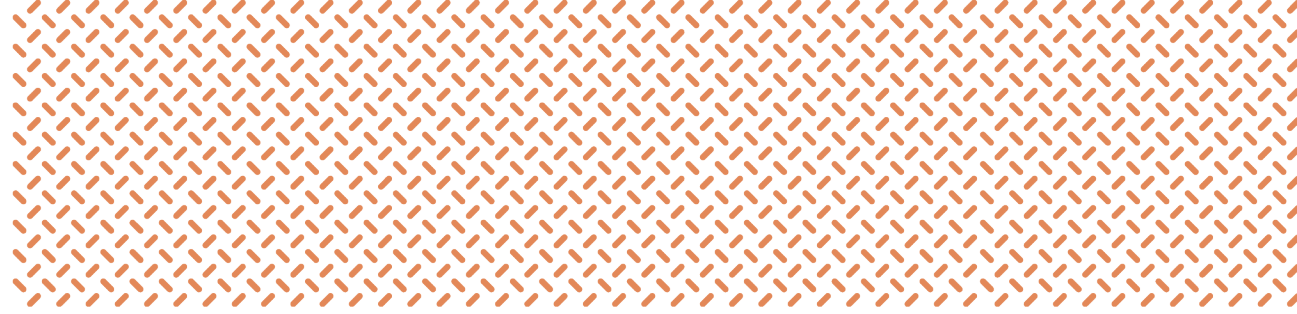


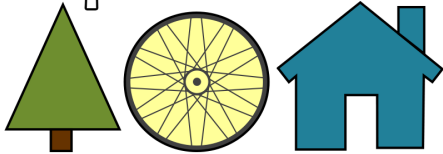


**SAULT
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Planning for a Vibrant Agriculture and Food Sector in SSM

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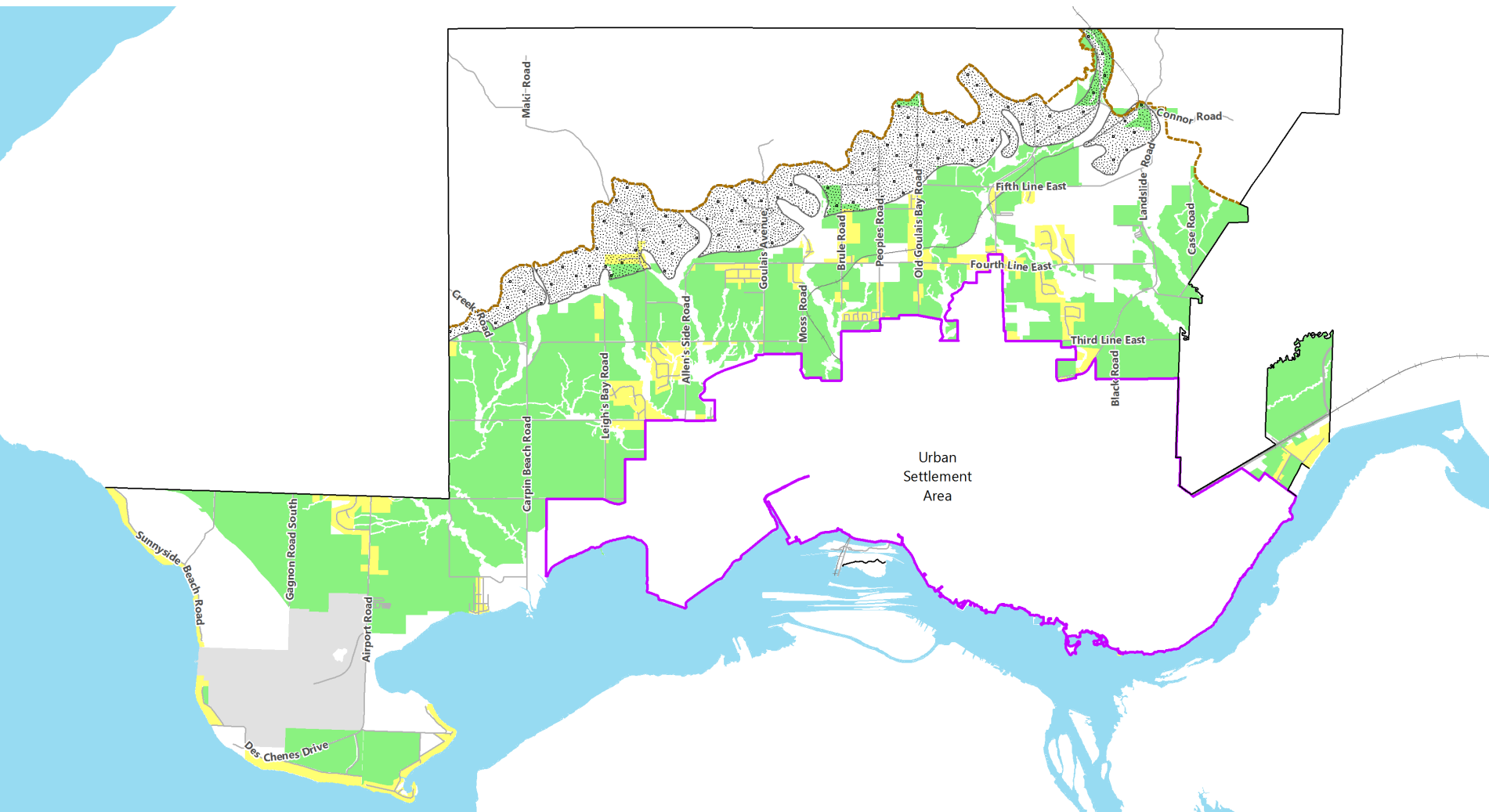
City of Sault Ste. Marie – Planning Division

Peter Tonazzo

The Sault's Rural Area

Use	Approx. Land Area (Acres)	Proportion (%)
Precambrian Uplands	12,660	32
Aggregate Extraction	4,040	10
Conservation Areas	3,560	9
Farm Use Properties (not necessarily actively farmed)	2,900	7
Residential Uses	1,880	5
Airport Lands	1,760	4
Other (Lakes, rivers, wetlands, landfill, fish hatchery)	13,200	33
TOTAL	40,000	100

The Sault's Rural Area



SSM Area Agriculture at a Glance

Farms by Type	SSM (Including Prince and BFN)	Algoma Region
Total Number of Farms	25	280
Fruits and Vegetables	9	17
Animal Production	4	111
Greenhouse and nursery	7	18
Other Crops (mostly hay)	5	125
Total Farm Revenues	\$1.6 million	\$16.4 million

- Trends (2006-2016)
 - -15% total number of farms in Algoma & -30% in SSM
 - -20% revenues
 - Average age of farmers slightly lower

What Can Planning Do? Provincial Requirements

- Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)
 - Limited Rural Development – Esp. Residential
 - Designate/Protect ‘Prime Agricultural Areas’
- OMAFRA MDS I&II
 - Minimum Distance Formulas aimed at separating livestock facilities and sensitive uses (ie. residential)

What Can Planning Do? Relax Certain Regulations!

- Traditional agricultural regulations treat livestock and crop farming the same
 - I.e. Significant minimum frontages and areas aimed at ensuring adequate space and separation between livestock and sensitive uses (residential)
 - We propose to reduce minimum frontage/area requirements related to any type of crop production.
- Rural Precambrian Uplands Area
 - Potential for Maple Syrup production

What Can Planning Do?

Provide Farmers with Additional Income Opportunities

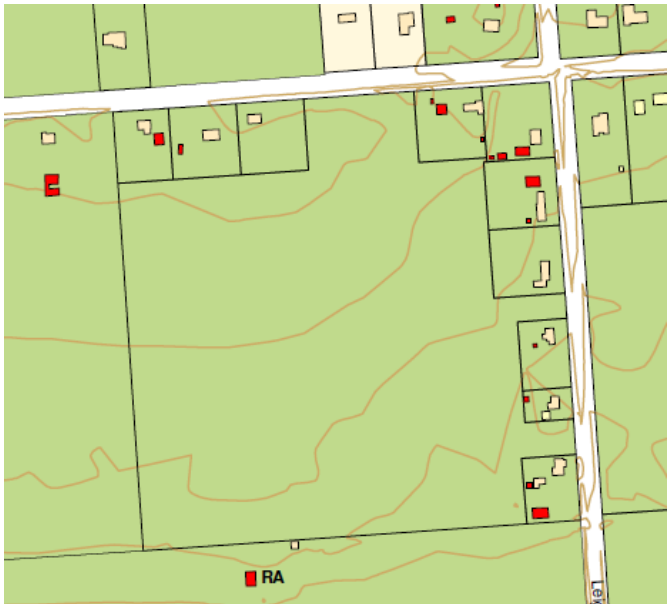
- Specifically permit on-farm related uses
 - Any use related to the processing/packaging/sale and treatment of agricultural products, regardless of whether or not they are grown/produced on-site.
- Specifically permit on-farm diversified uses
 - Agri-tourism
 - Contractors Yards
 - Weddings/events
 - Outdoor/indoor storage
 - Fabrication/woodworking

Rural Residential Development A Double Whammy!

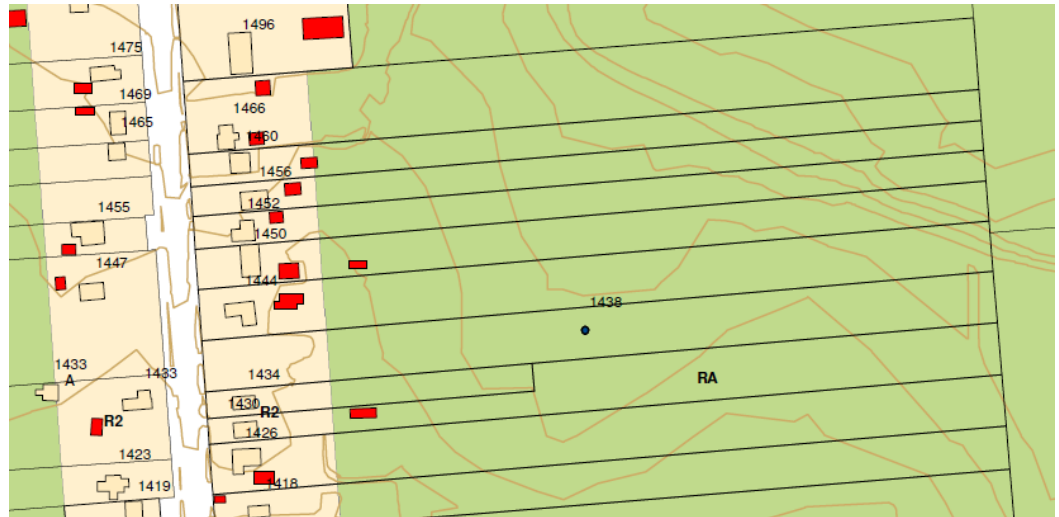
- Not only do residential lots take land away from the farm, they also sterilize an additional area beyond the lot boundaries
 - OMAFRA MDS
- Rural residential severances are limited to 2 new lots plus the remnant.
- Rural subdivisions are prohibited

Rural Lot Creation

Efficient



Inefficient



Urban Agriculture

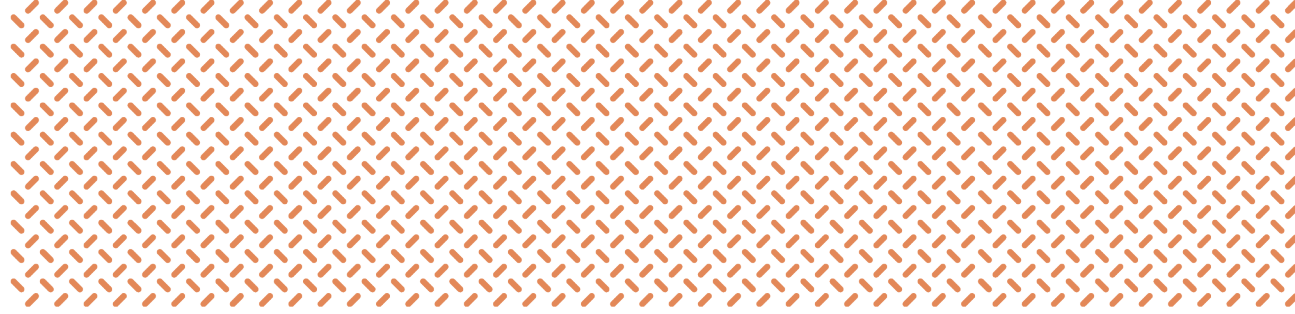
- Community gardens and other gardens permitted anywhere
 - Contaminated sites may be the only restriction
- Policy that supports community gardens on city property – underutilized parks
- Encourage planting edible species on public projects
- Urban Livestock – Can be challenging
 - Develop regulations around urban animals
 - Urban Beekeeping – Ont. Bees Act – 30m setback

Other Things We've Heard

- Agriculture needs to be viewed at the regional level.
- SSM could be an agricultural hub for the area
 - Largest market in Algoma
 - Distribution centre
- Interest in creating a local facility for those to grow, make, process and sell various products

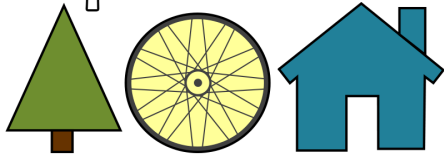


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Thank you!

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