

Port of Hamilton Land Use Plan Update – Summary

Hamilton Port Authority's Land Use Plan creates a framework for land use planning and development on Port lands. It will guide current and future land use decision-making and influence operational decisions with the goal of delivering value to Port users while being a good neighbor and positive contributor to our community.

Valuable Input

We are grateful to the approximately 225 individuals and groups whose ideas helped shape this Plan. Their input contributed to the larger themes and principles that guide the Land Use Plan, and in several cases, community stakeholders made specific suggestions that we will pursue.

New Principles

The Land Use Plan is based on seven principles that set the foundation and provide direction for development at the Port of Hamilton. These principles closely reflect the themes that emerged through the consultation process.

1. **Economic Development:** Ensure the economic vitality of the Port of Hamilton over the long term. Position the port as an integral part of the broader Bayfront industrial area and fulfill its regional trade-facilitation mandate.
2. **Mixed Use:** Continue to position the Port of Hamilton as part of a vibrant, mixed-use waterfront with a continuing mix of uses and activities; one that recognizes the industrial and employment-based role and function of the Port lands.
3. **Environment:** Work with all stakeholders in government and the community to achieve a healthy environment within Hamilton Harbour, as part of broader waterfront improvement efforts, including the Hamilton Harbour Remedial Action Plan.
4. **Sustainability:** Promote sustainability and environmental initiatives in decision-making processes concerning land uses and new buildings, infrastructure and improvements, and tenant operations.
5. **Image:** Work with stakeholders to improve the physical image of the Port lands and Hamilton Harbour in general, as part of a broader effort to encourage community pride in Hamilton's role as a port city.
6. **Partnerships:** Align with the efforts of municipalities and related agencies in ongoing municipal economic development and planning initiatives.
7. **Engagement:** Maintain a transparent and ongoing dialogue with municipalities, residents and other stakeholders to strengthen the awareness of HPA's role and share information about development possibilities.

Looking Ahead | Aligning Locally

The Port of Hamilton is the largest port in Ontario and a strategic asset within Canada's transportation network. It will continue to be an essential employment hub, facilitating goods movement and trade for key Ontario industries. Development will take place according to the seven principles articulated above.

HPA's land use outlook is closely aligned with that of the City of Hamilton, as articulated through City zoning, the City's economic development priorities, and the evolving Bayfront Industrial Strategy, all of which identify the Port lands and broader central-east bayfront as a long-term employment zone for Hamilton.

Near-Term Initiatives

In addition to long-term land use directions, the consultation process identified several areas where we think we can make meaningful changes in the near term. Here are some highlights:

A commitment to sustainability: To guide future business strategies and operations, HPA has adopted a new Corporate Sustainability Policy. This policy framework will form the basis of a comprehensive sustainability program, addressing three pillars: economic, environmental and social sustainability. This program will include detailed performance indicators, and HPA will report annually on its results.

A way forward on Sherman Inlet: HPA commits to a two year process to restore the altered shoreline at Sherman Inlet following an ecologically sound approach, and to preserve this feature permanently as a natural space.

Access - A window on the lake: In response to public interest in an accessible space along the central waterfront, HPA will create a viewing platform in the publicly-accessible north lot of the new boat storage facility. This area affords an excellent view of the bay, and the ongoing construction of the Randle Reef containment facility.

Greening the edges of the Port lands: HPA will look for opportunities to improve the physical appearance of the areas where Port lands meet public space. This will include landscaping along Eastport and Burlington St., and a new gateway feature at Burlington and Sherman.

Convening a conversation about Fisherman's Pier: The public consultations clearly revealed a desire to see improvements to the space in the 'Fisherman's Pier' area around the Burlington Canal. A number of governments have landholdings and/or jurisdictions in this area, so a cooperative approach is required. HPA will start the process to convene these partners with the goal of improving the recreational appeal of this space.

Reducing dust and idling, and encouraging better truck routing choices: Taking into account HPA's role, there are steps we can take to address the issues associated with truck activity at the Port. These include road paving and sweeping, rationalizing roadways to divert trucks to interior port roads, off-road staging, signage and driver education. HPA will be piloting an air quality monitoring program at key locations within the Port.

More opportunities for people to interact with the Port: This summer, we are participating in Doors Open, hosting family activities in conjunction with the Tall Ships visit, and offering free public tours on the Harbour Queen. Going forward, we will look for more opportunities for residents to connect with and learn about the Port.