



STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report No: AD 2023-06

September 21, 2023

From: Sarah Huskinson, Chief Administrative Officer

RE: Glengarry Trails Zoning Change

Recommended Motion:

THAT Council of the Township of North Glengarry directs staff to proceed with changing the Official Plan designation on Kenyon Concession 2, Lots 14, 15, 16 & 17, Part of lots 7 to 12 to Magor Open Space from Rural to preserve the North Glengarry Trails system.

Background / Analysis:

In May of this year, Richard Kerr from the Friends of the Glengarry Trails Association attended a Council meeting as a delegation to voice his concerns regarding preserving the North Glengarry Trails system, located west of Alexandria. His concerns were that current or future Councils may decide to sell the land where the current trails are located, thereby closing off the trail network. The Friends of the Glengarry have a vested interest, as do local residents, and Council, in safeguarding the trail systems and keeping them open to public access.

Following the meeting, Staff met internally and contacted the County of SDG Planning Director, Peter Young, to discuss the matter. The current Official Plan (and zoning) for the Township owned land used by the trail network is Rural. In discussions it was determined that the only option for the Township at this time to assist in preserving the trail network would be to change the Official Plan to Major Open Space. This type of OP designation prohibits residential development, which would reduce the probability of the land being sold for development.

Alternatives:

Option 1: Council directs staff to move forward with changing the Official Plan designation on the land owned by the Township which is currently used for the Glengarry Trails network.

Option 2: Council does not direct staff and leaves the Official Plan designation as rural.

Financial Implications:

None

Attachments & Relevant Legislation:

Trails Mapping and Official Plan Designation

Others Consulted:

Richard Kerr, Friends of the Glengarry Trails Association

Peter Young, Director of Planning and Economic Development Services for SDG Counties

Jacob Rheaume, Director of Planning, Building and By-law

Reviewed and Approved by:
Sarah Huskinson, CAO/Clerk