

APPENDIX A: TERMS DEFINED IN THE PROVINCIAL POLICY STATEMENT AND THE GROWTH PLAN FOR THE GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE

The following definitions are extracts from the Provincial Policy Statement (2005) (PPS) and/or the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2006) (GP) as indicated in brackets after the definition.

AFFORDABLE

means

- a. in the case of ownership housing, the least expensive of:
 1. housing for which the purchase price results in annual accommodation costs which do not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for low and moderate income households; or
 2. housing for which the purchase price is at least 10 percent below the average purchase price of a resale unit in the regional market area; and
- b. in the case of rental housing, the least expensive of:
 1. a unit for which the rent does not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for low and moderate income households; or
 2. a unit for which the rent is at or below the average market rent of a unit in the regional market area.

Low and moderate income households means, in the case of ownership housing, households with incomes in the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution for the regional market area, or in the case of rental housing, households with incomes in

the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution for renter households for the regional market area. (GP)

AREAS OF NATURAL AND SCIENTIFIC INTEREST (ANSI)

means areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified as having life science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study or education. (PPS 2014)

BUILT-UP AREA

means all land within the built boundary. (GP)

BUILT BOUNDARY

means the limits of the developed urban area as defined by the Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal in accordance with Policy 2.2.3.5. (Refers to Policy contained within *The Growth Plan* as issued by Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal on April 2, 2008). (GP)

COASTAL WETLAND

means

- a. any *wetland* that is located on one of the Great Lakes or their connecting channels (Lake St. Clair, St. Marys, St. Clair, Detroit, Niagara and St. Lawrence Rivers); or

- b. any other wetland that is on a tributary to any of the above-specified water bodies and lies, either wholly or in part, downstream of a line located 2 kilometres upstream of the 1:100 year floodline (plus wave run-up) of the large water body to which the tributary is connected. (PPS 2014)

COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

means communities that meet people's needs for daily living throughout an entire lifetime by providing convenient access to an appropriate mix of jobs, local services, a full range of housing, public services, affordable housing, and community infrastructure including affordable housing, schools, recreation, and open space for their residents. Convenient access to public transportation and options for safe, non-motorized travel is also provided. (GP)

CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE

means a defined geographical area of heritage significance which has been modified by human activities and is valued by a community. It involves a grouping(s) of individual heritage features such as structures, spaces, archaeological sites, and natural elements, which together form a significant type of heritage form, distinctive from that of its constituent elements or parts. Examples may include, but are not limited to, heritage conservation districts designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and villages, parks, gardens, battlefields, mainstreets and neighbourhoods, cemeteries, trailways, and industrial complexes of cultural heritage value. (PPS)

DESIGNATED GREENFIELD AREA

means the area within a settlement area that is not built up area. Where a settlement area does not

have a built boundary, the entire settlement area is considered designated greenfield area. (GP)

DEVELOPMENT

means the creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures requiring approval under the *Planning Act*; but does not include:

- a. activities that create or maintain infrastructure authorized under an environmental assessment process;
- b. works subject to the *Drainage Act*; or
- c. for the purposes of policy 2.1.4(a), underground or surface mining of minerals or advanced exploration on mining lands in significant areas of mineral potential in Ecoregion 5E, where advanced exploration has the same meaning as under the *Mining Act*. Instead, those matters shall be subject to policy 2.1.5(a). (PPS 2014)

DYNAMIC BEACH HAZARD

means areas of inherently unstable accumulations of shoreline sediments along the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes, as identified by provincial standards, as amended from time to time. The dynamic beach hazard limit consists of the flooding hazard limit plus a dynamic beach allowance. (PPS 2014)

ECOLOGICAL FUNCTION

means the natural processes, products or services that living and non-living environments provide or perform within or between species, ecosystems, and landscapes. These may include biological, physical, and socio-economic interactions.

(PPS 2014)

ENDANGERED SPECIES

means a species that is listed or categorized as an “Endangered Species” on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ official species at risk list, as updated and amended from time to time.

(PPS 2014)

EROSION HAZARD

means the loss of land, due to human or natural processes, that poses a threat to life and property. The erosion hazard limit is determined using considerations that include the 100 year erosion rate (the average annual rate of recession extended over an one hundred year time span), an allowance for slope stability, and an erosion/erosion access allowance. (PPS 2014)

FISH HABITAT

as defined in the *Fisheries Act*, means spawning grounds and any other areas, including nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes. (PPS 2014)

FLOOD FRINGE

for river, stream and small inland lake systems, means the outer portion of the floodplain between the floodway and the flooding hazard limit. Depths and velocities of flooding are generally less severe in the flood fringe than those experienced in the floodway. (PPS 2014)

FLOOD PLAIN

for river stream and small inland lake systems, means the area, usually low lands adjoining a watercourse, which has been or may be subject to flooding hazards. (PPS 2014)

FLOODING HAZARD

means the inundation, under the conditions specified below, of areas adjacent to a shoreline or a river or stream system and not ordinarily covered by water:

- a. Along the shorelines of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes, the flooding hazard limit is based on the one hundred year flood level plus an allowance for wave uprush and other water related hazards;
- b. Along river, stream and small inland lake systems, the flooding hazard limit is the greater of:
 1. the flood resulting from the rainfall actually experienced during a major storm such as the Hurricane Hazel storm (1954), or the Timmins storm (1961), transposed over a specific watershed and combined with the local conditions, where evidence suggests that the storm event could have potentially occurred over watersheds in the general area;
 2. the one hundred year flood; and
 3. a flood which is greater than the previous two bullet points, which was actually experienced in a particular watershed or portion thereof as a result of ice jams and which has been approved as the standard for that specific area by the Minister of Natural Resources;

except where the use of the one hundred year flood or the actually experienced event has been approved by the Minister of Natural Resources as

the standard for a specific watershed (where the past history of flooding supports the lowering of the standard). (PPS 2014)

FLOODPROOFING STANDARD

means the combination of measures incorporated into the basic design and/or construction of buildings, structures, or properties to reduce or eliminate flooding hazards, wave uprush and other water related hazards along the shorelines of the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes, and flooding hazards along river, stream and small inland lake systems. (PPS 2014)

FLOODWAY

for river, stream and small inland lake systems, means the portion of the floodplain where development and site alteration would cause a danger to public health and safety or property damage.

Where the one-zone concept is applied, the floodway is the entire contiguous floodplain.

Where the two-zone concept is applied, the floodway is the contiguous inner portion of the floodplain, representing that area required for the safe passage of flood flow and/or that area where flood depths and/or velocities are considered to be such that they pose a potential threat to life and/or property damage. Where the two-zone concept applies, the outer portion of the floodplain is called the flood fringe. (PPS 2014)

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

means natural and human-made elements that provide ecological and hydrological functions and processes. *Green infrastructure* can include

components such as natural heritage features and systems, parklands, stormwater management systems, street trees, urban forests, natural channels, permeable surfaces, and green roofs. (PPS 2014)

GROUND WATER FEATURE

means water related features in the earth's subsurface, including recharge/discharge areas, water tables, aquifers, and unsaturated zones that can be defined by surface and subsurface hydrogeologic investigations. (PPS 2014)

HABITAT OF ENDANGERED SPECIES AND THREATENED SPECIES

means

- a. with respect to a species listed on the Species at Risk in Ontario List as an endangered or threatened species for which a regulation made under clause 55(1)(a) of the Endangered Species Act, 2007 is in force, the area prescribed by that regulation as the habitat of the species; or
- b. with respect to any other species listed on the Species at Risk in Ontario List as an endangered or threatened species, an area on which the species depends, directly or indirectly, to carry on its life processes, including life processes such as reproduction, rearing, hibernation, migration or feeding, as approved by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; and
- c. places in the areas described in clause (a) or (b), whichever is applicable, that are used by members of the species as dens, nests, hibernacula or other residences. (PPS 2014)

HYDROLOGIC FUNCTION

means the functions of the hydrological cycle that include the occurrence, circulation, distribution and chemical and physical properties of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere, and water's interaction with the environment including its relation to living things. (PPS 2014)

INTENSIFICATION

means the development of a property, site or area at a higher density than currently exists through:

- a. redevelopment, including the reuse of brownfield sites;
- b. the development of vacant and/or underutilized lots within previously developed areas;
- c. infill development; and
- d. the expansion or conversion of existing buildings. (PPS/GP)

MAJOR OFFICE

is generally defined as freestanding office buildings of 10 000 m² or greater, or with 500 jobs or more. (GP)

MINERAL AGGREGATE OPERATION

- means
- a. lands under license or permit, other than for wayside pits and quarries, issued in accordance with the *Aggregate Resources Act*;
 - b. for lands not designated under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, established pits and quarries that are not in contravention of municipal zoning by-laws and including adjacent land under agreement with or owned by the operator, to permit continuation of the operation; and

- c. associated facilities used in extraction, transport, beneficiation, processing or recycling of mineral aggregate resources and derived products such as asphalt and concrete, or the production of secondary related products. (PPS 2014)

MODAL SHARE

means the percentage of person trips or of freight movements made by one travel mode, relative to the total number of such trips made by all modes. (GP)

MULTI-MODAL

means the availability or use of more than one form of transportation, such as automobiles, walking, cycling, buses, rapid transit, rail (such as commuter and freight), trucks, air and marine. (GP)

OIL, GAS AND SALT HAZARDS

means any feature of a well or work as defined under the *Oil, Gas and Salt Resources Act*, or any related disturbance of the ground that has not been rehabilitated. (PPS 2014)

ONE HUNDRED YEAR FLOOD

for river, stream and small inland lake systems, means that flood, based on an analysis of precipitation, snow melt, or a combination thereof, having a return period of one hundred years on average, or having a 1% chance of occurring or being exceeded in any given year. For the shorelines of the Great Lakes, means the peak instantaneous stillwater level, resulting from combinations of mean monthly lake levels and wind setups, which has a

1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. (PPS 2014)

PETROLEUM RESOURCE OPERATIONS:

means oil, gas and salt wells and associated facilities and other drilling operations, oil field fluid disposal wells and associated facilities, and wells and facilities for the underground storage of natural gas and other hydrocarbons. (PPS 2014)

QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF WATER

is measured by indicators associated with hydrologic function such as minimum base flow, depth to water table, aquifer pressure, oxygen levels, suspended solids, temperature, bacteria, nutrients and hazardous contaminants, and hydrologic regime. (PPS 2014)

REDEVELOPMENT

means the creation of new units, uses or lots on previously developed land in existing communities, including brownfield sites. (PPS 2014/GP)

REGIONAL MARKET AREA

means an area, generally broader than a lower-tier municipality that has a high degree of social and economic interaction. In southern Ontario, the upper- or single-tier municipality will normally serve as the regional market area. Where a regional market area extends significantly beyond upper- or single-tier boundaries, it may include a combination of upper-, single and/or lower-tier municipalities. (PPS/GP)

SENSITIVE

in regard to surface water features and ground water features, means areas that are particularly susceptible to impacts from activities or events including, but not limited to, water withdrawals, and additions of pollutants. (PPS 2014)

SENSITIVE LAND USES

means buildings, amenity areas, or outdoor spaces where routine or normal activities occurring at reasonably expected times would experience one or more adverse effects from contaminant discharges generated by a nearby major facility. Sensitive land uses may be a part of the natural or built environment. Examples may include, but are not limited to: residences; day care centres; educational facilities and health facilities. (PPS 2014)

SITE ALTERATION

means activities, such as grading, excavation and the placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site.

(PPS 2014)

SPECIAL NEEDS

means any housing, including dedicated facilities, in whole or in part, that is used by people who have specific needs beyond economic needs, including but not limited to, needs such as mobility requirements or support functions required for daily living. Examples of special needs housing may include, but are not limited to, housing for persons with disabilities such as physical, sensory, or mental health disabilities, and housing for the elderly. (PPS)

- c. Transit rights-of-way/transitways including buses and light rail for moving people. (GP)

SPECIAL POLICY AREA

means an area within a community that has historically existed in the floodplain and where site-specific policies, approved by both the Ministers of Natural Resources and Municipal Affairs and Housing, are intended to provide for the continued viability of existing uses (which are generally on a small scale) and address the significant social and economic hardships to the community that would result from strict adherence to provincial policies concerning development. The criteria and procedures for approval are established by the Province.

A special policy area is not intended to allow for new or intensified development and site alteration, if a community has feasible opportunities for development outside the floodplain. (PPS)

THREATENED SPECIES

means a species that is listed or categorized as a “threatened species” on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ official *species at risk* list, as updated and amended from time to time.

(PPS 2014)

TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR

means a thoroughfare and its associated buffer zone for passage or conveyance of vehicles or people. A transportation corridor includes any or all of the following:

- a. Major roads, arterial roads, and highways for moving people and goods;
- b. Rail lines/railways for moving people and goods; and

TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT (TDM)

means a set of strategies that results in more efficient use of the transportation system by influencing travel behaviour by mode, time of day, frequency, trip length, regulation, route, or cost. Examples include: carpooling, vanpooling, and shuttle buses; parking management; site design and on-site facilities that support transit and walking; bicycle facilities and programs; pricing (road tolls or transit discounts); flexible working hours; telecommunicating; high occupancy vehicle lanes; park-and-ride; incentives for ride-sharing, using transit, walking and cycling; initiatives to discourage drive alone trips by residents, employees, visitors, and students. (GP)

VALLEYLANDS

means a natural area that occurs in a valley or other landform depression that has water flowing through or standing for some period of the year.

(PPS 2014)

WATERSHED

means an area that is drained by a river and its tributaries. (PPS 2014)

WETLANDS

means lands that are seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water, as well as lands where the water table is close to or at the surface. In either case the presence of abundant water has caused

the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants. The four major types of wetlands are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens.

Periodically soaked or wet lands being used for agricultural purposes which no longer exhibit wetland characteristics are not considered to be wetlands for the purposes of this definition.

(PPS 2014)

WILDLIFE HABITAT

means areas where plants, animals and other organisms live, and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Specific wildlife habitats of concern may include areas where species concentrate at a vulnerable point in their annual or life cycle; and areas which are important to migratory or non-migratory species. (PPS 2014)