

HISTORIC NEIGHBOURHOODS STRATEGY

People led planning for Barrie's Neighbourhoods

BACKGROUNDER

Historic Neighbourhoods Strategy

<http://hns.barrie.ca>

Pressure for Neighbourhood Transition

Barrie's City Centre has been identified in the Provincial Places to Grow Growth Plan as an area for residential and employment intensification. As a result, our City's older historical neighbourhoods are expected to experience an increase in development activity and additional pressure for transitional land uses in the near future.

Toward a Historic Neighbourhood Strategy

With this understanding, it is both appropriate and timely to initiate the creation of a Strategy by the residents of these neighbourhoods, one which can ultimately be utilized to guide future transition and change. To develop the Strategy, residents from Barrie's historic neighbourhoods are being invited to utilize the resources of the City to collaborate on crafting and developing the Historic Neighbourhoods Strategy.

Neighbourhood Consultation and Resident Participation

A Community Committee comprised of residents from the historic neighbourhoods and interested City Councillors is now being created. Lynn Morrow of Lynn Morrow Consulting has been retained to facilitate the Community Committee meetings and assist the Committee members with the development and implementation of a broad-based community outreach and communications consultation program, designed to maximize neighbourhood resident involvement. Assisting the Community Committee members and Lynn is the Staff Support team including Stacey Forfar, the Planner for this project.

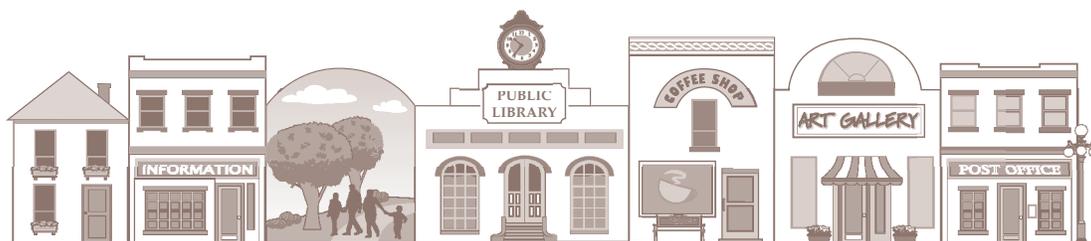
Unique Approach to Neighbourhood Planning

This planning process is unlike any undertaken before in the City of Barrie because it seeks interested residents to gain an understanding and appreciation for their neighbourhoods and works with them to find ways to address them.

Through the Community Committee, this is a neighbourhood resident-driven process supported by a full-time staff Planner and a Community Outreach and Communications Consultant. They are supporting the Community Committee members with both the crafting and implementation of the community outreach and consultation program to acquire neighbourhood resident input and facilitate the drafting and finalizing of the residents' Historic Neighbourhood Strategy.

Final Historic Neighbourhood Strategy

By June of 2010, the Community Committee will have a final Historic Neighbourhoods Strategy. While we anticipate there will be common opportunities and constraints, the Strategy will recognize the unique issues and opportunities of each neighbourhood by identifying each of them as a chapter within the overall Historic Neighbourhoods Strategy. Most importantly, the Strategy will be accompanied by an Action Plan that will identify both short-term and long-term goals and projects, as well as the anticipated costs and timelines associated with successful implementation.



July 2009