

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLANS IN FRONTENAC COUNTY

2016 Ontario East Municipal Conference

OVERVIEW

1. What is a Community Improvement Plan
2. How we got started
3. Our process
4. Successes
5. Challenges
6. Our next steps

PRIMARY ELEMENTS OF A CIP

- Municipal grants/loans to stimulate private development
 - » Façade improvements
 - » Brownfield redevelopment
 - » Energy efficiency
 - » Infill and adaptive reuse
- Direct municipal investment programs (infrastructure, public space, etc)

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- Improved physical appearance
- Attraction of new business
- Coordination of municipal investments
- Increased municipal assessment base
- Achieved community improvement objectives

HOW WE GOT STARTED

- **Sustainability Plan**

- Priority of 2009

- **County Council Budget**

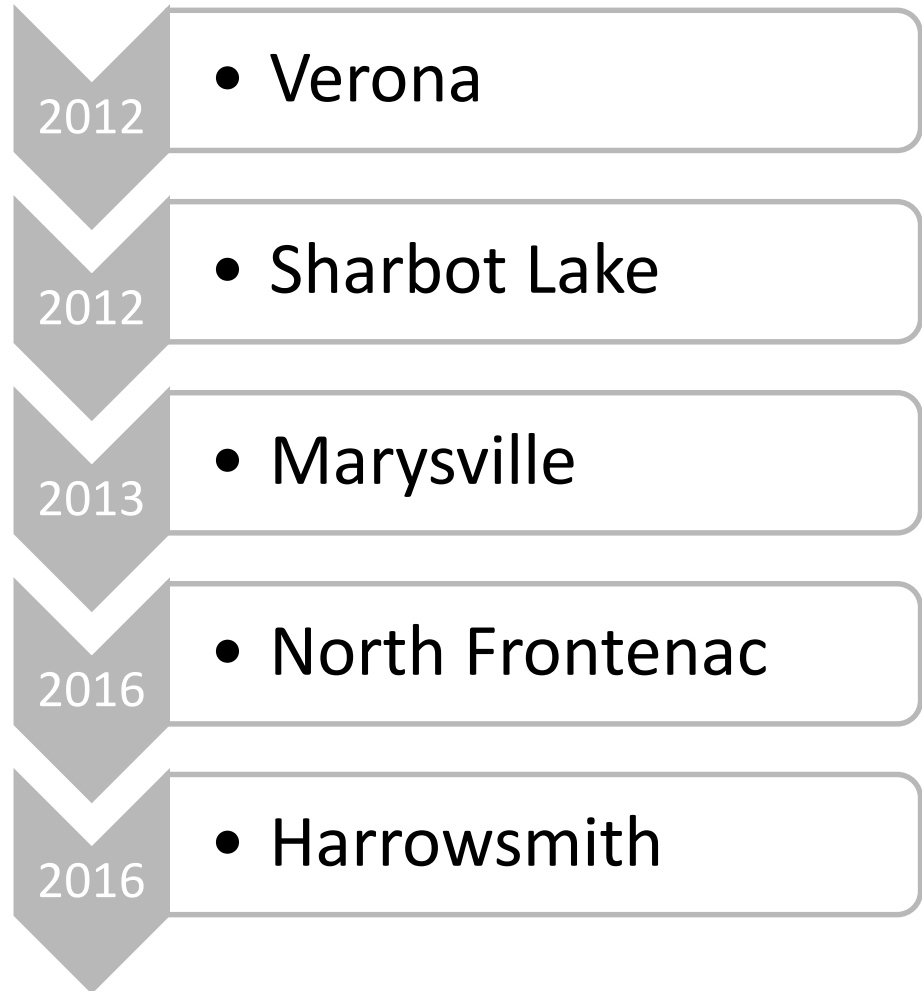
- February 2010

- **Consultant Retained**

- October 2010

- **County Council Decision**

- November 2010



OUR PROCESS

- Analyzed 11 communities within the County based on the criteria of:
 - » Policy Framework
 - » Community Form
 - » Size
 - » Public Land/Amenities
 - » Business Support
- 5 Communities Stood Out

VERONA PILOT PROJECT

Most diverse and unique commercial base while still being located primarily on a single road.

Verona contains the most households and acts as a hub for the surrounding rural area.

The Farmer's Market is unique to Verona, drawing people from the greater community.

One of the largest employers in the County.

Community form (single main street) is similar to many other communities in the County.

Summary: Size, built form, unique attributes, access, business community buy-in

Verona

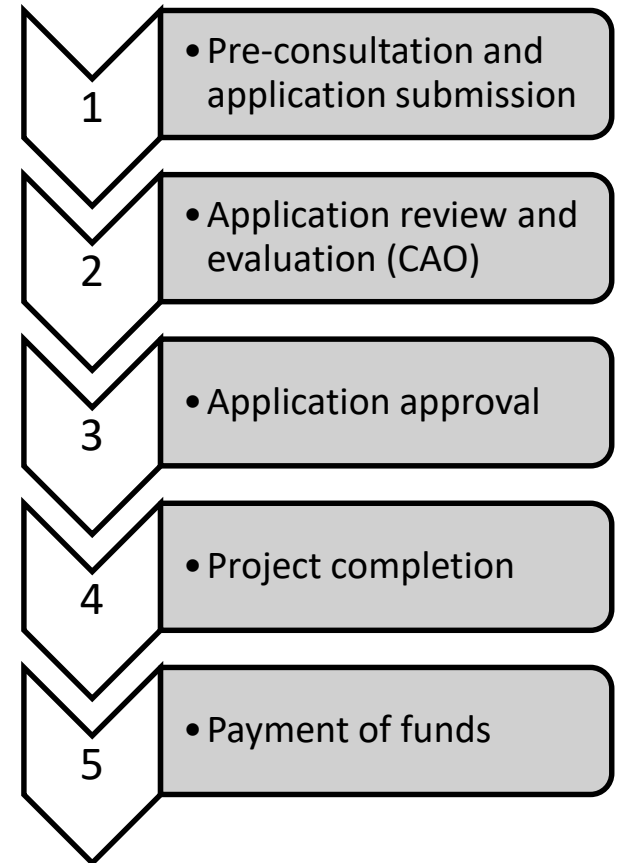


VERONA: VARIOUS ROLES

	County of Frontenac	Township of South Frontenac	Consultant (FoTenn)
Prepare by-laws	County prepared OPA and by-law	South Frontenac reviewed and adopted OPA (municipally initiated) and by-laws	Consultant reviewed proposed by-laws/OPA and provided recommendations
Prepare plan	County gathered background information	South Frontenac reviewed and approved plan	Consultant prepared plan
Public consultation	County supported work of consultant	South Frontenac sent a representative	Consultant facilitated public consultation
Funding	County funded the preparation of the plan and projects	South Frontenac funded a portion of CIP projects	
Implementation	County used CIP as template for other municipalities	Verona CIP implemented at Township level	Consultant provided recommendations for implementation

VERONA: PROCESS AND PROGRAMS

- Funding programs:
 - » Façade improvement
 - » Commercial Building Improvement
 - » Accessibility Enhancements
 - » Residential Conversion
 - » Improvement Loans
 - » Municipal Fees Rebate



VERONA: FUNDING

50% of the total project costs up to a maximum grant of \$2,500 from one or two of the following programs:

Façade Improvement,
Commercial Building Improvement,
Accessibility Enhancements, and/or
Residential Conversion Grant

Up to \$7,500 from CIP Improvement Loan Program

Up to \$2,000 from Municipal Fees Rebate Program

SUCCESSSES



<http://www.frontenacmaps.ca/verona>

INVESTMENTS IN VERONA

- **Funding received:**
 - » \$70,000 one-time from County of Frontenac
 - » \$10,000/year over 4 years from Township of South Frontenac
- **Total investments**
 - » 25+ projects completed
 - » \$719,000+ in construction value

CHALLENGES

- **Community engagement**
 - » Work with communications and economic development teams
 - » Market the plan once in place
- **Business buy-in**
 - » Reach out to individuals
- **Low-density, rural communities**
 - » Look at broad boundaries
 - » Achieve same goals using different techniques



OUR NEXT STEPS

- Harrowsmith CIP implementation: Fall 2016
 - » New CIP coming in South Frontenac
- Sharbot Lake CIP review: Fall/Winter 2016
 - » Review existing CIP and decide on future
 - » Public engagement
- Anticipated designation as “Prescribed Upper Tier Municipality”
 - » Ability to implement County-wide CIPs
 - » Infrastructure investments, transportation, housing
 - » Currently in comment period awaiting Ministerial approval

Thank You!

Questions?

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