Mississippi Mills LEAR

Draft Approach and Preliminary Scoring Results

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What is a LEAR?

LEAR is a commonly used tool in Ontario developed by OMAFRA to quantitatively evaluate the relative importance of lands for agriculture based on the land's inherent characteristics and other factors affecting agricultural potential. LEARs are a starting point to identify prime agricultural areas. LEARs may be supplemented with additional analysis and field verification prior to designating prime agricultural areas.

2

Criteria Overview

Evaluation consists of two parts, each requiring different evaluation criteria.

- Land Evaluation (LE): This component <u>evaluates soil capability</u> as it relates to agriculture. The Canada Land Inventory (CLI) Soil Capacity Classification dataset is used for this component of the tool; providing 7 soil classifications as well as an organic soil classification to establish soil capacity.

- Area Review (AR): This component allows Municipalities to consider <u>other factors that impact agricultural potential</u>. This may include onsite factors such as parcel size or current land use or may include offsite factors such as conflicting land uses.

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Land Evaluation (LE) Criteria

As mandated by OMAFRA, the Canada Land Inventory (CLI) Soil Capacity Classification dataset was used to evaluate soils in Mississippi Mills.

Soil Capability Class	CLI score (field crop points) FCP
1	1
Organics	0.9
2	0.9
3	0.8
4	0.6
5	0.4
6	0.2
7	0

Consists of 70% of total score

(70 of 100 total points)

4

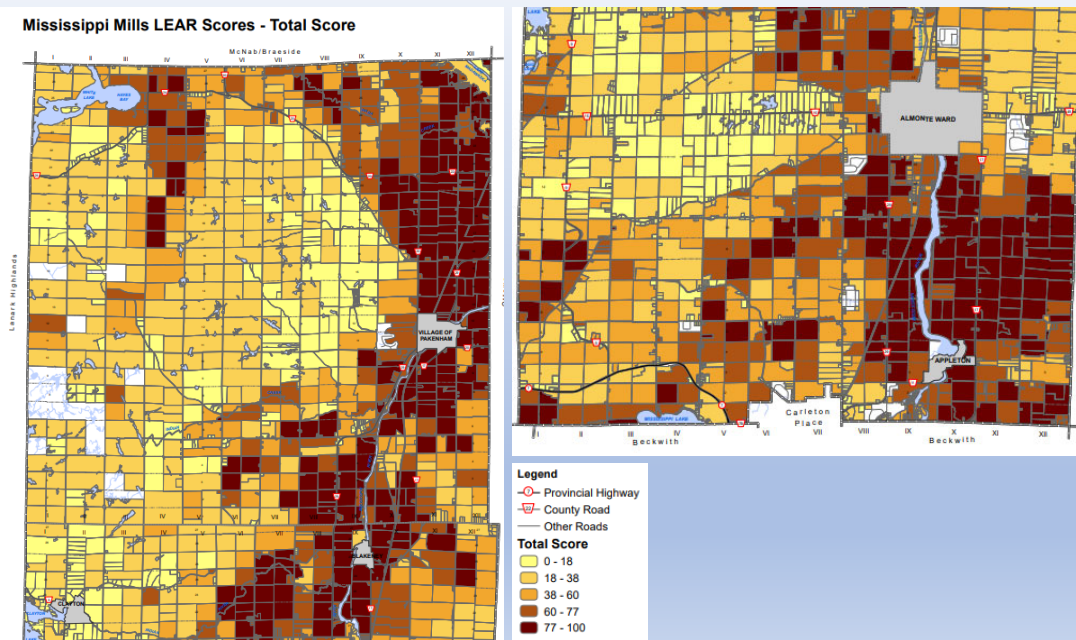# Area Review (AR) Criteria

Approach considers 3 factors:

- Parcel Size (10 points)

- Conflicting Land Uses (10 points)

- Active Farming (10 points)

Parcel Size	Score
<81 Acres	10
51-80 Acres	8
26-50 Acres	6
11-25 Acres	4
6-10 Acres	2
1-5 Acres	1
>1 Acre	0

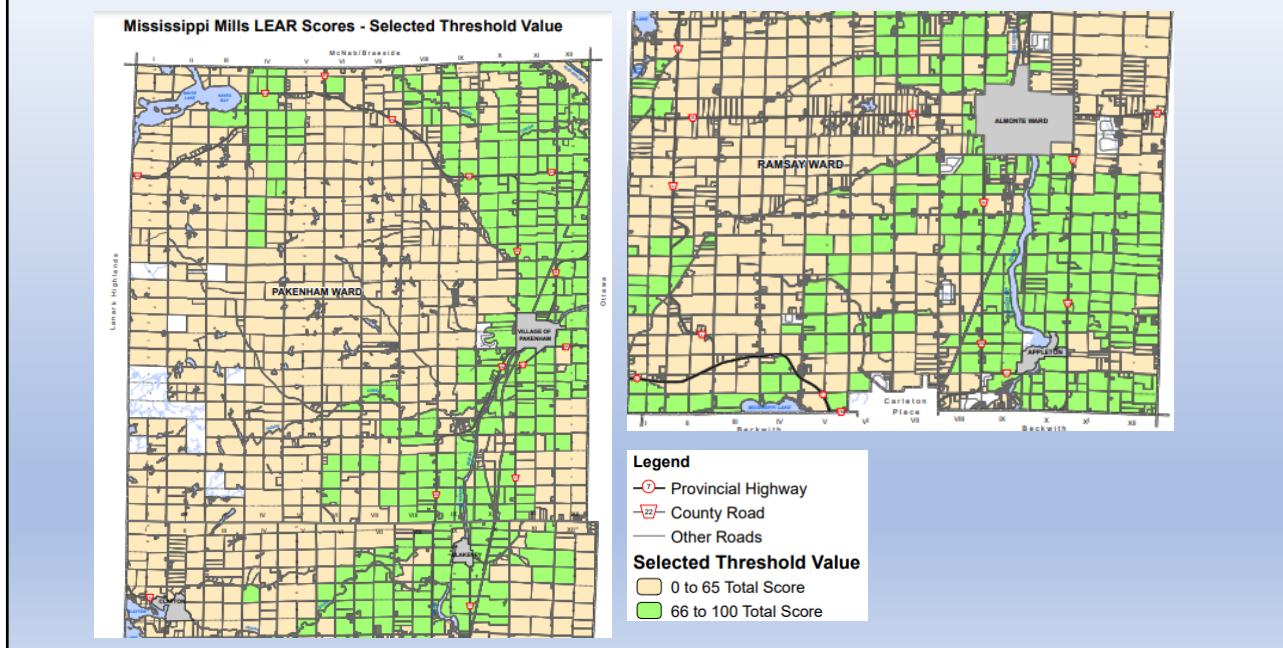| Number of Conflicting Type A Land Uses within 750m	0-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	>26
Score	10	8	6	4	2	0

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Preliminary Total Scores

6

66+ Score Threshold Results

7