

**NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING
PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENTS**

**Official Plan Amendment in relation to the
City of St. Thomas Parkland Dedication By-law – City Initiated**

TAKE NOTICE that:

- a) pursuant to Subsections 22(6.4)(a) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, the Corporation of the City of St. Thomas is advancing a proposed Official Plan Amendment. Access to the information and material provided under subsections 22(4) and 22(5) in support of the application is available for public access, and
- a) a concurrent Public Meeting, pursuant to Subsections 22(1)(b) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, will be held at City Hall by the Council of the Corporation of the City of St. Thomas on the 13th day of October, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. to consider amendments to the Official Plan. The purpose of the Public Meeting is to afford any person that attends, an opportunity to make representation with respect to the official plan amendments. The meeting will also be accessible by Zoom Webinar and detailed information for this meeting can be found at https://www.stthomas.ca/living_here/notices_to_residents, under ‘**Planning Notices.**’ Please note that there may be multiple applications being considered at this meeting and you may be required to listen to more than one application.

The City of St. Thomas updated its Parks and Recreation Master Plan in March, 2026 to assist in strategic investment and decision-making for the provision of recreational programs, trails and open space, creation of new parks, improvements to existing parks and overall program delivery with a long-term view to 2051. Several recommendations were provided in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update, and to align its parkland planning with the anticipated growth and intensification that the City anticipates, updates to the City’s Official Plan and the creation of a Parkland Dedication By-law is required to conform to the requirements of the *Planning Act*.

The purpose and effect of the proposed amendments to the City of St. Thomas Official Plan are to ensure that the City’s parkland policies are aligned with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan updates that have occurred and to implement the recommendations that were put forward through those update processes. The policy updates are further required to permit the City to use an alternative parkland dedication rate in the City’s Parkland Dedication By-law.

The amendment represents a comprehensive repeal and replacement of the parkland section of the City’s Official Plan. Further, the updates will allow the City to use an alternative parkland dedication rate of one hectare for each 600 net residential units proposed for land conveyance or one hectare for each 1,000 net residential units proposed for payment in lieu of parkland in addition to the standard parkland dedication rates.

ANY PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY may attend the Public Meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of, or in opposition to the proposed Official Plan Amendment and associated Parkland Dedication By-law.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the City of St. Thomas on the proposed Official Plan amendment, you must make a written request to the address below.

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Council of the Corporation of the City of St. Thomas to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the City of St. Thomas before the Official Plan Amendment a Parkland Dedication By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the City of St. Thomas before the proposed Official Plan Amendment a Parkland Dedication By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION relating to the proposed Official Plan Amendment and Parkland Dedication By-law may be accessed on the City’s website https://www.stthomas.ca/living_here/notices_to_residents or the City’s Facebook page www.facebook.com/st.thomastherailwaycity.

DATED at the City of St. Thomas, this 18th day of September, 2026.

Thomas Thayer, City Clerk
City of St. Thomas
545 Talbot Street
St. Thomas, Ontario
N5P 3V7