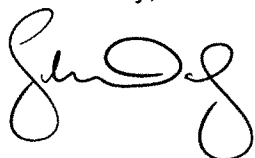


**AMENDMENT NO. 6  
OF THE OFFICIAL PLAN  
FOR THE  
COUNTY OF SIMCOE  
Age-Friendly Policies**

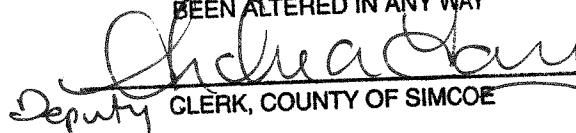
**CERTIFIED** that the attached is a true copy of Official Plan Amendment No. 6 as adopted and passed by By-law No. 6883 by the Council of the Corporation of the County of Simcoe on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.



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**County Clerk**

THIS PHOTOCOPY IS A TRUE COPY OF  
THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT WHICH HAS NOT  
BEEN ALTERED IN ANY WAY



**Deputy CLERK, COUNTY OF SIMCOE**

Andrea Fay, Deputy Clerk  
A Commissioner, etc.,...  
for the Corporation of the  
County of Simcoe

**OFFICIAL PLAN  
FOR  
THE COUNTY OF SIMCOE  
OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 6**

The attached explanatory text constitutes Amendment No. 6 to the Official Plan for the County of Simcoe.

This amendment was prepared and adopted by the Council of The Corporation of the County of Simcoe by By-law No. 6883 in accordance with Sections 17 and 21 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, c.P.13, as amended, on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021.



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**Warden**



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**County Clerk**

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 6  
TO THE OFFICIAL PLAN  
FOR THE COUNTY OF SIMCOE  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<b><u>THE CONSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT</u></b> .....	5
<b><u>PART A - THE PREAMBLE</u></b> .....	6
PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT.....	6
LANDS SUBJECT TO THE AMENDMENT .....	6
BASIS OF THE AMENDMENT .....	6
<b><u>PART B - THE AMENDMENT</u></b> .....	7
1. INTRODUCTION.....	7
2. DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT.....	7
3. IMPLEMENTATION AND INTERPRETATION .....	11

## **THE CONSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT**

The following Amendment to the Official Plan for the County of Simcoe consists of two parts.

**PART A – THE PREAMBLE** consists of the purpose, location and basis for the Amendment and does not constitute part of the actual Amendment.

**PART B – THE AMENDMENT** sets out the actual Amendment along with the specific policies to be added or modified to the County of Simcoe Official Plan.

## **PART A - THE PREAMBLE**

### **TITLE**

The title of this Amendment is "Official Plan Amendment No. 6 to the Official Plan for the County of Simcoe", herein referred to as Amendment No. 6.

### **PURPOSE**

The Amendment proposes to amend various sections throughout the Official Plan including the following:

1. Adding additional goals to section 1.3
2. Adding demographic information specific to older persons to sections 2.3 and 2.4
3. Enhancing policy language throughout the Plan to be specifically inclusive of all people
4. Adding an additional objective to section 3.5
5. Adding additional encouragement policies to section 3.5.27 related to downtown settlements
6. Adding enhanced policy language throughout section 4 regarding Transportation
7. Adding an additional policy to section 4.3.2 to encourage local municipalities to develop supportive age-friendly policies related to affordable housing within their official plans
8. Adding a new section 4.10 specific to Age-Friendly Planning
9. Adding new definitions:
  - b. Age-Friendly
  - c. Aging in Place
  - d. Family of Services
  - e. Healthy Aging
  - f. Micro-transit

### **LOCATION**

Official Plan Amendment No. 6 is a textual amendment and the policies apply to all lands located within the County of Simcoe.

### **BASIS**

The County of Simcoe adopted a Positive Aging Strategy in 2017 that provides the framework for the County's age-friendly principles. Guided by the Strategy, the County is working to further these principles by implementing age-friendly policies through this County Official Plan Amendment.

As part of this County Official Plan Amendment, the County Official Plan is being modified to incorporate age-friendly principles into a regional policy framework to assist our local municipalities in introducing land-use policies to support our senior populations, including the provision of housing and services to meet their needs.

As there was an apparent need to amend the County policies to deal with age-friendly principles, a review of County policies and potential appropriate amendments were sought.

## PART B - THE AMENDMENT

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Part B – The Amendment, which includes text modifications, constitute Amendment No. 6 to the Official Plan for the County of Simcoe.

### 2.0 DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT

The County of Simcoe Official Plan is amended as follows:

- a) A new Section '4.10 Age-Friendly Planning' is added to the Table of Contents with remaining sections renumbered accordingly.
- b) The following bullet points are added to Section 1.3 of the Official Plan:
  - *To positively influence the creation of built environments within the County for people of all ages and abilities, which serve to establish complete healthy communities and enhance the quality of life for our residents;*
  - *To promote socially and physically accessible rural and urban communities;*
- c) Section 2.3 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words "*There is a higher than average percentage of older persons residing in the County than the Provincial and National averages.*" After the words "*well above the permanent population*".
- d) Section 2.4 of the Official Plan is amended as follows:
  - I. By adding the words "*and aging demographics across the County*" after the words "*are growing in concert with population growth*"; and,
  - II. By adding the words "*The movement of people and goods is essential to the economic and social well-being in the County*" after the new words noted above "*and aging demographics across the County*".
- e) Section 3.2.6 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words "*for people of all ages and abilities*" after the words "*transportation choices and usage*".
- f) Section 3.2.12 of the Official Plan is amended as follows:
  - I. By amending subsection 3.2.12 a) by deleting the words "*to enable people to live, work and play in close proximity*" from this subsection,
  - II. By adding a new subsection 3.2.12 b) with the words "*Provides an integrated composition of land use designations that considers how to enable people of all ages and abilities to safely and independently live, work and play in close proximity*"; and,
  - III. By renumbering the remaining subsections accordingly.
- g) A new Section 3.5.5 is added to the Official Plan as follows and the remaining sections are renumbered and references to renumbered sections are updated to reflect new policy numbering:
  - 3.5.5 *To promote healthy, complete, and accessible urban and rural communities that are in proximity to amenities, support services, and transit.*

- h) Section 3.5.7 of the Official Plan is amended as follows:
- I. By adding the word *“inclusive”* after the words *“standards that create attractive”*; and,
  - II. By adding the words *“for residents of all ages and abilities”* after the words *“and vibrant places”*.
- i) Section 3.5.9 of the Official Plan is amended by adding *“for all residents as their needs change throughout their lives”* after the words *“local stores and services”*.
- j) The following bullet points are added to Section 3.5.27 of the Official Plan:
- *Encouragement of community support services and health care services*
  - *Encouragement of safe and healthy urban food systems*
  - *Encouragement of opportunities for affordable and reliable transit access within communities and between communities for people of all ages and all abilities.*
- k) Section 3.5.31 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words *“for residents of all ages and all incomes”* after the words *“meet a variety of housing needs”*.
- l) Section 4.1.7 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words *“recognizing the needs and abilities of all residents”* after the words *“key services, and infrastructure”*.
- m) A new Section 4.3.2 is added to the Official Plan as follows and the remaining sections are renumbered accordingly:
- 4.3.2 *Local municipalities are encouraged to have regard for Simcoe County’s 10-year Affordable Housing and Homelessness Prevention Strategy (2014-2024) when setting targets in their local municipal official plan. This strategy outlines steps for the development and implementation of creative solutions for increasing affordable housing and the range of choices for all residents in Simcoe County.*
- n) A new Section 4.3.3 is added to the Official Plan as follows and the remaining sections are renumbered accordingly:
- 4.3.3 *The County encourages the local municipalities to develop policies in their official plans to provide supportive communities for residents to age in place with integration of affordable and age-friendly housing, community facilities and support services that are suitable to meet the needs of all people.*
- o) Section 4.8 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the word *“accessible”* after the words *“policies relate to a comprehensive”*.
- p) Section 4.8.1 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words *“where feasible”* after the words *“cyclists in road design”*.
- q) Section 4.8.2 of the Official Plan is amended as follows:
- I. By adding the word *“micro-transit”* after the words *“Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies”*; and,
  - II. By adding the words *“which includes considering the needs of people of all ages*

*and abilities*” after the words *“automobile for all users”*.

- r) Section 4.8.4 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words *“aging in place”* after the words *“supports healthy living”*.
- s) Section 4.8.6 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words *“walking, cycling”* after the words *“particular prioritizing transit”*.
- t) Section 4.8.13 of the Official Plan is amended as follows:
  - I. By adding the words *“age-friendly signage and clearly marked”* after the words *“Providing guidelines for”* in subsection 4.8.13 e); and,
  - II. By adding a new subsection 4.8.13 h) which states *“Ensuring that sidewalks, trails and active transportation infrastructure are designed with consideration for the needs of all ages.”*
- u) The following bullet point is added to Section 4.8.53 of the Official Plan:
  - *Supporting micro-transit forms of demand-responsive transport*
- v) Section 4.8.54 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words *“and age-friendly considerations for parking standards”* after the words *“providing carpool spaces”*.
- w) Section 4.8.57 of the Official Plan is amended by adding the words *“using the family of services principles”* after the words *“Simcoe area residents”*.
- x) Section 4.8.58 of the Official Plan is amended by adding a new subsection 4.8.58 g) which states *“The role in service stop standards in the design of Transit links, bus stops and shelters, in consideration of the needs for all ages and abilities, and in compliance with the Accessibility for Ontario Disabilities Act (AODA)”*.
- y) Subsection 4.8.60 a) of the Official Plan is amended as follows:
  - I. By adding the words *“with accessible surfaces”* after the words *“trails and bicycle facilities”*; and,
  - II. By adding the words *“while considering users of all ages and abilities”* after the words *“transit nodes and/or routes”*.
- z) A new Section 4.10 – Age Friendly Policies is added to the Official Plan as follows with remaining sections renumbered accordingly:

#### **4.10 Age-Friendly Planning**

***The policies of this Section relate to age-friendly planning practices and their relationship to land use.***

##### *Objectives*

- 4.10.1 *To build an Age-Friendly Simcoe County by valuing and supporting older persons in our communities.*



4.10.2 *To celebrate and support diversity, refute ageism and reduce inequalities by recognizing older persons' contributions to our region.*

*Policies*

4.10.3 *The County encourages the provision of age-friendly social and physical environments, including services and programs, to enhance the independence and quality of life for all people.*

4.10.4 *The County encourages land use decisions to consider accessible, inclusive, and age-friendly communities.*

4.10.5 *The County will work with local municipalities to identify gaps and opportunities to better support people of all ages and abilities within our communities.*

4.10.6 *The County encourages the local municipalities to develop policies in their official plans to support health, wellness and security for all residents so that they can remain in their communities as long as possible.*

4.10.7 *The County encourages local municipalities to develop policies in their official plans to support residents to age in place within their mixed communities, integrating affordable and age-friendly housing, community facilities and support services.*

4.10.8 *The County will create a 'Healthy Development Framework Tool', which may be implemented in full or in part by local municipalities through their development application process, to assess the health impacts of land-use development in order to support independent, healthy aging for all residents, through a standardized approach.*

4.10.9 *The County encourages the use of universal design guidelines and best practices to inform local municipalities of evidence-based elements and standards for various components of the built environment including age-friendly policies to assist in creating healthier and safer communities.*

4.10.10 *The County will ensure that County Transit programs consider age-friendly multi-modal elements in terms of accessibility, design, proximity and geographic location.*

4.10.11 *The County promotes innovative ideas to plan for older persons in both rural and urban communities within the County.*

4.10.12 *The County recognizes that long-term care homes are a connection point between older persons residing in the county and services that are available in the broader community. The County encourages initiatives such as food markets and other partnerships, which increase the distribution of, and access to, fresh, healthy, and affordable food for people of all ages and all incomes.*

aa) Section 5.8 is amended by adding new definitions as follows:

- i. **AGE-FRIENDLY** means: A concept that utilizes policies, services and structures related to an inclusive and accessible physical and social environment, which are

*designed to support and promote “healthy aging” – that is, to live in a secure environment, enjoy good health and continue to participate fully in society.*

- II. **AGING IN PLACE** means: *The ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level.*
- III. **FAMILY OF SERVICES** means: *The integration of conventional transit services with specialized/micro-transit to promote independence, inclusion, integration and self-sufficiency in the customer.*
- IV. **HEALTHY AGING** means: *The opportunity for older persons to live in a secure environment, enjoy good health and continue to be engaged both socially and physically in society, regardless of age, income, or ability level.*
- V. **MICRO-TRANSIT** means: *A form of demand-responsive transport service which offers flexible routing and/or flexible scheduling of minibus vehicles. Micro-transit providers build routes so as to match demand and supply and extend the efficiency and accessibility of the transit service.*

### **3.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND INTERPRETATION**

The provisions of the Official Plan for the County of Simcoe, as amended from time to time, regarding the implementation and interpretation of that Plan shall apply in regard to this Amendment.