Farm Economics Report

PURPOSE:

This document provides guidance for the preparation of a Farm Economics Report which may be required for the submission of an application under the *Planning Act*. All Farm Economics Reports and comment summaries shall follow the guidelines referenced in this document.

A Farm Economics Report will provide information required as part of a Consent Application and is considered a discretionary submission requirement for an Official Plan and Zoning By-law complete application when a severance is proposed on lands in the rural area as identified in the Rural Hamilton Official Plan for agricultural uses and agricultural-related uses. The purpose of a Farm Economics Report is to demonstrate that the proposed agricultural uses on the severed and retained lots are of sufficient size and nature to be reasonably expected to:

i) Sustain a commercially viable farm operation;

ii) Allow farm operators the flexibility to change the existing and proposed farm operation in the event of business failure; and,

iii) Allow farm operators the flexibility to diversify and intensify the production of agricultural commodities in response to changing economic conditions and trends in agriculture.

(Rural Hamilton Official Plan, Policy F.1.14.2.2 d))

PREPARED BY:

A Farm Economics Report must be prepared by an accredited professional experienced in farm economics, such as an agrologist or agronomist.

CONTENTS:

A Farm Economics Report must contain the information necessary to demonstrate whether the agricultural uses are reasonably expected to meet the goals set out in Rural Hamilton Official Plan, Policy F.1.14.2.2 d), listed above.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Development Planning, Planning and Economic Development Department

A Farm Economics Report may also require a peer review.

CONTACT:

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