

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, December 5, 2014				Report Date	Tuesday, December-02-14			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

Greater Madawaska – Places to Grow - Report #05/12/14/1406

Subject:

Support for the resolution of the Municipality of the Township of Greater Madawaska and its position on the City of Ottawa’s Places to Grow exercise.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council support this resolution of Greater Madawaska

WHEREAS the province has already curtailed development in small rural municipalities based on the requirement for infilling in its Provincial Policy Statement and through the Official Plan approval process;

AND WHEREAS the attached resolution of the Township of Greater Madawaska highlights some considerable negative implications of the City of Ottawa’s request for a “Places to Grow” exercise for Eastern Ontario on Renfrew County municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree to support the position of the Township of Greater Madawaska and request that the province give significant consideration for the needs of small rural communities and the entire County of Renfrew if it proceeds to conduct a “Places to Grow” exercise in Eastern Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT this Council forwards its position through a copy of this resolution to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Eastern Ontario Wardens’ Caucus, the County of Renfrew, Ottawa Councillor Stephen Blais, Mayor Jim Watson and John Yakabuski, MPP Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The resolution attached provides an explanation of the concern with this proposal.

Earlier this year, the City of Ottawa began talks with the province to undertake a planning exercise for the larger area around Ottawa. The challenges are that places like Arnprior, Rockland, Carleton Place and Kemptville are growing, using the services of the city of Ottawa but are not contributing to their infrastructure costs.

The City would like to have a more controlled growth plan for the area. Some members of the County of Renfrew through the Development and Property Committee see this as potential to have the province further control development in surrounding areas similarly as occurred around the Golden Horseshoe.

They did not wish to have anyone interpret silence as agreement and therefore wish to make the position of the County of Renfrew and its member municipalities known.

Revenue reductions from reduced growth will eventually affect each County municipality no matter how far from the area we are located.

Options/Discussion:

To support or not. By letter or resolution.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

Not at this time but decreased growth or increased costs for county municipalities might reduce the amount they are able to contribute to County coffers.

Policy Impact:

As per policy.

Others Consulted:

The Township of Greater Madawaska resolution.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk