

# Update to the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District Plan

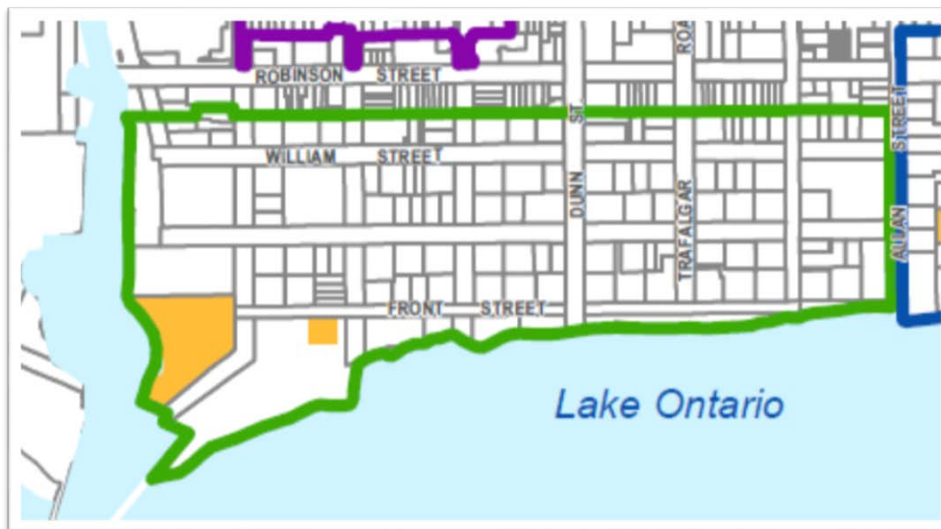
## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Question:** What is a Heritage Conservation District?

**Answer:** A Heritage Conservation District is generally an area with multiple properties and heritage features that combine to have significant cultural heritage value. A Heritage Conservation District is designated using the tools of Part V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Properties within a Heritage Conservation District typically require approval through a heritage permit to make changes to the exterior of the property.

**Question:** What is the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District?

**Answer:** Old Oakville is the oldest of the Town's four Heritage Conservation Districts and it has been in place since 1982. All properties within the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District are governed by a District Plan, which manages change to the area. The boundary of Old Oakville is show below:



**Question:** I live in the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District, but my house isn't old. Am I still part of the District?

**Answer:** Yes. All properties that are within the boundary of the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District are considered designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, regardless of their age.

**Question:** What is the update to the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District about and why are we doing it now?

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**Answer:** Heritage legislation in Ontario has changed several times since the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District was enacted in 1982. It's been 40 years since the District Plan was put in place and it's time for a review to update our information on the Old Oakville area and to create a new Plan that meets the requirements of new legislation and the stakeholders. The update to the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District has been requested by Council and is a budget item in the 2022 budget.

**Question:** What is the process to update a Heritage Conservation District?

**Answer:** The *Ontario Heritage Act* doesn't offer any shortcuts to update an existing Heritage Conservation District, so we're starting at the beginning with a new Study to examine the background information of the area and existing planning policy framework. When the Study is complete, we'll begin working with stakeholders on the creation of a new District Plan.

**Question:** Is the Heritage District Study the same thing as the District Plan?

**Answer:** No, the Study is a separate document from the District Plan. The Study comes first, as required by the Ontario Heritage Act, and covers the historical development of the area, includes an inventory of the properties and identifies the existing planning policies, like Zoning. Once the Study is complete and approved by Council, the District Plan process can begin. The District Plan is a book of guidelines on how to manage changes in the Heritage Conservation District and it is based on best practices in heritage conservation and stakeholder input.

**Question:** How do I participate in the update to the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District?

**Answer:** Please sign up at [heritagedistrict@oakville.ca](mailto:heritagedistrict@oakville.ca) to receive email updates on how to participate in the update. There will be many different ways to participate in the process in 2022 and we hope you'll be able to join us.

**Question:** Who is working on the update to the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District?

**Answer:** Town staff are currently working on a draft of the Study in-house and are waiting on Budget approval to retain consultants to finish the Study and complete the District Plan. Public participation will be extremely important during the drafting of the District Plan.

**Question:** How are the consultants hired?

**Answer:** When we receive budget approval to retain consultants, the Town will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) through the Town's Procurement program. You can find out more about that here: <https://www.oakville.ca/business/tenders-quotes.html>

## **Update to the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District Plan**

**Question:** What is an Interim Control Bylaw? And how does would one apply to the update to the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District?

**Answer:** An interim control by-law can be placed over an area to halt and/or restrict development for a period of up to one year. However, this is not recommended for Old Oakville, as an interim control by-law is meant to be used when creating a new HCD. In addition, an interim control by-law can be appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal, which could create unnecessary delay. The town already has an existing HCD Plan, which will remain in place to ensure conservation of the heritage resources of the Old Oakville District, so the HCD will not be unprotected during the study. At this time, Town Council has chosen to not enact an interim control by-law over the Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District.

**Question:** How long is this going to take?

**Answer:** We're hoping to have a draft District Plan ready for review by the fall of 2022, but want to make sure that we take our time and carefully consider all the feedback we receive, so it may not be approved by Council until early 2023.

**Question:** Can I still make changes to my property while this update is underway?

**Answer:** Yes. Heritage permits will continue to be processed under the existing Old Oakville Heritage Conservation District Plan until a new District Plan is adopted.