

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan

Progress Report 2022



Table of Contents



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT 3

OUR VISION 4

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 5

HOW WE GOT HERE 6

INTRODUCTION 7

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE 10

CORPORATE AND FISCAL 11

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE 13

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT 14

LAND USE AND PLANNING 16

SOCIAL WELL-BEING 17

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM 18

LOOKING AHEAD 19

APPENDIX 20



Land Acknowledgement



We would like to respectfully acknowledge that the Town of Orangeville resides within the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe people including the Ojibway, Potawatomi, and Odawa of the Three Fires Confederacy.


We recognize and respect the traditions and stewardship of Indigenous peoples. We are committed to continue learning, engaging, and participating in the process of truth and reconciliation.

Our Vision





THRIVING

Where “Thriving” refers to a community that is engaged, economically vibrant, and affordable.




GREEN

Where “Green” refers to the natural environment, water, natural heritage, and the urban forest.





HEALTHY

Where “Healthy” refers to a community that is active, mentally healthy, socially aware; and a community that values education, supporting local food.




CONNECTED

Where “Connected” refers to a community that is accessible, livable, walkable, inclusive, and complete.



COMMUNITY

Where “Community” encompasses businesses and residents.



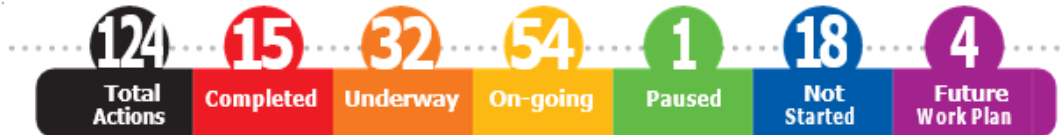
Overview

This is the first progress report on the Town of Orangeville's Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP). Endorsed by Council in 2019, SNAP outlines the Town's goals, strategies, and actions for improving sustainability within seven theme areas:



For each theme, the number of actions that are complete, underway, on-going, paused, not started, or included in the future workplan are specified. A list of all actions and their status can be found in the Appendix.

There are 124 actions in total, with over 50 of those actions on-going. A summary of the progress of the actions is illustrated below:



This report provides an update on the implementation progress of SNAP and focuses on actions implemented since its approval. We encourage you to have a read through this report to learn about what the Town has accomplished, what we plan to do and how to get involved.



How we got here



The 2017 strategic action plan titled “Orangeville Forward” helped to spearhead the vision of creating a sustainable environment through community stewardship. This plan included eight value statements and five key areas to drive the municipality forward. These key areas established a framework for the objectives and actions to be pursued to maintain and grow Orangeville as a safe, prosperous, and healthy community. The completion of SNAP with an environmental focus was established as a priority action

In March 2017, Council directed staff to apply for a Green Municipal Fund (GMF) grant through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and following notification of funding, to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the completion of a sustainability plan for the municipality. A funding application was submitted to the GMF in December of 2017. In May 2018, the Town was awarded the funding grant to support the completion of SNAP. As directed by Council, upon notification of the funding support, an RFP was created and released.

In 2018, the development of SNAP began which consisted of three major phases. First, a background review was completed which involved the review and analysis of relevant background information, reports, plans, policies, regulations, and statistical data about Orangeville. The second phase of the project included stakeholder, community, and staff engagement. Three stakeholder meetings, along with numerous community pop-up events and online surveys were conducted to receive input to the plan’s vision, goals, strategies, and actions. Overall, this outreach resulted in conversations with more than 550 people and 40 organizations, institutions, and community groups. The final phase of the project was the development of the SNAP.

Throughout the process, the project was overseen by a Steering Committee comprised of Town staff who represented various divisions, including Economic Development and Culture, Facilities and Parks, Environment, Transportation and Development, and Planning. This team met numerous times to provide insight, information, and guidance on the development of the plan.

In June 2019, the development of SNAP was complete. Council accepted the findings presented in the SNAP and directed staff to start the implementation of recommendations within the plan. Since the adoption of SNAP, the action items in the plan have begun to be incorporated into future workplans within the budget forecast, integrated into current practices and procedures, and as new projects and programs, to help support the overall health and well-being of the community.

Introduction

This is the first progress report on the Town of Orangeville’s SNAP. Endorsed by Council in 2019, SNAP outlines the Town’s goals, strategies, and actions for improving sustainability within seven areas:

Theme	Goal
Energy and Climate Change	Reduce emissions and prepare for a changing climate
Corporate and Fiscal	Demonstrate municipal leadership by considering the environmental, social, and economic impacts of all Town decisions.
Economic Development and Culture	Preserve Orangeville’s small-town appeal, while bolstering robust businesses and tourism opportunities that support a healthy economy
Land Use and Planning	Manage and direct land use that creates health, livable, and safe communities.
Natural Resources and Environment	Protect and enhance the natural environment
Social Well-being	Promote Orangeville as an engaged, inclusive community for all
Transportation System	Encourage a reduction in the dependence of motor vehicles locally and promote all other forms of transportation

As a Town, we recognize that the collective actions taken today must protect, restore, and enhance the natural environment and promote a high quality of life for children, grandchildren, and future generations¹. SNAP adopts a broad view of sustainability – which recognizes the many interconnected factors that impact the overall health of our environment, community, and economy².

The Town recognized the need to establish an all-encompassing document to further guide the integration of sustainability across all operations and delivery of services. SNAP serves as an action-based document to lead the community toward a sustainable future in a cohesive and responsible manner³.

The Town has adopted the commonly used definition of sustainability - “meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs”⁴. The SNAP has over hundred actions across seven theme areas. Each department is involved with implementing actions for their division. At its core, SNAP is an integrative and collaborative effort among the entire corporation of the Town of Orangeville.

This report provides an update on the implementation progress of SNAP and focuses on actions implemented since its approval. We encourage you to read through this report to learn about what the Town has accomplished, what we plan to do and how to get involved.

^{1, 2, 3} Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan. (2019). Town of Orangeville

⁴ Brundtland, G. (1987). Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future. United Nations General Assembly Document A/42/427.

Progress Report

The progress report is organized by seven themes. Together these themes aim to achieve a central vision for Orangeville’s future⁵. The seven sustainability themes (listed below) have been identified, recognizing that to become a leader in sustainability and maximize quality of life, each of these areas must be addressed. The Town also recognizes the interconnections between theme areas where actions taken in one area may also lead to positive outcomes in another.

Themes



Energy and Climate Change



Corporate and Fiscal



Economic Development and Culture



Natural Resources and Environment



Land Use and Planning



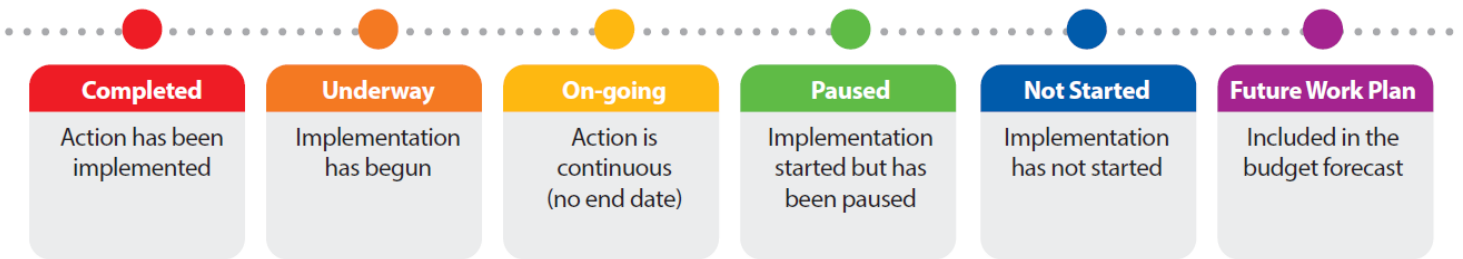
Social Well-being



Transportation System

For each theme, the number of actions that are complete, underway, on-going, paused, not started, or included in the future workplan are specified. A list of all actions and their status can be found in the Appendix.

Measuring Progress



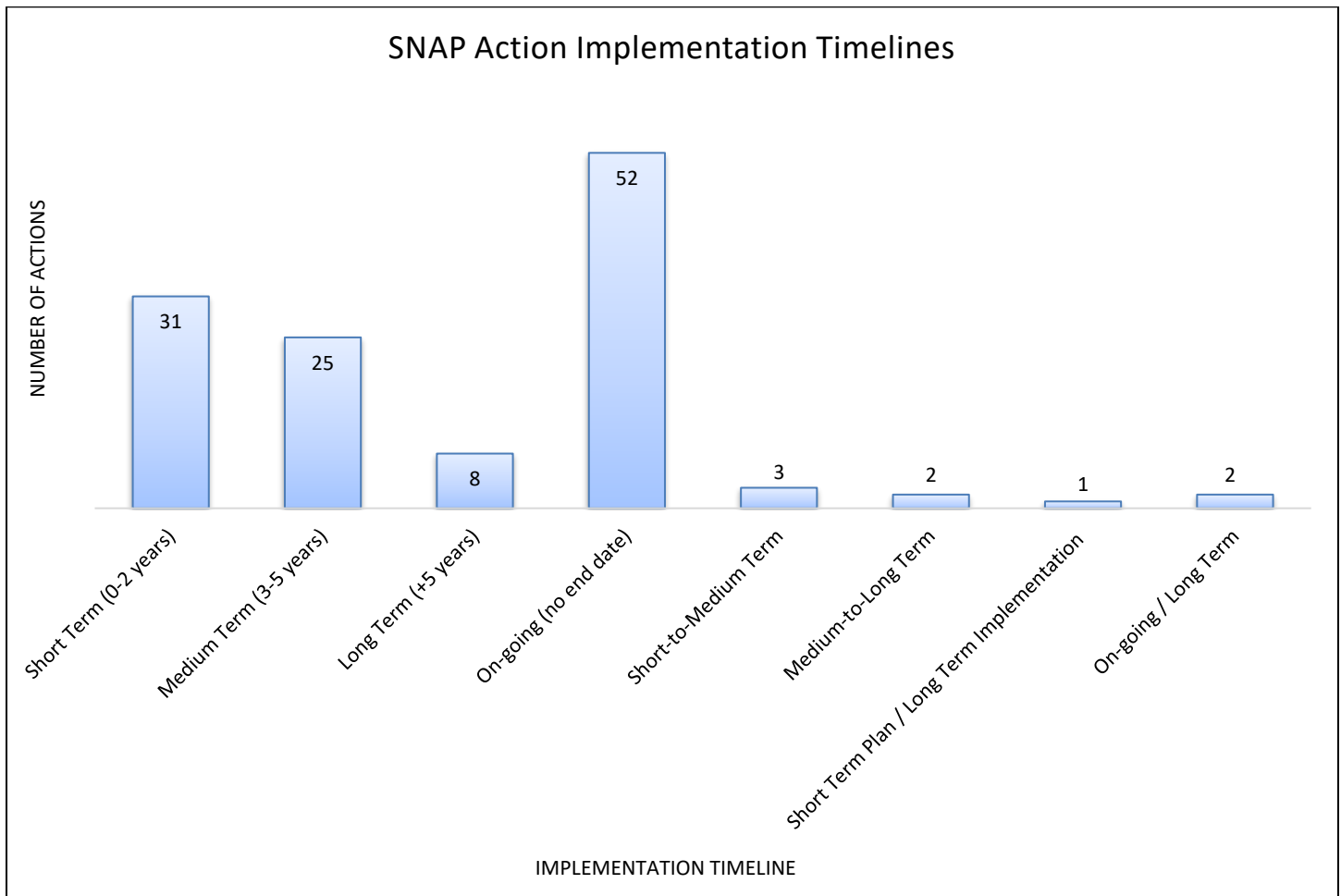
⁵ Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan. (2019). Town of Orangeville



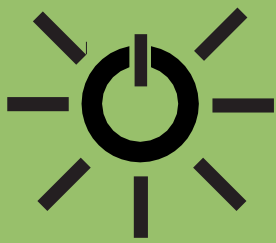
Additionally, for each theme area, the following information is included:

- The Town’s goal for the specified theme
- Strategies to be pursued to achieve the goal
- A short description of the theme’s importance towards sustainability
- A brief description of the Town’s progress and accomplishments to-date with respect to the theme

The timeline to implement the action items within SNAP range from short-term, medium-term, long-term to on-going. Many of the actions within SNAP are on-going actions that have no end date. These actions are continuous and become part of the Town’s approach to doing business. Furthermore, there are several actions which have a short- or medium-term timeline for implementation. These actions could take up to 5 years to be fully implemented from the date they are underway. A graph summarizing the implementation timelines of the actions in SNAP is shown below.



The actions in SNAP create accountability towards sustainable practices amongst the various departments throughout the Town. The key to advancing and prioritizing the actions outlined within SNAP has been through collaboration with stakeholders and funding/grant opportunities. An internal tracking site has been setup to help track the progress of the action items corporate-wide. The internal site has three accountability charts that represent each department: Community Services, Corporate Services, and Infrastructure Services. The internal tracking site is accessible to key staff for them to input updates on an as needed basis as new projects begin, are on-going and nearing completion which contributes to the fulfilment of SNAP.

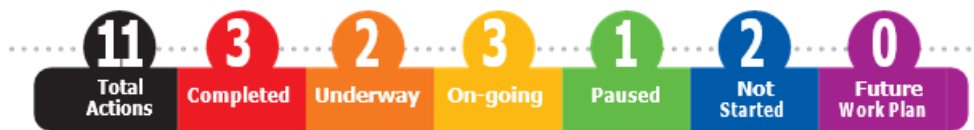


Energy and Climate Change

Goal: Reduce emissions and prepare for a changing climate

Strategies to reduce emissions and prepare for a changing climate:

- Encourage emission reductions through energy efficiency, conservation, and renewable energy generation
- Plan for resilient infrastructure in a changing climate



Reducing greenhouse gas emissions plays an important role in mitigating the effects of climate change and helps to improve air quality and public health. By reducing emissions and preparing for a changing climate, we contribute to slowing the rate of temperature rise and build a more resilient community. In turn, this helps to lessen the likelihood, severity, and impact of extreme weather events which could cause devastating effects to infrastructure, the public and municipal services. Furthermore, reducing emissions helps to improve air quality by decreasing the concentrations of particulate matter into the atmosphere. Overall, this strengthens our public health, by reducing the number of allergy attacks, respiratory conditions, and effects from extreme weather.

In 2018, the Town joined the Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP) offered through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The PCP program is a national network of over 400 municipalities with the shared goal of taking actions against climate change and reducing local greenhouse gas emissions⁶. The PCP program provides resources and tools to municipalities on reducing greenhouse gas emissions for Town-owned operations as well as across the local community. In December 2021, the Town completed the first corporate milestone and are now working towards completing the first community milestone. The first milestone involves creating a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast by gathering data on community and municipal energy use⁷. The outcomes from the first milestone reveal how the community and municipality consumes energy and generates waste⁸. This framework helps to create an inventory to track, monitor and report on greenhouse gas emissions.

Since 2019 the Town has changed over 90% of the lighting at Townhall to energy-efficient LED lighting. This included the second floor at Townhall, and various departments such as Clerk's, Finance, and IT. Additionally, Orangeville's Lions Club Sports Park at 120 Diane Drive has changed to LED lighting. This has included the meeting areas, washrooms, and corridor. The latest municipal building to convert to LED lighting was Alder Recreation Centre, where the pool, pool change rooms, first and second floor lobbies, and meetings rooms have all been switched to energy efficient lighting.

Furthermore, in 2019 the Town adopted its first Climate Change Adaptation Policy to mainstream climate change into business and decision-making processes. The policy establishes a commitment to advancing adaptation efforts across the corporation to manage, minimize or eliminate the local risk and impacts associated with climate change. In 2021 the Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan was finalized and endorsed by council. The Plan is an actionable, guiding document to aid in incorporating adaptation measures across Town operations, planning and prepare for the effects of a changing climate on Town-owned managed infrastructure, assets, and services. The implementation of the plan has begun with several actions underway. The first progress report of the Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan is anticipated in 2023.

^{6, 7, 8} Federation of Canadian Municipalities. (2022). Partners for Climate Protection. Retrieved from <https://fcm.ca/en/programs/partners-climate-protection>





Corporate and Fiscal

Goal: Demonstrate municipal leadership by considering the environmental, social, and economic impacts of all Town decisions

Strategies to demonstrate sustainability leadership:

- Encourage and support inter-departmental collaboration and communication to facilitate the adoption of sustainable practices in the municipality
- Encourage and support collaboration to implement sustainability initiatives between municipal and community organizations, local Indigenous groups, conservation authority, colleges, and adjacent municipalities and the County
- Create and integrate sustainability principles into Town policies, processes, and practices



Part of building a strong and robust community involves implementing sustainable practices. Demonstrating municipal leadership through a sustainability lens considers understanding and analyzing the environmental, social, and economic impacts as part of the decision-making process. It brings forth innovation, continuous improvement, and long-term success. Collaboration with various stakeholders such as adjacent municipalities, varying tiers of government, conservation authorities, local indigenous groups, and local interest groups, are key when integrating sustainable practices and principles. Demonstrating municipal sustainability leadership, not only benefits the community but can encourage public leadership as well.

To celebrate and honour local environmental stewardship, the Town of Orangeville hosts Environmental Sustainability Awards annually. The Environmental Sustainability Awards recognize those who have made a positive contribution to the environmental health of the community. Every April during earth week, Sustainable Orangeville awards businesses, schools, companies, and individuals.

To encourage and showcase environmentally responsible business practices, the Town of Orangeville offers a sticker recognition program. Through this program, it highlights five key practices:

1. Allows customers to bring their own refillable containers
2. Does not sell plastic bottled water
3. Has implemented a composting program
4. Has a default no-straw policy
5. Eco-friendly containers used for take-out



To learn more about the Orangeville Reduces program please visit:

canadareduces.ca/orangeville-reduces

In 2021 the Environmental Division at the Town prepared a budget request to create a new environmental role. This new role combined co-ordinator responsibilities of climate change and sustainability. In 2022, the Town hired their first Sustainability Co-ordinator to oversee the implementation of SNAP and the Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

Furthermore, several existing policies and by-laws at the Town have been reviewed and updated to incorporate and consider sustainability:

Climate Change Adaptation Policy (2019)

Establishes a commitment to advancing climate change adaptation efforts across the corporation to manage, minimize, or eliminate the local risks and impacts associated with climate change.

Sidewalk Policy (2011)

Promotes and encourages walking for recreation and transportation which is important to the sustainability and health of the community.

Urban Forestry Policy (2012)

Supports the basic principles of accessibility, equity, health and well-being, environmental sustainability and community cohesion and vitality.

Site Plan Approval Procedures and Design Guidelines Policy (2000)

Speaks to the preservation of existing vegetation which greatly enhances the Town by providing visual relief from the built environment, by moderating the micro-climate, and by lending maturity to new developments before the new landscaping has achieved its full effect.

Strategic Asset Management Policy (2019)

Which references the Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan and mentions planning for resilient infrastructure in a changing climate. In addition, to consider the risks and vulnerability of municipal infrastructure to climate change and the actions required to address the vulnerability to municipal operations, service, and lifecycle management.

Procurement Policy (2018)

To procure necessary goods and/or services with due regard to the preservation of the natural environment. Additionally, when preparing procurement documents to consider the environmental impacts and costs associated when procuring.





Economic Development and Culture

Goal: Preserve Orangeville’s small-town appeal, while bolstering robust businesses and tourism opportunities that support a healthy economy

Strategies to support a healthy local economy:

- Further establish Town’s identity through the preservation and expansion of tourism, culture, and heritage
- Enhance economic resiliency through attraction, expansion, and retention of diverse business industries that in turn, provide varied local employment opportunities
- Connect tourists to the Town as an urban hub within the County



Small-town charm is a combination of physical, economic, and social factors⁹. As populations, tourism, and business opportunities rise, it is imperative to preserve the small-town appeal by appreciating and respecting the past while also accommodating growth. A sustainable economy is one that is resilient to uncertainties, stable, and provides a great state of general well-being¹⁰. Expanding tourism and retaining diverse business industries, creates a productive community that provides adequate resources, workers, and consumers.

Showcasing local talent throughout the Town, provides a sense of identity. In 2021, a community mosaic was installed at Townhall. This unique artwork was created by approximately 200 members of the community, whose individual efforts were combined to create a piece that promotes community unity. Furthermore, the twelfth annual Arts & Culture Awards were held in 2021. This award program celebrates the artistic and cultural talents of Orangeville businesses, entrepreneurs, and organizations. Additionally, as of 2021, 25 utility boxes were covered in artwork by local artists and 10 murals celebrating Orangeville landmarks were installed at the Alder Street track throughout 2020 and 2021. Moreover, in 2021 the Town introduced the Driftscape App to showcase outdoor art and celebrate local artists. The app provides an interactive experience with Orangeville’s art and provides information about the various pieces and their creators.

From 2019 to 2022 the Town of Orangeville delivered three versions of the Digital Main Street program. These programs promoted uptake of digitalization practices by local business owners and provided funding support for entrepreneurs to adopt technologies that create additional, new revenue streams, and support efforts to encourage and simplify buying local. The delivery of the three Digital Main Street programs resulted in funding support to 133 Dufferin County business owners and contributions totaling \$332,500.

In 2020 the Town completed a new Tourism Strategy and Action Plan. This plan was adopted by Council in 2021. The 5-year plan outlines more than 70 initiatives to be undertaken in the next several years to increase tourism infrastructure, strengthen tourism ventures and establish Orangeville as a tourism hub. The municipal Cultural Plan has been fulfilled and as of 2020, cultural initiatives and recommendations were incorporated into the Tourism Strategy.

⁹ Good, K. (2002). Preservation of Small Town Character in the Town of Center of Rutland, Massachusetts. Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning Master Projects.

¹⁰ Courtnell, J. (2019). Economic Sustainability For Success: What It Is And How to Implement It. Retrieved from: <https://www.process.st/economic-sustainability/>



Natural Resources and Environment

Goal: Protect and enhance the natural environment

Strategies to protect and enhance the natural environment:

- Protect, improve, or restore the quality and quantity of water resources
- Continue to provide access to safe drinking water that meets the needs of the community
- Enhance the culture of water conservation and efficiency
- Protect and enhance natural heritage and the urban forest



Environmental sustainability is about managing and protecting our natural resources and ecosystems to support health and well-being, now and for the future¹¹. Protecting the natural environment is the foundation for sustaining our planet, community, and the economy¹². By protecting and enhancing our water resources, natural heritage systems, and urban forests, we are creating a thriving, welcoming, and healthy environment for all to live and enjoy. Additionally, protecting and enhancing the natural environment helps to conserve energy, sequesters carbon, promotes biodiversity, and improves resiliency to impacts from ecological disturbances.

Sustainable Orangeville is a committee that works to reduce Orangeville’s environmental impact and improve the quality of life for Orangeville residents. Sustainable Orangeville in collaboration with the Parks Division offers a Baby Tree program. Each Earth Week a baby tree forest is planted in parks and areas owned by the Town in honour of the babies born the previous year with the baby’s names listed on the dedication plaque. From 2009 to 2021 there have been 141 trees planted.

In March 2020, Orangeville was recognized as a designated Bee City for the Town’s commitment to develop, restore, and preserve pollinator-friendly local habitats. The Town has pledged to refrain from pesticide use whenever possible, plant native species, increase naturalization and add additional pollinator garden beds throughout the community. Currently the Town has two pollinator gardens, a naturalized pollinator area near First Street and Hansen Boulevard and a pollinator garden at Brenda Boulevard.



The Town of Orangeville has continued to invest in wastewater treatment infrastructure optimization, upgrades, and maintenance. In 2019, the Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP), underwent an expansion and upgrades to the system. This included upgrades to the liquid processes, electrical systems, boiler systems, and for backup/emergency power. In addition, there have been continued maintenance upgrades, cleaning, and assessments for the digesters at WPCP.



¹¹ Sphera. (2020). What Is Environmental Sustainability? Retrieved from: <https://sphera.com/glossary/what-is-environmental-sustainability/>

¹² Inspire Clean Energy. (2021). Ways To Protect the Environment. Retrieved from: <https://www.inspirecleanenergy.com/blog/sustainable-living/ways-to-protect-the-environment>



In 2020, the Town of Orangeville prepared a Water Conservation Plan which was later endorsed by Council. This plan assesses opportunities to use water more efficiently. The objectives of this plan include:

- Ensure the long-term sustainability of the Town's drinking water sources and well supplies
- Eliminate, downsize, or postpone the need for capital infrastructure projects and additional sources of water supply
- Improve operating cost efficiency for the delivery of water supply services
- Improve drought preparedness and built climate change resiliency

Rain barrels are a great way to save water for watering gardens and lawns and providing a source of water for wildlife during times of extreme heat. The County of Dufferin offers residents in the Town of Orangeville the ability to purchase a rain barrel for \$45. From 2010 to 2018, over 650 rain barrels have been sold. For more information about the County of Dufferin's Rain Barrel Program please visit: dufferincounty.ca/rainbarrel

Additionally, the Town of Orangeville offers a toilet rebate program. By purchasing a WaterSense certified toilet, the average family can reduce water used for toilets by 20 to 60 percent¹³. The Town of Orangeville has been offering the toilet rebate program since 2005. Between 2005 to 2022 there has been over 3100 applications completed through this program. For more information about the Town of Orangeville's Toilet Rebate Program please visit: orangeville.ca/toilet-rebates

¹³ US Environmental Protection Agency. (2022). Residential Toilets. Retrieved from: <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/residential-toilets>



Land Use and Planning

Goal: Manage and direct land use that creates healthy, livable, and safe communities

Strategies to create healthy, livable, and safe communities:

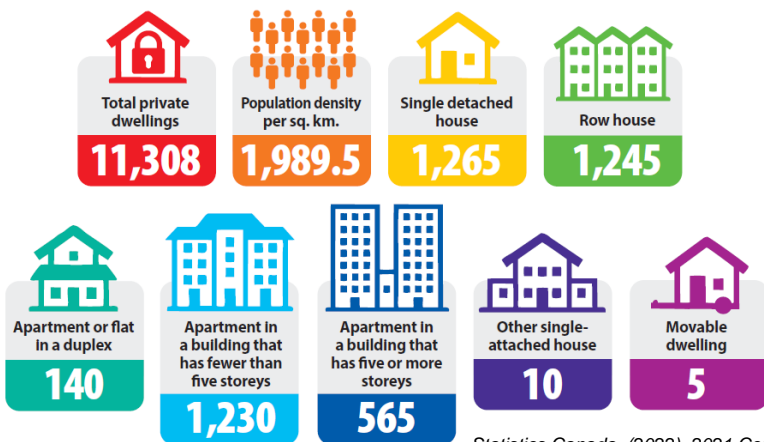
- Encourage mixed use development
- Co-ordinate land use and infrastructure planning to promote healthy, livable, and safe communities
- Plan land use and transportation networks that support / create a well-connected community



The way we use land and plan for development in our communities is essential to creating sustainable infrastructure and vibrant healthy neighborhoods¹⁴. The land use and planning processes, influence how land is used, how communities will grow and develop over time, and greatly influences our adaptability and mitigation efforts to climate change¹⁵. Sustainable communities are accessible, walkable, and diverse; providing mixed land uses and a combination of high density and lower density housing choices¹⁶. While also creating and protecting green spaces that are critical to the environmental integrity of the landscape.

The Town has an intensification target of 50% for all residential development occurring annually to be within the Town's built boundary. This target has been met or exceeded over the past several years and will continue to be monitored going forward. Much of the development has been directed to vacant and underutilized lands.

Furthermore, the Town's newly approved Community Improvement Plan (2022) enables additional programs to support brownfield restoration and redevelopment. This will help to revitalize under-used properties where past development has occurred. The Community Improvement Plan also details additional incentive programs for new developments and retrofits which incorporate green infrastructure. Some incentive programs mentioned in the Plan include, a landscape improvement program, major building improvement and conversion program, and environmental site assessment grant program.



Statistics Canada. (2022). 2021 Census

Working with relevant agencies is critical when integrating healthy community designs into the Town's planning processes. On-going consultation with Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) has played a key step in the application review of development proposals to examine healthy development opportunities for site developments.

¹⁴ Sustainable Community Development. (2022). Sustainable Infrastructure: Land-use Planning. Retrieved from: <https://www.crcresearch.org/sustainable-infrastructure/land-use-planning>

^{15, 16} Federation of Canadian Municipalities. (2019). Sustainable land use practices in Canadian municipalities: A snapshot. Retrieved from: <https://data.fcm.ca/documents/reports/GMF/2020/sustainable-land-use-practices-in-canadian-municipalities.pdf>



Social Well-being

Goal: Promote Orangeville as an engaged, inclusive community for all

Strategies to promote engagement and inclusivity:

- Ensure residents have access to affordable housing and community services; contribute to County initiatives that address poverty and homelessness at the source
- Provide accessible social and community program options that support health, wellness, and learning
- Increase equitable access to and affordability of healthy food options (local when possible)
- Build social networks that encourage well-being and celebrate the community



Social sustainability is a critical component of a community's well-being and longevity¹⁹. It addresses the ways in which members of a community live their lives and interact with each other²⁰. It involves the interconnections between individual, societal, and environmental wellness²¹. A sustainable society is built on equality and diversity, quality of life, social cohesion, and governance²². By providing residents with the same services and opportunities, communities can grow and develop sustainably²³.

The Town of Orangeville continues to promote and ensure access to the Orangeville Public Library as a vital community hub. The library has provided volunteer opportunities for individuals with special needs and participates in community events such as the Dufferin County Cultural Resource Circle, Muslims of Dufferin, and Autism Awareness. In addition, in 2020 and 2021, the public library offered curbside pick-up, Gran n'Go bags, and craft kits when the library closed due to COVID.

The Sustainable Orangeville Committee is involved with the Urban Harvest Program. The program promotes the development of sustainable food sources. Each year, excess fruits and vegetables are harvested from local homeowners and donated to the Orangeville Food Bank to help address food insecurity. Any extra fruits that the food bank cannot handle is sent to a Cidery company for processing. A portion of the sales is then given back to the food bank in a monetary form to help purchase needed items. Between 2018 to 2021 there has been over 3000 pounds valued at over \$8000 of fresh fruit and vegetables donated.

To help increase voter turnout the Clerk's division is implementing a vote at home program where residents can vote anywhere and provide additional advanced voting opportunities. An elections portal has been created to provide residents with information on when, where, and how to vote. In 2018 there was over 7800 ballots casted with just over 1800 of those ballots being advanced votes from 7 voting locations throughout the Town.

To ensure open data to the public, the Town created Data Orangeville. Data Orangeville is the Town's central source for obtaining data-driven tools and to view and download the Town's open data, schemas, and templates. Data Orangeville is a living platform that is continuously being updated when new information becomes available.

^{19,22} Rice, S. (2020). What is social sustainability? Retrieved from: <https://diversity.social/social-sustainability/>

^{20,23} Maple Ridge BC. (2022). Social Sustainability. Retrieved from: <https://www.mapleridge.ca/1779/Social-Sustainability>

²¹ Amster, R & Grdina L. (2021). Integrating Individual Well-Being with Environmental Systems. Retrieved from: https://ssir.org/articles/entry/integrating_individual_well_being_with_environmental_systems

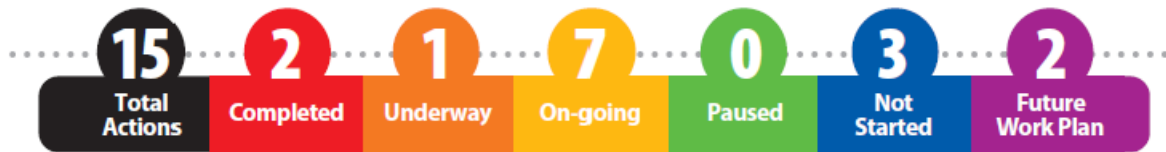


Transportation System

Goal: Encourage a reduction in the dependence of motor vehicles locally, and promote all other forms of transportation

Strategies for sustainable transportation:

- Promote a shift to more sustainable and efficient transportation options to move people and goods
- Improve access to transit options, reducing single occupancy vehicle use
- Promote walking and biking by increasing the connectivity and safety of action transportation infrastructure



Transportation is a core component supporting the interactions and the development of socioeconomic systems²⁴. Sustainable transportation is the capacity to support the mobility needs of the community in a manner that is the least damageable to the environment and does not impair the mobility needs of future generations²⁵. Walking, biking, low and zero emission vehicles, public transit and/or carpooling are some examples of sustainable and efficient transportation options. Investing in sustainable transportation options and infrastructure creates healthy societies, reduces the dependence on non-renewable energy sources, reduces noise/atmospheric pollution, and reduces transportation costs²⁶.

To increase the number of electric vehicle parking spaces and charging stations, the Town of Orangeville in partnership with Dufferin County installed level-two electric vehicle charging stations at Alder Street Recreation Centre, Edelbrock Centre, and the parking lot across from Townhall.

In 2020, there were 8 new bike racks installed in the Town. The Town continues to increase the number of bike racks as an ongoing initiative. Each year in the Spring, the Sustainable Orangeville Committee holds a cycling event called "Ride to Market". This bike ride event provides an opportunity for residents to raise awareness for alternative transportation methods and create a safe atmosphere for all ages to bike throughout the Town. Furthermore, the Sustainable Orangeville Committee hosts free public bike repair workshops during Earth week.

To ensure active transportation route information is available for residents, the Town offers a cycling brochure at trade shows, booths and on the Town website that includes cycling tips on how to stay safe and share the road. The brochure includes a cycling map that shows where the bicycle racks, repair services, and bike routes are located throughout the Town.

Continuing to promote safe roadways in road designs throughout the Town of Orangeville has been an ongoing practice. In January 2021 Council voted to amend the Traffic By-law, revising all 50 kph roadways to 40 kph. As of March 1, 2021, speed limits of 40 kph have been implemented on most municipal roads. Additionally, the Town is looking into speed radar and 'children playing signs' to be installed on various municipal roads.

²⁴ Poon, S. (2021). Gaps and Paving the Future: Sustainable Transportation. Retrieved from: https://www.researchgate.net/post/Gaps_and_Paving_the_Future_Sustainable_Transportation_as_a_Core_Component_Supporting_the_Interactions_and_the_Development_of_Socio-Economic_Systems

^{25, 26} Rodrigue, J. (2020). Transportation, Sustainability and Decarbonization, The Geography of Transport Systems. Vol. 5, pg. 124-142.

Looking Ahead



There have been several actions across the seven theme areas which have begun, integrated into the Town's business model, and nearing completion. Nevertheless, there are a number of actions that are in the early project stages and are anticipated to begin in the near future. Some of these projects include:

In February 2022, the Local Business Accelerator Program launched. This program will support downtown area businesses in their COVID recovery efforts and will provide up to \$100,000 in grants to 10 existing/emerging entrepreneurs to strengthen the attractiveness of the Historic Downtown to visitors.

In the spring and summer months of 2022, the Town is undergoing a complete sanitary sewer flushing and camera inspection of the distribution network. This project is in advance of a comprehensive Inflow and Infiltration Study that will include the deployment of several flow meters. Overall, this project will help to identify sources where groundwater and stormwater is entering the sanitary sewage system and help the Town target specific areas for remediation efforts.

In the summer and fall of 2022, the Town's WPCP will be completing a plant wide Optimization Study to review treatment processes, electrical and gas usages, and provide possible alternative options to optimize current practices.

By the end of 2022, new LED lighting will be installed at the Town's Operation Centre at 500 Line C to help with energy conservation efforts of the Town's buildings.

To preserve and enhance the health of the Town's urban forest, in the summer of 2022, the Town has begun an inventory of all boulevard trees. The inventory will characterize and quantify the current state of the Town's boulevard trees, assess the health, flag any concerns, and prioritize mitigation efforts. Moreover, the Town will be completing a Town-wide urban tree canopy assessment. Some outcomes from this assessment will be to establish a percentage benchmark of the Town's tree canopy that includes trees on public and private lands as well as a professional assessment for the consideration and creation of a Tree Preservation By-law.

The Town regularly reviews public transit fares to ensure access for all. A review of transit fares sparked a fare-free transit study to be proposed. Staff are preparing a report to be presented to Council in the Summer of 2022, to outline how a 2-year pilot project for free transit would be best implemented.

The Town will also be looking into moving forward with an advance water metering system to use smart water meters that encourage water conservation. The start of the installation of the meters is anticipated for May/June of 2023.

Furthermore, looking into 2023, efforts will be underway to create new itineraries and events that are focused on winter tourism development. These itineraries will further Orangeville's identity as a cultural/tourism hub.

Additionally, the Town is looking into renewable energy options for transit buses. The Town is currently exploring the feasibility of battery electric buses for future transit fleet.

Looking into the future the Town will continue to leverage partnerships, funding opportunities, and internal resources to help implement and track the actions presented in the SNAP; to create and strengthen a viable community that embraces its historic charm and its dynamic future.

Appendix



Energy and Climate Change

Goal

Reduce emissions and prepare for a changing climate.

Strategy 1

Encourage emission reductions through energy efficiency, conservation, and renewable energy generation.

Action	Status
Conduct energy-efficiency audits and benchmarking to identify retrofit opportunities for Town buildings.	Completed
Communicate progress through the Community Milestones within the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP).	Underway
Adopt an established energy performance labelling program for new and existing Town buildings.	Underway
Undertake feasibility study for renewable energy generation for municipally owned buildings.	On-going
Support energy-efficiency retrofits of homes and community buildings (such as LED lighting, solar PV, or EV charging) through incentive programs.	On-going
Leverage existing partnerships to provide community education on personal conservation practices (e.g., reducing energy, food waste, etc.).	On-going
Create corporate and community greenhouse gas emissions inventories and forecasts.	Paused
Work with the County to develop and implement a Community Energy and Climate Change Action Plan.	Not Started
Develop a corporate Green Building Policy that includes minimum energy performance levels for new Town buildings.	Not Started



Energy and Climate Change

Goal

Reduce emissions and prepare for a changing climate.

Strategy 2

Plan for resilient infrastructure in a changing climate.

Action	Status
Develop a climate adaptation strategy to improve the Town's resilience to the impacts of climate change (e.g., infrastructure damage).	Completed
Hire contractual Climate Change Co-ordinator to develop and implement the Town's climate adaptation strategy and related actions.	Completed



Corporate and Fiscal

Goal

Demonstrate municipal leadership by considering the environmental, social, and economic impacts of all Town decisions.

Strategy 1

Encourage and support inter-departmental collaboration and communication to facilitate the adoption of sustainable practices in the municipality.

Action	Status
Hire/Assign a Sustainability Co-ordinator to oversee implementation of the Sustainability Plan.	Completed
Partner with Sustainable Orangeville to advance this Plan.	On-going
Provide training for senior staff and Council on how to integrate sustainability in decision-making.	Not Started
Integrate sustainability objectives into new staff orientation.	Not Started



Corporate and Fiscal

Goal

Demonstrate municipal leadership by considering the environmental, social, and economic impacts of all Town decisions.

Strategy 2

Encourage and support collaboration to implement sustainability initiatives between municipal and community organizations, local Indigenous groups, conservation authority, colleges, and adjacent municipalities

Action	Status
Facilitate regular meetings to maintain open, two-way communication with the community, schools, local stakeholders neighbouring municipalities and County about sustainability-related initiatives, programs, and services.	Underway
Provide education to local businesses on sustainable practices/certifications available.	Underway
Continue to promote and host the annual Environmental Sustainability Awards.	On-going
Increase awareness and education of resource consumption to reduce waste in collaboration with other agencies.	On-going
Implement actions in alignment with Blue Dot community status (e.g., plastic water bottle ban).	On-going
Encourage and showcase environmentally responsible business practices.	On-going

Corporate and Fiscal

Goal

Demonstrate municipal leadership by considering the environmental, social, and economic impacts of all Town decisions.

Strategy 3

Create and integrate sustainability principles into Town policies, processes and practices.

Action	Status
Pursue eco-friendly, ethical and socially responsible procurement practices.	Completed
Formalize the Town's vehicle purchasing policy to assess vehicle needs and ensure high-efficiency vehicles are selected for purchase.	Completed
Fine-tune the asset management process to better consider the full lifecycle of investments and initiatives.	Underway
Adopt best practices to service contracts across all departments.	Underway
Review and update existing policies and by-laws from a sustainability lens.	Underway
Continue to consider the financial impacts for all sustainability actions taken at the Town level.	On-going
Implement green practices in municipally owned buildings.	On-going
Set goals and increase targets for corporate recycling and waste management programs.	Not Started
Establish a paper reduction target (corporation-wide and departmental level) and implement a comprehensive and consistent program across the organization.	Not Started
Create a green events guide and/or policy for Town-sponsored events and meetings.	Not Started



Economic Development and Culture

Goal

Preserve Orangeville's small-town appeal, while bolstering robust businesses and tourism opportunities that support a healthy economy.

Strategy 1

Further establish Orangeville's identity through the preservation and expansion of tourism, culture, and heritage

Action	Status
Complete an Indoor Facility needs assessment that would incorporate the future need for a cultural facility in the community.	Completed
Consider increases to/expansion of the façade improvement program.	Underway
Develop and adopt a Public Art Policy and practices that preserve and celebrate local art and artists.	Underway
Expand and promote arts, culture and heritage offerings that contribute to Orangeville's identity, tourism economy and which are primarily showcased through public art, vibrant outdoor spaces and thriving performing arts and festivals.	On-going
Continue to implement initiatives that further Orangeville's identity as a cultural hub in the region.	On-going



Economic Development and Culture

Goal

Preserve Orangeville's small-town appeal, while bolstering robust businesses and tourism opportunities that support a healthy economy.

Strategy 2

Enhance economic resiliency through attraction, expansion, and retention of diverse business industries that in turn, provide varied local employment opportunities.

Action	Status
Explore the feasibility of partnering to establish an innovation hub or business incubator to promote local entrepreneurship, and support programs that attract creative industries, green businesses, and suitable work-from-home sector businesses.	Underway
Support the workforce/talent attraction efforts of local businesses through the implementation of partnerships and leading initiatives.	Underway
Support the workforce/talent attraction efforts of local businesses through the implementation of partnerships and leading initiatives.	Underway
Create a welcoming business environment by supporting 'buy local' practices, improving access to information and simplifying processes where possible.	On-going



Economic Development and Culture

Goal

Preserve Orangeville’s small-town appeal, while bolstering robust businesses and tourism opportunities that support a healthy economy.

Strategy 3

Connect tourists to the Town as an urban hub within the County.

Action	Status
Create a new tourism strategy in 2020 and in conjunction with an update to the Municipal Cultural Plan.	Completed
Advocate for expanded accommodation options and promote recreational/sport tourism opportunities in Orangeville.	Underway
Expand tourism infrastructure to increase and lengthen visits to the community and to diversify revenue streams.	On-going
Seek opportunities to create events, initiatives and attractions that leverage the community’s heritage and natural environment, building on existing marketing efforts.	On-going



Natural Resources and Environment

Goal

Protect and enhance the natural environment.

Strategy 1

Protect, improve, or restore the quality and quantity of water resources.

Action	Status
Require new developments to maintain the ability of water to recharge groundwater at the same level it was pre-development.	Completed
Consider providing incentives for green infrastructure retrofits (e.g., rain gardens).	Underway
Incorporate Low Impact Development features into all future Town projects and retrofits, where possible.	On-going
Protect wetlands and other natural areas which promote natural groundwater recharge.	On-going
Continue to manage the risk of flooding and erosion.	On-going
Develop and implement an inflow and infiltration reduction strategy to manage rainwater and groundwater inflow into the sanitary network.	On-going
Continue to invest in wastewater treatment infrastructure optimization, upgrades, and maintenance.	On-going
Continue to manage stormwater to ensure the water returning to the environment meets or exceeds Provincial standards.	On-going
Require that contractors maintaining Town-owned facilities and parking lots manage salt appropriately.	On-going



Natural Resources and Environment

Goal

Protect and enhance the natural environment.

Strategy 2

Continue to provide access to safe drinking water that meets the needs of the community.

Action	Status
Complete a water supply environmental assessment to increase available water supply.	Completed
Provide and promote the use of water filling stations in Town facilities.	Underway
Continue to provide clean drinking water which meets or exceeds Ontario Drinking Water standards.	On-going



Natural Resources and Environment

Goal

Protect and enhance the natural environment.

Strategy 3

Enhance the culture of water conservation and efficiency.

Action	Status
Prepare and implement a Water Conservation Plan which assesses opportunities to use water more efficiently.	Completed
Track and reduce water consumption at Town facilities.	On-going
Continue to provide rain barrels to residents at wholesale costs.	On-going
Maintain toilet rebate program.	On-going
Leverage existing partnerships to provide community education on water conservation opportunities (e.g., home retrofits).	On-going
Promote rainwater harvesting at Town community garden sites.	Not Started
Complete a Water Meter Study to assess the feasibility of using smart water meters to encourage conservation.	Future Work Plan



Natural Resources and Environment

Goal

Protect and enhance the natural environment.

Strategy 4

Protect and enhance natural heritage and the urban forest.

Action	Status
Promote the planting of native plants and trees which can adapt to a changing climate.	Completed
Include native edible plants and fruit trees in Town landscaping.	Underway
Maintain and update an inventory of tree species, urban forest quality and health on public property.	On-going
Provide financial and/or in-kind support to community tree planting initiatives and programs that protect forested areas.	On-going
Maintain or increase natural buffers to protect and connect wetlands, water courses, water bodies, forests, and woodlands.	On-going
Maintain existing open space, park, and street trees.	On-going
Pursue recognition as a Bee City to protect pollinator species.	On-going
Work with agencies and residents to implement fishery and aquatic restoration projects.	On-going
Conduct an economic evaluation of the Town's ecological goods and services; integrate into the asset management plan.	Not Started
Development of a Tree Preservation Plan and/or by-law.	Future Work Plan



Land Use and Planning



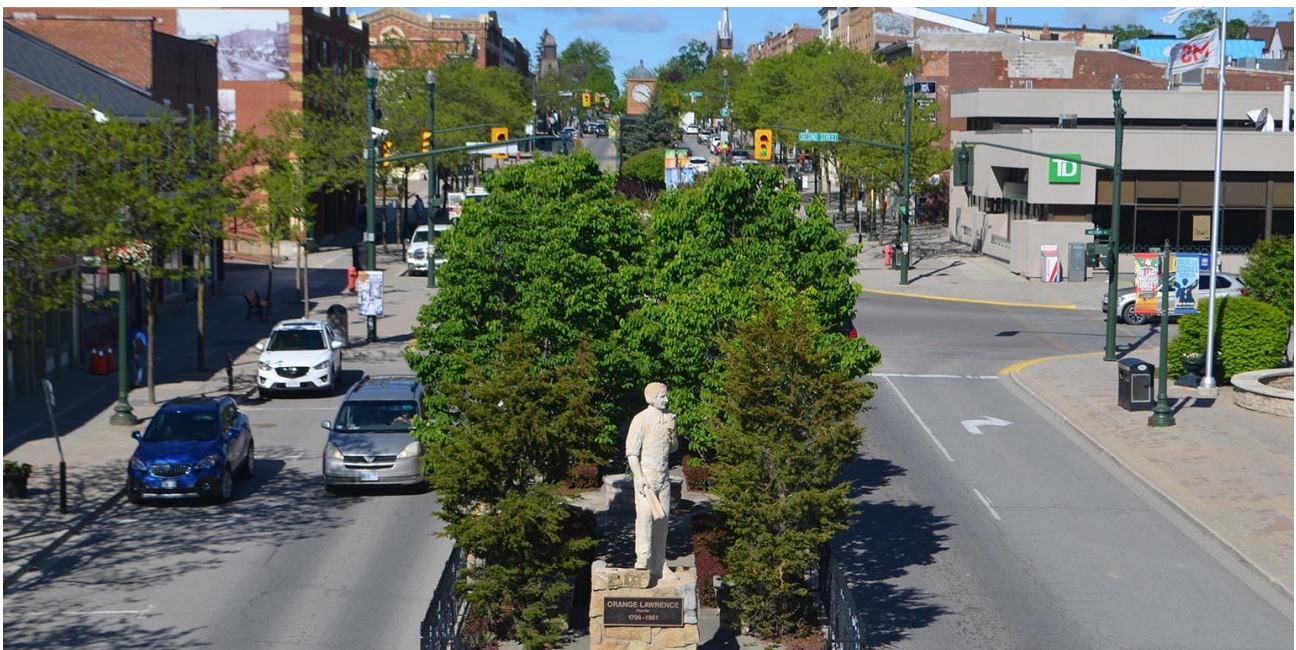
Goal

Manage and direct land use that creates healthy, livable and safe communities.

Strategy 1

Encourage mixed use development.

Action	Status
Strengthen policy that encourages compact, mixed use, pedestrian-oriented development.	Underway
Develop a Community Brownfield Action Plan to revitalize under-used properties where past development has occurred.	Underway
Direct the majority of growth and development to vacant and underutilized lands within the built boundary through intensification and infill development.	On-going
Continue to implement recommendations from the Orangeville Parks Master Plan, providing quality and financially viable open spaces and parkland.	On-going



Land Use and Planning



Goal

Manage and direct land use that creates healthy, livable, and safe communities.

Strategy 2

Co-ordinate land use and infrastructure planning to promote healthy, livable, and safe communities.

Action	Status
Explore stormwater management charges based on type of use and extent of impermeable surfaces.	Underway
Work with relevant agencies to integrate healthy community design into the Town's planning documents.	Underway
Plan for and protect corridors and rights-of-way for infrastructure, including transportation, transit and telecommunications, to meet current and projected needs.	On-going
Maintain strong Heritage Conservation District through recognition, preservation policies, enforcement, compatible land use, and planning for heritage buildings.	On-going
Establish green building standards for new homes and buildings.	Not Started



Land Use and Planning



Goal

Manage and direct land use that creates healthy, livable, and safe communities.

Strategy 3

Plan land use and transportation networks that support/create a well-connected community.

Action	Status
Optimize parking infrastructure and the road network to support the efficient movement of goods and people.	Underway
Develop and implement a comprehensive Complete Streets policy which promotes the creation of well-connected streets, with cycling and pedestrian infrastructure.	Underway
Investigate and promote existing incentive opportunities for new developments and retrofits incorporating green infrastructure.	Underway



Social Well-being

Goal

Promote Orangeville as an engaged, inclusive community for all.

Strategy 1

Ensure residents have access to affordable housing and community services; contribute to County initiatives that address poverty and homelessness at the source.

Action	Status
Support creative housing concepts (e.g., laneway housing, secondary suites) to enhance access to a broader range and diversity of housing forms.	Underway
Maintain and increase the stock of purpose-built rental housing, supporting mixed income communities.	Underway
Require that a certain proportion of new housing development is inclusionary housing.	Underway
Continue to work with Dufferin County to provide an adequate supply of affordable housing options.	On-going
Continue to work with local and regional emergency services to maintain and enhance public safety, fire, security, and emergency services.	On-going
Provide information related to tenants' rights and resources on the Town's website.	Not Started

Social Well-being

Goal

Promote Orangeville as an engaged, inclusive community for all.

Strategy 2

Provide accessible social and community program options that support health, wellness, and learning.

Action	Status
Review the need for additional recreation, health, and wellness programming at the neighbourhood level, leveraging neighbourhood facilities, parks and partnership opportunities.	Underway
Assess potential for additional active and passive outdoor recreation facilities.	Underway
Provide open data through the Town's website (e.g., Data Orangeville, GIS mapping, recreation, library outreach programs, etc.).	On-going
Continue to promote and ensure access to the Orangeville Public Library as a vital community hub.	On-going
Offer social and recreational programming in expanded number of community locations (e.g., pop-up library where people and special events are).	On-going
Improve access to information and education through Town website; make it user friendly and effective for residents.	On-going
Work with community agencies to explore sponsorship of affordable and accessible recreation program models that could provide subsidization as needed.	Not Started
Adopt a policy that ensures that recreation and culture facilities are considered through a multi-use lens that provides space for diverse activities and which are energy efficient.	Not Started



Social Well-being

Goal

Promote Orangeville as an engaged, inclusive community for all.

Strategy 3

Increase equitable access to and affordability of healthy food options (local when possible).

Action	Status
Explore permanent, year-round location options for the Orangeville Farmers' Market.	Underway
Explore the possibility of recovering excess food from market, grocery stores, farms for use at food bank to minimize food waste.	Underway
Implement relevant actions outlined in the Headwaters Food Charter and Action Plan, including the expansion of urban agriculture.	On-going
Continue to support access to local, affordable produce through the Orangeville Farmers' Market.	On-going
Pursue partnerships for the continued development and ongoing maintenance of community gardens.	On-going



Social Well-being

Goal

Promote Orangeville as an engaged, inclusive community for all.

Strategy 4

Build social networks that encourage well-being and celebrate the community.

Action	Status
Implement a centralized online platform for all the Town's community engagement and events.	Completed
Investigate and implement methods to continuously improve voter turnout for municipal elections.	Underway
Continue to implement strategies from Orangeville's Age-Friendly Community Action Plan for all age groups.	On-going
Develop and implement a Diversity and Inclusion Plan for the Town.	Not Started
Prepare and adopt a community safety and well-being plan.	Not Started



Transportation System

Goal

Encourage a reduction in the dependence of motor vehicles locally and promote all other forms of transportation.

Strategy 1

Promote a shift to more sustainable and efficient transportation options to move people and goods.

Action	Status
Increase the number of electric vehicles parking spaces and charging stations, incrementally as demand grows.	Underway
Continue to build awareness of alternative transportation options for commuters, including carpooling, carsharing and ridesharing.	On-going
Develop a Transportation Demand Management Plan to address mobility in the Town.	Not Started
Monitor the need for truck routes/policies that will promote the efficient movement of goods to reduce emissions and improve local traffic.	Not Started
Provide information on low-carbon vehicle options, incentives, and opportunities to increase fuel-efficiency.	Future Work Plan



Transportation System

Goal

Encourage a reduction in the dependence of motor vehicles locally and promote all other forms of transportation.

Strategy 2

Improve access to transit options, reducing single occupancy vehicle use.

Action	Status
Continue to implement recommendations from the Orangeville Transit Optimization Study, building on the current system.	On-going
Regularly review public transit fares to ensure access for all.	On-going
Install bike racks on transit buses to promote intermodal transportation.	Not Started
Explore renewable energy options for transit buses, at the time of replacement and/or purchasing.	Future Work Plan



Transportation System

Goal

Encourage a reduction in the dependence of motor vehicles locally and promote all other forms of transportation.

Strategy 3

Promote walking and biking by increasing the connectivity and safety of active transportation infrastructure.

Action	Status
Develop an Active Transportation Plan to assess the community's needs and support future decision-making.	Completed
Make active transportation route information available through multiple applications.	Completed
Expand the current trails system which is safe, connected and fun for all ages, as outlined in the Cycling and Trails Master Plan.	On-going
Promote cycling through a complete bicycle network, bike racks, and free bike parking.	On-going
Promote cycling through an awareness and safety campaign, including bike safety workshops.	On-going
Continue to promote safe roadways by implementing principles of Vision Zero in road design.	On-going







Orangeville

Historic Charm Dynamic Future



Orangeville is a thriving, green, healthy, and connected community.