



APPENDIX F

DEFINITIONS

APPENDIX F – DEFINITIONS

This appendix of definitions has been appended to the Pelham Official Plan to provide ease of reference primarily for terms defined in Provincial and Regional plans and legislation. Where a defined term is in dispute, the term as defined in external Provincial or Regional documents shall prevail.

Abbreviations:

GP	Greenbelt Plan
PA	Planning Act
PPS	Provincial Policy Statement
PTGA	Places to Grow Act
PTGP	Places to Grow Growth Plan

Active Transportation

Means human-powered travel, including but not limited to, walking, cycling, inline skating and travel with the use of mobility aids, including motorized wheelchairs and other power-assisted devices moving at a comparable speed. (PPS)

Adjacent Lands

Means:

- a) Those lands contiguous to a specific natural heritage feature or area where it is likely that development or site alteration would have a negative impact on the feature or area.
- b) The extent of the adjacent lands may be recommended by the Province or based on municipal approaches which achieve the same objectives; or,
- c) Those lands contiguous to a protected heritage property or as otherwise defined in the municipal official plan. (PPS)

Adverse Effects

As defined in the Environmental Protection Act, means one or more of:

- a) Impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it;
- b) Injury or damage to property or plant or animal life;
- c) Harm or material discomfort to any person;
- d) An adverse effect on the health of any person;
- e) Impairment of the safety of any person;
- f) Rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for human use;
- g) Loss of enjoyment of normal use of property; and
- h) Interference with normal conduct of business. (PPS)

Affordable

Means:

- a) In the case of ownership housing, the least expensive of:
 - i) Housing for which the purchase price results in annual accommodation costs which do not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for low and moderate income households; or
 - ii) Housing for which the purchase price is at least 10 percent below the average purchase price of a resale unit in the regional market area;
- b) in the case of rental housing, the least expensive of:
 - i) A unit for which the rent does not exceed 30 percent of gross annual household income for low and moderate income households; or
 - ii) A unit for which the rent is at or below the average market rent of a unit in the regional market area. (PPS, PTGP)

Agricultural Uses

Means the growing of crops, including nursery and horticultural crops; raising of livestock; raising of other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agro-forestry; maple syrup production; and associated on-farm buildings and structures, including accommodation for full-time farm labour when the size and nature of the operation requires additional employment. (PPS, GP, PTGP)

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Agriculture-Related Uses

Means those farm-related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are small scale and directly related to the farm operation and are required in close proximity to the farm operation. (PPS, GP, PTGP)

Airports

Means all Ontario airports, including designated lands for future airports, with Noise Exposure Forecast (NEF)/Noise Exposure Projection (NEP) mapping. (PPS)

Alternative Energy Sources

Means sources of energy or energy conversion processes that significantly reduce the amount of harmful emissions to the environment (air, earth and water) when compared to conventional energy systems. (PPS)

Alvars

Naturally open areas of thin or no soil over essentially flat limestone, dolostone or marble rock, supporting a sparse vegetation cover of mostly shrubs and herbs. (GP)

Aquifer Vulnerability

Means an aquifer's intrinsic susceptibility, as a function of the thickness and permeability of overlying layers, to contamination from both human and natural impact on water quality.

Archaeological Resources

Includes artifacts, archaeological sites and marine archaeological sites. The identification and evaluation of such resources are based upon archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act. (PPS)

Areas of Archaeological Potential

Means areas with the likelihood to contain archaeological resources. Criteria for determining archaeological potential are established by the Province, but municipal approaches which achieve the same objectives may also be used. Archaeological potential is confirmed through archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act. (PPS)

Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)

Areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features which have been identified as having values related to natural heritage protection, scientific study, or education. (PPS)

Brownfield

Means undeveloped or previously developed properties that may be contaminated. They are usually, but not exclusively, former industrial or commercial properties that may be underutilized, derelict or vacant. (PPS, PTGP)

Built Boundary

The outer edge of the developed urban area as of a particular date. (PTGP)

Built Heritage

Means one or more significant buildings, structures, monuments, installations or remains associated with architectural, cultural, social, political, economic or military history and identified as being important to a community. These resources may be identified through designation or heritage conservation easement under the Ontario Heritage Act, or listed by local, provincial or federal jurisdictions. (PPS)

Built-Up Areas

All land inside the built boundary. (PTGP)

Committee of Adjustment

Means a committee of adjustment constituted under Section 44 of the Planning Act RSO 1990. (PA)

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Complete Communities

Complete communities have an identifiable centre and provide an appropriate mix of jobs, a full range of housing (including affordable housing), recreational and cultural opportunities, and community services for their residents. Convenient access to public transportation and options for safe, non-motorized travel is also provided. Complete communities can meet needs for daily living through a person's whole lifetime. (PTGP)

Comprehensive Review

Means:

- a) An official plan review which is initiated by a planning authority, or an official plan amendment which is initiated or adopted by a planning authority, which:
 - i) Is based on a review of population and growth projections and which reflect projections and allocations by upper-tier municipalities and provincial plans, where applicable; considers alternative directions for growth; and determines how best to accommodate this growth while protecting provincial interests;
 - ii) Utilizes opportunities to accommodate projected growth through intensification and redevelopment;
 - iii) Confirms that the lands to be developed do not comprise specialty crop areas;
 - iv) Is integrated with planning for infrastructure and public service facilities; and,
 - v) Considers cross-jurisdictional issues.

Connectivity

Means the degree to which *key natural heritage or key hydrologic features* are connected to one another by links such as plant and animal movement corridors, hydrologic and nutrient cycling, genetic transfer, and energy flow through food webs. (GP)

Conserved

Means the identification, protection, use and/or management of cultural heritage and archaeological resources in such a way that their heritage values, attributes and integrity are retained. This may be addressed through a conservation plan or heritage impact assessment. (PPS)

Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment

Means a study prepared by a qualified heritage professional who is a member in good standing with the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals, to determine if cultural heritage resources will be negatively impacted by the proposed establishment or proposed expansion of the mineral aggregate operation development or site alteration. It would also demonstrate how the cultural heritage resource will be conserved in the context of redevelopment or site alteration. Mitigative or avoidance measures or alternative development approaches may also be recommended.

Cultural Heritage Landscape

Means a defined geographical area of heritage significance which has been modified by human activities and is valued by a community. It involves a grouping(s) of individual heritage features such as structures, spaces, archaeological sites and natural elements, which together form a significant type of heritage form, distinctive from that of its constituent elements or parts. Examples may include, but are not limited to, heritage conservation districts designated under the Ontario Heritage Act; and villages, parks, gardens, battlefields, mainstreets and neighbourhoods, cemeteries, trailways and industrial complexes of cultural heritage value. (PPS)

Designated and Available

Means lands designated in the official plan for urban residential use. For municipalities where more detailed official plan policies (e.g., secondary plans) are required before development applications can be considered for approval, only lands that have commenced the more detailed planning process are considered to be designated for the purposes of this definition. (PPS)

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Designated Growth Areas

Means lands within settlement areas designated in an official plan for growth over the long-term planning horizon, but which have not yet been fully developed. Designated growth areas include lands which are designated and available for residential growth as well as lands required for employment and other uses. (PPS, PTGP)

Development

Means the creation of a new lot, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures, any of which require approval under the *Planning Act*, or that are subject to the *Environmental Assessment Act*, but does not include:

- a) The construction of facilities for transportation, infrastructure and utilities used by a public body;
- b) Activities or works under the *Drainage Act*, or
- c) The carrying out of agricultural practices on land that was being used for agricultural uses on the date the Plan came into effect. (GP)

Ecological Function

Means the natural processes, products or services that living and nonliving environments provide or perform within or between species, ecosystems and landscapes, including hydrologic functions and biological, physical, chemical and socio-economic interactions. (GP)

Ecological Value

The value of vegetation in maintaining the health of the key natural heritage or key hydrologic feature and the related ecological features and ecological functions, as measured by factors such as the diversity of species, the diversity of habitats, and the suitability and amount of habitats that are available for rare, threatened and endangered species. (GP)

Employment Area

Means those areas designated in an official plan for clusters of business and economic activities including, but not limited to, manufacturing, warehousing, offices, and associated retail and ancillary facilities. (PPS, PTGP)

Endangered Species

Means a species that is listed or categorized as an “Endangered Species” on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ official species at risk list, as updated and amended from time to time. (PPS, GP)

Erosion Hazard

Means the loss of land, due to human or natural processes, that poses a threat to life and property. The erosion hazard limit is determined using considerations that include the 100 year erosion rate (the average annual rate of recession extended over an one hundred year time span), an allowance for slope stability, and an erosion/erosion access allowance. (PPS)

Existing Uses in the Greenbelt

Uses legally established prior to the date that the Greenbelt Plan came into force. Existing agricultural accessory buildings and structures including farm dwellings can expand on the same lot subject to the provisions of the municipal zoning by-law. (GP)

Farm Consolidation

Means the acquisition of additional farm parcels to be operated as one farm operation. (GP)

Fish

Means fish, which as defined in Section 2 of the Fisheries Act, c. F-14, as amended, includes fish, shellfish, crustaceans, and marine animals, at all stages of their life cycles. (PPS)

Fish Habitat

As defined in the *Fisheries Act*, c. F-14, means spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes. (PPS, GP)

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Floodplain

For river stream, and small inland lake systems, means the area, usually low lands adjoining a watercourse, which has been or may be subject to flooding hazards. (PPS)

Flooding Hazard

Means the inundation, under the conditions specified below, of areas adjacent to a shoreline or a river or stream system and not ordinarily covered by water:

- a) Along the shorelines of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System and large inland lakes, the flooding hazard limit is based on the one hundred year flood level plus an allowance for wave uprush and other water-related hazards;
- b) Along river, stream and small inland lake systems, the flooding hazard limit is the greater of:
 - i) The flood resulting from the rainfall actually experienced during a major storm such as the Hurricane Hazel storm (1954) or the Timmins storm (1961), transposed over a specific watershed and combined with the local conditions, where evidence suggests that the storm event could have potentially occurred over watersheds in the general area;
 - ii) The one hundred year flood; and
 - iii) A flood which is greater than 1 or 2 which was actually experienced in a particular watershed or portion thereof as a result of ice jams and which has been approved as the standard for that specific area by the Minister of Natural Resources; except where the use of the one hundred year flood or the actually experienced event has been approved by the Minister of Natural Resources as the standard for a specific watershed (where the past history of flooding supports the lowering of the standard). (PPS)

Floodway

For river, stream and small inland lake systems, means the portion of the flood plain where development and site alteration would cause a danger to public health and safety or property damage. Where the one zone concept is applied, the floodway is the entire contiguous flood plain. Where the two zone concept is applied, the floodway is the contiguous inner portion of the flood plain, representing that area required for the safe passage of flood flow and/or that area where flood depths and/or velocities are considered to be such that they pose a potential threat to life and/or property damage. Where the two zone concept applies, the outer portion of the flood plain is called the flood fringe. (PPS)

Greater Golden Horseshoe

The Greater Golden Horseshoe is defined as the single-tier municipalities of Barrie, Brantford, Guelph, Hamilton, Kawartha Lakes, Orillia, Peterborough and Toronto; the upper-tier municipalities of Brant, Dufferin, Durham, Haldimand, Halton, Niagara, Northumberland, Peel, Peterborough, Simcoe, Waterloo, Wellington and York, and the lower-tier municipalities within. (PTGP)

Groundwater

Refers to water-related features in the earth's subsurface, including recharge/discharge areas, water tables, aquifers and unsaturated zones that can be defined by surface and subsurface hydrogeologic investigations. (PPS, PTGP)

Growth Plan

Means a plan approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council as a growth plan under subsection 7 (6). (PTGA)

Growth Plan Area

Means an area of land designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council as a growth plan area under clause 3 (a). (PTGA)

Hazardous Land/Slopes

Means property or lands that could be unsafe for development due to naturally occurring processes. Along the shorelines of the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River System, this means the land, including that covered by water, between the international boundary, where applicable, and the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard limits. Along the shorelines of large inland lakes, this means the land, including that covered by water, between a defined offshore distance or

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depth and the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard, erosion hazard or dynamic beach hazard limits. Along river, stream and small inland lake systems, this means the land, including that covered by water, to the furthest landward limit of the flooding hazard or erosion hazard limits. (PPS, GP)

Hazardous Substances

Means substances which, individually, or in combination with other substances, are normally considered to pose a danger to public health, safety and the environment. These substances generally include a wide array of materials that are toxic, ignitable, corrosive, reactive, radioactive or pathological. (PPS)

Heritage Attributes

Means the principal features, characteristics, context and appearance that contribute to the cultural heritage significance of a protected heritage property. (PPS)

Hydrologic Function

Means the functions of the hydrological cycle that include the occurrence, circulation, distribution and chemical and physical properties of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere, and water's interaction with the environment including its relation to living things. (PPS, GP)

Infill

Development on vacant land in the built-up area. (PTGP)

Infrastructure

Means physical structures (facilities and corridors) that form the foundation for development. Infrastructure includes: sewage and water systems, septage treatment systems, waste management systems, electric power generation and transmission, communications/telecommunications, transit and transportation corridors and facilities, oil and gas pipelines and associated facilities. (PPS)

Intensification

Means the development of a property, site or area at a higher density than currently exists through:

- a) Redevelopment, including the reuse of brownfield sites;
- b) The development of vacant and/or underutilized lots within previously developed areas;
- c) Infill development; and
- d) The expansion or conversion of existing buildings. (PPS, GP, PTGP)

Intensification Areas

Lands identified by municipalities or the Province within a settlement area that are to be the focus for accommodating intensification. Intensification areas include urban growth centres, intensification corridors, major transit station areas, and other major opportunities that may include infill, redevelopment, brownfield sites, the expansion or conversion of existing building and greyfields. (PTGP)

Intensification Corridors

Lands along major roads or arterials that can provide a focus for higher density mixed-use development, higher order transit, and infrastructure investment. (PTGP)

Intermittent Streams

Stream-related watercourses that contain water or are dry at times of the year that are more or less predictable, generally flowing during wet seasons of the year but not the entire year, and where the water table is above the stream bottom during parts of the year. (GP)

Key Hydrologic Features

Means an important hydrologic feature located within the boundary of the Greenbelt Plan and includes:

- a) Permanent and intermittent streams;
- b) Lakes (and their littoral zones);
- c) Seepage areas and springs; and
- d) Wetlands.(GP)

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Key Natural Heritage Features

Means an important natural heritage feature located within the boundary of the Greenbelt and includes:

- a) Significant habitat of endangered species, threatened species and special concern species;
- b) Fish habitat;
- c) Wetlands;
- d) Life Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs);
- e) Significant valleylands;
- f) Significant woodlands;
- g) Significant wildlife habitat;
- h) Sand barrens, savannahs and tallgrass prairies; and
- i) Alvars. (GP)

Low and Moderate Income Households

Means:

- a) In the case of ownership housing, households with incomes in the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution for the regional market area; or
- b) In the case of rental housing, households with incomes in the lowest 60 percent of the income distribution for renter households for the regional market area. (PPS)

Mineral Aggregate Operation

Means:

- a) Lands under license or permit, other than for wayside pits and quarries, issued in accordance with the Aggregate Resources Act, or successors thereto;
- b) For lands not designated under the Aggregate Resources Act, established pits and quarries that are not in contravention of municipal zoning by-laws and including adjacent land under agreement with or owned by the operator, to permit continuation of the operation; and
- c) Associated facilities used in extraction, transport, beneficiation, processing or recycling of mineral aggregate resources and derived products such as asphalt and concrete, or the production of secondary related products. (PPS)

Mineral Aggregate Resources

Means gravel, sand, clay, earth, shale, stone, limestone, dolostone, sandstone, marble, granite, rock or other material prescribed under the Aggregate Resources Act suitable for construction, industrial, manufacturing and maintenance purposes but does not include metallic ores, asbestos, graphite, kyanite, mica, nepheline syenite, salt, talc, wollastonite, mine tailings or other material prescribed under the Mining Act. (PPS, PTGP)

Minimum Distance Separation Formulae

Means formulae developed by the Province to separate uses so as to reduce incompatibility concerns about odour from livestock facilities. (PPS, GP)

Municipal Sewage Services

Means a sewage works within the meaning of Section 1 of the Ontario Water Resources Act that is owned or operated by a municipality. (PPS, GP)

Municipal Water Services

Means a municipal drinking-water system within the meaning of Section 2 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002. (PPS, GP)

Natural Heritage Features and Areas

Means features and areas, including significant wetlands, significant coastal wetlands, fish habitat, significant woodlands south and east of the Canadian Shield, significant valleylands south and east of the Canadian Shield, significant habitat of endangered species and threatened species, significant wildlife habitat, and significant areas of natural and scientific interest, which are important for their environmental and social values as a legacy of the natural landscapes of an area. (PPS, PTGP)

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Natural Heritage System

Means a system made up of natural heritage features and areas, linked by natural corridors which are necessary to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, viable populations of indigenous species and ecosystems. These systems can include lands that have been restored and areas with the potential to be restored to a natural state. (PPS)

Natural Self-Sustaining Vegetation

Means vegetation dominated by native plant species that can grow and persist without direct human management, protection, or tending. (GP)

Negative Impacts

Means:

- a) Degradation to the quality and quantity of water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features, and their related hydrologic functions, due to single, multiple or successive development or site alteration activities;
- b) In regard to fish habitat, the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat, except where, in conjunction with the appropriate authorities, it has been authorized under the Fisheries Act, using the guiding principle of no net loss of productive capacity; and
- c) In regard to other natural heritage features and areas, degradation that threatens the health and integrity of the natural features or ecological functions for which an area is identified due to single, multiple or successive development or site alteration activities. (PPS, GP)

Permanent Stream

Means a stream that continually flows in an average year. (GP)

Portable Asphalt Plant

Means a facility:

- a) With equipment designed to heat and dry aggregate and to mix aggregate with bituminous asphalt to produce asphalt paving material, and includes stockpiling and storage of bulk materials used in the process; and
- b) Which is not of permanent construction, but which is to be dismantled at the completion of the construction project. (PPS)

Prime Agricultural Area

Means areas where prime agricultural lands predominate. This includes: areas of prime agricultural lands and associated Canada Land Inventory Class 4-7 soils; and additional areas where there is a local concentration of farms which exhibit characteristics of ongoing agriculture. Prime agricultural areas may be identified by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food using evaluation procedures established by the Province as amended from time to time, or may also be identified through an alternative agricultural land evaluation system approved by the Province. (PPS, PTGP)

Prime Agricultural Land

Means land that includes specialty crop areas and/or Canada Land Inventory Classes 1, 2 and 3 soils, in this order of priority for protection. (PPS)

Provincial and Federal Requirements

Means:

- a) In regard to Policy 1.8.3, legislation and policies administered by the federal or provincial governments for the purpose of protecting the environment from potential impacts associated with energy facilities and ensuring that the necessary approvals are obtained; and
- b) In regard to Policy 2.1.5, legislation and policies administered by the federal or provincial governments for the purpose of the protection of fish and fish habitat, and related, scientifically established standards such as water quality criteria for protecting lake trout populations. (PPS)

Provincial Plan

Means a plan approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council or the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, but does not include municipal official plans. (PPS)

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Provincial Policy Statement

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) sets out the Ontario government's interests in land-use planning and development and provides policy direction on matters of provincial interest to those involved in land-use planning. The PPS is the complementary document to the Planning Act and is issued under the authority of section 3 of the Act. (PTGP)

Public Body

Means a municipality, a local board, a ministry, department, board, commission, agency or official of a provincial or federal government or a First Nation. (PA, PTGA)

Public Service Facilities

Means land, buildings and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and educational programs, and cultural services. Public service facilities do not include infrastructure. (PPS)

Public Work

Means any improvement of a structural nature or other undertaking that is within the jurisdiction of the council of a municipality or a local board. (PA)

Recreation

Means leisure time activity undertaken in built or natural settings for purposes of physical activity, health benefits, sport participation and skill development, personal enjoyment, positive social interaction and the achievement of human potential. (PPS)

Redevelopment

Means the creation of new units, uses or lots on previously developed land in existing communities, including brownfield sites. (PPS, PTGP)

Regional Market Area

Refers to an area, generally broader than a lower-tier municipality, that has a high degree of social and economic interaction. In southern Ontario, the upper or single-tier municipality will normally serve as the regional market area. Where a regional market area extends significantly beyond upper or single-tier boundaries, it may include a combination of upper, single and/or lower-tier municipalities. (PPS, PTGP)

Residence Surplus to a Farm Operation

Means an existing farm residence that is rendered surplus as a result of farm consolidation (the acquisition of additional farm parcels to be operated as one farm operation). (PPS, GP)

Residential Intensification

Means intensification of a property, site or area which results in a net increase in residential units or accommodation and includes:

- a) Redevelopment, including the redevelopment of brownfield sites;
- b) The development of vacant or underutilized lots within previously developed areas;
- c) Infill development;
- d) The conversion or expansion of existing industrial, commercial and institutional buildings for residential use; and
- e) The conversion or expansion of existing residential buildings to create new residential units or accommodation, including accessory apartments, secondary suites and rooming houses. (PPS)

River, Stream and Small Inland Lake Systems

Means all watercourses, rivers, streams, and small inland lakes or waterbodies that have a measurable or predictable response to a single runoff event. (PPS)

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Rural Areas

Means land in the rural area which are located outside *settlement areas* and which are outside *prime agricultural areas*. (PPS, GP, PTGP)

Sand barrens

Means land (not including lands that is being used for agricultural purposes or no longer exhibits sand barren characteristics) that:

- a) Has sparse or patchy vegetation that is dominated by plants that are:
 - i) Adapted to severe drought and low nutrient levels; and
 - ii) Maintained by severe environmental limitations such as drought, low nutrient levels and periodic disturbances such as fire;
- b) Has less than 25 per cent tree cover;
- c) Has sandy soil (other than shorelines) exposed by natural erosion, depositional process or both; and
- d) Has been further identified, by the Ministry of Natural Resources or by any other person, according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time. (GP)

Savannah

Means land (not including lands that is being used for agricultural purposes or no longer exhibits savannah characteristics) that:

- a) Has vegetation cover with a significant component of non-woody plants, including tallgrass prairie species that are maintained by seasonal drought, periodic disturbances such as fire, or both;
- b) Has from 25 percent to 60 per cent tree cover;
- c) Has mineral soils; and
- d) Has been further identified, by the Ministry of Natural Resources or by any other person, according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time. (GP)

Secondary Uses

Means uses secondary to the principal use of the property, including but not limited to, home occupations, home industries, and uses that produce value-added agricultural products from the farm operation on the property. (PPS, GP, PTGP)

Seepage Areas and Springs

Seepage areas and springs are sites of emergence of groundwater where the water table is present at the ground surface. (GP)

Sensitive

In regard to surface water features and ground water features, means areas that are particularly susceptible to impacts from activities or events including, but not limited to, water withdrawals, and additions of pollutants. (PPS)

Settlement Areas

Means urban areas and rural settlement areas within municipalities (such as cities, towns, villages and hamlets) that are:

- a) Built up areas where development is concentrated and which have a mix of land uses; and
- b) Lands which have been designated in an official plan for development over the long term planning horizon provided for in policy 1.1.2. In cases where land in designated growth areas is not available, the settlement area may be no larger than the area where development is concentrated. (PPS, PTGP)

Sewage and Water Services

Includes municipal sewage services and municipal water services, private communal sewage services and private communal water services, individual on-site sewage services and individual on-site water services, and partial services. (PPS)

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Significant (as per the PPS)

Means:

- a) In regard to wetlands, and areas of natural and scientific interest, an area identified as provincially significant by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time;
- b) In regard to the habitat of endangered species and threatened species, means the habitat, as approved by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, that is necessary for the maintenance, survival, and/or the recovery of naturally occurring or reintroduced populations of endangered species or threatened species, and where those areas of occurrence are occupied or habitually occupied by the species during all or any part(s) of its life cycle;
- c) In regard to woodlands, an area which is ecologically important in terms of features such as species composition, age of trees and stand history; functionally important due to its contribution to the broader landscape because of its location, size or due to the amount of forest cover in the planning area; or economically important due to site quality, species composition, or past management history;
- d) In regard to other features and areas, ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of an identifiable geographic area or natural heritage system;
- e) In regard to mineral potential, means an area identified as provincially significant through comprehensive studies prepared using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time, such as the Provincially Significant Mineral Potential Index;
- f) In regard to potential for petroleum resources, means an area identified as provincially significant through comprehensive studies prepared using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time; and
- g) In regard to cultural heritage and archaeology, resources that are valued for the important contribution they make to our understanding of the history of a place, an event, or a people.

Criteria for determining significance for the resources identified in sections (c)-(g) are recommended by the Province, but municipal approaches that achieve or exceed the same objective may also be used.

While some significant resources may already be identified and inventoried by official sources, the significance of others can only be determined after evaluation. (PPS)

Significant (as per the Greenbelt Plan)

Means:

- a) In regard to wetlands and life science areas of natural and scientific interest, an area identified as provincially significant by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time;
- b) In regard to the habitat of *endangered species*, *threatened species* and *special concern species*, means the habitat, as approved by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, that is necessary for the maintenance, survival, and/or the recovery of naturally occurring or reintroduced populations of *endangered species*, *threatened species* or *special concern species*, and where those areas of occurrence are occupied or habitually occupied by the species during all or any part(s) of its life cycle;
- c) In regard to woodlands, an area which is ecologically important in terms of features such as species composition, age of trees and stand history; functionally important due to its contribution to the broader landscape because of its location, size or due to the amount of forest cover in the planning area; or economically important due to site quality, species composition, or past management history. The Province (Ministry of Natural Resources) identifies criteria relating to the forgoing; and
- d) In regard to other features and areas in section 3.2.4 of this Plan, ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of the Natural Heritage System. The Province (Ministry of Natural Resources) identifies criteria relating to the forgoing.
- e) In regard to cultural heritage and archaeology, resources that are valued for the important contribution they make to our understanding of the history of a place, an event, or a people.

While some significant resources may already be identified and inventoried by official sources, the significance of others can only be determined after evaluation. (GP)

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Site Alteration

Within land subject to the Greenbelt means activities such as filling, grading and excavation that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of land, but does not include:

- a) The construction of facilities for transportation, infrastructure and utilities uses by a public body;
- b) Activities or works under the *Drainage Act*, or
- c) The carrying out of agricultural practices on land that was being used for agricultural uses on the date the Plan came into effect. (GP)

Site Alteration

In areas outside of the Greenbelt means activities, such as grading, excavation and the placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site.

For the purposes of Policy 2.1.3(b), site alteration does not include underground or surface mining of minerals or advanced exploration on mining lands in significant areas of mineral potential in Ecoregion 5E, where advanced exploration has the same meaning as in the Mining Act. Instead, those matters shall be subject to Policy 2.1.4(a). (PPS)

Special Concern Species

Means a species that is listed or categorized as a “special concern species” on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ official species at risk list, as updated and amended from time to time. (GP)

Special Needs

Means any housing, including dedicated facilities, in whole or in part, that is used by people who have specific needs beyond economic needs, including but not limited to, needs such as mobility requirements or support functions required for daily living. Examples of special needs housing may include, but are not limited to, housing for persons with disabilities such as physical, sensory or mental health disabilities, and housing for the elderly. (PPS)

Specialty Crop Areas

Means areas designated using evaluation procedures established by the province, as amended from time to time, where specialty crops such as tender fruits (peaches, cherries, plums), grapes, other fruit crops, vegetable crops, greenhouse crops, and crops from agriculturally developed organic soil lands are predominantly grown, usually resulting from:

- a) Soils that have suitability to produce specialty crops, or lands that are subject to special climatic conditions, or a combination of both; and/or
- b) A combination of farmers skilled in the production of specialty crops, and of capital investment in related facilities and services to produce, store, or process specialty crops. (PPS, GP, PTGP)

Stable Top of Bank

Means the edge of the channel or bank, if there is a sharp change from the steep slope of the channel or bank to the shallower slope of the field area, or the normal full extent of the watercourse when it contains the maximum volume of water without flooding, if the change in slope does not exist. (GP)

Surface Water Feature

Refers to water-related features on the earth’s surface, including headwaters, rivers, stream channels, inland lakes, seepage areas, recharge/discharge areas, springs, wetlands, and associated riparian lands that can be defined by their soil moisture, soil type, vegetation or topographic characteristics. (PPS, PTGP)

Tallgrass Prairies

Means land (not including land that is being used for agricultural purposes or no longer exhibits tallgrass prairie characteristics) that:

- a) Has vegetation dominated by non-woody plants, including tallgrass prairie species that are maintained by seasonal drought, periodic disturbances such as fire or both,
- b) Has less than 25 percent tree cover;
- c) Has mineral soils; and

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- d) Has been identified, by the Ministry of Natural Resources or by any other person, according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time. (GP)

Threatened Species

Means a species that is listed or categorized as a “Threatened Species” on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ official species at risk list, as updated and amended from time to time. (PPS, GP)

Total Developable Area

Means the total area of the property less the area occupied by *key natural heritage features* and *key hydrologic features*, including any related *Vegetation Protection Zone*. (GP)

Transit-Supportive

The term “transit-supportive” is used to describe a type of land-use planning. Typically, the term refers to urban design and planning practices that make development more accessible by transit and which make transit more feasible. They include roads laid out in a grid network rather than a discontinuous network, street-oriented uses along roads to encourage walking and transit use, a mix of higher density uses along arterial roads, improved access between arterial roads and interior blocks in residential areas. (PTGP)

Transportation Demand Management

Transportation demand management is a general term for strategies that result in more efficient use of existing transportation infrastructure. Examples include pricing (road tolls or transit discounts), flexible working hours, telecommuting, carpooling, park-and-ride, high occupancy vehicle lanes, incentives for using transit, walking and cycling, and more. (PTGP)

Valleylands

Means a natural area that occurs in a valley or other landform depression that has water flowing through or standing for some period of the year. (PPS, GP)

Vegetation Protection Zone

A vegetated buffer area surrounding a *key natural heritage feature* or *key hydrologic feature* within which only those land uses permitted within the feature itself are permitted. The width of the *vegetation protection zone* is to be determined when new development or *site alteration* occurs within 120 metres of a *key natural heritage feature* or *key hydrologic feature*, and is to be of sufficient size to protect the feature and its functions from the impacts of the proposed change and associated activities that will occur before, during, and after, construction, and where possible, restore or enhance the feature and/or its function. (GP)

Vulnerable

Means surface and groundwater that can be easily changed or impacted by activities or events, either by virtue of their vicinity to such activities or events or by permissive pathways between such activities and the surface and/or groundwater. (PPS, GP)

Watershed

A watershed refers to the entire catchment area, both land and water, drained by a watercourse and its tributaries. (PTGP)

Watershed Plans

A watershed plan is a plan used for managing human activities and natural resources in an area defined by watershed boundaries. Watershed plans shall include, but are not limited to, the following components:

- a) A water budget and conservation plan;
- b) Land and water use and management strategies;
- c) A framework for implementation;
- d) An environmental monitoring plan;
- e) Requirements for the use of environmental management practices and programs;
- f) Criteria for evaluating the protection of water quality and quantity, and *key hydrologic features* and functions; and

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- g) Targets on a watershed or sub-watershed basis for the protection and restoration of riparian areas and the establishment of *natural self-sustaining vegetation*. (GP)

Wayside Pits and Quarries

Means a temporary pit or quarry opened and used by or for a public authority solely for the purpose of a particular project or contract of road construction and not located on the road right-of-way. (PPS)

Wetlands (as per the PPS)

Within areas outside of the Greenbelt means lands that are seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water, as well as lands where the water table is close to or at the surface. In either case the presence of abundant water has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic plants or water tolerant plants. The four major types of wetlands are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens. Periodically soaked or wet lands being used for agricultural purposes which no longer exhibit wetland characteristics are not considered to be wetlands for the purposes of this definition. (PPS)

Wetlands (as per the Greenbelt Plan)

Within the Greenbelt boundary means land such as a swamp, marsh, bog or fen (not including land that is being used for agricultural purposes and no longer exhibits wetland characteristics) that:

- a) Is seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water or has the water table close to or at the surface;
- b) Has hydric soils and vegetation dominated by hydrophytic or water-tolerant plants; and
- c) Has been further identified, by the Ministry of Natural Resources or by any other person, according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time. (GP)

Wildlife Habitat

Means areas where plants, animals and other organisms live, and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Specific wildlife habitats of concern may include areas where species concentrate at a vulnerable point in their annual life cycle; and areas that are important to migratory and non-migratory species. (PPS, GP)

Woodlands

Means treed areas that provide environmental and economic benefits to both the private landowner and the general public, such as erosion prevention, hydrological and nutrient cycling, provision of clean air and the long-term storage of carbon, provision of wildlife habitat, outdoor recreational opportunities, and the sustainable harvest of a wide range of woodland products. Woodlands include treed areas, woodlots or forested areas and vary in their level of significance at the local, regional and provincial levels. (PPS)

Zoning By-Law

Means a by-law passed under section 34 of the *Planning Act*.