



Planning is how communities prepare for the future. It is a process to direct growth and change. The focus of planning is how land is used. Local governments are responsible for the planning process. They create and enforce rules for land development. Local governments also provide many local services.

A large part of planning is rules about what can be done with land. This includes rules on lot sizes, rules on building size and rules on what land uses are allowed. The Municipality is doing the Plan Review to update these rules.

Planning - Key Players

Province – Provincial law gives local governments the power to plan. They also set out how the public should be engaged when plans are made or changed. The Province has set out issues that local governments must consider if they plan. These issues are floodplains, drinking water, farmland, infrastructure and housing.

Municipality – The District of Chester is the local government. Municipal Council makes decisions on local planning issues. The Municipality has staff to administer land use plans and advise Council.

The Planning Advisory Committee and the Area Advisory Committees are made up of residents. They advise Council on all planning issues.

Community Members – The community is involved when plans are made or changed. The Plan Review will provide many opportunities for the public to give their views.

Planning Tools

The Municipal Planning Strategy is the land use plan. It sets out goals and policy for land development. It also has goals for how communities will grow and change. Planning Strategies cover topics like housing, business, industry, parks and trails, roads and the natural environment.

The topics and ideas in a Planning Strategy are used to create a Land Use By-law. The Land Use By-law is also called the zoning by-law. The Land Use By-law is a set of rules that property owners must follow. The Land Use By-law controls things like the size of buildings and lots. Zoning by-laws also control what land can be used for. For example, some uses – like factories – are kept away from shops and housing.

Questions about the Plan Review - Contact Us!

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