

## Agricultural System Regional Official Plan Provincial Policy Conformity

### List of Provincial Policy Documents Reviewed

- PPS - Provincial Policy Statement
- GBP - Greenbelt Plan
- ORMCP - Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan
- GP – A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Types of Policies	Brief Description of Provincial Policy Change	Provincial Policy Documents	Potential Impact to York Region Official Plan
<b>Designating agricultural land uses</b>	Requirement to designate prime agricultural and specialty crop areas in official plans	PPS GBP	Areas already designated in Official Plan on Map 8, however there may be revisions based on the Agricultural mapping proposed by the Province
<b>Permitted uses in prime agricultural areas</b>	Variety of agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses permitted in prime agricultural areas	PPS	New uses to be added to the agricultural land use designation
<b>General policy language update for Prime Agricultural Area</b>	Several policies to be updated to reflect new policy wording: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• agricultural uses and normal farm practices being promoted in prime agricultural areas</li> <li>• lot creation and lot adjustments</li> <li>• added specialty crop area protection</li> <li>• maintaining and enhancing the agricultural land base and agri-food network</li> <li>• implementing regional agri-food strategies</li> <li>• supporting local food initiatives</li> <li>• existing lots of records to be used for agricultural uses</li> </ul>	PPS GBP ORMCP GP	Update language in the Official Plan to improve consistency and alignment with provincial policy
<b>General Policy language update for Rural Area</b>	Several policies to be updated to reflect new policy wording: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• permitted uses in the</li> </ul>	GBP GP	Update language in the Official Plan to improve consistency and alignment with provincial policy

	<p>rural area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• new rural uses need to be compatible to existing agricultural operations</li> <li>• lot creation</li> <li>• introduction of community hubs</li> </ul>		
<b>Settlement boundary expansions</b>	Settlement boundary expansions permitted into agricultural and rural areas subject to criteria including the requirement of an Agricultural Impact Assessment	PPS GBP GP	New policy subsection to be added to the current settlement boundary criteria in the Official Plan
<b>Non-agricultural uses in prime agricultural areas</b>	Policies related to the limited types of non-agricultural uses permitted in prime agriculture	PPS GBP GP	Update policy in the Official Plan to include limited types of non-agricultural uses permitted in prime agriculture
<b>Impacts of non-agricultural uses</b>	New policy section requiring any impacts from non-agricultural uses including new or expanded planned corridors, small scale commercial, industrial or institutional uses on surrounding agricultural lands and natural heritage system to be mitigated as part of an Agricultural Impact Assessment	PPS GBP ORMCP GP	New policy section to be added to the Official Plan to require an Agricultural Impact Assessment subject to Peer Review demonstrating how impacts to agricultural land and natural heritage system from non-agricultural uses are mitigated
<b>Definitions</b>	<p>New definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural uses</li> <li>• Agricultural system</li> <li>• Agricultural condition</li> <li>• Agri-food network</li> <li>• Agri-tourism uses</li> <li>• Agriculture-related uses</li> <li>• On-farm diversified uses</li> <li>• Prime agricultural area</li> <li>• Prime agricultural land</li> <li>• Rural lands</li> <li>• Agricultural Impact Assessment</li> </ul> <p>Existing definitions to be updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialty Crop Areas</li> </ul>	PPS GBP ORMCP GP	Updated and new definitions in the Official Plan to improve consistency and alignment with provincial policy
<b>Agri-food network</b>	<p>Policies to maintain and enhance the agri-food network related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• planning for growth</li> <li>• strategies to implement</li> </ul>	GBP	Update policy in the Official Plan to reflect stronger policy support for the agri-food network

	agri-food network		
<b>Agricultural uses within the Natural Heritage System</b>	New policy to ensure that any expansion or alteration to agricultural uses and agricultural buildings within key features within the natural heritage system are permitted subject to criteria	GBP ORMCP GP	New policy in the Official Plan to provide exception for agricultural uses within the natural heritage system subject to criteria
<b>Specific agricultural policies within the ORMCP</b>	Changes in the ORMCP with respect to where agricultural uses are permitted within the land use designations	ORMCP	Maintain existing policies specific to the ORMCP identifying agricultural uses permitted within certain land use designations
<b>Agricultural uses within wellhead protection areas and areas of high aquifer vulnerability within the ORMCP</b>	Agricultural uses permitted in some of the wellhead protection and areas of high aquifer vulnerability areas subject to criteria	ORMCP	Maintain existing policies specific to the ORMCP that allow for an exception for agricultural uses within wellhead protection areas and areas of high aquifer vulnerability subject to criteria
<b>Changes to boundaries outside of a Municipal Comprehensive Review</b>	Minor adjustments to boundaries of rural settlements and mapping of the agriculture land base can be made outside of the timing of a Municipal Comprehensive Review	GP	Changes to boundaries outside of the Municipal Comprehensive Review can lead to challenges associated with population and employment growth forecasts
<b>Planning for Growth</b>	When planning for growth consider opportunities to support and enhance the Agricultural System including goods movement and transportation planning	GP	New policies to ensure alignment between transportation planning and agriculture
<b>Mineral Aggregates</b>	Agricultural Impact Assessment required for new operations and rehabilitation of older sites in the agricultural areas	GP	New policy section to be added to the Official Plan to require an Agricultural Impact Assessment subject to Peer Review demonstrating how impacts to agricultural land from mineral aggregate operations are mitigated