

Subject: Official Plan Monitoring – 2022 Draft Baseline Report

File Number: ACS2024-PDB-PS-0080

Report to Planning and Housing Committee on 3 July 2024

**Submitted on June 21, 2024 by Derrick Moodie, Director, Planning Services,
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Ward: Citywide

Objet : Rapport référentiel 2022 sur la surveillance du Plan officiel

Dossier : ACS2024-PDB-PS-0080

Rapport au Comité de l'urbanisme et du logement

le 3 juillet 2024

**Soumis le 21 juin 2024 par Derrick Moodie, Directeur, Services de la planification,
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Quartier : À l'échelle de la ville

REPORT RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Planning and Housing Committee receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATION(S) DU RAPPORT

**Que le Comité de la planification et du logement prenne connaissance de ce
rapport pour information.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Official Plan (OP) Monitoring Report is a new information report that tracks specific data indicators to monitor the effectiveness of the OP's policies and assess whether the City is on track to meeting its ambitious goals and objectives. Data indicators were selected based on criteria including future reportability. Two types of indicators are included: target indicators for those that are directly measurable against a target; and trend indicators that measure the progress direction towards a goal or objective. The 2022 report establishes a baseline to measure trend indicators over time and is also a draft as a basis for further consultation with external stakeholders.

The report includes 19 indicators in the categories of growth management; economic development; mobility; urban and community design; and climate, energy and public health data, all with differing stages of progress:

- Eight are meeting or exceeding OP targets or objectives
- Six demonstrate that progress is being made but are not currently meeting OP targets or objectives
- One shows that no or minimal progress is being made towards OP targets or objectives
- Four do not currently have enough information to assess performance towards OP targets or objectives

Overall, the OP is performing well when it comes to economic development and mobility indicators as well as aspects of growth management related to intensification and land supply. Indicators show that the City could improve in achieving climate, energy, and public health goals, as well as other growth management policy objectives related to providing adequate and affordable housing options.

Staff will review indicators to identify what improvements can be made to advance policy goals and, over time, inform OP policy review. Future reports may also include new indicators or updates to existing indicators as new data sources become available.

RÉSUMÉ

Le Rapport sur la surveillance du Plan officiel (PO) est un nouvel outil d'information qui permet de suivre des indicateurs statistiques spécifiques pour surveiller l'efficacité des politiques du PO et pour savoir si la Ville est en bonne voie d'atteindre ses ambitieux buts et objectifs. Nous avons sélectionné les indicateurs statistiques d'après des critères comme la déclarabilité projetée. Nous avons tenu compte de deux types

d'indicateurs : les indicateurs cibles pour les aspects directement mesurables par rapport à une cible; et les indicateurs tendanciels, qui mesurent les progrès accomplis dans la réalisation des buts ou des objectifs. Le rapport de 2022 constitue un référentiel qui permet de mesurer les indicateurs tendanciels au fil du temps; ce rapport constitue également un texte provisoire, qui permettra de tenir une autre consultation auprès des intervenants externes.

Ce rapport comprend 19 indicateurs dans les catégories de données sur la gestion de la croissance, sur le développement économique, sur la mobilité, sur l'esthétique urbaine et communautaire, ainsi que sur le climat, l'énergie et la santé publique; tous ces indicateurs se situent à différentes étapes de l'avancement :

- huit respectent rigoureusement ou largement les cibles ou les objectifs du PO;
- six démontrent qu'on accomplit des progrès, sans toutefois respecter, à l'heure actuelle, les cibles ou les objectifs du PO;
- un indicateur permet de constater qu'il n'y a pas de progrès ou que les progrès sont minimes dans la réalisation des cibles et des objectifs du PO;
- quatre indicateurs ne donnent pas suffisamment d'information, à l'heure actuelle, pour évaluer le rendement par rapport aux cibles ou aux objectifs du PO.

Dans l'ensemble, le PO donne de bons résultats du point de vue des indicateurs du développement économique et de la mobilité, ainsi que des aspects de la gestion de la croissance se rapportant à la densification et à l'offre de terrains. Les indicateurs nous apprennent que la Ville pourrait améliorer la réalisation des objectifs portant sur le climat, sur l'énergie et sur la santé publique, ainsi que d'autres objectifs liés à la politique sur la gestion de la croissance lorsqu'il s'agit d'offrir des options pour l'aménagement de logements adéquats et abordables.

Le personnel reverra les indicateurs pour connaître les améliorations à apporter dans la réalisation des objectifs de la politique et pour éclairer, au fil du temps, l'examen des politiques du PO. Les prochains rapports pourraient aussi comprendre de nouveaux indicateurs ou faire état des mises à jour apportées aux indicateurs existants lorsqu'on pourra consulter de nouvelles sources de données.

BACKGROUND

Since the initial release of the draft Official Plan (OP), a commitment has been made to monitor the progress of the OP. Public feedback during the OP process asked how the City will monitor and demonstrate success at fulfilling the plan's ambitious goals and objectives. Policy 11.9 of the adopted OP also provides direction to continually monitor

the effectiveness of the plan's policies to determine if the City is on track to meet its strategic directions and objectives.

Growth management aspects of the previous and current OP are currently monitored through a series of reports published every year or every two years, such as the Annual Development Report (ADR) and land surveys that correspond to vacant residential and industrial lands. Staff will revise the 2022, and subsequent versions, of the ADR to supplement the new OP Monitoring Report. The ADR will continue providing updates on other development and economic data indicators for Ottawa and the Regional Market Area that are not directed-related to OP policies and objectives but provide additional context regarding demographic and economic changes.

DISCUSSION

This draft monitoring report establishes a baseline of currently available data indicators that can be measured over time to assess the progress of Official Plan policies, goals, and objectives. The reporting period for this report is from 2018 to 2022, with certain growth management indicators measured mid-year to mid-year from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2022, to allow for direct comparison with Official Plan projections which are mid-year.

From this baseline data, staff can measure progress towards meeting OP goals and objectives. The data indicators included in this report were selected based on if:

- they could be used to measure a specific OP policy or policies
- had data readily available
- could be tracked over time

There are other policies, goals, and objectives within the OP that are measurable, but do not currently have data available to measure or would be too difficult to measure with the resources currently available.

Not all indicators can be measured the same way. Some OP policies have clear targets for comparison, while others can only be assessed by observing trends towards OP goals and objectives. Therefore, this report includes two types of data indicators:

- Target Indicators: These directly measure progress towards an OP target (e.g. an urban forest canopy cover of 40 per cent).
- Trend Indicators: These measure the general direction of progress towards OP goals and objectives (e.g. a decrease in the number of collisions resulting in fatality or major injury).

Lastly, while some data indicators can be measured annually, some data sources are updated less frequently (e.g. every five years). The dates that data was last updated are included within the report.

Performance Report

The OP Monitoring report includes a Performance Report at the beginning to summarize the status of Official Plan (OP) policy indicators and assesses progress in achieving the targets and objectives set out in the OP. A few highlights include:

- Residential Land Available: Ottawa has 25 years or 2,123 hectares of greenfield land available for residential growth of which over six years or 716 hectares is serviced as of July 1st, 2022. This supply exceeds the **Provincial Planning Statement** (PPS) requirements of a 15-year minimum of residential land supply and a three-year supply of serviced land ready for development.
- Intensification: An intensification rate of 64 per cent was achieved between July 1st, 2021, and June 30th, 2022, exceeding the five-year Official Plan target of 45 per cent for July 1st, 2022, to June 30th, 2026.
- Rental Market: According to the 2022 Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) Rental Market Report, the rental vacancy rate for all categories of dwellings was 2.1 per cent, which is below the 3 per cent Official Plan target.
- Industrial Land: As of July 1st, 2022, Ottawa has 469 net hectares of Industrial and Logistics designated land available to meet projected job growth to 2046 in accordance with the Provincial Policy Statement.

Further Consultation and Research

This report is a draft for consultation with external stakeholders, such as the Federation of Citizens' Associations of Ottawa (FCA), the Greater Ottawa Home Builders' Association (GOHBA), and post-secondary institutions, to receive feedback and potentially identify additional sources of data for monitoring. This is in preparation for the 2023 update of the OP Monitoring Report which is scheduled for Q4 2024.

Staff have consulted with multiple units and departments internally to identify potential indicators to monitor OP policies. Several additional indicators were identified, however, they could not be included within this baseline report because the data is not currently available, is too difficult to track with current tools and resources, or further consultation and research is needed with external groups. The next steps to evaluate these potential indicators are as follows:

Climate Change

There are currently gaps in available indicators for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through land use, transportation, and energy planning. Staff will consult with utility partners on which energy planning metrics are appropriate and regularly reported. Annual tracking of electric vehicle charging stations began in 2023 and transportation mode shares from the City's most recent Origin-Destination survey can be reported following the new Transportation Master Plan (TMP). Lastly, the City's new Land Management Software (LMS) will include trackable High-performance Development Standard (HPDS) metrics once the software is launched for Planning, Development and Building Services.

Urban Design

Staff are currently identifying potential indicators to measure Urban Design policies that are appropriate and feasible to track for future OP monitoring reports. Potential indicators might include the number of projects reviewed by Public Realm and Urban Design Staff and the Urban Design Review Panel, the number of patio permits issued to help animate the City's public realm, and reporting on award winning public spaces and built form projects which exemplify design excellence at a local, national, and international level.

Tree Canopy

Staff will report to Council in the fall on the five-year update to the Forest Canopy Cover study. It will include canopy cover as of 2022 and the change in canopy cover from 2017 to 2022, including breakdowns for wards and neighbourhoods. Due to the slow rate of change in canopy cover, it is not possible to provide meaningful reports more frequently than every five years.

With respect to access to Greenspace, the metrics are established in Section 4.8.3(2) of the Official Plan:

- Within a five-minute safe walking distance (400 metres), a public greenspace providing space for passive or active recreation;
- Within a ten-minute safe walking distance (800 metres), two green public spaces;
- Within a 15 minutes trip by transit, a publicly-owned natural area.

Staff intend to compile a first report on these metrics as part of the work on the Greenspace and Urban Forest Management Plan. However, work on that plan has been delayed for more than a year due to staff resource challenges. Staff availability is

currently being evaluated following the recent restructuring.

In addition, staff will review indicators that are reporting no or minimal progress and what improvements can be made for the next report.

Performance Tracking Tool

A motion at Joint Committee in October 2021 directed staff to investigate the cost, feasibility and staff resources to develop an accessible, easy to use, publicly available tracking tool on Ottawa.ca that provides transparency regarding the City's performance in achieving the goals set out in the Official Plan as part of the Official Plan Monitoring Report.

In response to this motion, staff propose to post the Performance Report from the OP Monitoring Report to quickly summarize the status of OP policy indicators and assess progress in achieving the OP's targets and objectives, conceptually shown in Document 2.

Staff intend to create an interactive version of this performance report table on Ottawa.ca where each indicator includes a link to the relevant page within the report for more information. This tool can be developed and posted on Ottawa.ca with existing resources.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications with receiving this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The submission of this report is in compliance with Official Plan policy.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD

This is a City-wide report – not applicable.

CONSULTATION

Staff is to consult with external stakeholders regarding this draft OP Monitoring Report to explore the potential for new indicators and additional data.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

As Ottawa continues to develop, the City is committed to ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities and older adults. All City-controlled projects follow the City of Ottawa Accessibility Design Standards and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (2005).

The Official Plan Monitoring – 2022 Baseline Report will be made available in accessible format on the City website once finalized.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct asset management implications associated with the recommendations of this report. The information provided in this report aligns with the City's Comprehensive Asset Management (CAM) Program objectives by providing data to support informed decision making which enables the City to effectively manage existing and new infrastructure to maximize benefits, reduce risk, and provide safe and reliable levels of service to community users. This can also be done in a manner that minimizes the lifecycle cost of that infrastructure, and in a socially, culturally, environmentally, and economically conscious manner.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct rural implications associated with this report.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

This report monitors data related to the following 2023-2026 Term of Council Priorities:

- A city that has affordable housing and is more liveable for all;
- A city that is more connected with reliable, safe and accessible mobility options
- A city that is green and resilient
- A city with a diversified and prosperous economy

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1 – Official Plan Monitoring - 2022 Draft Baseline Report

Document 2 – Sample Website Performance Tracking Tool

DISPOSITION

That Planning, Development and Building Services staff continue to monitor the established Official Plan (OP) policy indicators, explore potential new indicators, and report on the City's performance in achieving the policies, goals, and objectives within the OP on an annual basis.