



Council report

Meeting date:	February 2, 2021
Title:	CAO - Hanover Growth Plan meeting update
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Reviewed by:	Laura Johnston, CAO

Recommendation

That council receives report CAO – Hanover Growth Plan meeting update; and further

That council directs staff to continue participating in joint meetings to represent West Grey’s interests; and further

That council appoints two members of council to participate in future joint meetings; and further

That council considers inviting Hanover’s consultant team to a future West Grey council meeting to provide an overview of the study and outline of Hanover’s timelines.

Executive summary

On Friday, January 22, 2021, West Grey’s Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Director of Public Works and Infrastructure and Manager, Planning and Development, met with Hanover’s CAO, Director of Development/CBO and consultant team Nick McDonald and Stephen Fournier to review the Hanover Growth Plan, engagement plan and discuss next steps. From that meeting, West Grey staff committed to bringing a report to council seeking direction on further participation.

Background and discussion

In early January 2021, the Town of Hanover released the report: *Local Growth Management Scoped Comprehensive Review Phase 2 - Restructuring & Community Engagement Component*. For context and background, this scoped comprehensive review under the requirements of the 2020 Provincial Policy Statement has been completed in draft by the Town of Hanover to address their needs for growth. Section 1.1.3.8 states that a municipality may



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identify a settlement area or allow the expansion of a settlement area boundary only at the time of a comprehensive review. A review of this nature is typically instigated at the county level and subject to specific conditions. The Town of Hanover has determined their needs as they relate to the town and the anticipated growth needs of the town from the previous Growth Management Strategy of the County Official Plan. Ministerial approval of the proposed boundary expansion is required and involves the consultation of the neighbouring municipalities in question. If the municipalities affected cannot find a common resolution, the province will provide a mediator to ensure that all parties can speak to their concerns and come to a potential resolution. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs may also make a Ministerial decision.

The proposal by the Town of Hanover is in the initial stages and must further comply with the requirements of the County Official Plan.

On Friday, January 22, Hanover staff and consultants and West Grey staff participated in a very productive meeting. West Grey clarified that we look forward to participating in future conversations as they relate to the interests of West Grey. To that end, Mr. Fournier, engagement lead for this project, confirmed that it is important that all parties “determine and identify areas for common interest” with the goal of achieving a win-win outcome. Additionally, Mr. Fournier and Mr. McDonald could be invited to a future West Grey council meeting, should council so request.

At this point, staff is requesting council consider how West Grey will proceed. Consideration should be given to:

- a. confirmation that West Grey staff, including the CAO, Director, Public Works, and Manager, Planning and Development, engage in future joint meetings;
- b. whether council would like to appoint members of council to participate in future meetings. In determining which members should attend, it might be beneficial to consider that future meetings will include dialogue regarding development and economic growth; and
- c. whether council would like to invite the Hanover consultant team to a future meeting for an overview of the refreshed approach to this issue and the new project charter/timelines.

Legal and legislated requirements

Provincial Policy Statement

Municipal Act



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Financial and resource implications

None at this time.

Alignment to strategic vision plan

Pillar: Build a better future

Goal: Invest in business

Strategy: Take a cooperative approach to development

Next steps

Engage in the process and determine if a mutual benefit can be achieved. On council direction, the CAO will advise Mr. Brian Tocheri, Hanover CAO, of council's direction.

Respectfully submitted:

Laura Johnston, CAO

Lorelie Spencer, Manager, Planning and Development