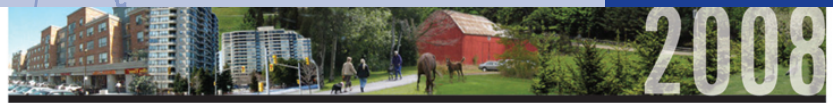


DRAFT

Town of  
Georgina



**Transportation  
Master Plan  
Update**



Township of  
King

Town of  
Newmarket

Town of  
Aurora

Town of  
Whitchurch-  
Stouffville

Town of  
Richmond  
Hill

City of  
Vaughan

Town of  
Markham

**Transportation Master Plan Update**

**Newsletter 3**

FALL 2008

# Moving on Sustainability

## Regional Initiatives

We sometimes take our ability to efficiently get to work or run our errands for granted. We assume that when growth occurs, the roads and transit services in the community will be there to serve us. However, behind the scenes, providing an effective and sustainable transportation system that incorporates transit, cycling, walking, and goods movements takes a lot of planning. That is what the Transportation Master Plan Update Study is all about.

York Region began the Transportation Master Plan Update in the spring of 2006. The Study is part of York Region's Growth Management and Sustainability Initiative - a program to bring the Region's growth management policies into conformance with the Provincial Growth Plan - Places to Grow - as well as the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and the Greenbelt Plan. The provincial government has identified 1.5 million residents and 800,000 jobs for York Region by 2031.

The Transportation Master Plan Update is shaping up to be another successful initiative undertaken by York Region relating to growth management and sustainability. The others include:

- Public Transit and VIVA Rapid Transit
- Water for Tomorrow
- Greening and Land Securement Initiatives
- Human Services Plan/Housing Strategy
- Sustainability Strategy
- Tom Taylor Place: Energy Efficient Affordable Housing
- Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan
- Corporate Clean Air Strategy
- LEED Buildings Program and Retrofits
- Smart Commute Initiative
- Centres and Corridors Strategy
- Water Diversion Strategy

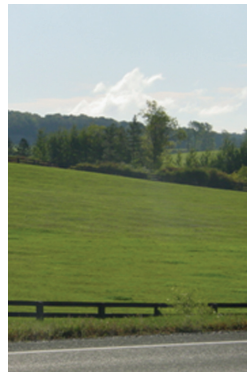


## Activities to Date

We have completed a lot of activities in updating the Transportation Master Plan:

- Collaborated with community partners to develop Sustainability Principles to guide the update
- Analyzed population and employment projections
- Developed a Best Practices Review of sustainable transportation practices for York Region
- Produced several Issue Papers to develop a better understanding of how the Region can address major features of the transportation system
- Conducted a comprehensive consultation program including:
  - A public opinion survey of over 1,000 York Region Residents on Transportation issues
  - 2 rounds of Public Consultation Centres (a third round is detailed in this newsletter)
  - 2 Stakeholder Symposia
  - 5 Technical Advisory Committee Meetings
  - Published a website of study materials
  - 3 Stakeholder newsletters

Background



## What do we want to accomplish?

### Study Objectives

Here is what we set out to do when we began this Study:

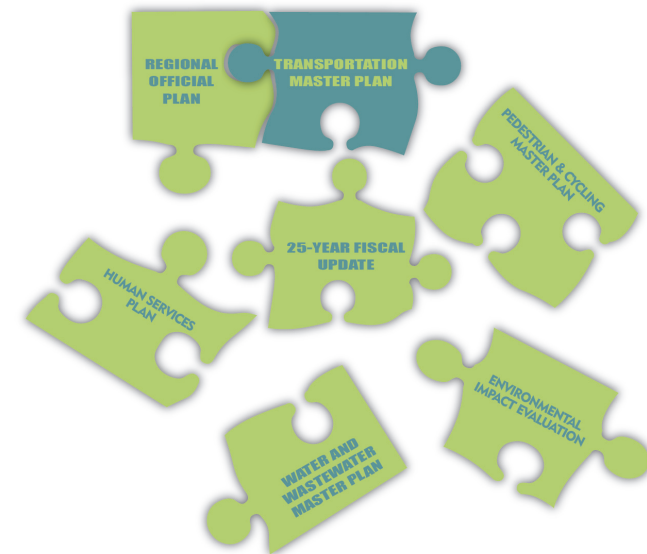
- Make sustainability the cornerstone of our Transportation Master Plan
- Integrate and coordinate infrastructure with long range planning
- Confirm York Region's transportation needs for the next 30 years
- Estimate the cost of providing the infrastructure needed to accommodate forecasted growth
- Address the Region's transportation demands while providing solutions that protect the natural environment
- Establish a detailed Implementation Plan for the Capital Construction Program

### Coordinated Effort

York Region is committed to an integrated and coordinated approach to planning. When complete, the Transportation Master Plan will be part of the Region's integrated approach to growth management.

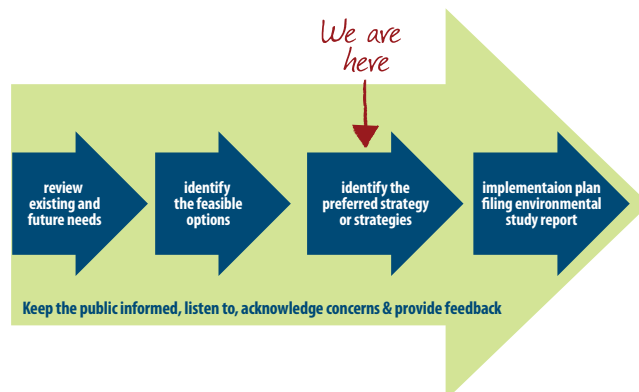
Other parts include:

- Regional Official Plan
- Water and Waster Water Master Plans
- Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan
- Human Services Plan
- 25-Year Fiscal Update
- Environmental Impact Evaluation



### Current Status

We identified a preferred Transportation Network and Transportation Sustainability Strategy that we would appreciate your feedback on prior to finalizing the study and filing an Environmental Study Report (ESR).



# Draft Transit Network



A 'Transit First' system dedicated to implementing a Regional Rapid Transit system of subways, dedicated bus only lanes, High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, and improved local bus services.



# Draft Road Network



Limited road widenings to address auto travel demand including High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes and transit priority improvements.

# What we Heard from the Public

This past summer, EKOS Research Associates, an independent market research firm, conducted a telephone survey of over 1,000 York Region residents to gauge their opinions on transportation issues facing the Region. The survey was designed to be a statistically valid survey to collect resident's views on traffic congestion, public transit service, as well as opinions on potential strategies.

In order to compare and contrast responses from residents of different municipalities, 250 residents were surveyed in each of four areas: Markham, Vaughan, Richmond Hill and the six remaining municipalities in York. This in addition to the comprehensive public and stakeholder meetings provided significant input to the development of the plan.

Key messages from the public and stakeholder meetings and survey include:

- Transportation and traffic congestion are most important issues in York Region
- Provide bold ideas and initiatives
- Public transit solutions are favoured
- Get more creative at engaging residents
- Support for road network expansion
- Consider other solutions - High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies, and pedestrian and cycling networks
- We don't need more plans, we need more implementation

The results of the survey were used to help guide the Transportation Master Plan in developing practical strategies to address traffic congestion and future growth.

For an electronic copy of the survey please visit our web site at [www.york.ca/tmp](http://www.york.ca/tmp).



## Proposed Policies & Strategies

- Developing mixed land uses that support transit stations and corridors (such as an apartment building or condominium with offices and stores);
- Developing a framework to establish a Regional Parking Authority that would set parking policy within York Region;
- Adopting a "Putting Pedestrians and Transit First" policy into the Official Plan;
- Aggressively implement our Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan;
- Developing new approaches to market sustainable transportation programs and initiatives to youth, the elderly, the disabled and various ethnic groups; and
- Pursuing creative funding strategies that support sustainable transportation initiatives.

To learn more about the policies and strategies and draft network plans, please attend one of our upcoming community meetings.

# You're Invited!

## York Region Transportation Master Plan Update Community Meetings

York Region is pleased to host 'open house' meetings in five communities to outline the Master Plan's draft recommendations. The study team will be on hand in each community to present the recommendations, followed by a question and answer period plus one-on-one discussions.

The schedule includes the following:

| DATE                                                     | LOCATION                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wednesday, November 12<br>Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville | Stouffville Arena<br>Small Multi-Purpose Room<br>12483 - 9th Line North        |
| Tuesday, November 18<br>City of Vaughan                  | Vaughan Council Chambers<br>2141 Major Mackenzie Drive                         |
| Thursday, November 20<br>Town of Markham                 | Markham Council Chambers<br>101 Town Centre Boulevard                          |
| Tuesday, November 25<br>Town of Newmarket                | Newmarket Council Chambers<br>395 Mulock Drive                                 |
| Thursday, November 27<br>Town of Richmond Hill           | York Region<br>South Service Centre- Rooms ABC<br>50 High Tech Road, 1st Floor |

### MEETING AGENDA

6:00 to 7:00 pm - Open House / 7:00 to 7:30 pm - Presentation / 7:30 to 9:00 pm - Facilitated Discussion

### Other Ways to Provide Input

Those unable to attend the upcoming community meetings can provide input by contacting us through one of the following ways:

**Loy Cheah, P.Eng.**

Email: [masterplan@york.ca](mailto:masterplan@york.ca) | Phone: (905) 830 - 4444 x.5024 | Toll Free: 1 (877) 464 - 9675 x. 5024 | Fax: (905) 895 - 0191



## Contact Information

For more information on the process and issues related to *Master Plan Update* or to send us your comments, please visit:

**[www.york.ca/tmp](http://www.york.ca/tmp)**



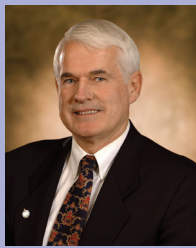
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10% post-consumer content

Lets discuss the plan!





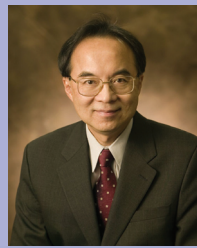
Mayor  
Frank Scarpitti  
Town of Markham



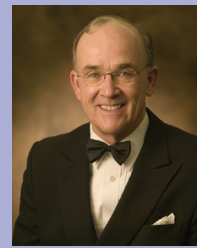
Regional Councillor  
Jim Jones  
Town of Markham



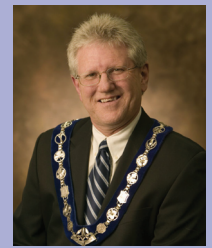
Regional Councillor  
Jack Heath  
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor  
Tony Wong  
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor  
Gordon Landon  
Town of Markham



Mayor  
David Barrow  
Town of Richmond Hill



Mayor  
Linda D. Jackson  
City of Vaughan



Chairman and CEO  
Bill Fisch



Regional Councillor  
Brenda Hogg  
Town of Richmond Hill



Regional Councillor  
Joyce Frustaglio  
City of Vaughan

## MESSAGE FROM YORK REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Regional Municipality of York remains one of the fastest growing communities in Canada and is expected to continue to experience extensive growth over the coming decades. To ensure we meet our growing travel demands in an economically sound and environmentally sustainable manner, York Regional Council is determined to continue to work with residents, stakeholders and partners and further develop our transportation infrastructure.

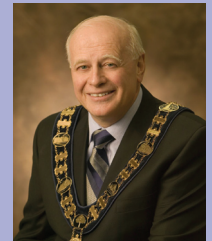


Regional Councillor  
Vito Spatafora  
Town of Richmond Hill



Regional Councillor  
Mario Ferri  
City of Vaughan

The Transportation Master Plan Update study incorporates the Province's significant increases in population and employment forecasts, changes in land use planning and environmental policies, in addition to the Region's growth management initiative, *Planning for Tomorrow*. The update also integrates our sustainability objectives – to preserve and enhance our natural environment, economic vitality and healthy communities while providing safe, affordable and efficient transportation for people and goods.



Mayor  
Tony Van Bynen  
Town of Newmarket



Regional Councillor  
Gino Rosati  
City of Vaughan

Throughout the study, York Region residents and stakeholders have provided valuable input to the study team that has worked hard to prepare draft policies, programs and transportation networks for recommended implementation over the next 30 years.



Regional Councillor  
John Taylor  
Town of Newmarket

Please share your thoughts and comments now – they are vital during this important planning process. Help plan York Region's future!



Mayor  
Robert Grossi  
Town of Georgina



Regional Councillor  
Danny Wheeler  
Town of Georgina



Mayor  
Phyllis M. Morris  
Town of Aurora



Mayor  
Wayne Emmerson  
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville



Mayor  
James Young  
Town of East Gwillimbury



Mayor  
Margaret Black  
Township of King