

TO: Members of the Planning Committee

FROM: Director of Planning & Development Services

MEETING DATE: February 17, 2009

SUBJECT: Report PLPD09-009

Central Area Master Plan

PURPOSE

A report to present the Draft Central Area Master Plan and to seek authorization to issue public notice.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report PLPD09-009 dated February 17, 2009, of the Director of Planning & Development Services, as follows:

- a) That the Draft Central Area Master Plan, dated December 15, 2008, be received; and
- b) That Staff be authorized to initiate an Official Plan Amendment process including the issuance of public notice to adopt the new Central Area Master Plan into the Official Plan.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct budget and financial implications arising out of the recommendation to receive the report and limited to expenses associated with public notice advertising in

carrying out an Official Plan Amendment. Financial implications of specific recommendations where such recommendations become strategies or policies of the Central Area Master Plan will be clarified at that time.

BACKGROUND

Where a municipality initiates an Amendment to the Official plan, the full text of the amendment must be made available to the public for the duration of the public notice period. The Central Area Master Plan is intended to replace the Regional Centre/CBD Area Master Plan which was adopted as an amendment to the Official Plan in 1991. An Official Plan Amendment requires the publishing of a public notice and the holding of a public meeting. While the Draft Central Area Master Plan has been in circulation for two months, the formal commencement of the Official Plan Amendment process occurs when Council authorizes the issuance of the statutory public notice. The Draft Report "Central Area Master Plan – December 15, 2008" includes a Background Study (Chapters 1 – 8) a detailed explanation of the intent and purpose of the Amendment (Chapter 9 – Strategies) and the text of the proposed Official Plan Amendment (Chapter 10).

Exhibit 1 is a duplicate copy of the full colour report distributed to all members of Council on December 15, 2008. Staff have prepared a Power Point presentation to capture the highlights of the Master Plan.

Submitted by,

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Director of Planning & Development Services

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Attachments:

Exhibit 1: Central Area Master Plan – December 15, 2008