CULTURAL MAPPING

WHAT IS CULTURAL MAPPING?

Cultural mapping is a community-based and community-driven process of identifying, recording, and valuing local cultural assets. This includes both tangible assets (assets that have a physical presence) and intangible assets (the stories, traditions, and histories that make up our unique identity).

Cultural mapping involves looking at culture as a multifaceted force in the community. Ways in which culture exists in regions can be broken down into categories.



At this time the Township of Zorra will be focusing on "Resource Mapping".

Once the Resource Mapping has been completed, the Township will begin the process for community identity mapping.



TYPES OF CULTURAL MAPPING

There are two (2) main types of cultural mapping:

1. Resource Mapping

 Resource mapping involves identifying and recording tangible cultural resources, which are then plotted on a map (usually making use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools and platforms).

2. Community Identity Mapping

 Community identity mapping involves exploring 'intangible cultural resources' (i.e., the unique stories and traditions that define a community identity and sense of place).

TASK FORCE

In 2021, the Township began researching alternate public consultation mechanisms to better engage the Zorra community. As a result, the Township decided to move forward with the establishment of "task forces."

Task forces are similar to committees, but they can operate much more informally and give volunteers more flexibility with how and when they will participate. The idea behind task forces is that they will allow residents to participate in local government, remain informed, offer suggestions, and provide meaningful input without the bureaucratic constraints that Zorra Township committees operate within. (e.g., formal agendas and minutes, scheduling set meetings at the beginning of the year, formal meeting procedure, committing to a four-year term, etc.).

"TASK FORCE"

advance previous decisions of Council

Delegated authority from Council to "get the work done"

"COMMITTEE"

make recommendations to Council so that Council can make an informed decision

Delegated authority from Council to provide recommendations.

At the July 6, 2022 Council meeting, Council decided to move forward with **Cultural Mapping Task Force** as a trial for the task force model. The task force will begin work in fall 2022.

If you are interested in joining the Cultural Mapping Task Force, or would like additional information, please contact the Deputy Clerk, Alycia Wettlaufer, at awettlaufer@zorra.ca or (519) 485-2490 ext. 7250.