

Stakeholder Written Submission Summaries

	Stakeholder	Summary of Written Comments
1.1	Ms. Nancy Hopkinson	• Did not hear a definition of sustainability or that sustainability was used in the presentation – think it's just a buzz word you are using • Live in Nobleton, concerned about the water balance – I hope that York Region will start to look at the whole picture of the water balance when dealing with sewer and water servicing proposals • There are problems with too much growth • Storm Water Management Ponds need to have maintenance – valves need to be checked to make sure they work • The sinkhole at Jane and Hwy 7 – what caused this? It seems that if groundwater level goes down and cars travel along the road then a sinkhole appears • Problem on Finch Avenue east of Jane Street when road was washed away – do we know the consequences of the types of building we are doing that may be causing massive downstream flooding • Intensification can cause problems – not surprising that if you put too many people too close together with nothing to do that teenagers get into trouble • We cannot keep growing it is not sustainable • Should be cycling lanes and walking path shaded by trees along King Road so that we can cycle or walk to King City
1.2	John O'Gorman	• agriculture is essential part of sustainable community • increase rate of intensification with mixed neighbourhoods (Jane Jacobs) to save productive land and farmers • Advertise York's productivity and attractiveness • promote urban agriculture i.e. home and community gardens • Need agricultural Policy in York Region and Council to take stand that agricultural land will return to productivity for fresh vegetables, herbs and other products to feed cities

		• Remaining agricultural land in Richmond Hill Markham and Vaughan ought to be preserved • Need policies, procedures and projects that make it easier for farmers to produce and market • Facilitate and promote urban agriculture home gardens allotment gardens, greenhouses
1.3	Terry Goodwin	• Question why GO not included in mapping displays – planning is seamless • Why intensification at 40% - why do this – many people will lose their homes • Concern about Gridlock – thinks VIVA makes more traffic jams – GO rail is the answer • Bikeways should be shown on all roads and collectors + no parking to block bikeways • Good transit should be seamless, convenient, save time and fare for distance • Need GTA transit operating Authority • Suggest greatest opportunity is for GO rail multiple unit cars with sharing of fares and bonusing for each passenger kilometre carried to make the system show a profit. • Operating funds from a transportation levy
1.4	Mrs. Terezia Rotundo	• concerns about growth "too big, too soon, too fast" • development should not have been allowed near highways
1.5	Ms. Penny Parmenter	• Concern that arable land is being developed • Too many people for the land to support • Fresh water source is being threatened by overdevelopment • Suggest people be settled where the land is rocky and water is not at risk
1.6	Bruce Lindsay	• Suggested that citizen members on municipal committees such as environmental advisory committees might have another perspective that the Region should consider. • Questioned deadlines for responses as Newmarket EAC meets

1.7	Ms. Shirley Ormsby	monthly and combined EAC's may want to submit a comment - Have followed the process and hope that our efforts are not in vain. - YR is a great place to live and they are happy to get sewers in King
1.8	Craig Mather	Interesting comment the representative from the Suzuki Foundation at Newmarket meeting was that he wanted choice in housing including single detached options with a backyard
1.9	Ms. Asha Ruparelia	- Sustainability involves careful integration of environment, economic social and cultural interests to create better quality of life - Cultural Planning should be the 4th pillar in foundation planning activity of York and set the direction for adopting and promoting a York region Culture Plan Indicators - Public Art is crucial aspect of creative Region – through redesign of public squares amenities and landmark structure - Need to use capital initiatives to provide leadership for the public art partnerships - Need to determine how York region can help bridge funding gap for arts when funding for all services is tight - Need to creatively re-use structures and buildings from the past to preserve what we came from - Need forum for adding new ethno cultural community stories to the "York Region" story – not just 19th century history needs to be told
1.10	Glen Robillard – Lafarge Canada	- York's growth and its sustainability linked to a sustainable aggregate resource close to areas of consumption - Aggregate Industry has number of studies to support in-going need - Need to have further discussions
1.11	Richard Johnson	Clarification of comments made at the Markham Town Hall meeting

		• Represents STOP community group involved in power supply discussion over the past two years • wants York region to hold more extensive meetings to obtain public input given the number of issues impacted by "smart growth" • current consultation forum is valid but needs to have greater opportunity for discussion • Regarding the energy issue we should consider best practices from across the country regarding power planning and planning practices (Connecticut, California, New Jersey, Sweden at al) who have passed legislation regarding transmission lines, local generation and conservation programs • Current power supply crisis avoidable with foresight, planning and vision • Can we limit growth or direct it? What role does Places to Grow Act play in forcing us to grow in a manner that could be too rapid?
1.12	Ms. Sue Fusco	• Clarification of comments at the Markham meeting • Need to integrate planning projects through co-build opportunities and adopt smart growth principles which could address multiple or related infrastructure needs • Plans for intensification do not address how additional power was to be supplied to sustain the forecasted growth • Have issues with inviting public into Hydro corridors for bikeways walking paths because of health risks for EMF's • Should be a York region public awareness campaign to minimize risks to public consistent with York's policy of prudent avoidance of risk
1.13	Frank Shaw, Oak Ridges Land Trust	• Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust Input to the <i>Towards Sustainability in York Region Symposium</i> and suggestion that a follow-up be held in the fall of 2006: • Definitions of sustainability used by Bob Willard compelling -

		sustainable Region must subscribe to values and functions for a sustainable balance of economy, environment and equity • Should be as sustainable as possible at each level, local, regional provincial and national • York Region sustainability and natural resource stewardship is about asset management and community legacy - definitions should say more about the values of sustainable environments and smart communities • Motivation to change thinking needs to be societally based, not personally based • Region can utilize public, private and NGO to prepare and implement 3 key area of environmental priority: Protection of Natural resources in OP's and Bylaws, Securement of natural resources through donations, bequests and acquisition and Stewardship of Natural resources
1.14	Ms. Linda Smith	• Copy of a letter to the editor from Ms. Linda Smith, Richmond Hill sent to us by an unknown person Richmond Hill Liberal
1.15	Jan Ravens	• Ecology of the Region should be the guiding principle for any growth strategy. • Planning should start with the environment and land carrying capacity and work backwards to establish growth numbers • Balance needed between the built and natural environment has to be maintained if the target is a sustainable Region • York region should show leadership in addressing the issue with senior levels of government and advocate on behalf of current residents • Protection of farmland should be essential – specifically between the Greenbelt and the development zones to the south – Agricultural Actions Plan adopted but not yet reflected in the growth strategy. • Employment statistics and projections should be based on non-growth related (sustainable) jobs

		Planning decisions should be supplemented by regional/municipal policies providing protection and incentives for a sustainable way of life (Pollution BY-laws, energy efficiency incentives, tax benefits and farmland protection measure and incentives)
1.16	Environmental Advisory Committees of York Region	- Provincial population projection numbers should be challenged as there is no known solution to accommodating them at this time - See additional comments above from Jan Ravens
1.17	Franklin Moskoff	Add to contact list
1.18	Jeff Laidlaw	- Following the environmental group meeting comments that there was a perceived admission that York intends to change little or nothing - Still building roads willy-nilly - Use questionable waste management practices - develop greenfields - undermine agricultural viability and - implement short term responses to long term challenges - Suggest that we need to deal with current problems before moving forward and compounding mistakes of the past - York needs to take a hiatus after 20 years of growth
	Web Site Contacts	Summary
2.1	Bruce Hilliard	Who is planning the auto transit routes for the future to take the pressure off the existing n-s routes into Toronto and e-w from Durham to Richmond Hill?
2.2	Ms. Gloria Boxen	Add to contact list
2.3	Mark Viitala	Add to contact list
2.4	Hanan Jibry	How is the Region planning to provide adequate sewer infrastructure to accommodate this growth?
2.5	Marty Collier	Will the growth management plan have a bearing on the Region's Transportation Master Plan process
2.6	Ms. Gabriella Kalapos	Add to contact list

2.7	Taleen D	Add to contact list	
2.8	Kaz Joseph	Add to contact list	
2.9	Yurij Pelech	Would like to keep up to date with the GM initiative	
2.10	Ms. Shonna Yam	Why are the opportunities for residential intensification lower in greenfields?	
2.11	Reid McAlpine	Add to contact list	
2.12	Richard Johnson	Noted a number of corrections to the summary of comments at the Markham Town Hall meeting (see submission 1.11)	
2.13	Ms. Elizabeth McLean	- Important to recognize 4 bubble approach - All areas of planning for growth in York Region should include input from a culture and heritage perspective	
2.14	Ms. Wendy Nott	Add to contact list	