



# Planning and Development Committee

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# Chickens in Residential Areas

## Project Overview

### Brief Project History

Direction was received from Committee following a Delegation made to **Administration and Operations Committee** in **May 2023**, to prepare options to permit chickens in residential areas for consideration.

**4 possible options** were presented to Agricultural Advisory Committee on **October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, and to Planning and Development Committee on **November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

**Planning and Development Committee** directed County Staff to proceed with **option 3**, to allow chickens in all residential areas of the **County**, subject to the review of further information and regulations, developed as part of next steps.

This **direction** was consistent with feedback received from the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

### Next Step...

Prior to drafting a Backyard Hen By-Law and amending By-Law's County Staff wanted to provide Planning and Development Committee with:

- A project update
- Further regulatory information
- Suggested regulatory measures (limitations, prohibitions, and implementation)
- Public engagement overview
- Next steps

Committee's direction is required to prepare a Backyard Hen By-Law and amending By-Laws, and recommendation report for Committee's further consideration in May 2024.





# Chickens in Residential Areas

## Draft Regulations

Draft regulations will need to consider:



Public Health &  
Mitigation of  
Potential Health  
Risks



Sustainable  
Food  
Production &  
Lifestyle



Potential  
Predators  
& Pests



Biosecurity  
Measures



Mitigation of  
Potential  
Nuisances



Animal Health  
& Welfare



Potential  
Prohibitions



Property  
Inspection,  
Licensing  
Program, &  
Fees

**\*** Draft regulations will be based on project research, other municipal approaches, feedback received from this Committee, Planning and Development Committee, and the Public through project engagement in Spring 2024.



# Potential Concerns & Constraints

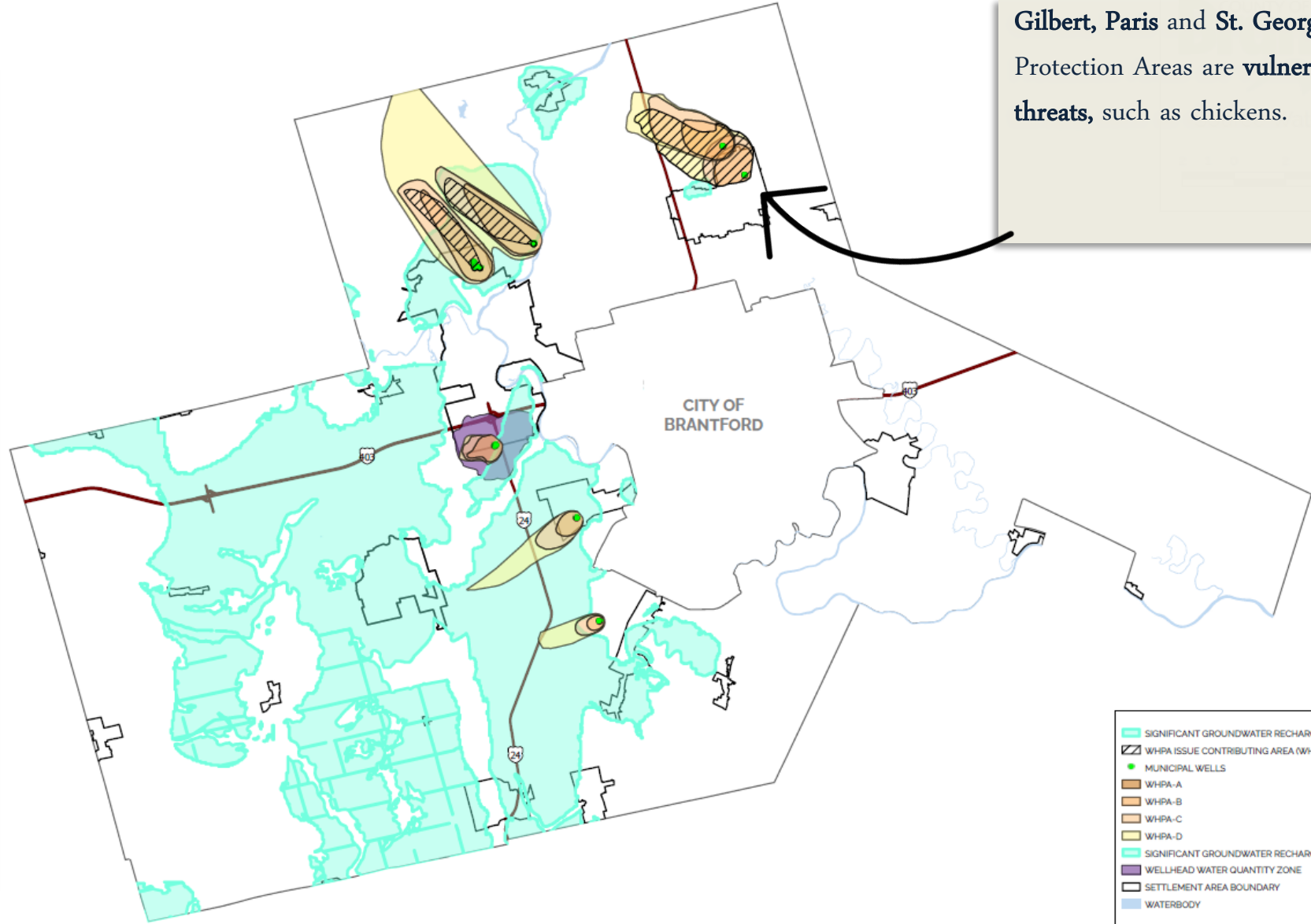
## Source Water Protection

Gilbert, Paris and St. George Wellhead Protection Areas are **vulnerable to potential threats**, such as chickens.

Chickens pose a significant drinking water threat to municipal drinking water sources.

Source Water Protection Areas, Wellhead Protection Areas, and areas with High Nitrate Levels are of particular concern.

Based on preliminary analysis by Cabium Inc., Risk Management Official (RMO) for the County chickens should be prohibited in these areas.



- SIGNIFICANT GROUNDWATER RECHARGE AREA (SGRA)
- ▨ WHPA ISSUE CONTRIBUTING AREA (WHPA - ICA)
- MUNICIPAL WELLS
- WHPA-A
- WHPA-B
- WHPA-C
- WHPA-D
- SIGNIFICANT GROUNDWATER RECHARGE AREA (SGRA)
- WELLHEAD WATER QUANTITY ZONE
- ▭ SETTLEMENT AREA BOUNDARY
- WATERBODY



# Next Steps

## Chickens in Residential Areas

County Staff would be pleased to **obtain** feedback and **direction** from this Committee on **RPT-0177- 24** and attachments to prepare a **draft Backyard Hen By-Law**, amending by-laws, and recommendation report for Committee in **May 2024 for further consideration.**

- Public Engagement on regulations for chickens in residential areas – **March 2024**
- Preparation of draft By-Law's and regulations – **Spring 2024.**
- Statutory Public Meeting & Staff Recommendation Report to Planning and Development Committee – **May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**
  - Draft amending By-Law's
  - Draft regulations
- Final By-Law's Presented to Council for Decision – **Summer 2024.**

Draft regulations will need to consider **protection of private wells** in privately serviced **residential areas** of the County.



COUNTY OF  
**Brant** Simply Grand



QUESTIONS?