

12.XX Dufferin Street and Centre Street Area Specific Policies

12.XX.1 Goals

- 12.XX.1.1. The goal of this Plan is to provide the necessary land use and development policies to guide the evolution of the Dufferin Street and Centre Street intersection, as shown on Map 12.XX.A, to 2031 and beyond, in order to support its transformation into an attractive, pedestrian-friendly and transit-supportive node through the application of a comprehensive and integrated approach to land use planning, incorporating supportive transportation, environmental sustainability and urban design policies, in keeping with the governing Provincial Plans and Policies, the York Region and Vaughan Official Plans and other relevant planning documents of the City of Vaughan Official Plan.

12.XX.2 Land Use

12.XX.2.1. General Provisions:

- a. No building or structure shall exceed the height in storeys indicated on Map 12.XX.A by the number following the letter H.
- b. No development shall exceed the Floor Space Index (FSI) indicated on Map 12.XX.A by the number following the letter D.
- c. The height and densities indicated on Map 12.XX.A are independent maximums in that one maximum may be achieved without achieving the other. Any proposed amendment to the Official Plan to increase the maximum height or density provisions will be evaluated on its merits based on an analysis of the site specific conditions and development context of the application.
- d. Where development areas are characterized by multiple ownerships it is intended that land be assembled to create logical planning units defined by features such as existing or planned roads, parks and open space areas.
- e. Where no height or floor space index is indicated on Map 12.XX.A, the maximum height and density shall be established through a Secondary Plan or Area Specific Policy as contained in Volume 2 of this Plan, where such a Secondary Plan or Area Specific Policy exists, or through the application of the policies of this Plan and VOP 2010.
- f. The development criteria for various building types are set out in subsection 9.2.3. of VOP 2010, subject to the application of the policies contained in this Plan. Any variations from the policies in subsection 9.2.3 and this Plan shall be to the satisfaction of the City, be minor and shall respond to unique conditions or the context of the affected site. Such variations, with the exception of variations to height and or density, will not require a further amendment to the Official Plan provided that they are supported through an Urban Design Brief that has been prepared to the satisfaction of the City. Detailed development standards to implement the policies set out in subsection 9.2.3 and herein, will be provided through the City's Zoning By-law.

12.XX.2.2 Land Use Designations

- a. Mid-Rise Mixed-Use
 - i. The Mid-Rise Mixed Use Area designation shall apply as shown on Map 12.XX.A.
 - ii. The policies guiding the uses permitted and development requirements for the Mid-Rise Mixed-Use designation shall be in accordance with Policy 9.2.2.4. of VOP 2010 except as provided for in this Plan.
- b. Low-Rise Mixed Use
 - iii. The Low-Rise Mixed-Use Area designation shall apply as shown on Map 12.XX.A.
 - iv. The policies guiding the uses permitted and development requirements for the Low-Rise Mixed-Use designation shall be in accordance with Policy 9.2.2.2. of VOP 2010 except as provided for in this Plan.
- c. Low-Rise Residential
 - v. The Low-Rise Residential Area designation shall apply as shown on Map 12.XX.A.
 - vi. The policies governing the uses permitted and development requirements for the Low-Rise residential designation shall be in accordance with Policy 9.2.2.1. of VOP 2010 except as provided for in this Plan.
 - vii. Notwithstanding Policy 9.2.2.1.c) the following additional Building Types are permitted within the area designated Low-Rise Residential in the northeast quadrant of the Plan area:
 - Stacked Townhouses
 - Back to Back Townhouses
 - Low-Rise Buildings

12.XX.3 Further Study Area

- 12.XX.3.1. The Further Study Area designation shall apply as shown on Map 12.XX.A
- 12.XX.3.2. The lands designated Further Study Area shall be subject to the provisions of a Tertiary Plan in accordance with Policy 12.XX.9.5. in the Implementation section of this plan, in the form of an Official Plan Amendment initiated either by the City or the affected landowner(s) if alternative uses and densities are proposed beyond those provided for by the underlying Low Rise Residential designation.
- 12.XX.3.3. A private application for a Tertiary Plan for the lands designated “Further Study Area” will not be considered until the City receives confirmation from the Province of Ontario that such lands have been declared surplus and are available for consideration of non-infrastructure uses. Development in accordance with the underlying Low Rise Residential designation will not require a further Official Plan amendment, but may require a Block Plan or Development Concept Report as part of the application process.

12.XX.4. Sustainable Development

- 12.XX.4.1. All development in this Plan shall have regard for the goals and objectives of the

Green Directions Vaughan – the City’s Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan (Vaughan 2009) and the Sustainable Development policies of VOP 2010. Consideration should also be given to the Living Cities Policies for Planning and Development in the Watersheds of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA 2014), which references the ecosystem regeneration plan for the Don River Watershed.

12.XX.4.2. All applications for development in this Plan shall include a Sustainable Development Report (see Section 9.1.3 of VOP 2010) that describes how the proposed development supports the Official Plan’s objectives regarding environmental sustainability as per Section 9.1.3 “Sustainable Development”. The required Sustainable Development Report shall address at a minimum the following:

- a. Energy efficiency;
- b. Water conservation;
- d. Renewable energy use;
- e. Heat island mitigation;
- f. Sustainable transportation;
- g. Stormwater management (low impact development);
- h. Ecological design (green infrastructure and green buildings);
- i. Solid waste management.

12.XX.4.3. All applications for development shall submit, as a requirement of a complete application, a Sustainability Scoring Tool submission and Sustainability Metrics Summary submission that identifies the sustainability measures in categories that relate to the built environment (i.e. urban form, compact development); mobility; environment/open space; and infrastructure and buildings (e.g. energy efficiency, water conservation). The Sustainability Scoring Tool determines the sustainability score for planning applications.

12.XX.5 Urban Design

12.XX.5.1. Future development in the Dufferin Street and Centre Street Area Specific Plan shall reflect the urban design policies of VOP 2010. It is the objective to create a safe and pedestrian friendly environment featuring attractive built form and public realm that is compatible with the adjacent low-rise residential neighbourhoods, and consistent with its “gateway” setting and function as a transit station area.

12.XX.5.1. The following Area Specific guidelines are provided to shape the urban design and architectural character of the Plan area:

- a. Buildings shall have active facades including primary windows and entrances facing the public streets
- b. Buildings fronting on public streets shall not be separated from the street by either parking areas or drive aisles
- c. All development shall respect and protect the existing scale and character of the adjacent low-rise residential neighbourhoods by minimizing visual, noise, light, privacy and shadow impacts, and shall be subject to the following policies
 - i. A minimum yard requirement of 7.5 metres is required for any

development abutting an existing property designated Low-Rise Residential;

- ii. In addition to the minimum yard requirement, a minimum 3 metre Landscaped Buffer consisting of a minimum double row of trees, within a minimum yard of 7.5 metres, is required extending for the entire length of the property line abutting an existing Low-Rise Residential Property;
 - iii. Access to parking, loading and servicing areas shall be integrated into buildings, and be oriented to minimize visual, noise and light impacts on abutting public spaces and existing Low-Rise Residential properties;
 - iv. The elevations of new buildings adjacent to existing Low-Rise Residential Properties should be designed in a complementary residential form and character and shall ensure minimal overlook into existing private backyards;
 - v. Uses or functions that generate traffic and noise at late hours shall be directed away from locations that abut a property designated Low-Rise Residential; and
 - vi. Lighting plans, designs and fixtures shall ensure minimal environmental light pollution in order to minimize impacts on abutting Low-Rise Residential properties.
- d. Reverse lot development (residential and/or commercial) is not permitted along Centre Street or Dufferin Street;
 - e. Large, blank walls and repetitive facades shall be avoided. Variation and animation in façade treatments may be achieved through building elements and detailing in features such as balconies, windows, porches, railings, entrances and awnings and attractive signage, where appropriate;
 - f. Development will consolidate driveways onto public streets to maximize the efficiency of the road network and create efficient development blocks;
 - g. Surface parking, where permitted, shall be located in the interior of development blocks, and be screened by buildings. Off-street parking shall not be located between the building and any public street;
 - h. Any surface parking areas shall be shaded with trees in accordance with the City of Vaughan Parking Design Guidelines;
 - i. Where the grade changes over the length or width of a site, adequate grade relationships should be maintained, retaining walls adjacent to property lines are discouraged, and entrances to ground floor retail should be flush with the public sidewalk;
 - j. Individual front-accessed garages from a public street for grade related residential units shall not protrude beyond the main front building wall, and shall not occupy more than 50 percent of the width of the building or unit frontage;
 - k. Service and loading areas are not permitted adjacent to public streets and must be effectively screened and fully enclosed;
 - l. Access to underground parking shall be appropriately integrated into the buildings it serves and be located so as to minimize the physical and visual impact on public sidewalks and open spaces;

- m. Garbage from residential and commercial uses will be stored within the originating building;
- n. Roof top heating, ventilation, air conditioning and mechanical equipment for new buildings shall be located behind a parapet wall to screen abutting properties and the public realm from potential noise and visual impacts;
- o. Architectural Control Guidelines and detailed Urban Design Guidelines may be required from development applicants, which address both built form and public realm considerations to the satisfaction of the City and York Region, where abutting or encroaching on a Regional road;
- p. The following area-specific policies shall apply:
- i. Development density shall be concentrated close to the Dufferin/Centre Street intersection, and along the frontages of Dufferin Street and Centre Street;
 - ii. Corner sites should be defined by high quality urban and architectural design and contribute to the creation of a Dufferin-Centre “Gateway”;
 - iii. Maximum building heights shall provide for the tallest buildings, to be located at intersection locations, adjacent to transit stations, and such buildings shall be designed to allow stepping down of the heights towards adjacent Low-Rise Residential properties. The minimum height for buildings at gateway locations shall be two-storeys; and
 - iv. Pedestrian and vehicle crossings at the key intersection shall be well defined and designed to contribute to an attractive public realm and streetscape.
- q. In order to ensure that the arterial street frontages provide for a consistent street wall, and an attractive public realm with complimentary building massing, the following policies shall apply:
- i. The setback for all non-grade related residential uses is 3.0 metres from any lot line fronting a public street. A minimum of 80 percent of the main front wall, and a minimum of 60 percent of the exterior sidewall of the proposed building shall be on the setback;
 - ii. The setback for all grade-related residential should be between 3.0 and 4.5 metres.
 - iii. Permanent structural components of any building (colonnades and balconies) are not permitted to encroach into the defined public realm beyond the setback. The following encroachments into the defined public realm, beyond the setback may be permitted subject to approval of an appropriate permit/agreement by the City or York Region:
 - Awnings with a minimum clearance of 2.4 metres in height;
 - Outdoor cafés and seating for restaurants with temporary installed furniture and equipment;
 - Portable planters to delineate outdoor café and restaurant seating; and,

- Semi-permanent structures, including perpendicular signage attached to the building in accordance with the City of Vaughan's Sign By-Laws;
- iv. The amount of any permitted encroachment for non-residential buildings, whether temporary or permanent, shall be established by the City on a site-by-site basis;
- v. Buildings up to six (6) storeys or 22 metres in height, whichever is less, are subject to a minimum front and exterior side yard step back of 1.5 metres at the third or fourth storey;
- vi. Buildings greater than six (6) storeys or 22 metres and up to and including eight (8) storeys or 28 metres in height, whichever is less, are subject to:
- A minimum front and exterior side yard step back of 3.0 metres at the third or fourth storey;
 - For properties fronting on Centre Street and/or Dufferin Street and/or public open spaces that are wider than 30 metres, this step back may be provided at the fifth or sixth storey;
 - A maximum building length of 80 metres for levels of the building above the sixth storey or 22 metres that face a public street or open space; and,
 - A minimum facing separation distance of 20 metres between adjacent buildings; and,
- vii. Buildings greater than 8 storeys or 28 metres in height, whichever is less, are subject to:
- A minimum frontage of 50 metres, which may be adjusted to accommodate situations where a land assembly has been required to create logical planning units;
 - A minimum front and exterior side yard step back of 3.0 metres;
 - A minimum separation distance of 25 metres between the levels above the podium of adjacent buildings.
- 12.XX.5.2. In addition to the policies of this Plan, the implementing zoning by-law may establish specific requirements related to building height and massing, including angular planes, setbacks and step backs.
- 12.XX.5.3. Public Squares or publicly accessible private outdoor amenity space shall be designed as integrated parts of a greater multi-modal transportation network and allow for ground floor programming.
- 12.XX.5.4. All applications for development in this Plan area may be subject to review by the City's Design Review Panel in accordance with its mandate.

12.XX.6 The Fisherville Creek Channel

- 12.XX.6.1. The Fisherville Creek channel traverses the subject lands as shown on Map 12.XX.A. Prior to the development/redevelopment of adjacent properties, the applicant shall develop a rehabilitation plan and an edge management plan to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with the TRCA. The rehabilitation plan may include, but is not limited to: flood remediation, improving riparian cover, improving public access and viewing opportunities around the creek, and controlling invasive species. Such plans shall be approved by the pertinent authorities and be implemented through the development process;
- 12.XX.6.2. The Fisherville Creek channel shall remain public lands.
- 12.XX.6.3. Where appropriate, the Fisherville Creek channel shall be integrated into the active pedestrian and cycling network, either as a complement to an adjacent public road or as part of a dedicated active transportation system.
- 12.XX.6.4. Site alterations in proximity to Fisherville Creek Channel will require natural heritage and engineering studies (i.e., floodplain analysis) to evaluate potential flood risk and the need for infrastructure improvements. The Fisherville Creek Channel is within the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) regulation limit, therefore the TRCA shall be consulted regarding study and permitting requirements.

12.XX.7 The Transportation and Street Network

- 12.XX.7.1. It is the intent of this Plan to establish a highly connected and permeable network of local streets that accommodate vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists and promotes pedestrian connectivity to the transit facilities serving this Plan. The network will be secured through the Development Review process, including where appropriate, through the preparation of Development Concept Reports or through the Block Plan approval process, as specified in the Implementation Section of this Plan.
- 12XX.7.2. Continue to monitor road network performance by requiring the submission of a Transportation Impact Study, satisfactory to the pertinent road authorities, for each development application, assessing the effects on the road network and potential improvements that may be warranted.
- 12XX.7.3. Undertake measures that will target a 50% modal split for residents and employees within the Plan area by 2031, where a minimum of 50% of trips generated take place through modes other than the private automobile, such as transit or active modes, such as biking and walking.
- 12XX.7.4. All development applications will be required to submit a Transportation Demand Management Plan to support the objective of attaining 50% modal split by 2031. Such measures will be implemented by way of the implementing zoning by-law or by agreement with the City or other pertinent authority.
- 12.XX.7.5. Sharing of parking will be encouraged within this Plan, subject to evaluation by the City.
- 12.XX.7.6. Within the Plan area, surface parking is discouraged. Underground parking and structured parking shall be encouraged. Where surface parking is provided it shall not be located in the yard facing a public street.

- 12.XX.7.7. Where parking structures are permitted, the frontages shall predominately consist of *retail* uses or other active uses that animate the street.
- 12.XX.7.8. The design and materiality of parking structures shall be of a high quality and in keeping with adjacent buildings and be consistent with the City of Vaughan's Parking Design Guidelines including the provision of electric vehicle recharging stations and accommodation of smaller fuel efficient vehicles and bicycles.
- 12.XX.7.9. Pursuant to policy 4.3.2 of the Official Plan, reduced parking requirements shall be promoted within this Plan, based on its proximity to a higher order transit service. The specific requirements will be reflected in the implementing zoning by-law, which may include the sue of maximum parking requirements.
- 12.XX.7.10. Map 12.XX.A identifies the potential public local street network and intersection points that are intended to link the four quadrants together visually and, where possible, physically and to improve vehicular movement throughout this Plan, contingent on the future development potential of the southern quadrants. The public street network is intended to optimize connectivity while providing flexibility for a range of development scenarios by supporting the creation of logical planning units that will provide for attractive development commensurate with the design and development policies of this Plan. Minor modifications to the location and alignment of the planned public local street network are permitted without amendment to this Plan.
- 12.XX.7.11 The location and design of public roads and private driveway connections to arterial roads shall be subject to the approval of York Region, including the determination of whether such intersections may be all way and signalized or limited to a right-in right out condition.
- 12.XX.7.12 Where road and driveway connections to the Reginal roads are subject to the Ministry of Transportation's Corridor Control regulations all such intersections shall be approved by the Ministry.

12.XX.8 Parks, Landscape Buffers and Public Squares

- 12.XX.8.1. The City shall promote open space features as key aesthetic and functional components that complement adjacent developments.
- 12.XX.8.2. The open space system within this Plan should be focused on an interconnected system of Parks, Landscaped Buffers and Public Squares that are safe, inviting and interactive spaces. A high standard of hard and soft landscaping shall be required and be maintained in a healthy condition.
- 12.XX.8.3. Parks are for both passive and active recreational activities. They serve as important amenities for residents and employees. The scale and programming of the parks will hinge on a variety of factors such as adjacent land uses, densities and local needs.
- 12.XX.8.4. Map 12.XX.A. identifies the conceptual location for new Parks, Landscaped Buffers and Public Squares within this Plan. Minor modifications to the location of planned Parks, Landscaped Buffers and Public Squares are permitted without amendment to this Plan.
- 12.XX.8.5. Parks shall be conveyed in accordance with VOP 2010 policy 7.3.3.2. Lands to be conveyed for park purposes shall be located as generally shown as "Park" on Map 12.XX.A as it applies to the northeastern quadrant or "Potential Park" in the southern

quadrants, should development occur.

- 12.XX.8.6 The following shall not count for parkland dedication:
- a. Private outdoor Amenity space;
 - b. Landscape buffers;
 - c. Natural Heritage System and associated buffers; and
 - d. Lands to be used for stormwater management purposes and associated buffers;
- 12.XX.8.7. Suitably sized and located Parks and Public Squares resulting from the preparation of a Tertiary Plan for the southern quadrants shall be conveyed to the City as a condition of approval of draft plans of subdivision or site plan approval to ensure that the long term passive and active recreational needs of the local residents and employees are accommodated. Should the southern quadrants develop in accordance with the underlying Low Rise Residential designation, then the required park area will be established through the Development Review process
- 12.XX.8.8. Landscaped Buffers are linear green open spaces that serve to provide an appealing and “soft” transitional interface between new development areas and the rearyards of existing low-rise homes in adjacent neighbourhoods. They can also assist in mitigating any potential visual impacts associated with headlights, loading and parking areas. The scale and extent of these open spaces will vary being approximately 4.0 metres wide and may consist of trees, shrubs, planting beds, drainage swales and pedestrian pathways.
- 12.XX.8.9. Public Squares serve as focal points for the Dufferin Street and Centre Street area. Public Squares are designed at a level of service that could accommodate significant pedestrian traffic and may be used to accommodate community events and activities that attract the public. Public Squares function best when they are framed by highly animated uses such as shops, restaurants and cafes, and when consideration is given to the microclimate conditions to ensure comfortable use.
- 12.XX.8.10. Public Squares will be designed in accordance with the provisions of Official Plan policy 7.3.2.5. In addition the following development criteria and guidelines shall apply:
- a. Public Squares shall be a minimum of 0.2 hectares in accordance with the provisions of Section 7.3.2.6 of VOP 2010;
 - b. Abutting development shall be designed in coordination with the Public Square to ensure that an integrated design approach is adopted towards built form, pedestrian connections, maintenance and operations requirements, and ground floor programming;
 - c. Streetscapes along the street right-of-way that abut a park should be designed to reinforce a high-quality, formalized relationship between the open space and its adjacent land uses;
 - d. Hard and soft landscape elements and features within the Public Square shall be designed to define and articulate activity areas, such as circulation routes, entry points and seating and gathering areas;
 - e. Buildings should front onto the Public Square to create built form edges along the public space;

- f. Landscaping along the street frontage should include high canopy street trees and be complementary to the treatment provided on both sides of the street;
 - g. Entry/access points should be located conveniently and incorporate civic design themes;
- 12.XX.8.11. Private outdoor amenity space shall be built and maintained by the landowner, and a public access easement provided in favour of the City shall ensure that the space is open and accessible to the public at all times, or as identified in the easement agreement. Private outdoor amenity space shall not count toward parkland dedication.

12.XX.9 Implementation

12.XX.9.1. This Plan shall be read in conjunction with all of the relevant policies of the Vaughan Official Plan 2010. Where there is a conflict between a policy in this Plan, and a policy in Volume 1 of VOP 2010, the policy in this Plan shall prevail.

12.XX.9.2 This Plan will be implemented using some or all of the following, as provided for under the Planning Act and the VOP 2010:

- a. The approval of individual draft plans of subdivision/condominium and part lot control exemptions;
- b. The enactment of implementing Zoning By-laws;
- c. The registration of Site Plan Agreements;
- d. The use of the Holding Symbol "H";
- e. The dedication of parkland or cash-in-lieu of parkland;
- f. The bonusing provisions for increases in height and density under Section 37 of the Planning Act;
- g. The use of powers and incentives enabled by a Community Improvement Plan; and,
- h. The use of development agreements registered on title to the satisfaction of the City.

12.XX.9.3. To facilitate a coordinated phasing approach to development within this Plan, the requirement for a Development Concept Report as outlined in policy 10.1.1.7. of the Vaughan Official Plan 2010 apply.

12.XX.9.4 Through the development review process the City may identify areas that will be subject to a scoped Block Plan process. The requirements for a Block Plan, as outlined in policies 10.1.1.15. and 10.1.16. of VOP 2010, shall apply.

12.XX.9.5 Prior to the development or redevelopment of the areas designated Further Study Area, beyond the level of development permitted by the underlying Low Rise Residential designation, a Tertiary Plan in the form of an Official Plan amendment, shall be completed. The intent of the Tertiary Plan is to establish the appropriate land use designations, permitted uses and building types and required parkland. In addition to the underlying Policies 10.1.1.3 and 10.1.1.4 of VOP 2010, the Tertiary Plan will address, but is not limited to, the following policy considerations:

- a. A traffic study to establish the foundation for the street and block patterns including a potential full movement signalized intersection on Dufferin

Street on the southern edge of this plan and to examine road network functionality and capacity limits;

- b. Identification of the land-use designations, building heights and densities compatible with adjacent uses with such densities being influenced by the capacity of the road network and transit services;
- c. Built-form, urban design and public realm policies to shape the character of development;
- d. The determination of the park, open space and public square requirements consistent with Section 7.3 of VOP 2010 and the recommendations of the Active Together Master Plan;
- e. To confirm the non-residential portion of the land use mix and strategies, including, where appropriate, the provision of retail uses, office and service uses;
- f. Determination of the active transportation network, including provisions for walking and cycling within the Tertiary Plan area connecting to the Viva Rapid Transit and other transit services, and local community facilities and recreation spaces;
- g. Servicing requirements for the Tertiary Plan area including, but not limited to the consideration of the adequacy of the stormwater management and drainage system and the need for any necessary remediation measures;
- h. To provide for the protection and enhancement of the Natural Heritage Network, including any environmental reporting as required through Section 3.3.4 of the Official Plan;
- i. Community Impact Study to provide recommendations for the provision of community services and, including educational, social, health, arts, culture and recreation facilities;
- j. Provision of sustainable development measures consistent with Section 9.1.3 of the Official Plan and the City's Sustainability Metrics; and
- k. The identification of any policies required to ensure the orderly phasing of development.

Map 12. XX.A: Dufferin Street and Centre Street Intersection, Land-Use, Density, Building Heights and Street Network Plan

