



Subject: Declaration of City Land to be Surplus – Barber Drive

To: Council

From: Development and Government Relations Department

Report Number: 2025-81

Meeting Date: May 13, 2025

Recommendation:

That Development and Government Relations Department Report 2025-81 be received;
and

That the property described as Part 1 on Plan 59R-16975 Part of Lot 26 Concession 2,
as shown in Appendix A attached hereto, be declared as surplus.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council support to have the City-owned property, shown in Appendix A, declared as surplus so that it can be made available to facilitate continued industrial investment at the Ramey's Bend dock and shipping area.

Background:

City staff are always reviewing City-owned property to identify potential surplus lands that could be made available to support development opportunities and expand the City's tax base. Development attracts new residents, creates additional assessment on the City's tax roll, and adds users to the water and wastewater system to help improve efficiency and financial sustainability.

Staff have applied this rationale when analyzing properties for potential disposition. City staff believe that the subject parcel, shown in Appendix A and in Appendix B, with the legal description Part of Lot 26 Concession 2, Part 1 Plan 59R-16975, meet these objectives.

The City owned parcel, which is 0.76 of an acre, is located north of Main Street on the east side of Barber Drive running north along the rail tracks (see Appendix A). The

parcel is zoned Gateway Industrial (GI). There are no municipal services on the west side of the railway tracks and as such, the area is used for outdoor storage of industrial materials.

Discussion:

The subject parcel is not generating tax revenue for the City. Staff believe a better use of the parcel would be achieved through private ownership. Selling this parcel to the private sector would fulfill the goals of the surplus land review and continue to attract private sector investment to the City. Any future sale would be conducted in accordance with the Sale of Land Policy.

Internal Consultations:

The parcel is not required by the City based on an internal review by City departments. Staff are recommending that this parcel be declared surplus to support future industrial development in the area.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications associated with this report and recommendation. If the parcel is declared surplus and sold, there will be future legal and survey costs. These costs can be funded by the Economic Development Land Reserve and would be recovered from any sale of the subject parcel.

Public Engagement:

There has been no public engagement on this request and none is required.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillars of the strategic plan:

- Welcoming, Livable, Healthy Community
 - Economic Prosperity
-

Conclusion:

The City property on Barber Drive, shown as Parcel A and again in Appendix B, has been identified by staff as surplus to City needs. Declaring this property as surplus is

the first step in making them available to support future industrial development opportunities, expanding the employment base of the City and increasing the tax base of the City. It is recommended that the property be declared surplus to City needs and divested in accordance with the Sale of Land Policy.

Appendices:

- a. Survey Part 1 - Plan 59R-16975
- b. Property Map Barber Drive—City parcel to be declared surplus

Respectfully submitted,

Bram Cotton
Economic Development Officer
905-228-8063
Bram.Cotton@portcolborne.ca

Gary Long
Director of Development and Government Relations
905-228-8062
Gary.Long@portcolborne.ca

Report Approval:

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.