

**The Corporation of the Township of North Dumfries  
By-law Number No. 3638-26**

**Being a By-law to Regulate the Discharge of Firearms Within the Township of  
North Dumfries and to Repeal By-law No. 700-83.**

**Whereas** Section 9 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 provides a municipality the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

**And Whereas** Section 11 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 provides that municipalities may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public, including the passing of by-law within the respective sphere of jurisdiction;

**And Whereas** Sections 23 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 authorizes a municipality to delegate certain powers and duties;

**And Whereas** Section 119 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 authorizes a local municipality for the purpose of public safety to prohibit or regulate the discharge of firearms;

**And Whereas** Section 425 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 authorizes a municipality to provide offences for a contravention of a by-law;

**And Whereas** Section 429 of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 authorizes a municipality to establish a system of fines under a by-law;

**Now Therefore** the Council of the Corporation of the Township of North Dumfries hereby enacts as follows:

**1. Short Title**

This by-law may be cited as the "Firearms Discharge By-law"

**2. Definitions**

- a) "Bow" shall mean a curved or re-curved stave of a resilient material, strung taut from end to end and used to launch an arrow, bolt, quarrel or any similar projectile that is capable of causing bodily injury or death to a person and includes crossbows, long bows, re-curved bows and compound bows.
- b) "Firearm(s)" shall mean a barreled weapon from which any shot, bullet or other projectile can be discharged and that is capable of causing bodily injury or death to a person, and includes any frame or receiver of such a barreled weapon and anything that can be adapted for use as a firearm, including air guns, spring-guns, or any class or type thereof;
- c) "Highway" shall mean a common and public highway and includes a street, public land and road allowance and any bridge, trestle, viaduct or structure that forms part of a highway and all lands between the lateral boundaries;
- d) "Law Enforcement Officer" shall mean a Police Officer, a member of the Armed Forces of Canada, a peace officer, an Officer appointed under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act or the Township's Municipal Law Enforcement Officers;
- e) "Livestock Product" shall be defined as in the Livestock and Livestock Products Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.L.20, as amended, or any successor legislation thereto;
- f) "Occupier" shall include,

- (i) a person who is in physical possession of premises, or
  - (ii) a person who has responsibility for and control over the condition of premises or the activities there carried on, or control over persons allowed to enter the premises, even if there is more than one occupier of the same premises; (“occupant”) e.g. an agent
- g) “Recreational Trail” shall mean a property that is open to the general public for permitted recreational trail uses, and includes any bridge, trestle, viaduct or structure that forms part of a trail and all lands between the lateral boundaries;
  - h) “Regulated Area 1” shall mean the areas in the Township of North Dumfries as described in Schedule 1 attached hereto which forms a part of this by-law;
  - i) “Target” shall mean an animal, reptile, bird or object;
  - j) “Settlement Area” shall mean the areas in the Township of North Dumfries as described in Schedules 1 to 5 attached hereto, which forms part of this By-law;
  - k) “Shooting Range” a location that is designed or intended for the safe discharge, on a regular and structured basis, of firearms for the purpose of shooting at an object to be aimed at in shooting practice or contests.
  - l) “Township” shall mean the Corporation of the Township of North Dumfries and its geographical boundaries;
  - m) “Wildlife” shall be as defined in the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997, S.O. 1997, c.41, as amended, or any successor legislation thereto.

### **3. Interpretation**

**3.1** The regulations established in this By-law apply to the discharge of Bows and Firearms on all lands and waters within the boundaries of the Township.

**3.2** The attached Schedules 1 to 5 form part of this By-law.

**3.3** Nothing in this By-law shall be interpreted as reducing or eliminating the need for full compliance with the provisions of all Federal and Provincial statutes or regulations relating to Bows and Firearms.

### **4. Regulations**

#### **Settlement Areas**

**4.1** No person shall discharge, cause to be discharged, or allow to be discharged a Bow or Firearm in the Settlement Areas know as Roseville, Clyde, Branchton and Ayr in the Township of North Dumfries.

#### **Regulated Area 1**

**4.2** No person shall discharge, cause to be discharged, or allow to be discharged a Bow or Firearm in Regulated Area 1 of the Township.

#### **Compliance**

**4.3** No person shall discharge, cause to be discharged, or allow to be discharged a Bow or Firearm on any private property on which the discharge of Bows and Firearms are permitted unless he or she;

- a) is the owner or occupier of the property, or

- b) has the express written permission of the owner or occupier of the property.

## **5. General**

Although the provisions of section 4.3 allow for the discharge of Bows and Firearms in certain specified circumstances, no person shall discharge, cause to be discharged or allow to be discharged a Bow or Firearm in the Township;

- a) on any property owned or occupied by the Township, without express written permission by the Township;
- b) on any property owned by the Region of Waterloo or the Grand River Conservation Authority without express written permission to do so;
- c) on or within 150 metres, or at any target within 150 metres, of any property used for the purposes of a school, place of worship, day nursery, community recreation centre or park;
- d) on, across or within 8 metres of any highway, private road or recreational trail;
- e) for the purpose of detonating “Tannerite” (also known as “Shockwave”) or any other binary explosive that requires a shot by a firearm to initiate a detonation.

## **6. Exemptions**

Despite the provisions of sections 4 & 5 of this by-law, nothing in the by-law shall serve to prohibit the discharge of a Firearm by:

- a) A Law Enforcement Officer in the lawful execution of their duties.
- b) Any person, while lawfully discharging a firearm at a rod and gun club, gun club, skeet club or a shooting range which is operating in compliance with all federal and provincial legislation and all municipal by-laws and wherein all necessary and property safety precautions have been implemented to the satisfaction of the Waterloo Regional Police and full approval has been obtained by the Chief Firearms Officer of Ontario.
- c) A person firing blank ammunition which does not discharge a projectile, for or in connection with its lawful use, in any of the following activities; a motion picture, television or stage production, historical re-enactment or display, starting or controlling a sporting event or in connection with special honour guard tribute by the Royal Canadian Legion or similar community based event, provided that the person has obtained Township approval and any appropriate permits.
- d) An establishment or business providing “paint ball gaming”, at a location zoned for this purpose and duly authorized pursuant to the Township’s Zoning By-law, as amended.
- e) A person who is an owner or occupier of lands who believes, on reasonable grounds, that Wildlife is threatening to injure that persons property, including, but not limited to crops, livestock, pets or persons on that property.

## **7. Enforcement and Penalties**

**7.1** The applicable Law Enforcement Officer(s) is responsible for enforcing the provisions of this by-law;

**7.2** A Law Enforcement Officer may enter upon land at any reasonable time for the purpose of enforcing the by-law or carrying out an inspection to determine compliance with the by-law;

**7.2** A Law Enforcement Officer may enter upon land at any reasonable time for the purpose of enforcing the by-law or carrying out an inspection to determine compliance with the by-law;

**7.3** Any person who contravenes any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence; and, upon conviction is liable to a penalty in accordance with the Provincial Offences Act and to any other applicable penalties.

**7.4** For the purpose of subsection 7.3 an offence is a subsequent offence if there has been a previous conviction under this by-law as prescribed by the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. P. 33, as amended, or any successor legislation thereto.

## **8. Repeal Of Existing By-Law**

**8.1** By-law No. 700-83 be hereby repealed in its entirety.

## **9. Validity**

**9.1** If a court of competent jurisdiction should declare any section or part of a section of this by-law to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the by-law as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part which was declared to be invalid.




## **10. Effective Date**

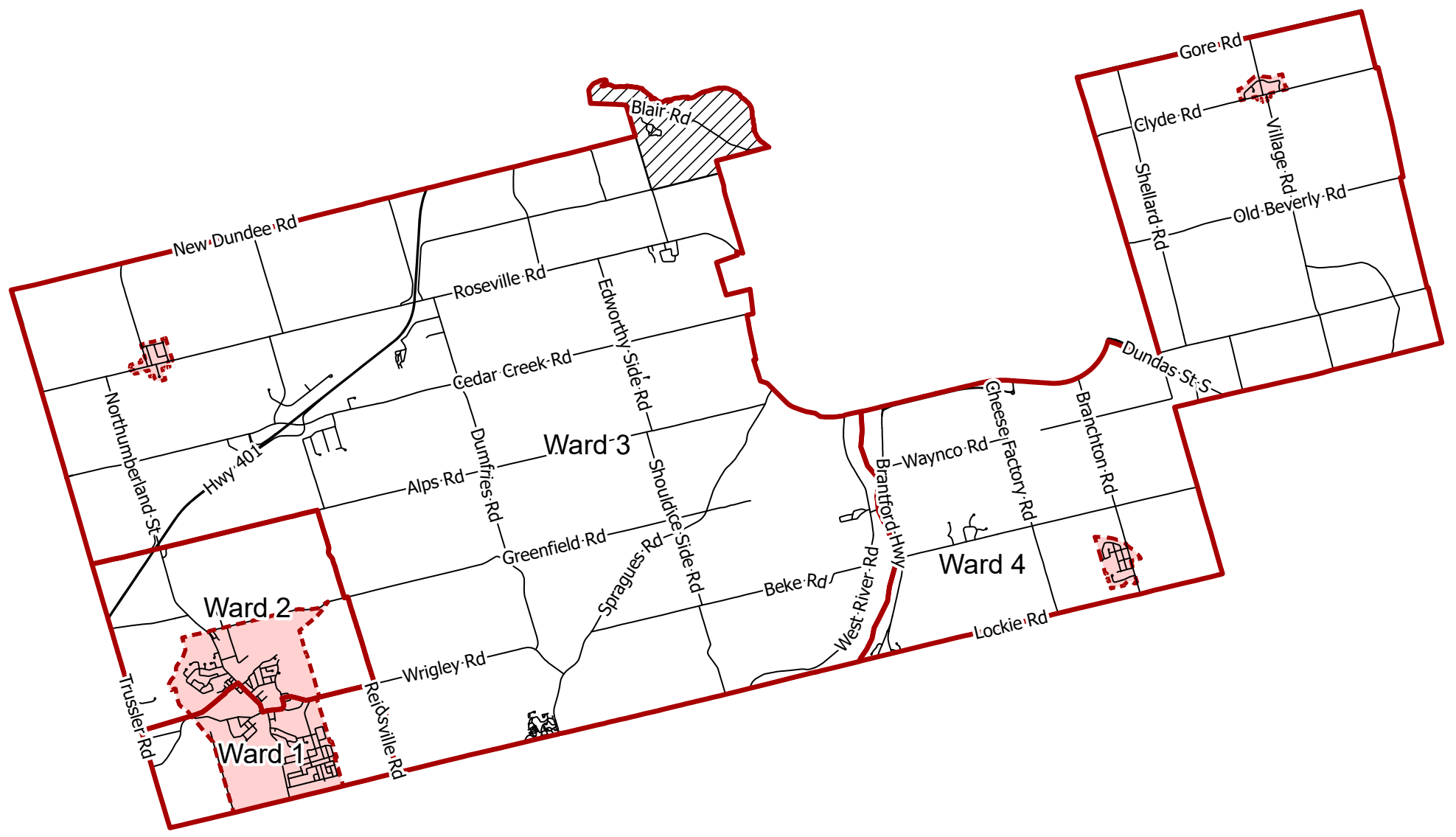
**10.1** This by-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of the final passing.

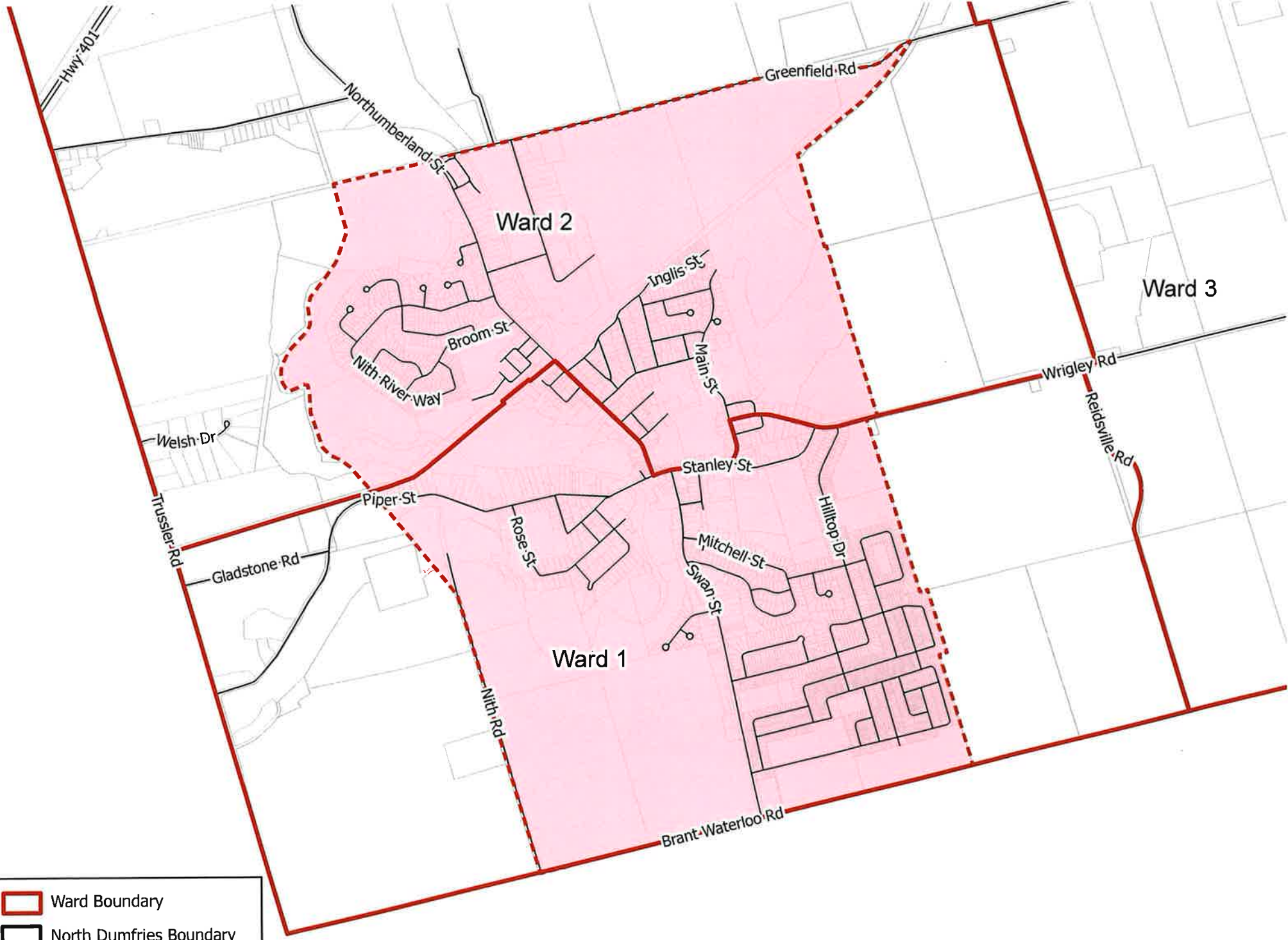
**Read a First, Second and Third Time and Finally Passed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026.**

  
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Susan Foxtton, Mayor

  
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Eric Bell, Deputy Clerk




-  Ward Boundary
-  Settlement Areas
-  Regulated Area 1
-  North Dumfries Boundary



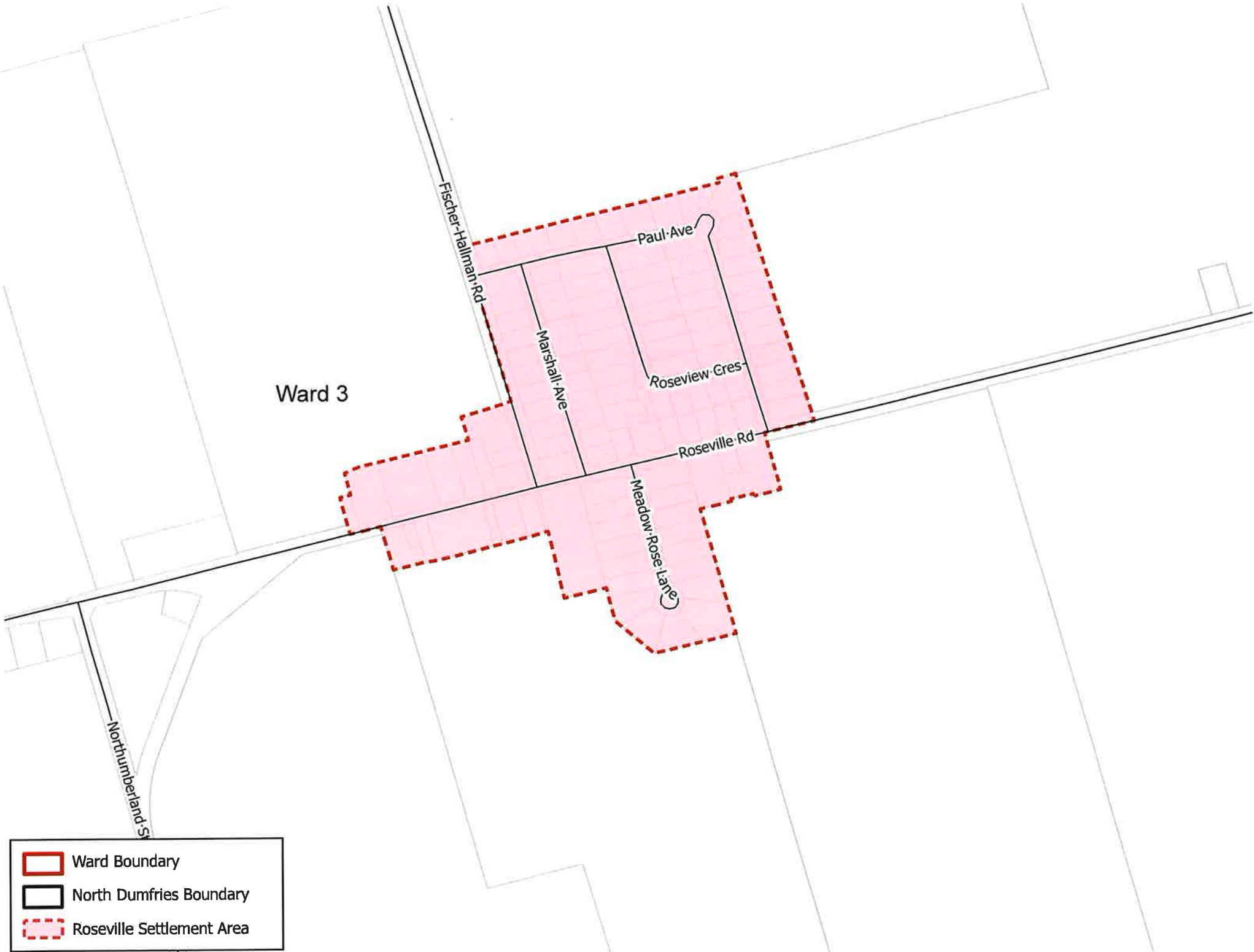





- Ward Boundary
- North Dumfries Boundary
- Ayr Settlement Area



-  Ward Boundary
-  North Dumfries Boundary
-  Branchton Settlement Area





-  Ward Boundary
-  North Dumfries Boundary
-  Roseville Settlement Area