



The Corporation of The Town of Amherstburg

April 24, 2020

Att: Ontario Municipalities

VIA EMAIL

Re: Issues Regarding the Mapping of Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW's)

At its meeting of March 23rd, 2020, Amherstburg Town Council passed the following:

“That Administration BE DIRECTED to send correspondence in support of Norfolk County’s resolution regarding their request that the process for mapping of Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs) be significantly improved to allow for transparency and better land owner engagement.”

Motion Carried

encl: Norfolk County correspondence

Regards,

Tammy Fowkes
Deputy Clerk

cc:

The Honourable Steve Clark, Min. of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Taras Natyshak, MPP, Essex
Chris Lewis, MP, Essex



Norfolk County Office of the Mayor

March 1, 2020

Ontario Municipalities

Dear Heads of Council and Councillors:

Re: Issues regarding the mapping of Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs)

Norfolk County Council is working to address significant issues that have come to our attention regarding the mapping of Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs).

Following the Ministry's updated mapping related to PSWs, the County updated its Official Plan to bring its policies in line with the new mapping. Following that, the County planning staff introduced a Zoning By-Law amendment to update the zoning to reflect the new mapping and to provide consistency between the Zoning By-Law and the Official Plan. Though the mapping is wholly outside the County's process and control, the zoning by-law amendment was not approved by Council, flowing from significant public concern about the updated mapping affecting people's properties. In some cases, some of these changes were very significant.

The County submitted comments to the province as part of the review of the Provincial Policy statement requesting that the process for PSW mapping be significantly improved to allow for transparency and better land owner engagement, including, for example, a right of appeal or formal dispute resolution process. This will allow for land owners to be properly informed and engaged where land use designations that affect their property may result. The current process appears to be severely underfunded and without any meaningful way for affected residents to engage.

The County is seeking support from other rural municipalities who may be affected by this to address this issue with the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristal Chopp".

Mayor Kristal Chopp
Norfolk County

cc. The Honourable Steve Clark,
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing