

Consolidated Recommendations contained in Clause No. 7 in Report No. 11 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee and Report No. 1 of the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services adopted, as amended, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting on December 16, 2004.

**Bill 135 – Greenbelt Act, 2004 and the Greenbelt Draft Plan  
and Addendum Report on Bill 135 and Greenbelt Draft Plan  
York Region Review of Submissions Received**

1. Council of The Regional Municipality of York commend the Province for its commitment to Growth Management and environmental protection in the Greater Golden Horseshoe, through Greenbelt Planning and Growth Management initiatives.
2. The recommendations contained in this report and as detailed below be endorsed as the comments of The Regional Municipality of York on Bill 135- *Greenbelt Act, 2004* and the Greenbelt Draft Plan:
  1. *That the Provincial Growth Management Plan proceed at the same time as the Greenbelt Plan and both documents reflect the new Provincial Population and Employment Forecasts to ensure full co-ordination of the Plan with such elements as an adequate land supply to reflect the residential and employment forecasts anticipated in the GTA and co-ordination with the Provincial Transportation Strategy for the Golden Horseshoe and Rural Development Program.*
  2. *That Bill 135 be amended to provide a deadline for adoption of conformity amendments of approximately 3 years for upper tier plans and 4 years from lower tier plans.*
  3. *That Bill 135 be amended to provide an amendment approval process similar to that used in the ORMCP exercise, i.e. that the Province approves municipal amendments to bring their official plans into conformity, with the Ministerial decision not subject to appeal to the OMB.*
  4. *That Clause 19(7) of Bill 135 be amended to extend protection from liability to members of Municipal Councils in the same manner as Executive Council.*
  5. *That the Province prescribe provisions relating to transition applications (Sections 6 and 22) before the Greenbelt Plan is approved to assist municipalities processing applications currently in progress.*

6. *The Province consider modifying Bill 135 to require a resolution agreeing to the Amendment from at least the upper tier Council in the Region or County where the amendment is proposed, before an amendment is approved.*
7. *The Greenbelt Plan and Growth Management Plan contain provisions to prevent “leap-frogging” of development north of the Greenbelt Plan. For example to proposed developments in the new Bradford- Bond Head community.*
8. *The Greenbelt Plan provide some means of effectively amending the Greenbelt Plan to permit strategically located employment lands in areas such as the 400 series highway corridor, for example the 404 corridor north of the Oak Ridges Moraine.*
9. *Exclude the Keswick Business Park Study Area from the Greenbelt Plan to permit the Regional and Local Planning process to proceed.*
10. *Policy 5.6, requiring no reduction in total land area of the Greenbelt Plan be modified, in so far as it deals with York Region, to permit minor settlement expansions and necessary amendments to the Greenbelt Plan.*
11. *Infrastructure financing and approvals and a streamlined Environmental Assessment process be provided to support Provincial and Regional growth management initiatives.*
12. *Policy 3.4.1 be modified by deleting reference to communities fully within the Oak Ridges Moraine ( King City and Stouffville), or that Section 3.4 be modified to more fully explain the prevailing policy regimes in communities listed.*
13. *The Greenbelt Draft Plan be modified to permit the extensions or expansions of Great Lakes based water and sewer systems in the event of a public health or safety issue in the same manner as permitted in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.*
14. *The phrase “in some instances” on lines 6 and 7 of the second bullet point of Section 4.2.1 be deleted.*
15. *Either the term “Sustainable” in the first bullet point of Section 4.2.2 be deleted, or that the entire phrase “Sustainable sewer and water servicing” be defined in the Plan definitions section.*
16. *Reference to the Rouge Park and Rouge North Management Plan be added to policies in section 4.2. to clarify that infrastructure will be*

***required and built through Greenbelt components, including the Rouge Park and Rouge North Management Plan area.***

- 17. The Greenbelt Plan natural feature protection policies be similar to those contained in the ORMCP to prohibit development and site alteration within natural features and within a minimum 30 metres vegetation protection zone surrounding the feature. Further, when development or site alteration is proposed within 120 metres of the features then a Natural Heritage Evaluation should be required to determine whether the 30 metres vegetation protection zone is sufficient.***
- 18. Prior to finalization of the Greenbelt Plan, the Province act on the recommendations of the GTA Agricultural Action Plan.***
- 19. Prior to approval of the Greenbelt Plan, a financial impact assessment be undertaken to determine the costs to area municipalities and their taxpayers.***
- 20. The Province re-examine the Greenbelt designation in the City of Vaughan and limit the Greenbelt designation to those lands currently in public ownership, or which are a part of the natural heritage system, designated in OPA 600 and OPA 601 the Kleinburg Nashville Community Plan, and remove the Greenbelt Designation from the lands designated as Rural Use Area and Agricultural Area in OPA 600.***
- 21. The Province clarify the designations of the Greenbelt Plan in Richmond Hill and Markham along the Rouge River and its tributaries to ensure accuracy and consistent application of criteria.***
- 22. That Community Plan boundaries be used to define “Settlement Areas within the Protected Countryside”.***
- 23. Regional staff in consultation with area municipal staff continue to discuss mapping issues with the Province to ensure consistency in depiction and policy application.***
- 24. That Section 4.2.1 of the Greenbelt Draft Plan be modified to specifically permit priority transportation and infrastructure projects, including but not limited to, extensions of Highway 404 and Highway 427 and the Bradford By-pass and water and sewer servicing projects including the completion and construction of the South-East Collector and Upper Leslie Trunk Sewer through the Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine in York Region.***

3. This report be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and his staff in accordance with the requirements of the Bill of Rights postings AF04E0001 and PF04E0006, and circulated to area municipalities and stakeholders in the Region.