



# PLAN RICHMOND COUNTY

## About Plan Richmond County

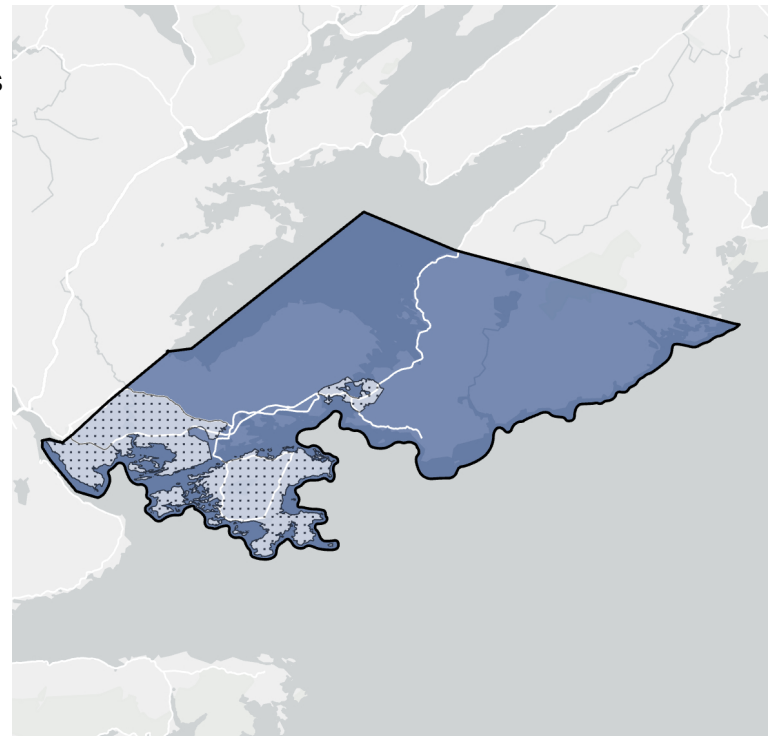
Plan Richmond County is a project to develop a Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw for all parts of the Municipality of the County of Richmond that currently have no land use planning documents in place (see the map below). In 2018, the Provincial Government passed new legislation that requires every municipality to adopt land use rules that meet newly established minimum planning standards. The wider project, Plan Eastern Nova, will bring the Municipalities of the Counties of Richmond, Inverness, Antigonish, and Victoria into compliance with this provincial mandate.

## Project Timeline

The project began in the Fall of 2021 with the initial phase of consultation held from October 2021-January 2022. The first Draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law were written over the winter of 2022 with another round of public consultation in Spring 2022. Edits were made over the following year and now the second Draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use By-law are out for public review. Final adoption of the new documents by Council is expected to take place in late 2023.

## The Importance of Planning

Planning is the process by which communities can control change and development in their physical environment. It seeks to balance the needs of people, the economy and the environment by determining where certain land uses should take place and at what intensity. It plays a big role in keeping populations safe and healthy, as well as controlling growth and making it easier and more efficient to get around and access services through transportation and infrastructure planning. It also helps us to manage change, support our community's character, protect our natural resources and promote a sustainable economy.



 Planned Area  Unplanned Area

## Stay Involved

Visit the project website at [www.planrichmond.ca](http://www.planrichmond.ca) or email the project team at [hello@planrichmond.ca](mailto:hello@planrichmond.ca)



## Share Your Feedback

The second Draft Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaw have been updated based on public feedback obtained last year and we invite residents to review them at this time. Residents are invited to share their feedback until Sunday, October 8th, 2023 at 11:59 PM.

You can submit feedback on the project website using the online feedback form at [www.planrichmond.ca](http://www.planrichmond.ca) or you can submit your comments to us by email at [hello@planrichmond.ca](mailto:hello@planrichmond.ca). If you do not have internet access, you can call the project team at (902) 423-0649 to inquire about the proposed zoning on your property.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How will this affect me and my property?

The new planning documents, once adopted, will apply to all future developments. Existing land uses and associated structures (that were legally constructed) are protected under the *Municipal Government Act* as a “non-conforming use” and are not required to comply with the new Land Use By-law unless changes are made to the structure or use.

### How do I find out what proposed zone my property is in?

You can access the online mapping platform that will allow you to search by civic address, or by the eight-digit Parcel Identification Number (PID). Simply enter your address or PID and you can view the proposed zoning for your property. To learn more about the permitted uses in that zone (or any other zone), you can consult the Zone Descriptions document or, for a more in-depth description, the Draft Land Use By-law itself, both available on the project website ([www.planrichmond.ca](http://www.planrichmond.ca)).

### What if I want to change the zoning of my property in the future?

If you wish to have your property “rezoned” in the future, you can apply for a “rezoning” via the Eastern District Planning Commission. This is a public process involving a public hearing and is a decision made by your local Council.

### Will the introduction of zoning have any impact on my property taxes?

Property taxes are calculated based on the use taking place on the land, not by the zoning. For example, if your property is a residence that now has commercial zoning on the property, your taxes will be calculated based on the residential land use, not the commercial zoning.

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