

TOWN OF SUSSEX

STRATEGIC POLICY APPROACH OVERVIEW

JANUARY 16, 2020



DILLON
CONSULTING

OVERVIEW:

1. Engagement: What We Heard

2. Policy Areas

1. Housing
2. Economic Development
3. Population Growth
4. Transportation
5. Community Safety
6. Climate Change Adaptation and Flood Mitigation

3. Proposed Project Timeline / Next Steps

ENGAGEMENT:

- **What We Heard:**

- The desire for an approach to affordable housing that would accommodate seniors, families, and new residents;
- The desire to diversify the employment base and attract new sources of economic development;
- The desire to build on the Town's history of high quality festivals to attract new, innovative festivals and events specifically to the historic downtown;
- The desire to be a welcoming, inclusive community to newcomers;
- The desire for the economy and the population to grow;
- The desire to provide high quality, safe, and accessible public spaces including sidewalks, streets, trails, parks, and bike lanes; and
- The desire to be prepared for and adapt to the effects of Climate Change.

WHAT WE HEARD:

- **Limited supply of affordable housing.**
- **Need housing options for seniors.**
- **Options for ageing in place**

RECOMMENDATION

- **New policy to create a generalized approach for affordable housing.**
- **New policy to encourage a variety of housing types to accommodate a greater variety of residents.**

WHAT WE HEARD:

- **Downtown is central to the Town's success.**
- **Diversify employment base and support small business.**
- **Attract businesses, people, events, and festivals.**

RECOMMENDATION

- **New policy to focus Downtown as Town's centre and Gateway Mall as Regional Service Centre.**
- **New policy to encourage festivals and events.**
- **Update policy around business attraction to include commercial, industrial, and agricultural.**

WHAT WE HEARD:

- **Need to attract more people to live and work in the Town.**
- **Provide opportunities to retain the Town's youth.**

RECOMMENDATION

- **New policy to provide a framework for attracting new residents in line with economic development approach.**
- **New policy to explore programs to attract and retain youth and families.**

WHAT WE HEARD:

- **Need for increased connectivity between east and west parts of the Town.**
- **Transit options besides vehicle ownership.**
- **Increased pedestrian safety and accessibility.**

RECOMMENDATION

- **Provide direction for a new and phased Transportation Master Plan. Will address:**
 - **Movement of people, goods, and services throughout the Town;**
 - **Pedestrian safety;**
 - **Active transportation; and**
 - **Explore different modes of transit.**

WHAT WE HEARD:

- Perceived increase in crime.
- Want for increased police presence.
- Concern over vacant and derelict buildings.

RECOMMENDATION

- Update policies to work with RCMP to create and support community and youth programming.
- New policy to provide approach and explore programs to incentivize infill development and derelict building maintenance.

WHAT WE HEARD:

- **The need to prepare for extreme weather events.**
- **Adaptive approaches to flooding and need for mitigation strategies.**

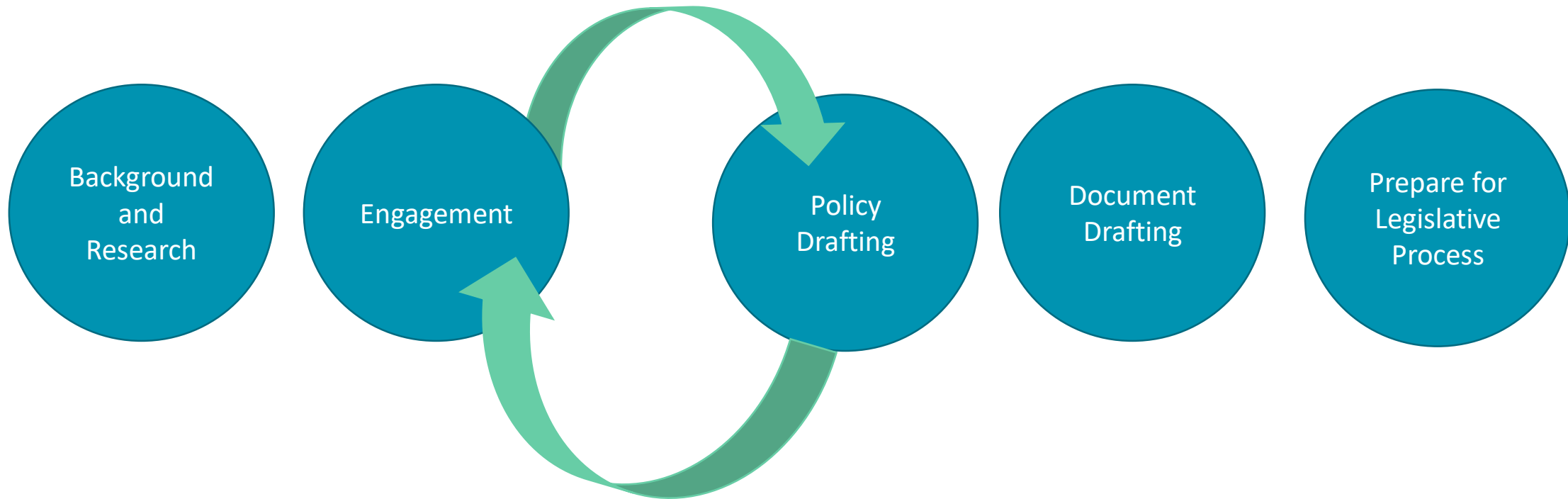
RECOMMENDATION

- **Update policies to integrate information from the Town's Flood Study and Climate Change Adaptation Plan into the Plan.**
- **Provide direction to develop a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment.**

MUNICIPAL PLAN PROCESS

Summer 2019

February



LEGISLATIVE ADOPTION PROCESS

