

Staff Report

Presented By: Jay Pausner, Manager, Planning and Development

Meeting Date: December 16, 2024

Subject: County Planning Services Agreement

Attachment(s): None

Recommendation

That Council adopt By-law 102-2024, a By-law to authorize the entering into a Services Agreement with the County of Bruce for the provision of land use planning services.

Report Summary

Updating the Town's Services Agreement with County of Bruce Planning Services is a Division Highlight in the 2024 Business Plan. The proposed Agreement outlines the roles and responsibilities of the County and the Town for land use planning services and provides guidance on administrative support, technical and GIS services and appeals to the Ontario Land Tribunal. The agreement and authorizing by-law are included in the By-laws section of the Council agenda.

Background/Analysis

County Planning Services are governed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from 1999. Given the long time since the last review, it was prudent for the County and all local municipalities to discuss the services that the County Planning Department offers and how those services can be improved, confirm the roles and responsibilities of both the County and Town, as well as develop the shared understanding that when circumstances arise, there is an agreement on how those matters can be resolved.

The purpose of the Services Agreement is to:

- Eliminate unnecessary duplication
- Clarify roles and responsibilities
- Increase accessibility for the public and applicants, and
- Create efficiencies and otherwise maximize benefits of the relationship

The Agreement codifies existing services and responsibilities. Both the Town and County Planning Department continue to improve services to the community.

Linkages

- Strategic Plan Alignment: Pillar 1: Meeting the Needs of a Growing Community
- Business Plan Alignment: Development Services Division Highlight

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding

No costs or revenue is associated with this report.

Prepared By: Jay Pausner, Manager, Planning and Development

Reviewed By: Mark Paoli, Director, Development Services

Approved By: Kara Van Myall, Chief Administrative Officer