

to our communities. The public is increasingly attuned to these issues due to news coverage and the OPP's growing use of social media.

"The perception appears to be that we have more guns out there because we are covering more through social media," Dionne said.

Guns and the violence that surrounds them are often inextricably linked to the illegal drug trade, the weapons used as a tool of intimidation by street gangs and organized crime alike.

"That's something that you do see hand in hand," Dionne said. "Often times, if there is a gun, there is drugs associated with it."

Evidence of human trafficking can prove more challenging to pinpoint at a roadside stop, as victims are unlikely to ask for help due to fear of retribution from their captor, who may be in the vehicle.

"They can't speak up to be able to say, 'I'm in danger right now'," Dionne said, adding police would follow up based on clues that point to potential human trafficking.

Running a licence plate through a police cruiser's on-board computer tells an officer a great deal about who is potentially in the vehicle - including the name of the registered owner and whether there is a criminal history involved.

In some instances, police may be faced with a gap in information - a vehicle with a stolen plate, for example.

"Now we don't know who we are dealing with," Dionne said, adding police may call for backup support before approaching.

Asked if the OPP has adequate resources to tackle these crimes that threaten the safety and security of our communities, she said, "we could always use more."

In the same breath, she said the OPP is well equipped with specialized departments to tackle these larger issues, including the provincial force's weapons enforcement and organized crime units.

However, "police can't do it alone," Dionne said.

"We can't stop all the crimes on our own, and I think ... a great piece for our community members to take with them is: As a citizen in my community, I also have a responsibility to provide a safe community environment," she said. "My part is to report suspicious activity."

Asked how defunding would impact the OPP's ability to tackle guns, drugs and human trafficking on area highways, Dionne said she "can't arbitrarily talk about" the measure some members of the public have called for in order to reallocate policing dollars to social services.

It is the OPP's duty to ensure citizens' safety and well-being, she said.

To do that, the force requires resources to "deliver the programs and crime prevention and crime enforcement to be able to continue doing that in a safe, secure and healthy environment," she added.

Notice of Statutory Public Meeting - Ward 1



Concerning applications for Amendments to the Town of Halton Hills Official Plan and Zoning By-law (2010-0050), municipal address: 20 Ransom Street (Acton)

Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6 p.m. via Zoom virtual meeting

To join the virtual meeting, use one of the following methods and a staff member will admit you once the item is being discussed:

- Visit zoom.us/j/97021247862
- Enter Zoom ID 970 2124 7862 in the Zoom app
- Call 647-558-0588

Halton Hills Council will conduct a public meeting to examine and discuss proposed applications for amendments to the Town of Halton Hills Official Plan and Zoning By-law, seeking permission to construct 10 two-storey townhouse units accessed by a private laneway at 20 Ransom Street.

Please note: Council meeting will commence at 6 p.m. but there may be other preceding items which could impact the 6 p.m. start time for this Public Meeting. Please consult the Council agenda available online the Friday before the Monday meeting.

Legal Notices Required Under the Planning Act:

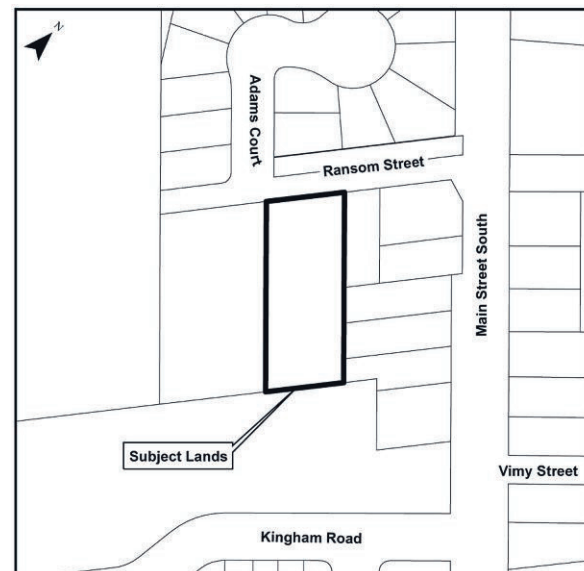
1. If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of Town of Halton Hills Council to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Halton Hills before the proposed Official Plan (or Official Plan Amendment) is adopted and the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.
2. If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Halton Hills before the proposed Official Plan (or Official Plan Amendment) is adopted and the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

Any written comment/objection submitted to the Town of Halton Hills regarding these applications which are being processed under the Planning Act, may be made public as part of the application process.

Additional information and material about the proposal can also be obtained by contacting the Planner assigned to the file, Greg Macdonald at 905-873-2600, ext. 2979 or via email at gmacdonald@haltonhills.ca. A copy of the related Staff Report will be available on September 11, 2020, on the Town's website at calendar.haltonhills.ca/meetings.

Notification:

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Halton Hills on the proposed Official Plan (or Official Plan Amendment) and Zoning By-law (or Zoning By-law Amendment), you must make a written request to the Town of Halton Hills Planning & Development Department, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, ON, L7G 5G2.



File No(s): D09OPA20.001 and D14ZBA20.004