

## Wilmot Council Recommends Approval of Significant Industrial Subdivisions

**Baden, ON – Tuesday, February 23, 2021** – Last evening, Township of Wilmot Council formally recommended the approval of two industrial plans of subdivisions, collectively referred to as the Wilmot Employment Lands.

"Council was pleased to endorse these recommendations for approval last evening," said Wilmot Township Mayor Les Armstrong. "The Wilmot Employment Lands are important to the overall future economic health of our Township and the greater Region of Waterloo," he continued, "and we are confident that they will not only provide expanded opportunities for our residents to work in Wilmot, but it will help to maintain a healthy tax base, and ensure Wilmot remains a balanced and complete community."

"Located along Highway 7 & 8, between New Hamburg and Baden, these lands provide a total of 38 ha (94 ac) of industrial and light industrial zoned lands which have the potential to provide for the construction of over 2 million square feet of floor space," said Harold O'Krafka, Wilmot's Director of Development Services.

"It is our hope, and expectation, that the approval of these developments in this prime location will make Wilmot a preferred choice in Waterloo Region for prestige employment land uses in the coming years," added Andrew Martin, Manager of Planning and Economic Development.

Consideration of the plans also provides the opportunity for future expansions of Wilmot's recreational and active transportation networks with developers donating over 11 ha (27 ac) of forests to Wilmot Township. In addition to future recreational trails, developments will also include the construction of a multi-use boulevard trail linking the residents of New Hamburg directly to the Wilmot Recreation Complex.

"Negotiating the generous donation of these forested lands, well in excess of minimum Planning Act requirements, is a fundamental component of Wilmot's longstanding approach to development planning and is representative of the Township's commitment to preservation and enhancement of the natural environment through public ownership of significant natural features," said O'Krafka.

"Development of the employment lands includes significant infrastructure investments in roads, trails, sewers, stormwater treatment and the drinking water system. This development strengthens core infrastructure, improves water quality and provides for opportunities to enhance overall sewer system performance benefitting the communities of Baden and New Hamburg for years to come," concluded Jeff Molenhuis, Director of Public Works and Engineering.

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