



CITY OF ORILLIA **COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE (CIP)**

TO: Mayor and Members of Council

FROM: Development Services & Engineering Department

DATE: February 18, 2022

**SUBJECT: REFINED FOCUSED STUDY AREA
Technical Land Evaluation Project -
Municipal Comprehensive Review Process**

The City is currently completing a Technical Land Evaluation project in support of our Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) planning process. The City has retained WSP to undertake this work. The Technical Land Evaluation project is a three-phase project. In December 2021, WSP concluded Phase 1 of their work program which identified a Focused Study Area of 14,660 hectares of land surrounding Orillia's existing municipal boundary including small portions of the Township of Ramara, Township of Severn, and Township of Oro-Medonte.

Phase 2 of WSP's work program is now well underway. Phase 2 is underway to complete the technical work to evaluate the best lands from a planning perspective for a future settlement area boundary expansion in terms of completing the following work:

- Municipal Servicing Review
- Agricultural Impact Assessment
- Water Resource Evaluation
- Natural Heritage System Assessment
- Policy Conformity Exercise
- Community Connectivity Review
- Fiscal Analysis
- Fire & Emergency Services Assessment.

To scope WSP's technical evaluation, the Consultants have refined the Focused Study Area from the initial 14,660 hectares down to 2,725 hectares which no longer includes any portion of the Township of Ramara. This was communicated to the CAO and Chief Planner with the Township of Ramara via email on Monday, February 14, 2022 with a copy of this correspondence sent to the CAO and Chief Planners in the Townships of Severn and Oro-Medonte.

The rationale for excluding any portion of the Township of Ramara is two-fold:

- 1) Challenges with extending municipal services across the Narrows.
- 2) The abutting adjacent land is the settlement area of Atherley-Uptergrove comprised of small parcels of land with existing development.

Please contact Jill Lewis at 705-329-7241 or jlewis@orillia.ca if you have any questions.