

TOWN OF LAURENTIAN HILLS STRATEGIC PLANNING QUESTIONNAIRE

Council is in the process of developing a Strategic Plan for the period of 2018-2021 and would like your input.

The intent of the Strategic Planning document is to provide a framework to guide the strategic direction of the Municipality between now and the end of 2021. Please review the proposed Strategic Plan components in this questionnaire and write your comments in the spaces provided on this form or on a separate sheet of paper and submit it on or before December 7th, 2018 to the municipal office at 34465 Highway 17, Deep River, Ontario K0J 1P0 or by email to info@laurentianhills.ca. Alternately please consider the online version of this questionnaire which can be found at www.laurentianhills.ca under What's New.

For inquiries please contact Penny Sharman by telephone at 613-650-1800 or by email at PSharman@cogeco.ca

The Process

Members of Council and senior staff met on March 9, 2017 for a strategic planning exercise facilitated by the consultant, Penny Sharman. During that exercise, the group completed a SWOT analysis and identified the municipality's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The group then identified the municipality's decreasing and increasing pressures. Simply put, decreasing pressures can be priority items that were on Council's/Senior Staff's to-do list and have been completed or are no longer a priority. Conversely, increasing pressures are those things that have or will become a priority on the list because of need or public demand or perhaps that it is in the municipality's best interest to accomplish. The final tasks of the exercise were to develop a wish list of strategic actions and to prioritize the wish list.

On April 18, 2017, the consultant presented council with the results of the prioritizing exercise. Also based on the strategic actions contained in the Wish List, the focus areas or goals were easily identified. Council requested more time to review the report and the results. The municipality forwarded the results of the review to Ms Sharman and she was directed proceed to write the Draft Strategic Plan and work with a committee to develop the Vision and Mission Statements. A committee consisting of two members of Council and two members of staff met with the consultant in the fall of 2017 to develop the two statements.

The main components of the proposed strategic plan are as follows:-

Vision

The Vision Statement describes what the municipality is striving to become

Proposed Vision

Laurentian Hills is a vibrant rural community that will continue to provide a strong fiscal government, embrace its natural environment, promote a healthy active lifestyle and welcome economic development opportunities

Comments:

Mission

The Mission Statement describes how the Vision will be achieved.

Proposed Mission

The municipality is committed to the delivery of cost-effective services, ensuring policies are in place to foster a healthy natural environment, promoting and supporting recreation activities, as well as encouraging economic development opportunities.

Comments:

Focus Areas

Six Focus Areas were identified as the key areas of interest and responsibility

Proposed Focus Areas (listed below alphabetically)

Capital Projects Infrastructure/Tangible Capital Assets

Making the best possible decisions regarding capital projects, whether it is new construction, upgrade or repair

Emergency Management

To assist the municipality in meeting its emergency management goals by protecting people and property from hazards, minimizing losses associated with emergencies and ensuring a swift and effective recovery from disasters

Good Governance and Effective Administration

To provide effective and efficient municipal governance and administration

Health, Recreation, Culture & Lifestyle

To promote healthy lifestyles and to meet the broad range of community needs

Public Works

Ensure residents are being served by an efficient and cohesive Public Works Department

Waste Management

To address the Waste Management needs of the municipality

Comments:

Strategic Actions

Within each Focus Area , there will be one or more strategic actions that will move the Municipality forward in achieving the goals.

Proposed Strategic Actions

CAPITAL PROJECTS INFRASTRUCTURE/TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

1. Determine the feasibility of building the Meilleurs Bay Boat Launch based on the results of the based on the McIntosh Perry engineering design report as well as costing and proceed if possible
2. Determine the feasibility of building the McConnell Creek Bridge based on the results of the report and costing from Valley Window and Doors and MADI bridges and proceed if possible
3. Repair Sewer Line at Chalk River Fire Hall
4. Upgrade Parks (McKee, Gutzman)
5. Upgrade Chalk River Park (Booktree)
6. Investigate the need to expand sewer capacity
7. Point Alexander Rink issues

Comments:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

1. Tanker Repair
2. Replacement of Equipment Vans
3. Review and update the Town's Emergency Response Plan to ensure it is current and meets the needs of the Municipality and legislative requirements.

Comments:

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION

1. Develop a process for the effective collection of back taxes
2. Strive to keep all technology hardware and software current in order to respond to Municipal needs and changes
3. Review and update the appropriate By-laws to ensure the content is up to date and meets current needs and legislation.
4. Develop a Succession Plan
5. Review and Update appropriate municipal policies
6. Continue to support ongoing training and professional development for staff and Council. Continuous professional development helps to ensure that staff and Council are engaged, knowledgeable, and possess the skills/training to meet the needs of changing legislation and the Municipality.

7. OFM Training/ CAO & Treasurer

8. Develop a process for an ongoing review of Infrastructure - specifically for Parks, recreational facilities, the Wastewater treatment plant, the Point Alexander Municipal office complex.

Comments:

HEALTH, RECREATION, CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

1. Continue to support the Recreation Committee in their current programs and encourage the development of future programs to meet the needs of the Community
2. Ensure existing facilities meet the recreational needs of the community
3. Develop a business plan to promote the development and construction of a senior housing complex

Comments:

PUBLIC WORKS

1. Implement Road Needs Study
2. Equipment Replacement (truck, grader, tandem)

3. Investigate Creation of Turnarounds

Comments:

WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Complete a Waste Management Review

Comments:

Thank you for your interest and participation.