8.2 Evaluated Non-Significant and Non-Evaluated Wetlands

*Wetlands* which have not been identified as Provincially *significant* are nonetheless important at a regional or local level. The Township will ensure that these areas are protected for the long term by maintaining, improving or where possible, restoring these *wetlands* and their ecological and hydrological functions. The policies of Section 6.2 of this Plan shall apply to locally significant *wetlands* and unevaluated *wetlands* within the Township, where those *wetlands* are designated as Natural Area Protection on Schedule “A1”.

### **6.2.9 Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest**

*Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest* (ANSIs) are areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified as having life science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study or education.

The following policies shall apply to the *significant* ANSIs identified on Schedule “A2” to this Plan:

- a) *Development* shall not be permitted in *significant* ANSIs unless it has been demonstrated through the completion of an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.2.7 of this Plan that there will be no *negative impacts* on the natural features or their ecological functions.
- b) *Development* and *site alteration* shall not be permitted on *adjacent lands* to *significant* ANSIs unless the ecological function of the *adjacent lands* has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated through the completion of an EIS in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.2.7 of this Plan that there will be no *negative impacts* on the natural features or their ecological functions.

### **6.2.10 Fish and Wildlife Habitat**

The Township may, in consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, undertake studies and surveys to identify and designate *fish habitat* and *significant wildlife habitat* areas for protection and conservation from incompatible land uses and activities. Other *wildlife habitat* may be identified during the *development* review process.

For the purposes of this Plan:

- a) *Fish habitat*, as defined in the *Fisheries Act*, c. F-14, means spawning grounds and any other areas, including nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which *fish* depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes; and

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- b) *Wildlife habitat* includes areas where plants, animals and other organisms live and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Specific *wildlife habitats* of concern may include areas where species concentrate at a *vulnerable* point in their annual or life cycle; and areas that are important to migratory or non-migratory species.

The following policies shall apply to the *fish habitat* and *significant wildlife habitat* within the Township:

- a) *Development* or *site alteration* shall not be permitted in *fish habitat* except in accordance with *provincial and federal requirements*. The Township shall consult with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to determine such requirements.
- b) Where *development* and/or *site alteration* is proposed within 120 metres of *fish habitat*, an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) will be required to assess the potential impact on *fish habitat*, in accordance with the policies contained in Section 6.2.7 of this Plan.
- c) *Significant wildlife habitat* areas within the Township are not mapped on Schedules “A-1” or “A-2”.

At such time as this information becomes available, the Township will work with the County of Simcoe and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to identify *significant wildlife habitat* within the Township.

In the interim, Council shall require *development* proponents to undertake studies completed by a qualified professional to confirm the presence/absence of *significant wildlife habitat*, to determine if the proposed *development* and/or *site alteration* within or on the *adjacent lands* to (within 120 metres) the *significant wildlife habitat* will result in a negative impact on the habitat or its *ecological functions*, and to recommend appropriate mitigative measures. These studies should reference the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry *Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide* for study requirements and guidance.

*Development* and/or *site alteration* shall not be permitted in or on the *adjacent lands* to (within 120 metres) *significant wildlife habitat* unless it has been demonstrated through the completion of an EIS in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.2.7 of this Plan that there will be no *negative impacts* on the habitat or its *ecological functions*, in accordance with policies 2.1.5 and 2.1.8 of the Provincial Policy Statement (2014).

- d) *Fish habitat* shall be identified in consultation with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

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### 6.2.11 *Endangered or Threatened Species*

“Species at Risk” are identified as extirpated, endangered, threatened, or species of special concern on the “Species at Risk in Ontario List.” The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry administers the *Endangered Species Act* (2007) to protect and conserve species at risk and their habitats. Under the *Endangered Species Act*, the Ministry is responsible for identifying and approving general and regulated habitat, as well as giving technical advice on species at risk and their habitats. The technical advice provided under the *Endangered Species Act* supports the implementation of the natural heritage policies of the Provincial Policy Statement. For the purpose of the Provincial Policy Statement, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is responsible for approving the delineation of habitat for species identified as endangered or threatened.

In order to determine the presence of threatened or *endangered species* and to assess the impacts that proposed activities may have on the *habitat of threatened and endangered species*, a site assessment by a qualified professional is required to be completed at the appropriate time of year. The assessment must identify whether any *endangered* or *threatened species* are present and whether the proposed activities will have any impact on threatened or *endangered species* or their habitat. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry can be contacted for further direction regarding site specific proposals.

Environmental Impact Studies (EIS) or other planning reports may help with identifying the extent of the *habitat of endangered species and threatened species*. The *significant habitat of endangered species and threatened species* will be based on an evaluation of the following considerations:

- a) Assessments reviewed and approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the extent of the species’ habitat;
- b) Habitats or areas delineated by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and/or regulated under the *Endangered Species Act*; and
- c) For species listed on the Species at Risk in Ontario list as endangered or threatened, an area for which the species depends, directly or indirectly, to carry on its life processes, including life processes such as reproductions, rearing, hibernation, migration or feeding.

The following policies shall apply to the *habitat of endangered species and threatened species* within the Township:

- a) The location of the *habitat of endangered species and threatened species* is not specifically identified on Schedules “A1” or “A2” of this Plan.
- b) The Township will review *development* applications using the best and most up-to-date available information on endangered and threatened species location that is available from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR).

## Section 6 – General Development Policies

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- c) *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted in *habitat of endangered species and threatened species*, except in accordance with *provincial and federal requirements*.

### **6.2.12 Significant Woodlands**

Wooded areas within the Township have not yet been evaluated to determine their significance.

At such time as this information becomes available, the Township will work with the County of Simcoe and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to identify *significant woodlands* within the Township.

*Development and/or site alteration* shall not be permitted in or on the *adjacent lands* (within 120 metres) of *significant woodlands* unless it has been demonstrated through the completion of an EIS in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.2.7 of this Plan that there will be no *negative impacts* on the woodland or its *ecological functions*.

### **6.2.13 Natural Hazards**

1. Development and/or site alteration that results in property damage, and human health and safety risks from flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, unstable soils and unstable bedrock will not be permitted except in accordance with the natural hazards policies in the Provincial Policy Statement.
2. New development and/or site alteration shall not be permitted within the farthest landward limit of any flooding hazard, erosion hazard and dynamic beach hazard associated with Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching determined by:
  - a. The portions of the *dynamic beach hazard* defined as 15 metres or according to local conditions; in addition, the 100-year flood level plus 5 metres or according to local conditions;
  - b. The *flooding hazard* defined as the 100-year flood level plus a 5-metre flood allowance for wave uprush and other water related hazards or according to local conditions; and
  - c. The *erosion hazard* defined as the greater of the stable slope plus a 15-metre erosion allowance or an erosion allowance of 15 metres from the first lakeward break in the slope or according to local conditions.
3. New development and/or site alteration shall not be permitted within the farthest landward limit of river and stream systems determined by:
  - a. *flooding hazards* defined as the greater of the Timmins storm event or the 100-year flood or observed flood event; and

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- b. erosion hazards defined for confined systems and unconfined systems as determined in MNRF Natural Hazards Technical Guides.
4. New development and/or site alteration may be permitted in *hazardous lands* and *hazardous sites* other than those established by Sections 6.2.13.2 and 6.2.13.3, if the following criteria are satisfied:
  - a. the hazards can be safely addressed and the development and site alteration are carried out according to established standards and procedures;
  - b. new hazards are not created and existing hazards are not aggravated;
  - c. no adverse environmental impacts will result;
  - d. for residential and overnight occupancies, vehicles and people have a way of safely entering and exiting the area during times of flooding, erosion and other emergencies; and
  - e. the development does not include:
    - i. institutional uses including hospitals, long-term care homes, retirement homes, pre-schools, school nurseries, day cares and schools,
    - ii. essential emergency services such as that provided by fire, police and ambulance stations and electrical substations;
    - iii. uses associated with the disposal, manufacture, treatment or storage of hazardous substances.
5. Uses otherwise allowed within *hazardous lands* and *hazardous sites* are:
  - a. open space areas for public and private recreational activities;
  - b. permitted agricultural activities and accessory structures;
  - c. structures and works for flood and erosion-sediment control;
  - d. expansions to existing permitted structures, provided that an existing and potential hazard to property and human health and safety is not continued or created;
  - e. open space areas associated with uses of permitted buildings and structures;
  - f. boat houses, boating docks and shorewalls; and
  - g. existing buildings and structures according to the Township Zoning By-law.



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6. Where applicable, proposed development and/or site alteration of hazardous lands and hazardous sites shall be subject to federal, provincial, county and township statutes, regulations, policies and guidelines, as well as the regulations, policies and guidelines of the appropriate Conservation Authority with jurisdiction in the Township.

### 6.3 Natural Resource Policies

#### 6.3.1 Natural Resources

The natural resources of the Township are those renewable and non-renewable naturally occurring products that sustain the economy in the Township. These include agricultural land and soils; mineral aggregate resources; water; and forests.

#### 6.3.2 Natural Resource Goal

The natural resource goal of the Township is to protect and preserve these consumptive resources for current use and for future generations. These resources have social and environmental values balanced with their commercial value.

#### 6.3.3 Agricultural Resources

1. The Prime Agricultural Areas are identified on Schedule “A1” of this Plan and are consistent with the mapping of the Agricultural System as issued by the Province of Ontario under the provisions of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2017) GPGGH.
2. The *Provincial Agricultural System* is comprised of a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agricultural sector. It has two components:
  - a. An agricultural land base comprised of prime agricultural areas, including specialty crop areas, and rural lands that together create a continuous productive land base for agriculture; and
  - b. An agri-food network which includes infrastructure, services, and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector.
3. The agricultural economy of the Township is dependent upon the protection of Prime Agricultural Areas and the best efforts will be made to reduce pressure for non-agricultural development on these lands.
4. Non-prime agricultural soils are also productive for the agricultural economy. However, where appropriate, proposed non-agricultural development should utilize non-prime agricultural soils.
  - a. Prime Agricultural Areas may be considered for non-agriculturally-related activities under the following circumstances: *On-farm diversified uses* subject to policies of this Plan;

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- b. Limited non-residential uses in accordance with Provincial Policy Statement; and
  - c. Mineral aggregate resource areas according to the Provincial Policy Statement and the policies of this Plan.
5. Owners and operators of land-based agricultural activities are encouraged to support best farm management practices, nutrient management, land stewardship and the conservation of natural area features and functions.
  6. In considering non-agricultural development in designated Agricultural Areas, the Township will take responsibility to protect prime agricultural resources and agricultural operations including livestock and the transport of farm machinery from incompatible activities.
  7. Agricultural operators and landowners are encouraged to ensure that planned expansions of farms, livestock operations and animal waste disposal are compatible with existing and planned non-agricultural uses in the Township.
  8. Where appropriate, the Township may review applications for new or expanded livestock operations with regard to nutrient management in consultation with the relevant provincial government ministries and agencies.

### **6.3.4 Mineral Aggregate Resources**

1. Mineral Aggregate Resources are materials including gravel, sand, clay, earth, shale, stone, limestone, rock suitable for construction, industrial, manufacturing, maintenance and landscaping purposes.
2. Mineral Aggregate Resource Areas (MARAS) have a high potential for extraction due to the high quality of the mineral aggregate resource.
3. High Potential Mineral Aggregate Resource Areas (HPMARAS) are the identified primary sand and gravel resources and the bedrock resources in the Township.
4. HPMARAS are shown on Schedule “D” of this Plan and are not a land use designation.
5. The HPMARAS do not identify all of the resources where extraction may occur, rather it is intended to ensure that consideration is given to these resources when the Township is considering land use decisions.
6. The HPMARAS and areas adjacent to HPMARAS are protected from development and/or site alteration that would preclude or hinder the establishment of new or expanded aggregate operations or access to the resource, according to the Provincial Policy Statement. The land uses in HPMARAS that are acceptable include existing uses, farming, agricultural uses, forest resources, natural area protection and utilities.

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7. Development and/or site alteration in HPMARAS will be considered by the Township where:
  - a. extraction would not be feasible;
  - b. the proposed land use, development or site alteration serves a greater long term public interest;
  - c. issues of public health, public safety and environmental impact are addressed; and
  - d. the establishment or expansion of aggregate operations in the area is not precluded or hindered.
8. New or expanded mineral aggregate operations are prohibited in areas designated Natural Area Protection, regardless if the lands are identified as HPMARAS on Schedule “D”.
9. The extraction of mineral aggregate resources may occur in areas designated as “Mineral Aggregate Resource Area” on Schedule “A1” and in areas within the HPMARAS identified on Schedule “D”, subject to the policies specific to the mineral aggregate resource area designation in this Plan.
10. Owners and operators of licensed pits and quarries are encouraged to ensure that planned expansions of licensed areas and increased extraction of the resource are compatible with existing and planned land use in the Township.
11. In considering the establishment, operation and expansion of mineral aggregate resource extraction, the Township will take responsibility to make available as much of the resource as is realistically possible to supply resource needs as close to markets as possible.

### **6.3.5 Water Resources**

1. Surface and groundwater resources are complex integrated systems such as recharge and discharge areas, lakes, rivers, streams, ponds and aquifers.
2. Groundwater aquifers are the primary source of water taking supplies for agricultural, industrial, commercial and domestic purposes and therefore the quality and quantity of the water resources need to be protected.
3. In consideration of proposed water taking and use in sensitive groundwater recharge and discharge areas, the Township will rely on hydrogeological and hydrological studies and wellhead protection studies prepared by proponents and government agencies.
4. Where appropriate, subwatershed studies and plans will be prepared by proponents of all large water takings (over 50,000 Litres per day) to determine the groundwater quality and quantity characteristics.

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5. The Township will use the Provincial Water Quality Standards in considering land use implementation for ground and surface water quality and quantity.
6. Jointly with the provincial agencies, the County of Simcoe and the relevant Conservation Authorities, the Township may establish an inventory of and guidelines for water quality targets for Lake Simcoe, Lake Couchiching and other major inland lakes.

### **6.3.6 Forest Resources**

1. Forest resources are valuable for timber production and should be managed according to sustainable practices.
2. The Township encourages landowners to undertake forest management plans as a basis for identification, protection and enhancement of the resource.
3. The Township's responsibility is to consider the potential impact of proposed development and/or site alteration in settlement areas and in resource areas on the productive forest resource.
4. The Township supports the implementation of the County of Simcoe Forest Conservation By-law and the protection of County Forest lands.
5. The Township will consider preparing a woodland management strategy for publicly owned lands.

### **6.4 Economic Policies**

1. The Township recognizes and supports a strong economic base suitable to the needs of the community and reflecting its characteristics.
2. Long-term economic prosperity is encouraged to achieve the benefits of community well-being and a healthy environment.
3. The Township shall ensure that an adequate land supply for existing and future economic activities is available in settlements and in business parks and that opportunities for servicing are provided by landowners in partnership with the Township.
4. The Township will continue to support agricultural activities as a primary economic base of the Township.
5. The Township will continue to support the emerging tourism-related commercial activities associated with the casino and natural areas.
6. The Township will continue to support the vitality of existing businesses and provide for expansion within the goals, objectives and policies of this Plan and will support business promotional initiatives by the private sector.

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7. The Township will undertake improvements in the core areas of the Villages and Rural Settlement Areas according to approved community improvement plans.

### **6.5 Community Services**

1. This Plan provides the framework for services needed by the permanent and seasonal occupants of the Township. The Township provides the opportunities to establish and maintain education, recreation, public safety, health and social support, and religion in conjunction with other government agencies, the non-profit sector and the private sector. In particular, one of the considerations in designating new residential areas will be the adequacy of school sites and facilities in consultation with the school boards serving the Township.
2. One of the primary considerations of any proposed development is the well-being of the community, taking into account the diversity of the population.
3. The Township may provide for public and private linkages such as all-season trails, pedestrian paths and bicycles lanes as part of its transportation network.

### **6.6 Cultural Heritage Resources**

1. The Township recognizes that the cultural heritage of the Township is integral to supporting and maintaining community well-being.
2. The Township will ensure that proposals for development and/or site alteration shall have regard for the conservation of significant archaeological resources, built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes.
3. The Township may require the preparation and submission of archaeological assessments when considering proposals for development and/or site alteration in areas of archaeological potential. Areas of archaeological potential may be determined through criteria established by the Province or through the preparation of an Archaeological Management Plan by the County of Simcoe or the Township.
4. The Township may require the preparation and submission of a cultural heritage impact statement where a proposed development or site alteration includes or is adjacent to significant built heritage or cultural heritage landscape.
5. The Township will encourage the appropriate designation of heritage properties in all land use designations according to Provincial statutes, regulations and policies.
6. The Township will provide for the preparation of inventories of cultural heritage resources according to the County of Simcoe Official Plan

# Section 7 – Land Use Policies

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## 7.0 LAND USE POLICIES

### 7.1 General

Schedule “A1” comprises the Land Use Plan for the Township.

The Land Use Plan establishes the pattern of development in general terms by dividing the Township into a number of land use designations. The policies governing the use of the lands within the designations are outlined herein, and implementation will be through the measures contained in Section 7.

#### 7.1.1 *Land Use Designations*

The Land Use Plan, identified as Schedule “A1”, divides the Township of Ramara into the following designations:

- Greenlands;
- Natural Area Protection;
- Agricultural;
- Rural;
- Village Settlement Area;
- Rural Settlement Area;
- Shoreline Residential;
- Industrial;
- Destination Commercial;
- Highway Commercial; and
- Mineral Aggregate Extraction Area.

#### 7.1.2 *Land Use Interpretation*

The list of Land Uses in each of these designations describes the function of the various types of uses in the particular area. These land uses are a guide and are to be interpreted by Township Council when considering planning applications, land use changes, development and/or site alteration, and in the preparation of the Township’s Zoning By-law and amendments.

#### 7.1.3 *Lots Created by New Roads*

In any area zoned “Rural” or “Agricultural” where a new road, street or highway is constructed by a government agency, or an existing road, street or highway is realigned by a government agency and such construction or realignment results in the creation of a lot, that does not comply with the frontage and/or area requirements of the zone, a permit to erect a single detached residential dwelling on such lot may be issued, provided such lot and building comply with all other requirements of the zone as set out in the Zoning By-law of the Township and a variance to the zoning by-law for area and frontage is granted.

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## **7.1.4 Major Lakes and Watercourses**

The major lakes and watercourses are not designated on Schedule “A1” for land uses, except where there is a designated Natural Area Protection Area. Although lands covered with water are used for transportation, resource and recreational purposes, it is the intent of this Plan that the regulation of these activities and any associated impacts will be subject to the relevant legislation and regulations of the federal and provincial governments.

## **7.1.5 Land Use Policy Concordance**

1. Sections 1 through 6 of this Plan set out the Basis of the Plan and the Goals, Objectives and Policies that apply generally to all lands, services and activities affected by this Plan.
2. When considering the policies for particular Land Use designations, reference shall be made to Sections 1 through 8 to determine how the particular lands and areas are to be developed, altered and used.
3. In each Land Use designation, the Concordance policy refers to policies in Sections 4, 5 and 6 that shall be regarded by the Township as the primary policy area in Sections 1 through 8 that are referred to in conjunction with the specific land use policies when considering the application of this Plan to any matter.
4. Where there is an apparent conflict or contradiction between Sections 1 through 8 and any policy in Section 8, Township Council’s interpretation shall be conclusive and determinative.

## **7.2 Greenlands**

### **7.2.1 Purpose**

The purpose of the Greenlands designation on Schedule “A1” is to protect, conserve and enhance natural area features and functions.

### **7.2.2 Permitted Land Uses**

- agricultural uses, excluding buildings and structures
- management of natural areas, including buildings and structures for environmental management purposes
- passive recreation, excluding buildings
- public and private infrastructure
- utilities

### **7.2.3 Accessory Uses**

Accessory uses shall not be permitted.

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### 7.2.4 Lot Creation

1. The creation of new lots or blocks in separate parcels that are currently designated as “Greenlands” is not permitted except where existing lots in this designation are expanded in lot area creating larger areas identified as “Natural Area Protection”, provided any remnant lot created is not identified as “Natural Area Protection”.
2. The creation of a new lot or block to be designated by amendment as “Natural Area Protection” is permitted.

### 7.2.5 Concordance

Sections 6.2 and 6.3 of this Plan are the primary policy areas that shall be referred to in conjunction with this Section.

## 7.3 Agricultural

### 7.3.1 Purpose

The “Agricultural” designation on Schedule “A1” of this Plan is consistent with the mapping of the *Provincial Agricultural System* as issued by the Province of Ontario under the provisions of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2017).

The *Provincial Agricultural System* means a system mapped and issued by the Province of Ontario in accordance with the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2017), comprised of a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agricultural sector. It has two components:

1. An agricultural land base comprised of prime agricultural areas, including *specialty crop areas*, and *rural lands* that together create a continuous productive land base for agriculture; and
2. An Agri-food network which includes infrastructure, services, and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector.

The *Provincial Agricultural System* protects *prime agricultural areas* and those *rural lands* that are within the agricultural land base.

The Provincial Policy Statement (2014) requires municipalities to protect *prime agricultural areas* for long-term use for agriculture.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4.2.6 of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2017), in implementing the *Provincial Agricultural System*, upper- and single-tier municipalities (e.g. County of Simcoe) may, through a municipal comprehensive review, refine or augment mapping in a manner that is consistent with the Growth Plan and any implementation procedures issued by the Province of Ontario. Based on this policy, the mapping



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of the *Provincial Agricultural System* as identified on Schedule “A1” of this Plan by the Agricultural designation, may be refined or augmented subsequent to a comprehensive review of the County of Simcoe Official Plan.

The applicable policies of the Growth Plan (2017) and the (2014) shall apply with respect to the removal of lands from the Agricultural land use designation.

### **7.3.2 Permitted Land Uses**

- agricultural use
- agriculture-related use
- single detached dwelling
- *on-farm diversified use*
- *agri-tourism use*
- home occupations and home industries
- kennel
- management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- passive recreation
- public and private *infrastructure*
- accessory uses

### **7.3.3 Secondary Dwelling Units**

One secondary dwelling unit per lot may be permitted, subject to appropriate zoning and sewage treatment facilities. Accessory apartments, temporary farm help suites or garden suites, or other temporary accommodations may also be permitted, subject to the provision of adequate sewage treatment facilities.

Secondary dwelling units shall be located in the building cluster and a consent to create two separate lots for two dwellings established in Section 7.3.2 is expressly prohibited.

### **7.3.4 On-Farm Diversified Uses**

1. An *on-farm diversified use* may be permitted on a farm property as accessory or secondary to a primary agricultural use.
2. *On-farm diversified uses* include, but are not limited to, home occupations, home industries, agri-tourism uses and uses that produce value-added products.
3. The *on-farm diversified use* is intended to be limited in area. All facilities associated with the use shall not occupy an area greater than 2% of the total area of the property to a maximum of 1 hectare. This includes all buildings, parking areas, servicing facilities and areas used for outdoor storage or display.

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4. Notwithstanding the above, if existing buildings are repurposed for an on-farm diversified use, only 50% of the total building area (footprint) of the repurposed buildings shall be calculated as part of the total area used for the *on-farm diversified use*.
5. The *on-farm diversified use* shall be compatible with, and shall not hinder, surrounding agricultural operations.

### **7.3.5 Kennel**

1. The use of a property for a kennel is permitted only where it is in compliance with any zoning by-law and municipal by-law that regulates and licenses the boarding, care and grooming of domestic animals.
2. The breeding of domestic animals is not permitted in a kennel use, unless it is licensed or regulated under provincial and/or municipal law.

### **7.3.6 Lot Creation**

1. Where permitted, the creation of a lot is subject to Section 6.1.13 of this Plan and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.
2. Lot creation in *prime agricultural areas* is generally discouraged and may only be permitted for:
  - a. *Agricultural uses*, provided new lots for agricultural uses should not be less than 40 hectares or the original survey lot size, whichever is lesser, or 16 hectares in specialty crop areas;
  - b. *Agriculture-related uses*, provided that any new lot will be limited to a minimum size needed to accommodate the use and appropriate sewage and water services;
  - c. The creation of a residence surplus to a farming operation as a result of farm consolidation. The new lot should be approximately 1 hectare (4,000 m<sup>2</sup>) in area and be large enough to accommodate the dwelling and an individual water and septic services. Residential uses are to be prohibited on the remnant parcel of farmland through rezoning; and
  - d. *Infrastructure*, where the facility or corridor cannot be accommodated through the use of easements or rights-of-way.
3. Lot adjustments may be permitted for *legal or technical reasons*.

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### **7.3.7 Mineral Aggregate Extraction in Prime Agricultural Areas**

The extraction of aggregate on lands designated Agricultural shall not be permitted unless an application to redesignate and rezone the lands to the appropriate designation and zone, in accordance with Section 7.11 of this Plan. In addition, lands that are to be redesignated from Agricultural for the purposes of aggregate extraction must be rehabilitated back to a condition in which substantially the same areas and same average soil capability for agriculture are restored, unless:

1. There is a substantial quantity of aggregate material below the water table warranting extraction, or the depth of the planned extraction in a quarry makes restoration of pre-extraction agricultural capability unfeasible; or
2. Other alternatives have been considered by the applicant and found unsuitable, in accordance with the alternatives listed in the Provincial Policy Statement; or
3. Agricultural rehabilitation in remaining areas is maximized.

### **7.3.8 Special Designations**

1. Highland Mills Development (OPA No. 5)

The following policies shall apply to those lands designated “Agricultural” in part of Lot 1, Concession 9 (Mara), as shown on Schedule “A1”

- a. Notwithstanding Section 6.1.13.4, the proposed retained lot (66.53 ha), may be created with vehicle access by a common private right-of-way connected to an open public road.
- b. All other relevant policies of this Plan shall apply.

These policies shall be implemented by means of a Zoning By-law enacted pursuant to Section 34 of the *Planning Act*. The creation of the three lots and the retained lot will require the approval of the Committee of Adjustment. A Site Plan Agreement between the Township of Ramara and the landowners shall be registered on title to address the recommendations of the Environmental Impact Study prepared by Michalski Nielsen Associates Limited and other matters considered relevant by the Township.

The provisions of the Official Plan, as amended from time to time, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this amendment.

# Section 7 – Land Use Policies

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## 7.4 Rural

### 7.4.1 Purpose

The Rural designation is applied to lands that are of marginal value for agriculture and have potential for limited non-agricultural development. The purpose in designating these areas is to direct low intensity rural uses into these areas, thereby protecting Agricultural lands from incompatible, non-agricultural development.

### 7.4.2 Permitted Land Uses

- agricultural use
- agriculture-related use
- single detached dwelling
- *on-farm diversified use*
- *agri-tourism use*
- home occupations and home industries
- kennel
- small-scale commercial, industrial and institutional use
- active and passive recreation
- public park
- management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- public and private infrastructure
- accessory uses

### 7.4.3 Secondary Dwelling Units

One secondary dwelling unit per lot may be permitted, subject to appropriate zoning and sewage treatment facilities. Accessory apartments, temporary farm help suites or garden suites, or other temporary accommodations may also be permitted, subject to the provision of adequate sewage treatment facilities.

### 7.4.4 Agricultural Land Uses in the Rural Designation

The policies in Section 7.3 of this Plan shall apply to all agricultural and agriculture-related uses, as well as on-farm diversified uses, as permitted above.

### 7.4.5 Small-Scale Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Uses

Small-scale commercial, industrial and institutional uses support and are complementary to permitted uses in the Agriculture and Rural designated areas and are not appropriate uses in a settlement area are permitted within the Rural designation. They do not require large-scale site alteration and consist of small land parcels with small-scale buildings and structures. The uses include, but are not limited to, garden centres, farm markets, places of worship, cemeteries, school bus storage and maintenance facilities.

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Permitted small-scale commercial, industrial and institutional uses shall:

1. Generate minimal traffic or be in the proximity of an arterial road or highway;
2. Have sewage and water service needs suitable for individual services;
3. In the case of rural industrial uses, not be located in close proximity to residential or other incompatible uses in accordance with applicable guidelines for industrial use and distance separation; and
4. For rural commercial uses, must primarily serve the travelling public and tourists to the area on the basis of convenience and access.

Site plan control shall be applied for new development and where the size and usability of the buildings and structures are substantially increased.

### **7.4.6 High Potential Mineral Aggregate Resource Areas**

1. Where lands are identified on Schedule “D” as High Potential Mineral Aggregate Resource Areas (HPMARAS), the following Land Uses in Section 7.4.2 are not permitted, either as new uses or expansions of existing uses, or as adjacent uses, unless Sections 6.3.4.6 and 6.3.4.7 are satisfied:
  - a. small-scale industrial, commercial and institutional use; and
  - b. active recreation.
2. Where development according to Sections 7.3.2, 7.4.2, and 7.4.6 is proposed adjacent to existing licensed mineral aggregate operations, the applicant shall prepare and submit to the Township a compatibility study as set out in the requirements of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

### **7.4.7 Lot Creation**

1. The creation of a lot is subject to Section 6.1.12 of this Plan and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.
2. The creation of one lot for a single detached dwelling is permitted from a property as it legally existed on January 1, 2003.
3. New residential lots shall have a maximum area of 1 hectare.
4. The creation of multiple lots along roads shall be discouraged to avoid strip development.
5. Notwithstanding the above, opportunities for infilling within existing rural residential corridors shall be encouraged.

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6. New or expanded lots for permitted uses shall conform with the provisions of this Plan and the Zoning By-law.

### **7.4.8 Concordance**

Sections 6.2, and 6.3 of this Plan are the primary policy areas that shall be referred to in conjunction with this Section.

### **7.4.9 Special Designations**

1. Countryside Residential Subdivision (Orr)

Where lands are identified as Special Policy 7.4.9.1 on Schedule “A1”, the minimum lot area shall be 4,000 square metres.

2. Total Marine Inc. 4066 Highway 12 and 4076 Highway 12 (OPA No. 7)

Notwithstanding Section 7.4.2, the permitted use of the lands is limited to a small-scale commercial establishment that services, repairs and sells marine equipment and accessories, including ancillary recreational vehicle service and repair.

A site plan application shall be submitted to the Township of Ramara in accordance with the provisions of Section 41 of the *Planning Act*, as amended, to regulate the development of the properties, and to provide for landscaping and buffering.

These policies shall be implemented by means of a zoning by-law amendment enacted pursuant to the provisions of Section 34 of the *Planning Act*.

The provisions of the Official Plan of the Township of Ramara, as amended, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this Amendment.

3. Little 3461 Louis Lane (OPA No. 9)

Notwithstanding Subsection 7.4.7.2, the creation of a maximum of two additional lots for two single detached dwellings is permitted for a total of three lots within the Rural designation on Part of Lot 18, Concession 6 (Mara).

The provisions of the Official Plan of the Township of Ramara, as amended, shall apply in regard to the Interpretation of this Amendment.

4. NRK Holdings Inc. Part of Lot 4, Concession C (Rama) (OPA No. 16)

Notwithstanding sections 5.6.2, 5.6.7 and 7.4.2 of this Plan, the only permitted uses of the lands shall be:

- a. a “soil bio-remediation facility” and,

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- b. any uses permitted by “MAE-11” Zone provided such uses are conducted in accordance with the provisions of such zone and a license issued pursuant to the Aggregate Resources Act.

For the purposes of this Special Policy 7.4.9.4:

“*Soil bio-remediation facility*” shall mean the use of land, which may include buildings and/or structures, for the purpose of the collection, recycling, temporary storage, separation, processing and biological treatment of non-hazardous soils contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons including works for the collection and treatment of on-site stormwater runoff and for which an Environmental Compliance Approval authorizing the use and operation of a Waste Disposal Site (soil transfer and processing) has been issued under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act*.

The Zoning By-law amendment required to permit the “soil bio-remediation facility” shall be subject to holding provisions which preclude the lifting of the holding symbol until all of the foregoing have been satisfied:

- c. the quarry license applicable to the lands upon which the “*soil bio-remediation facility*” will be located has been surrendered by the owner or operator of the quarry pursuant to section 19 of the *Aggregate Resources Act*; and
- d. the owner of the lands upon which the “*soil bio-remediation facility*” will be located has entered into an agreement with the Township of Ramara concerning the use, improvement and maintenance of Concession Road B-C and any financial requirements of the Township related thereto; and
- e. the owner has received site plan approval and entered into a site plan agreement addressing among other things, the management of storm water and site grading;
- f. the Environmental Compliance Approval for a Waste Disposal Site (soil transfer and processing) has been issued under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act*.

The zoning for the lands affected by this Rural Special Policy Area 7.4.9.4 shall be subject to the condition that upon the lifting of the “H” symbol in relation to the “W-1” Zone, the “MAE-11” Zone that also applies to the lands affected by this Rural Special Policy Area 7.4.9.4 shall be deemed to be repealed and of no further force and effect.

The provisions of the Official Plan of the Township of Ramara, as amended, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this Amendment.

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## 7.5 Village Settlement Area

### 7.5.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Village Settlement Area designation on Schedule “A1” is to accommodate a majority of the Township’s residential and commercial growth and to encourage the development of mixed uses within a defined settlement area.

### 7.5.2 Permitted Uses

All uses described in each category below are permitted within the Village Settlement Area designation, subject to provisions and regulations of the Township Zoning By-law and the policies described in Section 7.5.6 below:

- a. Village Residential uses
  - Dwelling unit
  - Secondary dwelling unit
  - home occupation use
  - boarding or lodging house
  - Multiple Unit Dwelling
- b. Village Commercial uses
  - General commercial uses such as retailers, restaurants and general services
  - Local commercial uses, such as corner stores
  - place of entertainment and place of assembly
  - tourist commercial uses
  - marina, including seasonal boat storage facility
  - an accessory dwelling unit above or within a permitted commercial use
- c. Village Industrial uses
  - service and repair establishment
  - manufacturing, processing and assembly establishment
  - storage and warehousing
  - accessory sale of goods manufactured, processed or assembled on the premises
- d. Village Institutional uses
  - public and community use, such as a library, community hall or recreation centre
  - school (private and public)
- e. place of worship, cemetery



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- f. management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- g. public and private Infrastructure
- h. utilities
- i. accessory uses

### **7.5.3 Intensification and Density of Residential Development**

In accordance with the minimum intensification targets identified within the County of Simcoe Official Plan, 20% of all residential development within the Township shall occur within the delineated *built boundaries* of settlement areas. The Township does not have any delineated built boundaries. Regardless, intensification will be encouraged within the Village Settlement Areas of Brechin and Lagoon City which are municipally-serviced. Intensification within other areas of the Township that are within the Village Settlement Area designation is also encouraged but must proceed in accordance with the servicing policies of the PPS, the County of Simcoe Official Plan and this Plan.

Residential development within serviced Village Settlement Areas shall be in the form of low to medium density, including single detached units, semi-detached units, townhomes and multi-unit apartments. Although intensification is encouraged, all residential development within these settlement areas must be consistent with the existing neighbourhood character.

It is recognized that within Atherley-Uptergrove and Brechin, soil conditions and excessive moisture and wetness in certain areas limit the ability of the land to accommodate residential development on private effluent disposal systems. The extent of these limitations will dictate the density of residential development that can be permitted.

### **7.5.4 Greenfield Development**

Lands in settlement areas located outside of the *built boundary* are considered designated Greenfield Areas. In accordance with targets established in the County of Simcoe Official Plan, 32% of all residential development within the Township shall occur within these Greenfield Areas.

Development within Greenfield Areas must proceed in accordance with the servicing policies of the PPS, the County of Simcoe Official Plan and this Plan.

### **7.5.5 Settlement Form**

Where possible, development within the Village designation shall incorporate the following:

- a. The integration of surrounding public facilities, including pedestrian and biking connections to trails and recreational areas.

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- b. Mixed land uses, including opportunities for residential and retail integration, where appropriate.
- c. The re-use or repurposing of existing buildings.

### **7.5.6 Secondary Dwelling Units**

Secondary or accessory dwelling units may be established within the Village designation in accordance with the provisions of the Zoning By-law. Secondary units may only be established as accessory to single detached dwellings units, semi-detached units and townhouse units.

### **7.5.7 Parking Facilities**

Adequate off-street parking facilities shall be provided for all permitted uses and access points to such parking shall be limited in number and designed in a manner that will minimize the danger to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and shall be subject to the provisions of the Zoning By-law

### **7.5.8 Buffer Planting**

Adequate buffer planting shall be provided between industrial and commercial uses and any adjacent residential areas and such buffer planting shall include the provision of grass strips and appropriate planting of trees and shrubs, and may include berms, screens fences or walls. Specific provisions related to buffering and screening shall be implemented through the Zoning By-law and Site Plan Approval.

### **7.5.9 Open Storage**

Open storage of goods or materials shall be permitted with appropriate screening and buffering from sensitive land uses, in accordance with Section 7.5.7.

### **7.5.10 Location of Commercial and Industrial Uses**

New commercial or industrial development should be planned as an extension of the existing area or as an infilling in the existing commercial and industrial areas and it should not be allowed to infiltrate unnecessarily into residential areas. Notwithstanding, the establishment of small-scale commercial uses, including some local commercial uses, may be permitted in residential areas, subject to appropriate Zoning and Site Plan Control.

### **7.5.11 Location of Institutional Uses, Utilities, Public and Private Infrastructure**

Institutional uses, utilities and public and private infrastructure are permitted anywhere within the Village designation.

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### **7.5.12 Servicing**

Development within the Village designation must comply with Sections 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.6, 5.7 and 5.8 of this Plan.

### **7.5.13 Lot Creation**

1. The creation of a new or expanded lot in a Village designation is permitted subject to Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 6.1.13 of this Plan and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.
2. Infill development is encouraged provided that the proposed development is in keeping with the existing character and is of an appropriate density for the surrounding area.

### **7.5.14 Special Designations**

#### **7.5.14.1 Brechin – Village Industrial Lands**

On those lands designated Industrial, located in Lots 8, 9, and 10, Concessions I and II, (Mara) the predominant use of the lands shall be for industrial uses that require water only for human consumption and sanitary purposes of their employees. Any proposed water supply and sanitary disposal facilities shall meet with the approval of the Township and relevant Provincial agencies responsible for such approval.

Where an industrial use is proposed which will use water as part of its operation, a detailed engineering report shall be prepared which demonstrates that sufficient water exists and that adequate disposal facilities can be provided. Such a report shall demonstrate that the use will not have an adverse impact on adjoining wells. Approval of the engineering report by the Township, and the appropriate Provincial agencies responsible for such approvals, shall be a necessary precondition before an amendment is passed to the Zoning Bylaw to permit the proposed industrial use.

The Industrial lands located in part of Lot 10, Concession III, (Mara) may be developed on the basis of a municipal water supply system and private wastewater treatment systems and the permitted uses may also include a limited amount of commercial development that would benefit from the Highway No. 12 exposure such as motor vehicle dealerships, farm implement dealers, marine sales and service establishments, and similar commercial uses.

#### **7.5.14.2 Lagoon City**

- i. Permitted Uses

The uses permitted shall be limited to residential dwelling units, but excluding mobile homes, and shall include detached dwellings, townhouses and low rise apartment buildings, hotels, motels, general and specialized commercial uses serving the day to day needs of the local residents and tourists, recreation clubs, community centres and assembly halls, community facilities such as a library and fire hall, public and private parks and playgrounds, marinas, boat

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storage, eating establishments, places of entertainment, convenience stores, complementary light industry, home occupation uses and public uses.

### ii. Phase Areas

The development known as Lagoon City, in Lots 14, 15 and 16, Concession IV and V (Mara) shall consist of three (3) contiguous Phase areas, as indicated with the lands designated as Village Settlement Areas.

### iii. Cluster Arrangement

Medium and high density residential buildings shall be grouped in clusters rather than individual buildings being indiscriminately mixed with low density buildings, and care should be taken to ensure that there is not a steep gradation in densities between adjoining residential housing areas.

### iv. Building Location

Medium and high density residential buildings should not overshadow or interfere with the visual amenities of low density residential buildings because of their bulk.

### v. Recreation and Community Facilities

Permitted community facilities and recreational uses shall be provided and be located contiguous to or within the residential sectors of the community and care shall be had to the accessibility of such facilities.

### vi. Proximity To Collector Roads

The permitted groups of commercial and industrial uses shall be located on or in close proximity to collector roads and shall be developed with common ingress and egress routes.

### vii. Collector Roads

Wherever possible, direct access to abutting properties from collector roads shall be prohibited.

When considering the various development Phases, the Municipality shall have regard to a Brechin-Lagoon City Area Transportation Study and the recommendations contained therein.

### viii. Density

The maximum permitted residential density in the Village designation, shall be as follows:

- a) Low density shall include single-family dwellings and shall not exceed 7.4 to 12.4 units per gross hectare.

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- b) Medium density shall include townhouse and similar dwellings and shall not exceed 29.6 to 37.0 units per gross hectare.
- c) High density shall include apartment and similar dwellings and shall not exceed 69.1 to 74.1 units per gross hectare.

ix. Concord Point to Brechin

On those undeveloped lands located in Lots 13, 14 and 15, Concession III, and designated as “Village Residential,” it is recognized that not all the lands may be suitable for development purposes due to potential flooding or other environmental constraints, and that careful consideration will be given to these constraints in planning development for this area. Before the approval of any new development for these lands, the developer shall submit comprehensive engineering studies, to the satisfaction of the Township, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MOECP) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) and the County of Simcoe, to prove that such constraints can be overcome or accommodated, by acceptable engineering techniques and resource management practice.

### **7.5.14.3 Atherley-Uptergrove**

1. Noble

Notwithstanding any provisions in this Plan to the contrary, and subject to the approval of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, those lands designated Agricultural in Part of Lot 24, Concession 10 along Concession Road 10 (Mara) (+/- 8.09 hectares) may be used for a private communal sewage treatment and disposal system for the manufactured home park to be developed according to Section 9.5.11.4 of this Plan.

i. Responsibility Agreement

The developer shall be responsible for the installation, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the required facilities subject to the approval of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and to a Responsibility Agreement with the Township. The Agreement shall provide for construction, operation and maintenance standards, monitoring of effluent and operations, and financial assurances by the developer.

ii. Site Plan

Before the development of a private communal sewage treatment and disposal system, these lands shall be included in the appropriate site plan agreement entered into with the Township under Section 9.5.11.4 of this Plan.

iii. Holding Provisions

Notwithstanding Section 7.6 of this Plan, a Holding (H) Symbol may be used to implement the private communal sewage treatment and disposal system in conjunction with the adjacent

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manufactured home park. Before removing the Holding Symbol to permit development, the developer shall:

- a) meet the requirements of Section 9.5.11.4 of this Plan to permit development of Phase 1 of the adjacent manufacture home park; and
- b) enter into a site plan agreement with the Township for the proposed sewage treatment and disposal system.

### 2. Atherley Commercial

Where lands are designated as Village Commercial in Atherley on the south side of Highway 12, east of Courtland Street and north of Balsam Road in part of Lots 29 and 30, Concession XI, (Mara) the maximum leasable floor area of all buildings and structures shall not exceed 2,000 square metres in total. Any increase in leasable area will require a market study, acceptable to Council, that has regard for the policies of the Official Plan. Any justified increase in leasable area will require an amendment to the Zoning Bylaw, but will not require an amendment to this plan.

### 3. Noble (OPA 47)

Notwithstanding any provisions in this Plan to the contrary, those lands designated in Part of Lot 25, Concession 10 (Mara) along Highway 12, (+/- 30.1 hectares) may be used for a manufactured home park of not more than 300 manufactured home units complying with the Ontario Building Code for year round occupancy. Ancillary uses including a private community centre and administration/sales office is also permitted subject to appropriate zoning.

#### i. Manufactured Home

A manufactured home is a dwelling designed to be made mobile, and constructed or manufactured according to the Ontario Building Code to provide permanent residence for one or more persons, but does not include a mobile home, park model trailer, travel trailer, trailer, tent trailer, recreational vehicle.

#### ii. Density

Notwithstanding section 9.5.3, the maximum residential density shall not exceed 9.97 units per gross hectare (4.04 units per gross acre).

#### iii. Water Supply and Sewer Systems

All development shall be serviced by private communal water supply and distribution system and private communal sewage treatment and disposal system. The developer shall be responsible for the installation, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the required facilities subject to the approval of the Ministry of the Environment and subject to a required Responsibility Agreement with the Township. The Responsibility Agreement shall provide for

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construction, operation, maintenance standards, monitoring of effluent and operations, and financial assurances by the developer for the private communal sewage treatment and disposal system. The private communal sewage treatment and disposal system may be provided according to Section 9.3.11.1. of this Plan.

### iv. Access

All manufactured home units shall have direct access to an internal private roadway constructed with standards acceptable to the municipality and capable of providing adequate emergency vehicle access.

### v. Zoning

Further to the Township Zoning Bylaw, zoning regulations may be used to control the size, nature, and location of the manufactured home sites.

In addition to Section 7.6 of this Plan, a Holding (H) Symbol may be used to implement the phasing of the development.

### vi. Phasing

Logical and efficient development is to occur in a minimum of three phases with a maximum of 100 sites in each phase.

### vii. Site Plan

Before the development of any sites for manufactured homes and the issuance of a building permit, for any phase, the developer shall enter into a site plan agreement with the Township.

The site plan agreement shall include a stormwater management plan, a road improvement plan, a lot grading and drainage plan and a landscaping plan all subject to the approval of the Township and any relevant government authority.

### viii. Holding Provision

#### a) Before removing the “H” symbol to permit development in any phase:

- 1) the required improvements to Concession Road 10, the intersections of Highway 12 and Plum Point Road, and improvement to the sight lines at the intersection of Plum Point Road and Concession Road 10, and improvements to Highway 12 shall be completed;
- 2) the land for the new Public Road will be dedicated to the Township and the road will be built to Township standards;

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- 3) the water and sewage treatment systems for all Phases of development have been approved by the Ministry of the Environment, and a Responsibility Agreement shall be entered into with the Township according to Section 9.5.11.4 iii) of this Plan; and
  - 4) the site plan agreement shall be entered into with the Township for each phase according to Section 9.5.11.4 vii) of this Plan.
- b) Before removing the “H” symbol to permit development in phase 2 or phase 3 or any subsequent phase:
- 1) at least 80% of the units of the previous phase must be built, occupied and adequately serviced to the satisfaction of the Township; and
  - 2) a comprehensive study shall be prepared by the developer/owner to assess the financial viability, environmental and servicing impacts, and also any other matters the Township deems necessary, of all the previous phases. The “H” symbol shall not be removed where the study finds that an adverse impact will occur as a result of such development and such impact cannot be appropriately mitigated.

#### 4. Abernathy (OPA 48)

Notwithstanding any provisions of this Plan to the contrary, for the lands designated “Village Residential” in the North Part of Lot 28, Concession 10, (Parts 1, 2, and 3, Plan 51R-23615), known municipally as 4399 and 4405 Concession Road 11 and having an area of 1.1 hectares (2.73 acres), a maximum of five residential lots may be created by consent.

That as a condition of consent or plan of subdivision to divide the subject lands, that the owner and the Township enter into an agreement that is binding on any successors in title of the property, the size of the dwellings to be constructed are:

- 1) Limited to the maximum gross floor area of 200 square metres per dwelling and not more than 20 fixture units;
- 2) That each lot have a primary and reserve tile bed.

The required agreement is registered on title against each lot created, including any retained lots.

#### 5. Atherley Cemetery

Until such time as there is municipal or communal water supply for lands immediately adjacent to the east side of the cemetery property, the zoning bylaw for the expanded part of the cemetery



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shall provide for a 30 metre separation distance from the existing residential property to the east within which no burial sites shall be located.

### 6. Mnjikaning Fish Weirs National Historic Site

In preparing a secondary plan, consideration will be made to the public education and awareness of this site and that a land use designation for appropriate interpretive facilities will be included subject to the natural area features and functions of this site.

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## 7.6 Rural Settlement Area

### 7.6.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Rural Settlement Area designation on Schedule “A1” is to accommodate small scale residential and non-residential development within existing settlement areas.

### 7.6.2 Permitted Uses

- single detached dwelling
- accessory dwelling unit above or within a permitted commercial or business establishment
- home occupation use
- public and community use such as a library, community hall or recreation centre, school, (private and public), place of worship, cemetery, place of assembly
- small-scale commercial or industrial establishment providing personal and business goods and services to the local community and the travelling public
- management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- public and private infrastructure
- utilities
- accessory uses

### 7.6.3 Secondary Dwelling Units

Secondary or accessory dwelling units may be established within the Rural Settlement Area designation in accordance with the provisions of the Zoning By-law. Secondary units may only be established where the lot is of an appropriate size to accommodate the unit and the associated individual, private servicing.

### 7.6.4 Lot Creation

1. The creation of a new lot or expanded lot in a Rural Settlement Area designation is permitted subject to Sections 4.1 and 6.1.13 of this Plan.
2. Infill development is encouraged provided that the proposed development is in keeping with the existing character and planned land uses of the area.

### 7.6.5 Development Proposals Adjacent to Municipal Boundary

When considering development proposals for any Rural Settlement Area located on the municipal boundary of the Township which exceed minor infilling and/or minor additions, the Township Council shall consult with the respective Council(s) of the adjacent municipality(ies) prior to approving such proposals.

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## **7.7 Shoreline Residential Area**

### **7.7.1 Purpose**

The purpose of the Shoreline Residential Area designation on Schedule “A1” is to accommodate residential activities directly oriented to the shoreline of lakes and water courses.

### **7.7.2 Land Uses**

- single detached dwelling
- boat house, boating dock, and shore wall
- small-scale convenience commercial establishment providing goods to the local community
- passive recreation
- home occupation use
- management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- public and private infrastructure
- utilities
- accessory use

### **7.7.3 Infilling**

Infilling of existing development shall be permitted on individual water supply and individual wastewater treatment facilities, subject to Sections 5.1 and 5.2 of this Plan.

### **7.7.4 Secondary Dwelling Units**

Secondary or accessory dwelling units may be established within the Shoreline Residential designation in accordance with the provisions of the Zoning By-law. Secondary units may only be established where the lot is of an appropriate size to accommodate the unit and the associated individual, private servicing.

### **7.7.5 Minimum Lot Area**

With the exception of existing, vacant legal lots of record, the area for all new lots shall be of an appropriate area that is large enough to accommodate a dwelling and associated individual, private services. The minimum lot size will be established by the Township in its Zoning By-law.

### **7.7.6 Vehicle Access**

Vehicular access shall be provided from each lot to a public road or may be provided by mutual access to more than one lot.

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### **7.7.7 Water Access**

Access to lots from navigable waterways shall be secondary to access from a public road and shall be subject to legal requirements under federal and provincial government jurisdictions. In the case of islands, access to lots may be from navigable waterways.

### **7.7.8 Boat Houses and Boat Docks**

Where ownership of a lot extends to the high-water mark, a building permit shall be obtained from the Township and the necessary permit obtained from the appropriate Provincial and/or Federal authority for the erection of permanent private individual boat docking facilities. No portion of the boat house shall be used for human habitation, including a secondary dwelling unit.

### **7.7.9 Small Scale Commercial Establishment**

Where appropriate, a small-scale commercial establishment that provides goods or services to the local community may be located on public roads separated from residential areas. The establishment of a new small-scale commercial use shall require an amendment to the Zoning By-law and shall be zoned in an appropriate commercial category.

### **7.7.10 Setback from the High-Water Mark**

With the exception of boat houses, docks and other permitted shoreline structures, the setback for new buildings and structures from the existing high-water mark shall be 30 metres. Any variance from the setback established in the Zoning By-law for new buildings and structures, shall only be allowed by amendment to the Zoning Bylaw or by a minor variance permitted by the Committee of Adjustment.

### **7.7.11 Servicing**

Development within the Shoreline Residential designation must comply with Sections 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, and 5.8 of this Plan.

### **7.7.12 Lot Creation**

1. The creation of a new lot in a Shoreline Residential Area is permitted subject to Section 6.1.12 of this Plan and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.
2. Infill development is encouraged provided that individual private servicing can be accommodated and the proposed development is in keeping with the existing character of the area.
3. New lots shall not be created by plan of subdivision or plan of condominium in the Shoreline Residential Area designation.

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### **7.7.13 Concordance**

Sections 4.1 and 6.0 of this Plan are the primary policy areas that shall be referred to in conjunction with section of this Plan.

### **7.7.14 Special Designations**

1. Dunlap (1319356 Ontario Inc.) (OPA No. 8)

A maximum of 7 residential lots may be developed on Part Lot 32 and 33 Front Range Concession (Rama) (Lake Couchiching Investments). Development of the residential lots may not occur until the completion of a noise study which outlines the limits of development and mitigation measures to the satisfaction of Canadian National Railways.

The proposed development, being adjacent to an active railway, shall ensure that appropriate safety measures such as setbacks, and security fencing are provided to the satisfaction of Canadian National Railways.

Notwithstanding Section 7.7.6, each new lot may have vehicle access by a common private right-of-way.

The proposed private right-of-way may be established in the ownership of a condominium corporation as a non-share capital corporation integrated with the proposed seven residential lots or as an easement/right-of-way created by consent.

All other relevant policies of this Plan shall apply.

2. Barnstable Bay (Biondich)

In addition to any other applicable policy statements within this Plan, the following shall also apply to those lands designated as “Shoreline Residential” in Lots 21, 22 and 23, Concession VII, (Mara) as shown on the Land Use Plan, attached hereto as Schedule “A1”.

- a. The uses permitted shall be limited to detached, cluster and low profile multiple-unit seasonal or second home dwellings for permanent year-round occupancy or retirement purposes, boat docking and storage facilities; general and specialized commercial uses directed towards the day to day needs of the local residents and tourists such as eating establishments, places of entertainment, convenience stores and similar uses; public parks; private parks and recreational facilities for the exclusive use of the residents of the subdivision; community facilities; home occupation uses; and public uses.
- b. All development, except for the development of lands that front on Concession Road 7 in Part of Lots 22 and 23, Concession VII (Mara), shall be serviced with municipal piped water supply and sanitary sewerage facilities. The developer shall be responsible for the installation of the required facilities, subject to the approval of the

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Township and the Ministry of the Environment. It is further intended that once such systems have been installed and operating for a period as specified in the subdivision agreement, that such systems shall be turned over to the Township at no cost. Any new lot fronting on Concession Road 7 that is developed for a single detached dwelling may be serviced with individual water supply and wastewater treatment systems.

- c. Medium density residential buildings shall be grouped in clusters rather than individual buildings being indiscriminately mixed with low density buildings and care should be taken to ensure that there is not a steep gradation in densities between adjoining residential housing areas.
  - d. Medium density residential buildings should not overshadow or interfere with the visual amenities of low density residential buildings by reason of their bulk.
  - e. Permitted community facilities and recreational uses shall be provided and be located contiguous to or within the residential sectors of the community and care shall be had to the accessibility of such facilities.
  - f. Permitted commercial uses shall be grouped wherever possible and shall not be allowed to infiltrate unnecessarily into adjoining residential areas or, by their location, generate significant amounts of traffic through such residential areas.
  - g. The permitted groups of commercial uses shall be located on or in close proximity to collector roads and shall be developed with common ingress and egress routes.
  - h. Adequate buffer planting shall be provided between commercial uses and any adjacent residential areas and such buffer planting may include provisions for grass strips and appropriate planting of trees and shrubs and may include berms, screen fences or walls.
  - i. Wherever possible, direct access to abutting properties from collector roads shall be prohibited.
  - j. Due to the environmentally sensitive nature of the eastern part of Barnstable Bay for natural fish spawning purposes, no change may be made to the natural habitat for development purposes until such time as the Developer undertakes a detailed assessment report done to the satisfaction of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the County of Simcoe and the Township with regard to the significance of the area for fish spawning and/or nursery habitat and the potential effects of any development on such activities.
  - k. The creation of new lots shall be by consent, plan of subdivision and plan of condominium, subject to Section 6.1.13 of this Plan.
3. Highland Mills Development (OPA No. 5)

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The following policies shall apply to those lands designated as “Shoreline Residential” in part of Lot 1, Concession 9 (Mara), as shown on Schedule “A1”.

- a. Notwithstanding any policies of this Official Plan to the contrary, the outward expansion of an existing designated Shoreline Residential Area is permitted.
- b. A total of three lots shall be created by consent.
- c. Notwithstanding Section 7.7.6, each new lot may have vehicle access by a common private right-of-way connected to an open public road.
- d. Each new lot on a private right-of-way may be used for permanent occupancy.
- e. Each new lot shall have frontage on Lake Dalrymple.
- f. All other relevant policies of this Plan shall apply.

These policies shall be implemented by means of a Zoning By-law enacted pursuant to Section 34 of the *Planning Act*. The creation of the three lots and the retained lot will require the approval of the Committee of Adjustment. A Site Plan Agreement between the Township of Ramara and the landowners shall be registered on title to address the recommendations of the Environmental Impact Study prepared by Michalski Nielsen Associates Limited and other matters considered relevant by the Township.

The provisions of this Plan, as amended from time to time, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this amendment.

#### 4. Beacock – Grays Bay Road (OPA No. 13)

The following policies shall apply to those lands designated as “Shoreline Residential” in Part of Front Range Lot 2 (Rama), as shown on Schedule “A1” Land Use Plan, attached hereto as Schedule “A1”.

- a. Notwithstanding any policies of this Official Plan to the contrary, the outward expansion of an existing designated “Shoreline Residential” area is permitted.
- b. Notwithstanding Section 7.7.6, any new lot created shall only have vehicle access by Grays Bay Road, a private right-of-way connected to an open public road.
- c. A new lot may be created only by consent and shall conform with the policies of the Ramara Official Plan and the provisions of Ramara Zoning By-law 2005.85.
- d. Any new lot created and development shall conform with the policies of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, as amended, regarding the Rama Road Economic Employment District.

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These policies shall be implemented by means of a Zoning By-law amendment enacted pursuant to Section 34 of the *Planning Act*. The creation of any lot will require consent of the Ramara Committee of Adjustment. A Site Plan Agreement and Site Plan Approval is required where necessary to address any technical issues for development.

The provisions of this Plan, as amended, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this amendment.

### 5. Rama Lakefront Resorts Inc. (OPA No. 14)

The following policies shall apply to those lands designated as “Shoreline Residential” in Parts of Lots 28, 29 and 30 and Part of the Original Shore Allowance in Front of Lots 28, 29 and 30, Front Range (Rama), as shown on Schedule “A1” Land Use Plan.

- a. Notwithstanding and policies of this Official Plan to the contrary, the outward expansion of an existing designated “Shoreline Residential” area is permitted.
- b. A total of 36 lots and dwellings shall be permitted within this “Shoreline Residential” designation.
- c. Each new lot on a private driveway may be used for a permanent occupancy dwelling.
- d. Notwithstanding Section 7.7.6, each new lot may have vehicle access by a common private right-of-way connected to an open public road.
- e. Amendment No 14 shall be implemented by a plan of subdivision/condominium and a Zoning By-law amendment enacted pursuant to Section 34 of the *Planning Act*.
- f. Any further planning applications to the Township of Ramara that implements Amendment No. 14 may be determined as complete applications following the satisfactory completion of the approval and design of private water supply, wastewater treatment and stormwater management services, the design of a plan of subdivision/condominium, and revised zoning by-law amendment using the Integrated Approach under section A.2.9, of the Class Environmental Assessment (*Environmental Assessment Act*), amended 2011.
- g. The applicant shall not proceed with the Integrated Approach, including any applications for approval of a plan of subdivision/condominium or enactment of a zoning by-law amendment, until the existing Original Shore Allowance in Front of Lots 28, 29 and 30, Front Range (Rama) has been determined by the Council of the Township of Ramara to be available for disposal and the owner of the subject property has negotiated the purchase of the subject land for incorporation into the subject property.



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The provisions of this Plan, as amended from time to time, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this Amendment.”

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## **7.8 Industrial**

### **7.8.1 Purpose**

The purpose of the Industrial designation on Schedule “A1” is to accommodate a range of industrial and service type businesses as well as accessory and ancillary commercial uses.

### **7.8.2 Land Uses**

- manufacturing, processing and assembly establishment
- warehousing and indoor or outdoor storage establishment
- business service establishment
- repair service establishment
- truck or transportation terminal
- trade or occupation establishment
- accessory sale of goods manufactured, processed, or assembled on the premises
- accessory and ancillary office
- accessory open storage
- management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- public and private infrastructure
- utilities
- accessory uses

### **7.8.3 Settlement Areas**

Permitted industrial uses shall generally be located in designated settlement areas according to Sections 4.1 and 6.0 of this Plan.

### **7.8.4 Outside Settlement Areas**

New industrial uses located outside of settlement areas that require an Official Plan Amendment may be permitted in accordance with Section 7.4.5 of this Plan.

### **7.8.5 Commercial**

The permitted commercial uses shall be kept to a maximum of 25% of gross floor area, be either accessory to or directly serve the permitted industrial uses.

### **7.8.6 Lot Creation**

The creation of a new lot in an Industrial designation is permitted subject to Section 6.1.12 of this Plan and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.

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### ***7.8.7 Special Designations***

1. James Dick Construction - (OPA 43)

Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan to the contrary, for the lands designated “Industrial” in Part of Lot 11, Concession A, (Mara) the permitted uses are limited to a truck terminal and associated motor vehicle repair garage in conjunction with the adjacent licensed aggregate operation located to the west in Lot 12 and Part of Lot 11, Concession A (Mara).

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## 7.9 Destination Commercial

### 7.9.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Destination Commercial designation on Schedule “A1” is to accommodate large area commercial activities that are destinations or are related to the Rama Road Corridor or serve the needs of visitors to the Township.

### 7.9.2 Land Uses

- Tourist accommodation uses such as seasonal tent and trailer camp or park, rental cabin and housekeeping cottage, lodge, four-season destination resort, motel, recreation camp, private camp and private park
- Public parks
- Marina, including seasonal boat storage facility
- Accessory docking facility
- Retail commercial establishment limited to convenience commercial establishment, boutique and souvenir establishment, gift or antique establishment, arts and craft establishment, and personal service
- Service commercial establishment
- Theme park and amphitheatre
- Entertainment and amusement use such as tavern, place of entertainment such as bingo hall, casino, music hall, cinema and/or theatre facility and complex, video arcade, and virtual reality activity facility and area and similar uses
- Eating establishment
- Facility or area for active and passive recreation and sports use such as tennis or squash court, swimming pool, golf course, miniature golf, golfing practice area and driving range, horse and pony ride, petting zoo, kiddy car, water bumpers and water slide and similar uses and structure
- Bus terminal, tourist information centre and other commercial uses serving the needs of the travelling public
- Accessory buildings, structures and uses
- Multiple unit dwelling (see Section 7.9.8)
- Accessory residential dwelling for the owner or caretaker or similar person
- Management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- Public and private infrastructure
- Utilities

### 7.9.3 Official Plan Amendment

1. The creation of new or expanded Destination Commercial areas shall be considered by an Official Plan Amendment.

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2. Any proposed Official Plan Amendment shall be subject to Section 5.0 and 6.0 and, where applicable, Section 4.2 of this Plan.
3. A detailed planning study shall be submitted to the Township by the proponent with each application that clearly establishes how the objectives and policies of this Plan are satisfied.
4. Any new or expanded Destination Commercial area shall be subject to a specific Zoning By-law amendment.

### **7.9.4 Recreation Facilities**

Where a commercial operation includes provision for overnight accommodation, a minimum of 20 per cent of the gross site for development shall be devoted to communal recreation facilities and such areas should be distributed throughout the development. The required communal recreation facilities may in part be used and form part of any waterfront access.

### **7.9.5 Commercial Establishments**

Accessory retail commercial and service commercial establishments on any lot shall not exceed the lesser of 1000 m<sup>2</sup> of total floor area or 10% of the total floor area of the permitted primary land uses.

### **7.9.6 Marina**

1. New commercial marina operations may be established as a principal use or as an accessory use to a permitted principal use. Any proposal submitted for a new or expanded marina must be accompanied by a Marina impact study indicating the on and off-shore facilities to be constructed including pump-out facilities to empty holding tanks of boats, the dredging required and the impact of such facility with regard to such matters as longitudinal drift, **fish habitat** and the visual impact of the marina. The study will require the approval of the relevant government agencies.
2. Off-street vehicle parking shall be provided within the development and shall be directly related to the number of boat slips.
3. Facilities for the sale of gas and oil and for the fueling of marine craft shall be provided at a separate pier or dock area from where other craft are docked on a seasonal basis and adequate provision shall be made for fire safety and similar measures. Fuel storage tanks for such facilities shall be placed according to the provincial regulations.
4. Marinas large enough to provide overnight accommodation for large water craft with heads and culinary facilities shall provide dockside sewage pumpout and garbage disposal facilities.

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### **7.9.7 Seasonal Tent or Trailer Camps and Parks**

1. Minimum standards for campsite areas shall be established in the Zoning By-law for the Township.
2. Such establishments shall conform to all standards and provisions of the By-law, passed under the authority of the *Municipal Act*, as amended.
3. The owner or the operator shall submit to the Municipality a site plan under the authority of the *Planning Act*, as amended, of the proposed establishment detailing, but not limited to, the following information:
  - a. The true shape, acreage and the location of the property to be developed.
  - b. The location, height, dimensions and use of all buildings and structures existing and proposed to be erected.
  - c. All ingress and egress routes.
  - d. The layout of the internal vehicular and pedestrian road system and the layout of any proposed parking area, campsites, water supply and effluent disposal facilities, and other associated facilities.

### **7.9.8 Multiple Dwelling Units**

1. Multiple Unit dwellings are permitted only in conjunction with and secondary in scale to the development of the following Destination Commercial uses:
  - tourist accommodation including a hotel
  - marina
  - facility or area for active recreation

No Multiple Unit dwellings shall be the principal residence of any individual or group of individuals.

2. The Zoning By-law amendment for the Destination Commercial uses listed in Section 7.9.8.1 shall contain provisions for types of dwellings and density of dwelling units.
3. For purposes of this section, Multiple Unit dwellings may include development within a plan of condominium on a site used for the permitted Destination Commercial uses in Section 7.9.8.1.
4. The approval of Multiple Unit dwellings in conjunction with the permitted Destination Commercial uses shall be considered at the same time as the approval of the Destination Commercial uses.

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5. The actual development of Multiple Unit dwellings shall take place in conjunction with or following the development of the permitted Destination Commercial uses in Section 7.9.8.1.
6. Destination Commercial uses permitted by Section 7.9.8.1 may develop independently of Multiple Unit dwelling units. The approval of Multiple Unit dwelling units may be given after the development of Destination Commercial uses.

### **7.9.9 Lot Creation**

1. The creation of a new or expanded lot in a Destination Commercial designation is permitted subject to Sections 4.1, 4.2 and 6.1.12 of this Plan and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.
2. New lots may be created by plan of subdivision, plan of condominium or by consent in the Destination Commercial designation.

### **7.9.10 Concordance**

Sections 4.2 and 6.0 are the primary policy areas of this Plan shall be referred to in conjunction with this Section.

### **7.9.11 Special Designations**

#### **1. Rama Resorts**

In addition to any other applicable policy statements within this Plan, the following policies shall also apply to those lands designated “Destination Commercial” in Part of Lot 28, 29 and 30, Concession 12 (Mara) indicated by the notation “Lands Subject to Subsection 7.9.11.1” on Schedule “A1” of this Plan. The purpose of this Special Development Area is to establish an overall policy framework for the development of a four-season destination resort and entertainment centre on the subject lands. The policies establish the types of uses contemplated for the lands and outline the specific development policies that ensure the development of a four-season resort and entertainment centre is realized.

##### **a. Adjacent Uses**

Protection shall be provided to the amenities of existing residential development from possible disturbances created by all activities associated with regional commercial uses.

##### **b. Parking Facilities and Access Points**

Where destination commercial projects are designed for public or private use, adequate automobile parking areas shall be established and access points to parking areas and to all projects shall be located so that the road pattern provides for the adequate movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

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### c. Access

Convenient access shall be provided from the development to a public improved road suitable to carry such anticipated additional traffic and shall not require such traffic to unduly travel through established residential areas.

### d. Buffer Planting

Adequate buffer planting shall be provided between destination commercial development and any adjacent residential area and such buffer planting may include provisions for closed board or decorative fencing, grass strips, berms and appropriate planting of trees and shrubs. In addition to buffer planting, spatial separation distances may also be required.

### e. Location and Water Access

The development shall, where possible and practical, be located to ensure direct access to the shoreline or alternatively access by driveways or pedestrian walkways.

### f. Recreation Facilities

Where a commercial operation includes overnight accommodation, a minimum of 20 percent of the entire development, based on:

- i. an individual lot on which the overnight accommodation is situated, or
- ii. that portion of the overall development of a site devoted to the overnight accommodation

shall be devoted to communal recreational facilities and such areas should be distributed throughout the development. The required communal recreation facilities may in part be used and form part of the waterfront access.

### g. Commercial Establishments

Accessory retail commercial establishments should be in reasonable proportion to the total lot area and the scale of the principal use, but in no case shall the floor area exceed 3% of the lands subject to these policies.

### h. Marina

- i. No new commercial marina operations shall be established except as part of an accessory use to a permitted principal use.
- ii. Adequate off-street motor vehicle parking shall be provided and shall be directly related to the number of boat slips.



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- iii. Facilities for the sale of gas and oil and for the fueling of marine craft shall be provided at a separate pier or dock area from where other craft are docked on a seasonal basis and adequate provision shall be made for fire safety and similar measures. Fuel storage tanks for such facilities shall be placed according to provincial regulations.
- iv. Marinas large enough to provide overnight accommodation for large watercraft with heads and culinary facilities shall provide dockside sewage pumpout and garbage disposal facilities.

- i. Concept Plan

All of the above items will need to be addressed by way of a detailed Concept Plan outlining building envelopes, numbers and types of accommodations, commercial square footage, residential areas, etc., before development taking place. This Concept Plan shall be provided to and approved by Council having regard to certain requirements for studies. Studies required before Council's acceptance of the Concept Plan are as follows:

- i. A Transportation Study is required addressing impact on local entrance roads, County Road No. 44, Highway No. 12, and associated intersections. Within this Transportation Study, all required improvements to the transportation system as a result of this development shall be highlighted.

The review and approval of the Transportation Study, and a drainage study are also required by the County of Simcoe and the Ministry of Transportation.

- ii. An Environmental Impact Study is required to address development adjacent to the Provincially Significant Wetland and fishery. Within the Environmental Impact Study, specific building envelopes within the lands designated "Destination Commercial" will need to be established and adhered to by the Concept Plan and any future site plan, subdivision or building permit application. Section 5.2 applies, where necessary, to this Special Policy Area.

The review and approval of the Environmental Impact Study are also required by other appropriate approval agencies.

The Environmental Impact Study shall consider the following:

- iii. MOE Guidelines with respect to separation of development from the Fern Resort Sewage lagoon;
- iv. the 100-year wave uprush; and
- v. MNR wetland mapping, and the provincially significant wetland.

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- j. A detailed servicing impact study outlining the method of servicing and its impact on Lake Couchiching.
- k. A stormwater management study is required to investigate the impacts of development on water quality and quantity both on and off site and to recommend appropriate measures to maintain the Lake Couchiching ecosystem. In determining whether and what measures may be required, consideration shall be given to the impacts of existing and proposed future development within the contributing catchment. The study is to be completed according to the Ministry of Environment guidelines and shall be reviewed and approved by Council and appropriate agencies.
- l. Servicing Feasibility Study

The purpose of a Servicing Feasibility Study is to protect the environment, in particular the ground and surface water resources of the Lake Couchiching ecosystem, and to ensure that an adequate supply of potable water and an appropriate method of sewage treatment are available for new developments within the community study area. The community study area shall encompass the lands identified as the 7.9.11.1 Special Development Area. This does not preclude Council from including lands outside this special development area.

The Servicing Feasibility Study shall investigate and determine the appropriate methods of water supply and sewage treatment necessary to service proposed development and to maintain water resources. All reasonable servicing alternatives, beginning with full municipal or communal services, shall be considered within the context of a community servicing strategy, which establishes servicing alternatives for development scenarios within the community study area. The development scenarios may include the type, scale, density and phasing of future growth and development, as determined by the Township.

In particular, the Study shall investigate and address the following issues:

- i. The potential to connect to existing and proposed water supply and sewage treatment systems and also existing capacity and feasibility of the extension and expansion, if required; the necessity for and feasibility of new facilities; and the analysis of comparative performance of similar facilities;
- ii. Environmental, financial and administrative implications of multiple systems regardless of whether the systems discharge to surface water or ground water;
- iii. Where individual on-site sewage treatment systems are proposed, the suitability of the site shall be investigated and environmental constraints evaluated. This includes the suitability of terrain, hydrological suitability, soils suitability and where subsurface disposal is proposed, hydrogeological suitability; and

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- iv. Consideration of the assimilative (carrying capacity) of the Lake Couchiching ecosystem.

The Servicing Feasibility Study is to be prepared according to the Ministry of Environment and Energy guidelines and is subject to the review and approval of Council and the appropriate agencies.

- m. Zoning

Destination Commercial Area may be zoned in separate classifications in the Zoning By-law. Before the development of any land or the issuance of a building permit, a site plan agreement shall be entered into between the Developer and the municipality. In the Interim, a Holding (H) Symbol shall be incorporated with the specific zone.

Before the removal of the Holding (H) symbol by Council for certain uses, the developer shall satisfy Section 8.5 of this Plan and in particular, the developer shall complete the required studies and the concept plan to the satisfaction of Council.

### **2. Chase (OPA 19)**

In addition to any other applicable policy statements within this Plan, the following policies shall also apply to those lands designated “Destination Commercial” in Part of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Front Range (Rama). The purpose of this Special Policy Area is to establish an overall policy framework for the development of a retail, service entertainment and recreation centre that will primarily serve the travelling public and patrons of the Casino. The policies establish the types of uses contemplated for the lands and also outline the specific development policies that ensure the development of such a centre is realized.

- a. Grouping and Access

Development shall, wherever possible, be grouped and should where possible in the case of County Road No. 44 have access via secondary roads rather than direct access onto the County Road.

- b. Shopping Mall Exception

No shopping malls shall be permitted within this development without an amendment to this Plan.

Any such Official Plan amendment must be supported by a detailed and comprehensive market analysis prepared at the developer’s expense. Such market analysis shall be prepared before consideration of the Official Plan Amendment. If the market analysis shows that the proposed new establishment will unduly detract from the importance of the Central Business District of the City of Orillia, which is the main civic and commercial focus, or will have a detrimental effect thereon, then such Official Plan Amendment will not be approved, nor will the proposed development be allowed to proceed.

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### c. Amenities

Hydro poles and other surface utilities shall be carefully sited and advertisements and signs shall be kept to a minimum, having regard for the safety and convenience of vehicular traffic and the enhancement of the scenic qualities of the area. The amenity of surrounding areas shall be considered in the siting, lighting and advertising of any permitted use.

### d. Appearance

All development shall be attractive because of its public exposure.

### e. Parking Facilities and Access

Adequate off-street parking facilities shall be provided for all permitted uses and access points to such parking shall be limited in number and designed in a way that will minimize the danger to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

### f. A Buffer Planting

Adequate buffer planting shall be provided between the commercial uses and any adjacent residential areas and such buffer planting shall include the provision of grass strips and appropriate planting of trees and shrubs.

### g. Open Storage

No open storage of goods or materials shall be permitted, except display purposes.

### h. Water Supply and Effluent Disposal

An adequate source of potable water supply and adequate sanitary disposal facilities shall be provided and be subject to the approval of the Township and the relevant authority responsible for approval.

### i. 0.3 Metre Reserve

To prevent conflict in terms of access with respect to the development of these lands and the lands of the First Nation, as a site plan requirement of 0.3 metre reserve dedicated to the municipality will be required where these lands abut First Nation Lands.

All of the above items will need to be addressed by way of a detailed Concept Plan outlining building envelopes, numbers and types of accommodations, commercial square footage, residential areas, etc. before development taking place. This Concept Plan shall be provided to and approved by Council having regard to certain requirements for studies. Studies required before Council's acceptance of the Concept Plan are as follows:

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- j. A Transportation Study is required addressing impact on local entrance roads, County Road 44, Highway No. 12, the CNR line and associated intersections. Within this Transportation Study, all required improvements to the transportation system as a result of this development shall be highlighted.
- k. The review and approval of the Transportation Study, and also a drainage study is also required by the County of Simcoe and the Ministry of Transportation.
- l. A detailed Servicing Feasibility Study outlining the method of servicing and its impact on Lake Couchiching.
- m. Ensure compatibility with existing agricultural operations cognizant of the Minimum Distance Separation I and II.
- n. A stormwater management study is required to investigate the impacts of development on water quality and quantity both on and off site and to recommend appropriate measures to maintain the Lake Couchiching ecosystem. In determining whether and what measures may be required, consideration shall be given to the impacts of existing and proposed future development within the contributing catchment. The study is to be completed according to the Ministry of Environment guidelines and shall be reviewed and approved by Council and appropriate agencies.
- o. A Servicing Feasibility Study to demonstrate how the development will protect the environment, in particular the ground and surface water resources of the Lake Couchiching ecosystem. To ensure that an adequate supply of potable water and an appropriate method of sewage treatment are available for new developments within the community study area. The community study area shall encompass the lands identified as the 7.9.11.2 “Special Development Area.” This does not preclude Council from including lands outside this special development area.
  - i. The Servicing Feasibility Study shall investigate and determine the appropriate methods of water supply and sewage treatment necessary to service proposed development and to maintain water resources. All reasonable servicing alternative, beginning with full municipal or communal services, shall be considered within the context of a community servicing strategy that establishes servicing alternatives for development scenarios within the community study area. The development scenarios may include the type, scale, density and phasing of future growth and development, as determined by the Township.

In particular, the Study shall investigate and address the following issues:

- ii. The potential to connect to existing and proposed water supply and sewage treatment systems and also existing capacity and feasibility of the

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extension and expansion, if required, the necessity for a feasibility of new facilities; and the analysis of comparative performance of similar facilities;

- iii. Environmental, financial and administrative implications of multiple systems regardless of whether the systems discharge to surface water or ground water;
- iv. Where individual on-site sewage treatment services are proposed, the suitability of the site shall be investigated and environmental constraints evaluated. This includes the suitability of terrain, hydrological suitability, soils suitability and where subsurface disposal is proposed, hydrogeological suitability; and,
- v. Consideration of the assimilative (carrying capacity) of the Lake Couchiching ecosystem.

The Servicing Feasibility Study is to be prepared according to the Ministry of the Environment guidelines and is subject to the review and approval of the Council and the appropriate agencies.

### p. Zoning

Destination Commercial Areas may be zoned in separate classifications in the Zoning By-law. Before the development of any land or the issuance of a building permit, a site plan agreement shall be entered into between the developer and the municipality. In the interim, a Holding (H) Symbol shall be incorporated with the specific zone.

Before the removal of the Holding (H) Symbol by Council for certain uses, the developer shall satisfy Section 8.5 of this Plan and in particular, the developer shall complete the required studies and the concept plan to the satisfaction of Council.

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## 7.10 Highway Commercial

### 7.10.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Highway Commercial designation on Schedule “A1” is to accommodate small area and individual commercial activities that are located on main roads and at intersections to provide convenient access and exposure.

### 7.10.2 Land Uses

- Eating establishment, including drive through and take-out establishment
- Motor vehicle service station
- Motor vehicle gasoline sales
- Convenience commercial establishment
- Gift or antique establishment
- Arts and craft establishment
- An accessory dwelling for the owner or caretaker
- Management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- Public and private infrastructure
- Utilities

### 7.10.3 Location

Highway Commercial designations shall be limited to a Provincial Highway, County Road, and are preferred at the intersection of a Township Road with a Provincial Highway or County Road to achieve access to the Township Road.

### 7.10.4 Retail Commercial Floor Space

Retail Commercial establishments shall not exceed 500 m<sup>2</sup> total gross floor area for an individual establishment or a grouping of permitted uses on a single lot.

### 7.10.5 Official Plan Amendment

1. The creation of new or expanded Highway Commercial areas shall be considered by an Official Plan Amendment.
2. Any proposed Official Plan Amendment shall be subject to the objectives and policies of this Plan and in particular Section 5.8.
3. A detailed planning study with supporting technical reports shall be submitted to the Township by the proponent with each application that clearly establishes how the objectives and policies of this Plan are satisfied and if the subject property can support the new or expanded use.

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4. Any new or expanded Highway Commercial area shall be subject to a specific Zoning By-law Amendment.

### **7.10.6 Lot Creation**

1. The creation of a new or expanded lot in a Highway Commercial designation is permitted subject to Sections 4.1,4.2, and 6.1.12 of this Plan and the provisions of the Zoning By-law.
2. New lots shall not be created by plan of subdivision or plan of condominium in the Highway Commercial designation.

### **7.10.7 Concordance**

Section 6.0 of this Plan is the primary policy area that shall be referred to in conjunction with this Section.

### **7.10.8 Special Designations**

1. Part Lot 15, Concession 1 (Rama) (OPA No. 3)

Notwithstanding Section 7.10.2 within the lands designated “Highway Commercial” and identified as special policy 7.10.8.1 on Schedule “A” of this Plan, the only permitted uses shall be an indoor self-storage business within the three existing buildings. The gross floor area of the buildings shall not be permitted to be expanded and no known noxious items shall be stored on site.

The implementing Zoning By-law Amendment for this subject property shall include policies to limit the area and size of the buildings and specify the number of required parking spaces.

These policies shall be implemented by means of a Zoning By-law passed pursuant to the provisions of Section 34 of the *Planning Act*.

The provisions of the Official Plan of the Township of Ramara, as amended from time to time, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this amendment.



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### 7.11 Mineral Aggregate Extraction Area

#### 7.11.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Mineral Aggregate Extraction designation on Schedule “A1” is to recognize provincially licensed and active sand and gravel and quarry operations, referred to as mineral aggregate operations.

#### 7.11.2 Land Uses

- Agricultural use
- Licenced sand and gravel pit
- Licenced quarry
- Accessory uses associated with the extraction operation and processing activity such as crushing, screening, washing, stockpiling, blending, storage, weigh scales, packing and on-site office facility
- Ancillary uses such as asphalt plant, concrete plant, aggregate recycling plant, and aggregate transfer station specifically permitted in a Zoning By-law Amendment
- Management of natural areas and natural resources for environmental management purposes
- Public and private infrastructure

#### 7.11.3 Official Plan Amendment

1. New or expanded mineral aggregate operations shall be located in an area designated as Mineral Aggregate Extraction Area by amendment to this Plan.
2. Any application to amend this Plan shall be considered by the Township subject to the objectives and policies of this plan and in particular Section 6.3.4.
3. Any application that proposes extraction below the established groundwater table shall require hydrogeological studies of the impact on water quality and quantity and be subject to public consultation.

#### 7.11.4 Licenced Mineral Aggregate Operations

1. All mineral aggregate operations licenced under provincial statute at the time of coming into effect of this Plan shall be designated Mineral Aggregate Extraction Area on Schedule “A1”.
2. All existing and proposed mineral aggregate operations shall be appropriately designated and zoned in the Township’s Official Plan and Zoning By-law, including all driveways proposed for truck traffic to and from the operation within the licenced area. The Township may require that driveways external to the licenced area, whose purpose is for the passage

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of truck traffic to and from a licenced area, be zoned accordingly. The zoning of these external driveways should be site specific and distinct from the zoning of the licenced area.

3. Any changes to an existing licence that add to or extend the boundaries of licenced mineral aggregate areas shall be subject to an amendment to this Plan and/or Zoning By-law.
4. Any application under provincial statute to change, vary or add to the conditions in an existing licence and/or site plan that proposes to increase the tonnage limit of annual extraction and/or that proposes to extract aggregate below the groundwater table must comply with the Township's requirements according to Section 7.11.5 of this Plan, and in all applications, the Township shall send its comments and recommendations to the provincial agencies within the legislative comment periods.
5. Proposals to add to or extend the boundaries of licenced mineral aggregate areas shall be considered by the Township with regard to the land uses and natural area characteristics of the surrounding environment.
6. Any amendment to this Plan shall be subject to the objectives and policies of this Plan and in particular Section 6.2.4 and 6.3.4.

### **7.11.5 Township Requirements**

1. In consideration of any application to amend this Plan and/or the Zoning By-law to permit aggregate extraction, the Township and the County shall require the applicant to provide the following:
  - a. The submission of a study by the applicant indicating potential haul road transportation impacts from the proposed extraction operation on the Township and County road systems and on local, county, district and regional roads in adjacent municipalities;
  - b. If required, the submission of an Environmental Impact Study according to Section 6.2.4 of this Plan.
  - c. Demonstration that the proposed mineral aggregate extraction and rehabilitation are consistent with the policies of the County of Simcoe Official Plan and this Plan;
  - d. The submission of all reports required by the Province according to the *Aggregate Resources Act*;
  - e. Consideration of the use of the proposed operation compatible with existing and planned sensitive land uses in the area, the staging of extraction and rehabilitation within the proposed licenced area, the entering into a registered development agreement with the Township and such other relevant matters as the Township deems necessary such as:

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- i. that the applicant in cooperation with the Township, the County, and adjacent local, district and regional municipalities, will establish all haul routes for truck traffic
    - ii. that if a public highway is to be used as a haul route, the appropriate road authority or authorities may require, in a suitable agreement, that any road improvements; the timing of road works, and the responsibilities for road maintenance during and after road construction are undertaken all at the expense of the operator of the pit or quarry;
    - iii. that the operator shall operate and maintain any private haul routes that are external to the licenced area according to truck volumes and compatibility with land uses, in accordance with a suitable agreement;
    - iv. any improvements to the Township's surface water drainage system at the applicant's expense.
  - f. The Township will recommend licence conditions and/or notes on the site plan through the approvals process under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, where necessary:
    - i. To ensure adequate buffers and/or screening along Township rights-of-way, or adjacent to any existing or proposed residences or as determined through the approval of required studies, adjacent to sensitive land uses to the satisfaction of the Township;
    - ii. That no new excavation or processing will take place until all required buffers and/or screenings have been constructed;
    - iii. That no water from washing or screening operations will be directly discharged into any watercourse;
    - iv. That no new excavation or processing will take place until all required fencing and/or security measures have been put in place;
    - v. That any off-site discharge of surface and/or groundwater satisfies the requirement of provincial statutes, regulations and standards and that the applicant can obtain the necessary approvals; and
    - vi. That the operator agrees to ensure off-site monitoring of private water supplies to meet quality and quantity standards and requirements and that appropriate mitigation measures are included in agreements with landowners.
2. That any agreement entered into with the Township shall be registered by the Township against the land licensed for mineral aggregate operations.

## Section 7 – Land Use Policies

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### **7.11.6 Township Monitoring**

1. The Township shall monitor all licensed mineral aggregate operations and may provide comments to the provincial ministry responsible for licensing and may review the annual compliance report required by provincial regulation.
2. The Township may determine whether the operator of the licensed operation complies with any required off-site mitigation measures specified as conditions of the aggregate license and/or as notes on the approved site plan.
3. The Township shall be satisfied that off-site traffic control, road improvements and/or surface drainage measures as agreed to in the registered agreement have been satisfied by the operator.

### **7.11.7 Deletion of Official Plan Designation**

The Township may change any Mineral Aggregate Extraction designation on Schedule A1 to an appropriate designation reflecting the characteristics of the subject lands, where the mineral aggregate resource is no longer licenced in whole or part.

### **7.11.8 Rehabilitation**

1. When considering an amendment to the Township's Zoning By-law that would enable the establishment or expansion of a mineral aggregate operation, the Township will recommend to the Province conditions to be included in the aggregate license or notations on the site plan to ensure proper rehabilitation of the lands. Proper rehabilitation means:
  - a. Where the lands from which the extraction will occur are designated as "Agriculture" on Schedule A1 of this Plan, rehabilitation shall require the restoration of the lands to the previous agricultural capability of the lands, in accordance with Section 7.3.7 of this Plan.
  - b. Where the lands from which the extraction will occur, including extraction below the established groundwater table, are within any designation other than "Agriculture" designation on Schedule A1 of this Plan, rehabilitation shall be compatible with the intended or sequential land use in terms of grading, post extraction elevations and vegetation cover and shall be compatible with existing and proposed land uses on lands adjacent to and in the vicinity of the subject lands.
2. The Township encourages progressive rehabilitation where by a sequence of extraction and consequent rehabilitation would take place. Such a sequence shall minimize the area affected at any one time by requiring rehabilitation in a progressive and phased manner as extraction on portions of the site is completed.

## Section 7 – Land Use Policies

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### **7.11.9 Lot Creation**

The lands that are licenced or are proposed to be licenced may be severed by consent provided that the retained parcel satisfies the requirements of this Plan and the Zoning By-law.

### **7.11.10 Concordance**

Sections 6.2 and 6.3 of this Plan are the primary policy areas that shall be referred to in conjunction with this Plan.

### **7.11.11 Special Designations**

1. James Dick, Lots 11 to 14, Conc C and Lots 11 to 15, Conc D - Rama

Notwithstanding Section 7.11.1, within the lands designated “Mineral Aggregate Extraction Area” and identified as Special Policy Area 7.11.11.1 on Schedule “A1” of this Plan, the only uses permitted shall be uses that support the operation of an adjacent pit or quarry. Those uses may include processing, stock piles, accessory buildings and structures, environmental control facilities and haul routes. No extraction shall occur within Special Policy Area.

2. James Dick, Lots 11 to 14 Con C and Lots 11 to 15, Conc. D - Rama

Notwithstanding Section 7.11.1, any proposed licenced aggregate operation within Lot 15, Concession III, will be subject to an agreement within the Township. Notwithstanding any provisions of this Plan to the contrary, any implementing zoning by-law may incorporate a Holding Provision until the developer has satisfied the following conditions:

- a. a development agreement including such matters as road construction, letters of credit and insurance has been registered on title of the land;
  - b. a letter has been received by the Township from the Ministry of Natural Resources confirming compliance of the quarry with the Ministry’s requirements.
3. Fowler Quarry, Lots 11 to 15 inclusive and Part of Lots 16 and 17, Concession B (Rama) and Part of Lot 15, Concession C (Rama) (OPA No. 6)

Notwithstanding Section 7.11.2, any licenced aggregate operation within Lots 11 to 15 inclusive and Part of Lots 16 and 17 Concession B (Rama) and Part of Lot 15, Concession C (Rama) shall provide and maintain access to and from the licenced quarry on Concession Road B-C, which is designated as an aggregate haul road by the Township of Ramara.

Any proposed licenced quarry will be subject to an agreement with the Township of Ramara regarding road improvements to Concession B-C and with the County of Simcoe regarding road improvements to the intersection of County Road 169 and Township Concession B/C, timing of road works, road maintenance, responsibility for the cost of the road improvements, among other related matters.

## Section 7 – Land Use Policies

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Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan, the implementing zoning by-law shall incorporate a holding provision until the owner has satisfied the requirement of entering into an agreement with the Township of Ramara and entering into an agreement with the County of Simcoe.

These policies shall be implemented by means of a Zoning By-law Amendment enacted pursuant to the provisions of Section 34 of the *Planning Act*.

The provisions this Plan, as amended, shall apply with regard to the interpretation of this Amendment.

#### 4. NRK Holdings Inc. Parts of Lots 3 and 4, Concession C (Rama) (OPA No. 15)

Notwithstanding Section 7.11.1, any licenced aggregate operation within Parts of Lots 3 and 4, Concession C (Rama), shall provide and maintain access to and from the licenced quarry on Concession Road B-C, that is designated as an aggregate haul road by the Township of Ramara.

Any proposed licenced quarry will be subject to a Haul Road Agreement with the Township of Ramara regarding road improvements to Concession B-C, timing of road improvements, road maintenance, responsibility for the cost of road improvements and maintenance, among other related matters.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan, the implementing zoning by-law amendment shall be enacted by the Council of the Township of Ramara when the owner/applicant has satisfied the requirements of entering into a Haul Road Agreement with the Township of Ramara.

These policies shall be implemented by means of a Zoning By-law Amendment enacted pursuant to the provisions of section 34 of the *Planning Act*.

The provisions of the Official Plan of the Township of Ramara, as amended, shall apply in regard to the interpretation of this Amendment.

#### 5. Reserved (OPA No. 18)

# Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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## **8.0 IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES**

### **8.1 Official Plan Amendment**

1. Any provision of this Plan may be amended according to the requirements of the Planning Act.
2. Any initiative by Township Council to amend this Plan will be considered with a planning appraisal explaining the need for the amendment and the implications on other components of this Plan.
3. Any request by any landowner for an amendment to this Plan shall be accompanied by the information required by the Township and other approval authorities according to their policies and guidelines.
4. The Township shall carefully consider whether the need for the proposed amendment satisfies the goals, objectives and policies of this Plan prior to deciding the appropriateness of the proposed amendment.

### **8.2 Zoning Bylaw**

1. The Township will enact a Comprehensive Zoning By-law that conforms with the designations and provisions of this Plan and the County Official Plan.
2. A Zoning By-law shall establish regulations for the use of land, buildings and structures, including land subject to flooding and natural hazards; contaminated land; land that is a sensitive groundwater recharge area or headwater area; land identified as within the natural area framework; land that is a significant archaeological resource.
3. Any request for an amendment to the Zoning By-law shall be accompanied by the required planning application information required by the Township according to its policies and guidelines.

### **8.3 Interim Control**

1. The Township may by by-law or resolution, direct that a review or study is undertaken with respect to land use and/or infrastructure in any area of the Township and enact an interim control by-law according to the *Planning Act*.
2. The Township may amend the interim control bylaw to extend its effective period up to two years from the time of the initial enactment.

## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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### 8.4 Temporary Use

1. The Township may by by-law authorize the temporary use of land, buildings or structures that are otherwise prohibited by the Zoning By-law, and conform with the permitted uses in this Plan.
2. The Township shall consider the temporary use subject to satisfying the following relevant criteria:
  - a. the use is clearly transitory in nature and would be authorized for up to three years;
  - b. the use is compatible with existing and proposed land uses in the area;
  - c. that the requirements for temporary buildings or structures are according to building standards;
  - d. the impacts on adjacent roads, access and parking requirements are minimal;
  - e. infrastructure servicing requirements are existing;
  - f. alterations to topography shall be limited in order that using the property is possible as designated and zoned; and
  - g. there is general conformity with provisions of this Plan
3. A temporary use by-law may be enacted to authorize the temporary use of a garden suite for up to ten years, subject to Section 8.4.2.
4. The Township may amend the temporary use by-law to extend its effective period for up to three years, subject to Section 8.4.2.
5. When the Temporary Use By-law has expired and has not been extended, the temporary uses shall not continue as legally non-conforming and must cease.

### 8.5 Holding Provisions

1. The Township may enact a Zoning By-law that establishes a holding symbol “H” in conjunction with any zone and/or permitted use specifying the use to which the land, building or structure may be put until amendment to the by-law removes the holding symbol.
2. The conditions under which the holding symbol may be applied shall be determined by Council. The “H” symbol may be used if Township Council is satisfied that municipal or communal services are readily available, or can be readily extended or upgraded, and that the orderly and logical extension or upgrading of municipal or communal services can be ensured through the execution of a Subdivision Agreement or Site Plan Agreement.



## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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3. Township Council may apply the “H” symbol to include the following conditions to be satisfied by the proponent:
  - a. a development proposal for the subject lands has been first approved, where necessary by all relevant municipal, county and provincial agencies;
  - b. all necessary agreements have been first entered into with the Township and, where necessary the County and/or province, to ensure that all provisions of this Official Plan and all relevant By-laws of the Township have been complied with, and that all requirements concerning the provision of roads, installation of services, including sewer and water services where applicable, and drainage on and to the subject lands, have been met;
  - c. any necessary approvals or conditions have been obtained or met to the satisfaction of the affected Provincial agency and/or the County of Simcoe.
4. The Township may enact a by-law to remove a holding symbol on all or part of the lands subject to the “H” symbol in compliance with provisions of the Planning Act.

### 8.6 Site Plan Control

1. The whole of the Township of Ramara is established as a proposed site plan control area. The Township may by by-law, designate the whole or any part of the Township as a site plan control area, according to the *Planning Act*.

2. In this Plan, for purposes of site plan control, “development” or “redevelopment” means:

*The construction, erection or placing of one or more buildings or structures on land or the making of an addition or alteration to a building or structure that has the effect of substantially increasing the size or usability thereof, or the laying out and establishment of a commercial*

*parking lot or of sites for the location of three or more trailers as defined in subsection 168(5) of the Municipal Act, 2001 or of sites for the location of three or more mobile homes as defined in subsection 46(1) of the Planning Act, or of sites for construction, erection or location of three or more land lease community homes as defined in subsection 46(1) of the Planning Act.*

3. The By-law establishing a site plan control area may also establish classes of developments that are subject to or exempted from site plan control, requirements for plan review and conditions related to site plan approval. These conditions may include entering into one or more agreements with the Township, the County or Province establishing easements for works and utilities, dedicating lands for the widening of any highways abutting the land, obtaining entrance permits and providing and maintaining all of the facilities and works to which the site plan approval applies.
4. The By-law shall, in addition to any other class or classes of development deemed appropriate by Council, exempt lots for single detached dwellings, single detached

## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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seasonal dwellings and buildings associated with normal agricultural operations, save and except lots for single detached dwellings or single detached seasonal dwellings that are subject to the Shoreline Residential Area designation and on the shorelines of lakes and waterways. Building elevation plans for structures that contain less than twenty-five (25) dwelling units in Lagoon City and Brechin, and in Shoreline Residential Areas may be required.

5. In considering a site plan, the Township shall have regard to the accessibility for persons with disabilities to all facilities, services and matters subject to the site plan control by-law.
6. Where land is adjacent to a County road, the County may require a road widening as a condition of approval.
7. All existing Township roads shown on Schedule “C” of this Plan shall have a standard road width of twenty (20) metres. In order to achieve this standard, a maximum road widening of five (5) metres from each side of such road, may be required as a condition of the approval of plans and drawings, at no expense to the Township. Where any portion of the land proposed for development abuts such road, a maximum five (5) metre wide road widening may be required, with existing and proposed road widths, road grades, side slopes, drainage requirements and sight lines being major considerations in determining what road widening, if any is to be required.
8. Other Provincial, County and Township road dedication requirements may include sight triangles, intersection turning lanes, 0.3 metre reserves and required intersection improvements.
9. Any agreement entered into regarding the approval of any site plan may be registered against the land to which it applies.
10. Where possible, natural areas, natural infiltration techniques, surface water source controls, cycling and pedestrian features should be incorporated into site plans, subject to Township approval.

### **8.7 Parkland**

1. The Township shall require parkland dedication from development applications (including consent and subdivision plans) according to the following:
  - a. Five (5) percent of the lands included in a residential development proposal are to be dedicated for parkland purposes;
  - b. Two (2) percent of the lands included in an industrial and/or commercial development proposal are to be dedicated for parkland purposes; and
  - c. Cash-in-lieu of parkland dedication to the value of the land otherwise required to be dedicated may be required by the Township where appropriate.

## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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2. Council may pass a by-law pursuant to the *Planning Act* and other applicable legislation outlining the rates of parkland dedication that are to be applied as a condition to the development of land for residential, commercial or industrial purposes.
3. Significant natural features, hazard lands and stormwater management facilities may not necessarily be accepted as parkland dedication but may otherwise be accepted by the Township to satisfy objectives and policies of this Plan. Where parkland dedication is required, the land must be suitable for development as a public park.

### 8.8 Community Improvement

1. Council may by by-law designate part or all of the Township as a community improvement project area and may prepare a community improvement plan that comes into effect according to the *Planning Act*, as amended.
2. The designation of a community improvement project area by by-law and the adoption of a community improvement plan will be influenced by the availability of government assistance programs as well as the relative needs for improvements in specific areas.
3. Community improvement initiatives may be undertaken by the Township to address the following issues:
  - a. a deficiency or deterioration in the availability and/or condition of municipal infrastructure;
  - b. existing non-compatible land uses that detract from its viability and vitality;
  - c. an area where buildings and structures are in physical, functional and/or economic decline and need rehabilitation;
  - d. an area where community or recreational facilities are deficient or where existing facilities require upgrading;
  - e. an area where off-street parking and access to roads are inadequate;
  - f. vacant land with development potential;
  - g. an area subject to flooding;
  - h. a natural area that should be protected or conserved;
  - i. the revitalization of abandoned, underused or contaminated lands; and
  - j. any other environmental, social or community economic development reasons.

## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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4. Community improvements will be phased in order to prevent unnecessary economic hardship to landowners, users and the Township.
5. A community improvement plan shall include implementation measures for the maintenance, rehabilitation, repair and establishment of public and privately-owned facilities and lands and may include provisions for financial assistance, grants and loans by the Township.

### 8.9 Cultural Heritage Resources

1. The Township, with the County of Simcoe, may develop and maintain an inventory of designated *cultural heritage resource* features in the Township, and encourage local groups, with Council's endorsement, to develop and inventory other *cultural heritage resources*, and to determine their local significance based on criteria developed with, and supported by Township Council.
2. *Development and site alteration* shall not be permitted on lands containing *archaeological resources* or *areas of archaeological potential* unless significant *archaeological resources* have been conserved.
3. The Township may require archaeological assessments for site plan approvals, consent, and zoning by-law amendments in areas of archaeological potential, as determined by the Province or through the completion of an Archaeological Management Plan by the County of Simcoe or the Township. The County may require archaeological assessments to be completed for official plan amendments for which it is the Approval Authority.
4. The Township may create and appoint and consult with a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) on matters related to cultural heritage conservation.
5. Through consultation with LACAC and in cooperation with the County of Simcoe, the Township may develop and maintain a comprehensive inventory of *cultural heritage resources*.
6. Land, buildings and structures that are of historic, architectural or archaeological value shall satisfy at least two of the following criteria:
  - a. It is a good, representative or rare example of the work of an outstanding local, national or international architect, engineer, builder, designer, landscape architect, interior designer, sculptor or another artisan and is well preserved;
  - b. It is associated with a person who is recognized as having made a significant contribution to the Township's social, cultural, political, economic, technological or physical development or as having materially influenced the course of local, regional, provincial, national or international history;
  - c. It dates from an early and/or important period in the development of the Township;

## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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- d. It is directly associated with an historic event recognized as having local, regional, provincial, national or international importance;
- e. It is a well-preserved representative example of a method of construction now rarely used;
- f. It is a good representative example of its architectural style or period of a building;
- g. It is a well preserved and an outstanding example of architectural design;
- h. It makes an important contribution to the composition or streetscape of which it forms a part; and
- i. It is recognized as an important Township landmark.

### 8.10 Community Planning Permit System

1. The Township may amend this Plan to designate an area as a proposed community planning permit area.
2. Pursuant to a regulation enacted under the *Planning Act*, the Township may enact a community planning permit by-law under the *Planning Act*.

### 8.11 Servicing Feasibility Study

1. The Servicing Feasibility Study shall investigate and determine the appropriate methods of water supply and wastewater treatment necessary to service proposed and existing development and to maintain ground and surface water resource quality and quantity. All reasonable servicing alternatives, preferably full municipal or private communal services, shall be considered within the context of a settlement servicing strategy that establishes servicing alternatives for development scenarios.
2. The study shall provide that for any proposed development the following issues shall be addressed by a proponent:
  - a. the potential to connect to existing and proposed water supply and wastewater treatment systems as well as existing capacity and feasibility of the extension and expansion, if required; the necessity for and feasibility of new facilities; and the analysis of comparative performance of similar facilities;
  - b. environmental, financial and administrative implications of multiple systems regardless of whether the systems discharge to surface water or groundwater;
  - c. where individual on-site wastewater treatment services are proposed, the suitability of the site shall be investigated and environmental constraints evaluated. This

## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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includes the suitability of terrain, hydrological suitability, soils suitability and where subsurface disposal is proposed, hydrogeological suitability; and

- d. consideration of the assimilative (carrying) capacity of the Lake Couchiching and Lake Simcoe ecosystems and the phosphorous management for Lake Simcoe.

### 8.12 Settlement Capability Study

1. The Settlement Capability Study identifies the capability of a defined area to accommodate growth and development on individual water supply and wastewater treatment systems or partial water supply and wastewater treatment systems.
2. The study shall include:
  - a. the ability of soils and groundwater to assimilate sewage effluent;
  - b. appropriate limits on the extent and timing of system expansion; and
  - c. the appropriate density and intensity of development and/or design parameters

to ensure no negative impact on natural area features and functions and to ensure protection and enhancement of ground and surface water quality.

### 8.13 Public Consultation Procedures

1. Prior to considering any application for amending this Plan, the Township shall provide opportunities for any individual, group, agency and organization with an interest in the matter, to submit in writing or otherwise, any expression of concern, support, opposition and information.
2. The Township shall conduct a public hearing and shall make information available to the public according to provisions of the *Planning Act* with respect to any planning matter.
3. The Township may conduct one or more public hearings on any matter to be considered under this Plan or the *Planning Act*.

### 8.14 Municipal Fiscal Measures

1. The Township will assess Development Charges according to the *Development Charges Act*, as a means of recovering appropriate growth-related capital costs for the delivery and provision of Township services and facilities.
2. The Township may impose uniform user fees as a means of recovering appropriate operating and capital costs associated with the delivery of Township services.

## Section 8 – Implementation Measures

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3. The Township's capital expenditure forecast and budget will reflect the goals, objectives and policies of this Plan.

### **8.15 Development Adjacent to the First Nation Reserve**

1. On lands abutting the Mnjikaning First Nation Reserve, where development requires a planning approval by the Township, the Township shall require a condition that a 0.3 metre reserve abutting the First Nation Reserve, shall be dedicated to the Township without cost to the Township.
2. Any 0.3 metre reserve abutting the First Nation Reserve, shall be used for regulating vehicle and pedestrian access and controlling joint development.
  - The Township may lift the 0.3 metre reserve in whole or in part where it deems appropriate for the proper and reasonable development of lands in the Township.

# Section 9 – Definitions

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## 9.0 DEFINITIONS

Words and terms that have a particular meaning in this Plan or are intended to provide a reasonable interpretation have been italicized, and included in this Glossary. They do not include those words and terms of ordinary English usage. Those terms and definitions contained in legislation, guidelines, or companion documents such as the *Planning Act*, the Provincial Policy Statement, the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the *Aggregate Resources Act* and the *Environmental Protection Act* are not necessarily included and should be referred to for precision.

**Abutting** means that parcels of land have a common boundary or that a lot borders on a public road.

**Accessibility** means the removal and prevention of barriers to persons with disabilities.

**Accessory Use** is any land, building or structure that is subordinate to and exclusively devoted to the principal use that is permitted and that is located on the same lot.

**Active Recreational** is a large-scale outdoor use or activity with buildings and structures and services and includes such activities as golf course, playing field, campground, trailer park and conservation area.

**Adjacent** means in the vicinity, contiguous, or adjoining.

**Adverse Effect** has multiple meanings and includes one or more of the following:

- Impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it;
- Injury or damage to property or to plant and animal life;
- Harm or material discomfort to any person;
- An adverse effect on the health of any person;
- Impairment of the safety of any person;
- Rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for any use by humans;
- Loss of enjoyment of normal use of property; or
- Interference with the normal conduct of business.

**Agricultural use** means the growing of crops, including nursery, biomass and horticultural crops; raising of livestock; raising of other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agro-forestry; maple syrup production; and associated on-farm buildings and structures, including, but not limited to livestock facilities, manure storages, value-retaining facilities, and accommodation for full-time farm labour when the size and nature of the operation requires additional employment

**Agri-tourism use** means those farm-related tourism uses, including limited accommodation such as a bed and breakfast, that promote the enjoyment, education or activities related to the farm operation.

**Agriculture-related use** means those farm-related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are directly related to farm operations in the area, support agriculture, benefit from being in close proximity to farm operations, and provide direct products and/or services to farm operations as a primary activity.



## Section 9 – Definitions

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**Aquifer** refers to saturated soil that contains groundwater. There can be separate aquifers near the ground surface (shallow) and deeper in the bedrock (deep).

**Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)** is an area of land and/or water that contains natural landscapes or features identified as having values related to protection, scientific study or education.

**Archaeological Resource** is the remains of any building, structure, activity, place or cultural feature or object that, because of the passage of time, is on or below the surface of the land or water and is of significance to the understanding of the history of a people or place.

**Arterial Road** carries larger volumes of traffic and provides a continuous route across and through the Township.

**Bedrock** is the solid rock formed in the Precambrian age. In the Township, the bedrock is under the sedimentary limestones, shales, and sandstones. Where this Precambrian bedrock is on the surface, it is referred to as the Canadian Shield.

**Built Heritage Resource** is a building, structure, monument or installation or remains associated with architectural, cultural, social, political, economic or military history.

**Carrying Capacity** is a concept in environmental management that involves a level of resource use that allows for long term maintenance of some prescribed level of quality within a predefined level of management determined by the cost of maintaining that quality at a level that will provide resource user satisfaction.

**Clay** is a rock or mineral particle of any composition having a diameter of less than 0.004 mm. A **Clay Plain** is a relatively level, featureless topographic feature.

**Collector Road** carries lower volumes of traffic than arterial roads and provides continuous access in the Township and connects to arterial roads.

**Communal Services** are water supply and wastewater treatment facilities and systems that are privately owned and that are commonly used for more than five residential lots or units.

**Compatible Use** is any use of land, building or structure that avoids creating adverse effects for adjacent sensitive land uses. Compatible uses should be at least highly tolerant of adjacent land uses.

**Concordance** refers to the sections of this Plan that are to be read together.

**Consent** means an approval under the *Planning Act* for purposes of land severance, addition to lot, easement, right-of-way and long-term lease of land.

**Conserve** and **Conservation** refers to the management of human activities and the human use of resources in order to restore, enhance, protect and sustain the quantity and quality of natural area functions.

## Section 9 – Definitions

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**Contaminant** means any solid, liquid, gas, odour, heat, sound, vibration, radiation, or their combination that results from human activities causing an adverse effect.

**Core Area** means an area with concentrations of significant natural features and functions. The area is a habitat that is essential in breeding, nesting and rearing of young species. This area is necessary for the survival of one or more species and functions.

**Cultural Heritage Resource** is an artifact or landform that is of significance to the understanding of the history of a people or a place and the cultural identity of a people.

**D-4 Assessment Area** refers to the lands generally within 500 metres of the *waste disposal site*, or more specifically, the area shown on the applicable schedules in this Official Plan. The *D-4 Assessment Area* may vary according to the actual *waste* cell location, depth and type of *waste* and existing conditions. The County will also prepare and make available for information purposes, a map showing the *D-4 Assessment Areas* for all *waste disposal sites*.

**D-4 Study** is a study required to evaluate the presence and impact of any adverse effects or risks to health and safety and any necessary remedial measures necessary for a proposed *development* in compliance with the *Guideline D-4* including, but not limited to, ground and surface water (hydrogeology and hydrology), noise, odour, and dust, methane gas migration, traffic impact, land use compatibility, and other studies considered appropriate.

**Designated Greenfield Area** refers to the area within a *settlement area* that is not *built-up area*. Where a *settlement area* does not have a *built boundary*, the entire *settlement area* is considered designated greenfield area.

**Development** is the creation of a new lot, a change in land use and/or the construction, erection or placing of buildings or structures on the land but does not include activities that create or maintain infrastructure authorized by approvals under legislation other than the *Planning Act*.

**Dwelling** and **Dwelling Unit** mean a room or group of rooms occupied and designed as an independent and separate self-contained housekeeping unit.

**Dynamic Beach** is an area of inherently unstable accumulation of shoreline sediment along Lake Simcoe and Lake Couchiching and the inland lakes. The hazard limit includes the flood hazard limit and a dynamic beach allowance.

**Erosion** is the wearing away of the surface of the land by water, wind, ice or other agent of transportation.

**Erosion Hazard** means the loss of land, due to human or natural processes, that poses a threat to life and property. The *erosion hazard* limit is determined using considerations that include the 100 year erosion rate (the average annual rate of recession extended over a one hundred year time span), an allowance for slope stability, and an erosion/erosion access allowance.

**Extraction** is the removal of mineral aggregate resources from a licenced pit or quarry.

## Section 9 – Definitions

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**Fish Habitat** means as defined in the *Fisheries Act*, c.F-14, means spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes.

**Flooding Hazard** means the inundation, under the conditions specified below, of areas adjacent to a shoreline or a river or stream system and not ordinarily covered by water:

- a) along the shorelines of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes, the flooding hazard limit is based on the one hundred year flood level plus an allowance for wave uprush and other water-related hazards;
- b) along river, stream, and small inland lakes systems, the flooding hazard limit is the greater of:
  - i. the flood resulting from the rainfall actually experienced during a major storm such as the Hurricane Hazel storm (1954) or the Timmins storm (1961), transposed over a specific watershed and combined with the local conditions, where evidence suggests that the storm event could have potentially occurred over watersheds in the general area;
  - ii. the one hundred year flood; and,
  - iii. a flood which is greater than i or ii which was actually experienced in a particular watershed or portion thereof as a result of ice jams and which has been approved as the standard for that specific area by the Minister of Natural Resources;

except where the use of the one hundred year flood or the actually experienced event has been approved by the Minister of Natural Resources as the standard for a specific watershed (where the past history of flooding supports the lowering of the standard).

**Floodplain** is the land area next to a watercourse that is subject to flooding that results from a major storm event.

**Groundwater** is the water that moves down into the soil and the underlying strata from the upper layers of soil following rainfall or snow melt. Groundwater is stored in aquifers. The boundary between aquifers and the overlying unsaturated soils is the water table level. Groundwater moves underground in streams or by seepage.

**Groundwater Discharge** occurs where groundwater seeps into a watercourse, lake or pond through springs or areas.

**Groundwater Recharge** is the addition of water by natural or artificial processes to the groundwater.

**Habitat** is a natural area (water, earth, air) upon which organisms depend to carry out their life processes.

**Hazard Land** is land that may be inappropriate for development because of susceptibility to flood or erosion, poor drainage, unstable soils, steep slopes or other physical condition or constraint. If developed, the hazard may cause deterioration or degradation of natural area features and functions or cause damage to property or danger to human and animal life.

**Hazardous Lands** means property or lands that could be unsafe for development due to naturally occurring processes. Along the shorelines of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River System, this means

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the land, including that covered by water, between international boundaries, where applicable, and the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard limits. Along the shorelines of large inland lakes, this means the land, including that covered by water, between a defined offshore distance or depth and the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard limits. Along river, stream and small inland lake systems, this means the land including that covered by water, to the further landward limit of the flooding hazard, or erosion hazard limits.

**Hazardous Sites** means property or lands that could be unsafe for development and site alteration due to naturally occurring hazards. These may include unstable soils (sensitive marine clay's, organic soils) or unstable bedrock (karst topography).

**Hydrologic Function** means the functions of the hydrological cycle that include the occurrence, circulation, distribution and chemical and physical properties of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere, and water's interaction with the environment including its relation to living things.

**Hydrology** and the hydrologic cycle refer to the circulation of water from the atmosphere to the earth and its return through precipitation, runoff, infiltration, groundwater flow and evapotranspiration. Functions include the occurrence, circulation, distribution and the chemical and physical properties of water on the surface of the earth, in the soil and underlying rocks, in the atmosphere and its interaction with natural areas and living things.

**Infiltration** is the passage of water into the soil.

**Infrastructure** is the physical structure supporting development. It includes water supply and wastewater treatment facilities, waste management, electric power, communications, road and transit transportation corridors and facilities, oil and gas pipelines.

**Intensification** means the development of a property, site or area at a higher density than currently exists through:

- a. Redevelopment, including the reuse of brownfield sites;
- b. The development of vacant and/or underutilized lots with previously developed areas;
- c. Infill development; and,
- d. The expansion or conversion of existing buildings

**Key Hydrologic Features** are permanent streams, intermittent streams, inland lakes and their littoral zones, seepage areas and springs and wetlands.

**Key Natural Heritage Features** are habitat of endangered species and threatened species; fish habitat; wetlands; life science areas of natural and scientific interest (ANSIs), significant valleylands, significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat (including habitat of special concern species); sand barrens, savannahs, and tallgrass prairies; and alvars.

**Lot** is a parcel of land that legally exists or that has been created by consent.

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**Mineral Aggregate** is gravel, sand, clay, earth, shale, stone, limestone, dolostone, sandstone, marble, granite, rock or other material prescribed under the *Aggregate Resources Act* suitable for construction, industrial, manufacturing and maintenance purposes.

**Mobile Home** is a transportable, single or multiple section dwelling that is used for permanent occupancy. It conforms to the Canadian Standards Association published standard at the time of manufacture.

**Municipal Comprehensive Review** means an official plan review, or an official plan amendment, initiated by a municipality that comprehensively applies the policies and schedules of this Plan.

**Non-Farm** refers to the uses and activities of land, buildings and structures that are unrelated or not connected to a farm and farming or agriculture.

**On-Farm Diversified Use** means a use that is secondary to the principal agricultural use of the property and is limited in area. On-farm diversified uses include, but are not limited to, home occupations, home industries, agri-tourism uses, and uses that produce value-added agricultural products.

**Park Model Trailer** is a seasonal recreational dwelling that conforms to the Canadian Standards Association published standard at the time of manufacture.

**Partial Services** mean the connection to one water supply or wastewater treatment system that is private communal or municipal and the other service is an individual, private on-site system.

**Passive Recreational** is a low-intensity outdoor use or activity that does not require the construction of significant structures, significant alteration of the site, and services and includes non-motorized trails, open spaces and natural areas and unserviced tent camping.

**Prime Agricultural Area** is an area where prime agricultural soils predominate. These are lands that include specialty crop soils and/or lands of predominantly Classes 1, 2 and 3 agricultural soils identified in the Canada Land Inventory or as determined by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the County of Simcoe.

**Prime Agricultural Land** means specialty crop areas and/or Canada Land Inventory Class 1, 2, and 3 lands, as amended from time to time, in this order of priority for protection.

**Provincial Agricultural System** is the system mapped and issued by the Province in accordance with this Plan, comprised of a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agricultural sector. It has two components: 1. An agricultural land base comprised of prime agricultural areas, including specialty crop areas, and rural lands that together create a continuous productive land base for agriculture; 2. An agri-food network which includes infrastructure, services, and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector.

**Provincial Natural Heritage System** is a system made up of natural heritage features and areas, and linkages intended to provide connectivity (at the regional or site level) and support natural processes which are necessary to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, viable populations of indigenous species, and ecosystems. The system can include key natural heritage features, key hydrologic features, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, other natural heritage

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features and areas, lands that have been restored or have the potential to be restored to a natural state, associated areas that support hydrologic functions, and working landscapes that enable ecological functions to continue.

**Provincial Policy Statement** and any other policy statements are issued under Section 3 of the *Planning Act*. In the Provincial Policy Statement in effect, there are definitions that are applicable to the interpretation of this Plan.

**Public Service Facilities** means land, buildings and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and educational programs, and cultural services. They do not include infrastructure.

**Safe Access** is the unobstructed direct or elevated access for pedestrians' and/or vehicles in an area that may be covered by water at the regulatory storm or designated flood level.

**Sensitive Land Use** is associated with the use of land, building or structure where humans or natural area features may be adversely affected.

**Shoreline** means the area abutting the landward side of a river or a lake.

**Site Alteration** means activities such as filling, grading and excavation that changes the landform and vegetative characteristics of a site, but it does not include activities that create or maintain infrastructure authorized by approvals under legislation other than the *Planning Act*.

**Stormwater Management** describes the procedures to control the quantity and quality of surface water runoff to recharge or discharge areas. Management is used to control flooding and to reduce amounts of contaminants that may discharge into a watercourse or other water body.

**Surface Runoff** is that part of precipitation that flows into watercourses and other channels.

**Variance** refers to permission granted under the *Planning Act* to vary the provisions of a zoning by-law in effect.

**Waste Management** includes a land area and/or facility for the destruction, processing, storage, treatment, recycling, diversion or disposal of wastes. **Waste** includes materials designated in the *Environmental Protection Act*.

**Wastewater Treatment** refers to the change in the quality of water that is a product of human, industrial, commercial and agricultural activities and the discharge of treated water to surface and ground water.

**Water Supply** refers to the production, treatment and distribution of water intended to be used for human consumption and for industrial, commercial and agricultural purposes.