



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	August 3, 2023
SUBJECT:	Former Greenbelt Area Lands – Engagement of Property Owners and upcoming Open House and special meeting of Planning Committee (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Steve Robichaud Director Planning, and Chief Planner Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

The purpose of this Communication Update is to provide Council with an update of the planned public engagement respecting any private development proposals and associated community benefits within the former Greenbelt Area lands.

Council provided direction on July 14, 2023 to provide input to the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator. The City’s participation in discussions with the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator would be under protest respecting these lands.

As part of Council adoption of Report PED23046(a), Council provided the following direction:

- “(c) That Planning and Economic Development Department staff be directed to schedule a public meeting of the Planning Committee for the purpose of obtaining public input as to the City’s priorities and expectations with respect to any private development proposals within the lands removed by the Province from the Greenbelt Plan Area; *and, that staff consult with City of Hamilton Public Engagement staff to ensure: the statutory meeting meets best engagement practice as much as possible; that the statutory meeting be held in the evening, be live streamed, and be held at a publicly accessible facility that is in close proximity to the Book Road lands; and, that all MPP and MP’s be extended an invitation to attend.*”

Letters to Property Owners

The City will be sending letters to all landowners that are within the former Greenbelt Plan areas or within 240 metres of these lands (see Appendix A – Letter Circulation Maps). The purpose of the letter is two-fold:

- To advise landowners that with a Minister’s Zoning Order (MZO), the City is not the approval authority for determining and approving development plans for these lands and the City’s role is limited to providing input through the Provincial Land and Development Facilitation; and,
- To advise landowners of City Council’s direction to obtain public feedback on private development of these lands including any specific “community benefits” that should be sought through the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator.

The letters are anticipated to be mailed out the week of July 31, 2023. Staff will send a second letter to property owners confirming the date and location of the Open House and special meeting of Planning Committee.

Open House and Special Meeting of Planning Committee

Planning Division staff and the City Clerk’s Office are currently working to determine the location and date of a special meeting of Planning Committee to receive delegations from the public respecting the development of the former Greenbelt Plan areas. As directed by City Council, the meeting will be located in the vicinity of the Book Road Greenbelt Plan removal area in a fully accessible facility.

In addition to the Planning Committee meeting, staff will schedule a separate Open House event prior to the Planning Committee meeting in the Book Road area. The purpose of the Open House is to inform the Public of the Provincial decisions that have lead up to this point, provide an additional opportunity to submit feedback on the City’s priorities respecting any private development proposals of these lands, and to ask questions of City staff. The approach and format of the Open House will be determined through consultation with Public Engagement staff to ensure it meets best engagement practice as much as possible. Also, to guide feedback there will be display panels based on the Ten Directions to Guide Development plus the 11th direction added by City Council that “the City of Hamilton considers agricultural use to be of prime consideration, along with the protection of wetlands and natural heritage features.”

The results of the public feedback and input will be presented at the Special Meeting of Planning Committee.

SUBJECT: Former Greenbelt Area Lands – Engagement of Property Owners and upcoming Open House and special meeting of Planning Committee (City Wide) - Page 3 of 3

Invitations to both the Open House and special meeting of Planning Committee will be provided to local MP's and MPP's as well as the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator. Notice of the Open House and special meeting of Planning Committee will be provided in accordance with the City's Public Notice Policy By-law. Planning Division staff are also working with Communications to advertise the meetings through the City's website and social media.

Website and Online Survey

Staff will be posting information on the upcoming Open House and Special Meeting of Planning Committee along with an FAQ and previous reports on the [Provincial Planning Matters](#) page of the City's website.

In addition, Planning Division and Communications staff will be developing an online survey to receive feedback from Hamilton residents on their priorities for these lands based on display panels that will be provided at the Open House and 10+1 Directions to Guide Development.

Next Steps after Special Meeting of Planning Committee

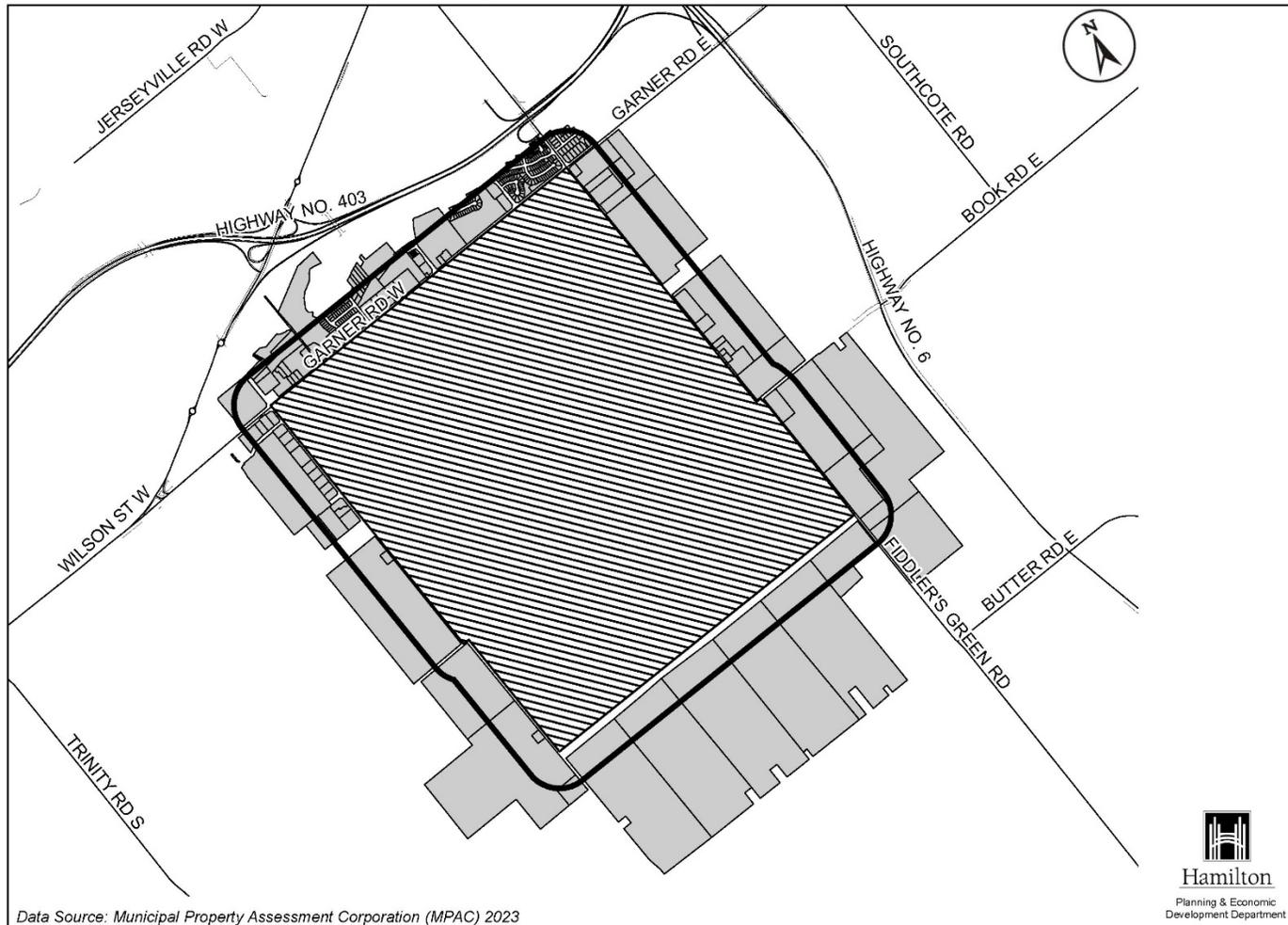
Immediately following the special meeting of Planning Committee, Planning Division staff will compile, review and analyse all public comments received and submit a summary report to City Council.

If you require any further information on the above matter, please contact Steve Robichaud, Director of Planning and Chief Planner by email at Steve.Robichaud@hamilton.ca or at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4281, or, Charlie Toman, Program Lead – Policy Planning & Municipal Comprehensive Review by e-mail at Charlie.Toman@Hamilton.ca or at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5863.

Appendix "A" – Letter Circulation Maps

Book Road Lands

File Name/Number: Former Greenbelt - Schedule A1 - External Properties

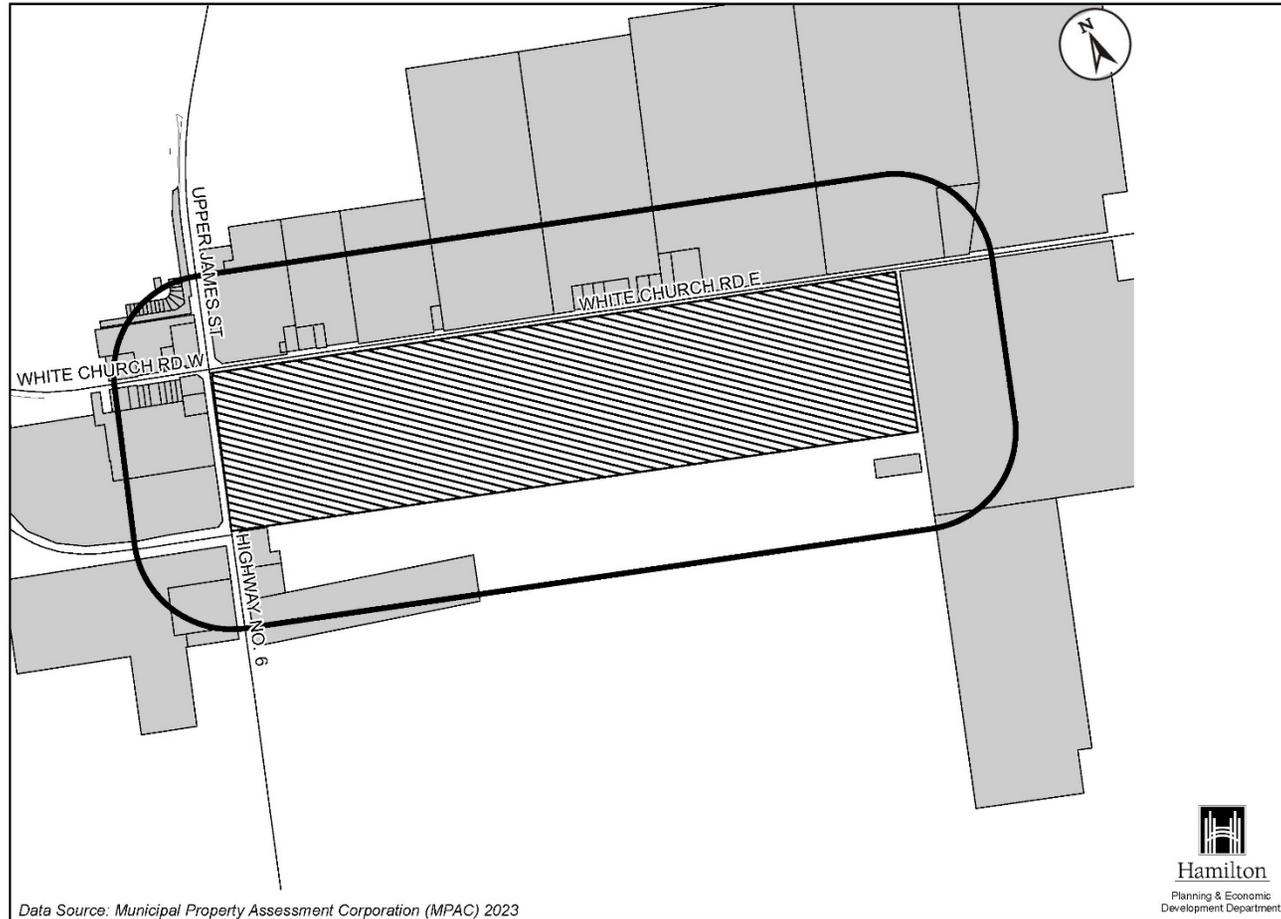


Data Source: Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) 2023



White Church Lands

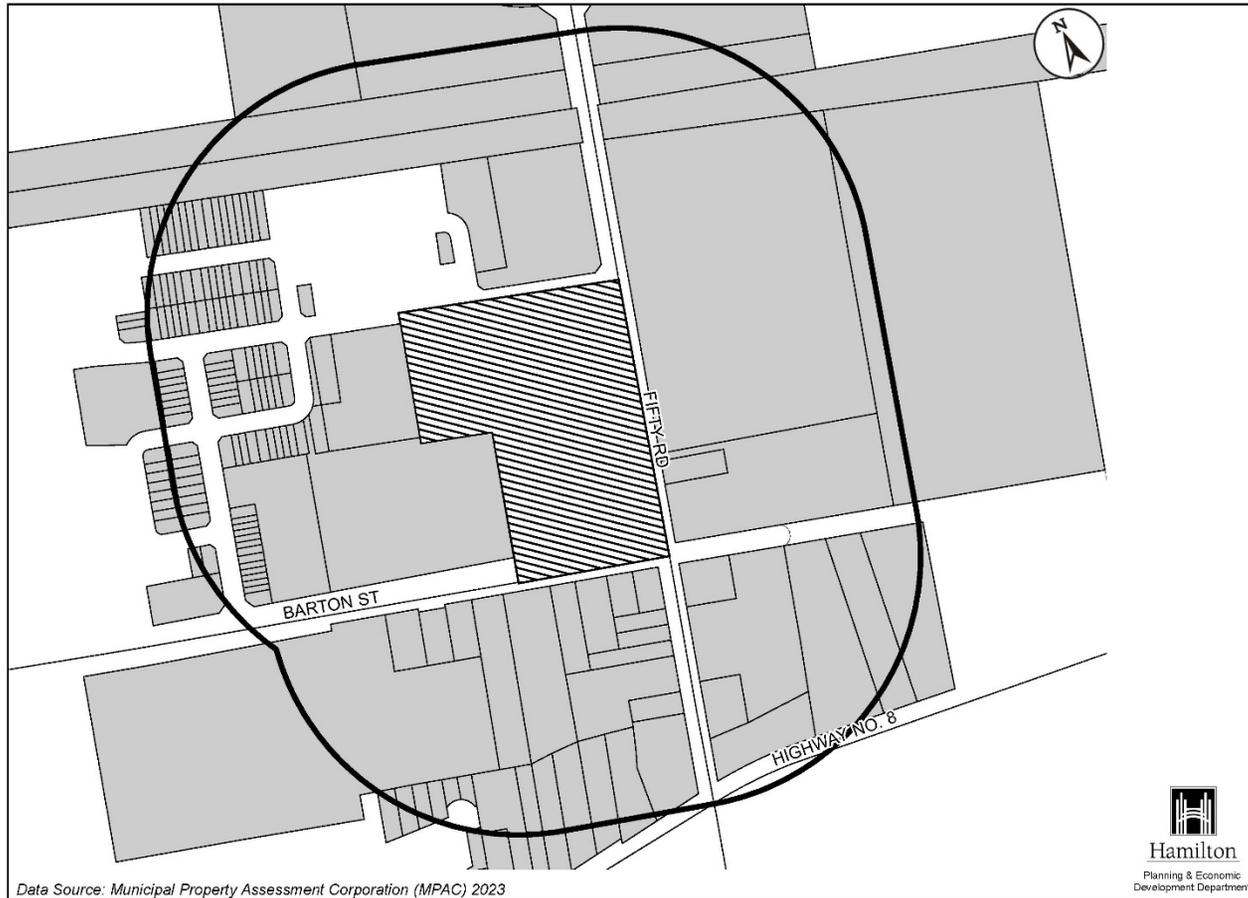
File Name/Number: Former Greenbelt - Schedule A2 - External Properties



Data Source: Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) 2023

Fifty Road Lands

File Name/Number: Former Greenbelt - Schedule A3 - External Properties



Data Source: Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) 2023