

(e) Integration

Stormwater Management Facilities shall be designed to have a high level of public exposure and should be integrated in, and contribute to, the enhancement of the neighbourhood's public realm.

(f) Safety

The design and layout of Stormwater Management Facilities shall address issues related to safety and shall be designed with gentle slopes in areas with direct access. Areas with steeper slopes shall not have direct access and shall be designed to include overhangs, railings and dense plantings.

3.4.5 Power, Telecommunications and Other Cabled Services

(a) Location

New development will have local service power lines, communications/ telecommunications infrastructure and other cabled services located underground in road rights-of-way, where feasible.

(b) Land Use Compatibility

The Town will encourage utility installations for telecommunications towers to be located outside of residential areas, where feasible. In instances where the facilities are of a scale and function which is perceived to present significant issues related to land use compatibility, infrastructure which must be located within residential areas or within close proximity to residential areas shall be designed to be compatible with the adjacent and surrounding land uses.

(c) Design

Where feasible, the Town will seek to have local service power lines, communications/telecommunications infrastructure and other cabled services located underground. Above ground shall be sited to reduce their visual impact on the streetscape and/or screened using street furniture and landscaping. The Town encourages utility providers to consider innovative methods of containing utility services within streetscape features such as gateways, lamp posts, transit shelters, etc., when determining appropriate locations for large utility equipment and utility cluster sites.

(d) Location and Siting of Large Utility Equipment

The Town will ensure that appropriate locations for large utility equipment and cluster site have been determined and that consideration be given to locational requirements for larger infrastructure within public rights-of-way, as well as easements on private property.

(e) Permissions

Utility infrastructure shall be permitted in all land use designations, subject of the policies of this Plan.

(f) Servicing

The Town will ensure that adequate utility networks, are or will be, established to serve the anticipated development through discussions with public and/or private utility providers.

(g) Coordination

The Town encourages all utilities to be planned for and installed in a coordinated and integrated basis in order to be more efficient, cost effective and minimize disruptions.

(h) Communication Towers

The Municipality of Fort Frances recognizes that the installation of communication towers is required to supply, improve, and maintain the quality of service. Communication towers of 16.5 m in height or greater are designated as a structure under the Ontario Building Code and will be subject to building permits, as well as regulations under the Zoning By-law.

Local zoning by-laws cannot prevent a telecommunication tower from being constructed, since the Federal Government has the approval authority under the *Radio Communications Act*. Industry Canada recognizes the importance of considering the potential impact of communication towers on the adjacent surroundings and the community. A proponent seeking to establish a communications tower shall work with the Municipality, seek input from the community, and meet the requirements as set out in the *Radio Communications Act*.

3.4.6 Power Generation Facilities and Green Energy

Fort Frances will encourage and support alternative and renewable-source energy generation facilities which are developed in accordance with this Plan and Provincial and Federal legislation, policies, and regulations. Proposed developments will be encouraged to locate in areas where their adverse impacts on adjacent lands and natural features are minimized and mitigated to the greatest extent possible. Where feasible and practical, power generation facilities which are primarily buildings (e.g. cogeneration plant) may be encouraged to develop on brownfield sites. When evaluating proposals for alternative energy generation facilities the Town will consider the following:

- a) Location of facility;
- b) Size and scale of proposed facility;
- c) Potential for land use compatibility issues with adjacent land uses and potential for adverse impacts related to air, noise, odour, vibration, etc.;
- d) Potential for perceived risks to human health and safety; and
- e) Any additional considerations.

For highway safety reasons, wind turbines located adjacent to a provincial highway will be set back a minimum distance measured from the limit of the highway property line equal to the distance of the height of the wind turbine structure plus the length of one blade.

Developments which fall under the jurisdiction of the Green Energy Act do not require an Amendment to this Plan.

3.4.7 Energy Conservation

Fort Frances shall encourage and support energy conservation, district heating and combined heat and power, and the on-site use of alternative and renewable energy sources developed in accordance with Provincial and Federal legislation, policies, and

regulations, and where all potential negative impacts to adjacent lands are mitigated. The Town will also encourage the application of energy conservation measures in the infrastructure and utility servicing of new buildings and in the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing neighbourhoods, buildings and structures. The Town will encourage and support water conservation methods (such as efficient landscape irrigation, low water consumption fixtures, etc.) in the development of new sites and buildings and in the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing sites and buildings. The Town may establish energy conservation design guidelines to encourage, or require, future development to implement energy conservation measures.

3.4.8 Site Plan Control

The development of all new infrastructure and utilities are subject to Site Plan Control.

3.5 Gateway Policies

There are three main approaches into Fort Frances. The east-west approaches are along King's Highway No. 11 while the approach from the south is via the International Bridge between International Falls and Fort Frances. The International Bridge traffic connects with Church Street, Central Avenue and eventually with the King's Highway.

These important corridors are gateway entrances into Fort Frances and provide potential economic benefits to the Town. The Town wishes to capture this traffic by providing a welcoming entrance into Fort Frances, with the intent of increasing the time spent in the Town by the travelling public. The Town recognizes that there are unsightly existing uses along these important corridors and it will work with the land owners to relocate these uses to a more appropriate land use designation away from the corridors.

The Plan includes a Gateway Economic Overlay at the three main entrances into the Town of Fort Frances. The Gateway Economic Overlay designation is planned to be a specialized employment area for businesses related to transportation and logistics, including facilities related to shipping and receiving, warehouses, major offices, manufacturers' showrooms, prestige manufacturing, light other similar uses. Minor retail, personal and professional services, commercial uses which are scaled to meet the needs of the employees within the immediate area are also permitted. Educational institutions that are complimentary to the aforementioned uses are also permitted. There shall be no outside storage of raw goods, materials or waste materials.

3.5.1 Design

Gateway Economic Area uses should be planned and designed to reflect the important role they play in serving the Town, the Rainy River District and Ontario. Gateway Economic Area uses should have high quality exteriors and landscaping. Gateway Economic Area uses at the convergence of transportation corridors will be encouraged to incorporate high quality, but unobtrusive, signage, architectural detailing on the principal building, and/or landscaping. The Gateway Economic Area, given its important locational characteristic, will be required to accommodate a high degree of streetscaping. The design of Gateway Economic Area uses should be pedestrian-friendly, barrier-free and accessible. Where outdoor storage is allowed as a previously existing use, it shall be screened using fencing and/or plantings so that the storage area or materials are not