

BILD York Region Chapter
Natural Heritage Discussion Paper & Growth Management Update
Consultation September 17, 2007
Discussion Summary Notes

- Are Stormwater Management ponds permitted in the greenbelt?
- Have we examined the whitebelt areas with the TRCA's Terrestrial Natural Heritage Strategy
- Is York Region fully embracing the TRCA and LSRCA natural heritage strategies?
- How will transition files be treated in relation to natural heritage (approved secondary plans)?
- Is York Environment First or Development First? Which approach is priority when dealing with individual features?
- What is the timing for completion of the Sustainability Strategy?
- Is there an opportunity for lands within or adjacent to natural heritage to be parkland?
- With regard to density calculations; can natural heritage features be used to calculate density?
- How are we going to achieve Regional Trail system in whitebelt? In our outside of Greenbelt?
- Transportation improvements post development. No more phased road improvements; do it right the first time.
- Growth Management: York Region needs to take the lead on standardizing the approach to calculating land needs.
- Need to work closely with the Conservation Authorities regarding how natural features are defined in the field. Concern that there is a big discrepancy between policy and practice.
- Disconnect between MNR and the Conservation Authorities on the areas that the Conservation Authorities are getting into beyond their jurisdiction.
- How is York Region looking to achieve connectivity in the natural heritage system?
- Use the no net loss concept in defining natural spaces; this would assist in permitting flexibility in the system and replacing features.
- LEED Neighbourhood Design; not for municipal adoption. Danger in municipalities adopting standards that have not been endorsed by BILD or the Canadian Home Builders Association both for green buildings and community.
- Policy versus implementation is of concern. We need to have the best management practices to demonstrate how policies can be implemented.
- Growth Management consultation showed that pace of growth is of concern; however, pace has been controlled by Water and Waste Water allocation; how is this tension going to be alleviated once the Water & Waste Water issues are rectified?
- How is York Region going to address phasing of development in the whitebelt areas?