

What is comprehensive neighbourhood planning?

A planning process which comprehensively considers all aspects of planning a new neighbourhood or area.

1. Initiation of Planning Process

Comprehensive neighbourhood planning begins when Halifax Regional Council decides to start a planning process. The Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing may also designate Special Planning Areas to start a planning process.

2. Technical Studies

Next, technical studies take place to assess the impacts of development. Examples of these studies include a land suitability analysis, water and wastewater capacity assessment, and mobility study.

3. Public Engagement

Meanwhile, planning staff engage with the public to inform residents about the project and gather input on what the community desires. Feedback is welcomed throughout the process, but it is most influential at the beginning of the process and before a decision is made.

4. Detailed Review

The project is then assessed against infrastructure, service, and facility needs to identify constraints and opportunities.

5. Planning Documents

Based on this review, new planning policies are drafted including a conceptual neighbourhood plan. Strategic public investments in infrastructure, parks and facilities may also be identified.

6. Decision

Approval from Halifax Regional Council is required before the project can proceed to development and construction. Approval is required from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for development in Special Planning Areas.



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