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SUMMARY OF THE APPROVED REGIONAL OFFICIAL PLAN – 2010 AND

“TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE REGION – 2010” POSTER

The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report dated September 20, 2011, from the Acting Commissioner of Planning and Development Services.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The *Summary of the Approved Regional Official Plan - 2010* and Poster entitled “*Towards a Sustainable Region - 2010*”, be endorsed.
2. Planning Department staff circulate the final *Summary* and Poster to local municipalities, the development community, Regional partners and stakeholders, schools and public libraries.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement for the *Summary of the Approved York Region Official Plan -2010* and the Poster “*Towards a Sustainable Region - 2010*” to be used as tools to assist in explaining the York Region Official Plan - 2010 to residents and stakeholders.

3. BACKGROUND

Over the past 5 years, the Region has undertaken a comprehensive growth management exercise, Planning for Tomorrow, which led to the adoption of an updated Regional Official Plan in 2009 and its approval by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 2010.

The Planning for Tomorrow Growth Management Strategy was undertaken in response to a number of Provincial initiatives including:

- Provincial Growth Forecasts, 2005
- Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2006
- Greenbelt Plan, 2005
- Rapid transit investment in York Region

- Advocacy of compact urban form

The Regional Planning for Tomorrow Growth Management Strategy included an extensive public and stakeholder engagement process which included the following elements:

- Public open houses and forums
- Media involvement
- On-going feedback
- Webpage
- Publication materials

As the growth management strategy evolved, three brochures or guides were produced to assist in explaining the series of complex issues and documents and ensure effective ongoing stakeholder and public engagement.

With the approval of the Regional Official Plan, it is important that we update the ROP supporting material and continue to inform Regional stakeholders and residents as we move forward with implementation of the Regional Official Plan.

Regional staff has prepared a draft of the *Summary of the Approved York Region Official Plan - 2010* appended to this report as *Attachment 1*. The final version of the Summary will be fine-tuned however; the internal copy and message from Council will be identical to *Attachment 1*. In addition, Regional staff has also prepared a Poster entitled “*Towards a Sustainable Region - 2010*”, appended to this report as *Attachment 2*, to illustrate the York Region Official Plan vision for 2031.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Regional staff continues to move forward with implementation of the York Region Official Plan

Regional staff is moving forward with the implementation of the York Region Official Plan on a number of fronts, including:

- Working to settle the York Region Official Plan Ontario Municipal Board appeals through participation in pre-hearing conferences, settlement discussions and mediation
- Partnering to support local official plan conformity by providing early review and comments on local plans to local municipalities
- Development of the Climate Change Strategy, Archaeological Management Plan and the New Community Guidelines among others

Maintaining ongoing consultation with residents and stakeholders regarding the vision, intent and content of the York Region Official Plan is key during the implementation phase of the Plan. The Summary of *the Approved York Region Official Plan - 2010* and the poster will facilitate this dialogue.

The Summary of the Approved York Region Official Plan - 2010 is a tool for articulating the York Region Official Plan vision to our residents and stakeholders

The Summary articulates the fundamental policies of the York Region Official Plan, as outlined below:

A Sustainable Natural Environment

- Ensuring a linked and enhanced Regional Greenlands System
- Protecting key natural heritage, key hydrologic features and Regionally significant woodlands
- Implementing watershed plans to support sustainable land use planning decisions

Healthy Communities

- Requiring 25% of new housing units across York Region be affordable with an increase to 35% in Centres and Corridors
- Enhancing co-ordination of human services delivery and community development
- Promoting human health and well-being by ensuring community design that reduces automobile dependency, promotes active modes of transportation, and facilitates social interaction and accessibility

Economic Vitality

- Ensuring the long term protection of employment lands
- Supporting Regional Centres and Corridors as hubs for business, major office, human services uses, cultural and entertainment activities
- Promoting green industry clusters, knowledge based activities, and recreation and tourism destinations

An Urbanizing Region: Building Cities and Complete Communities.

- Achieving a minimum of 40% residential intensification in the built-up area
- Achieving densities of 2.5 FSI for Regional Centres and Corridors and 3.5 FSI for major Subway stations
- Ensuring diversity in housing types and affordability.
- Achieving a minimum density of 70 people and jobs per hectare for New Communities Areas
- Achieving higher standards of urban design, efficiency and health in new development

Agricultural and Rural Areas

- Protecting lands for agricultural uses
- Supporting local food production and procurement
- Retain the character of the Rural area including existing agriculture, agriculture-related and secondary agricultural uses

Servicing our Population

- Creating an active transportation system and programs that encourage walking, bicycling and the use of public transit.
- Implementing long-term, innovative strategies for water conservation and efficiency including strategies such as rainwater harvesting, grey water reuse and naturalized wastewater services
- Ensuring municipal water quality is protected from contamination through wellhead and surface water intake protection

Implementation

- Promoting an effective and efficient planning process by ensuring transparency, timeliness and early stakeholder involvement
- Providing innovative and integrated solutions in Regional decision-making
- Fostering partnership with local municipalities, stakeholders and residents

The Summary includes a message from Regional Council outlining the current status of the ROP, ongoing public engagement, stakeholder consultation, and current initiatives being undertaken to implement the ROP. Information will also be provided on how residents and stakeholders can become involved in these additional initiatives.

As noted above, the York Region Official Plan - 2010 and ROPAs 1, 2 and 3 are currently under appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board. Neither the Summary nor the Poster has legal status in terms of Official Plan policy. The two are intended solely as information pieces to assist staff in communication with residents and stakeholders. A caveat to this effect has been added to both the Summary and the Poster. If the Ontario Municipal Board hearing ultimately results in changes to the Official Plan, the Summary and the Poster may be updated accordingly.

The Poster “*Towards a Sustainable Region - 2010*” is a Visual Companion to the Summary

The Poster is a visual companion piece to the Summary which illustrates:

- The existing Region
- The vision for York Region in 2031
- The key principles of the Official Plan 2010 and key strategies and implementation initiatives

Relationship to Vision 2026

The *Summary of the Approved York Region Official Plan- 2010* and the Poster speak to the Region's Vision 2026 action areas of "Proactively Meeting the Needs of Our Customers" and "Being a Region That Involves its Citizens" and goal area of "Engaged Communities and a Responsive Region."

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The development of the *Summary of the Approved York Region Official Plan- 2010* and the Poster "*Towards a Sustainable Region - 2010*" were undertaken within the existing staff complement and budget allocation for the Planning and Development Services Department. Printing of both the Summary and Poster will also be undertaken within existing budget allocations.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Local municipalities are key partners in the implementation of the Regional Official Plan. The local municipalities will be circulated the Summary and Poster for reference. Additional copies will be provided to our municipal partners for distribution to York Region residents and stakeholders interested in the York Region Official Plan - 2010.

7. CONCLUSION

York Region has undertaken a comprehensive growth management exercise which culminated in the adoption of an updated York Region Official Plan in 2009 and approval by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in 2010. The growth management strategy included an extensive public and stakeholder engagement process. Brochures and guides, produced as part of the growth management work, proved to be an effective tool for explaining complex issues and documents to York Region residents and stakeholders.

With the approval of the Regional Official Plan; it is important to update the ROP supporting materials to continue the ongoing dialogue with stakeholders and residents as we move forward with implementation of the Approved York Region Official Plan. Regional staff has prepared the *Summary of the Approved York Region Official Plan- 2010* and Poster "*Towards a Sustainable Region - 2010*" as a companion piece to the Summary, to facilitate this dialogue.

The Summary and Poster can be used by Regional and local staff as a communication piece for residents and stakeholders.

For more information on this report, or the Summary and Poster please contact Barbara Jeffrey, Acting Director of Long Range and Strategic Planning at Ext. 1526.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The two attachments referred to in this clause are attached to this report.)

A
Summary
OF THE
approved York Region
OFFICIAL
Plan



This Summary is intended for information purposes only.

Context and Background

In 2005, The Province of Ontario released growth forecasts for the Greater Toronto Area through Places to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. In addition, the Province released the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan that direct where and how growth will occur. These Provincial plans have been incorporated in the updated York Region Official Plan - 2010.

including town hall/stakeholder meetings, public open houses, technical committees and local municipal consultation.

Planning for Tomorrow Growth Management Program consolidated public and stakeholder input, the preferred growth scenario and updates to the Water and Wastewater, Transportation and the Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plans.



The Provincial Places to Grow Plan requires York Region to plan for:

- A population of 1.5 million people and approximately 780,000 jobs by 2031
- Compact, transit supportive densities in our new communities – 50 people and jobs per hectare
- Densities of 200 people and jobs per hectare in the four Regional Centres, located in Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill and Vaughan
- 40% intensification by 2015 and each year thereafter – a total of 90,700 units in the Region's built-up area
- Remaining 60% of development to occur in Designated Greenfield and new community areas –140,300 unit



The final outcome of the Planning for Tomorrow initiative is the York Region Official Plan- 2010, which was approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in September 2010. In addition, in September 2010, the Region approved Regional Official Plan Amendments (ROPA) 1, 2 and 3, which provide for urban expansions into areas of East Gwillimbury, Vaughan and Markham. The York Region Official Plan and ROPAs 1, 2 and 3 are appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board on a number of issues. Regional staff is currently working to settle the appeals through participation in pre-hearing conferences and settlement discussions. If required, OMB hearing(s) are expected to commence in mid 2012.

Purpose of the Summary

This summary is intended to illustrate the future vision for York Region. Maps and Figures contained in this Summary reflect the approved ROP mapping with the addition of the urban expansion areas. As such, information contained in the Summary has no legal status for use beyond being an information tool. Reference to specific ROP policies and mapping should be directed to the approved ROP and ROPAs 1, 2 and 3 which are available on the Region's website www.york.ca. Print copies of the York Region Official Plan and ROPAs 1, 2 and 3 are available from the York Region Planning and Development Services Department.

Should the Ontario Municipal Board ultimately make changes to ROP or ROPA 1, 2 or 3 policies, mapping or figures, the Summary will be updated accordingly.



Planning for Tomorrow was a multi-year growth management exercise to establish how York Region should grow over a 25 year timeframe. Public and stakeholder engagement was an important component of the initiative that involved more than 125 meetings.

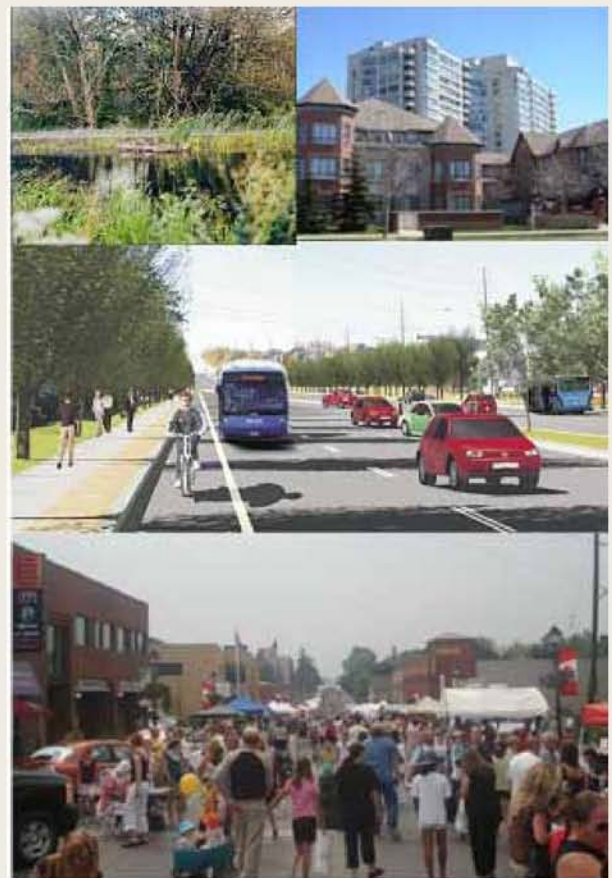
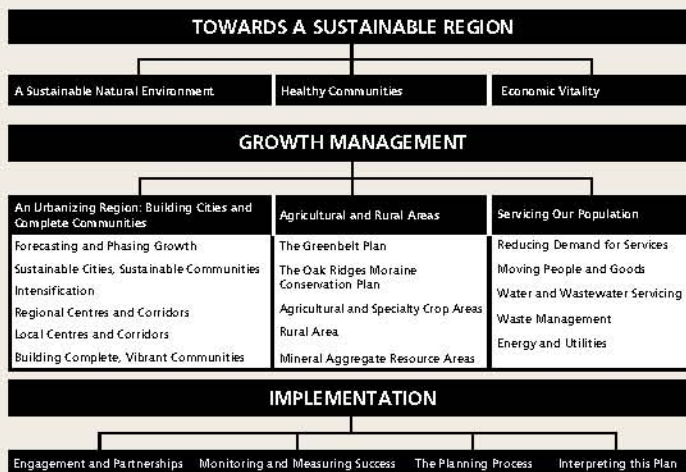
CHAPTER 1: *Introduction*

Sustainability is the guiding principle of the approved York Region Official Plan. Sustainability provides a long-term framework for making informed decisions that fully and simultaneously evaluate the economy, environment and community. This “triple bottom-line approach” is used to make decisions on a number of emerging trends facing York Region, including an aging and diverse society, urbanization, climate change and societal health issues such as obesity, mental illness, and cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.

Key Elements of the Regional Official Plan

- City building in the Regional Centres and Corridors
- A minimum 40% intensification in the built up area
- Higher standards for new communities
- Well-designed and intensified commercial, industrial and institutional developments
- Protection of employment lands
- Co-ordination with updated infrastructure master plans.
- Mobility systems prioritizing walking, cycling and transit use
- Standards for green building and water efficiency
- Context sensitive design for infrastructure projects
- A linked and enhanced Regional Greenland System
- A minimum 25% new affordable housing units increasing to 35% in Regional Centres and Corridors

YORK REGION OFFICIAL PLAN SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK



Sustainable Communities in York Region Mean...

- Active lifestyles
- Meeting the diverse needs of residents of all ages, cultures, and abilities
- A range of jobs and affordable housing options
- Quality schools, public spaces, recreation facilities and other amenities
- The highest standard in urban design and green building
- Safe, accessible mobility systems that prioritize pedestrian and cycling connections, public transit and streets

CHAPTER 2:

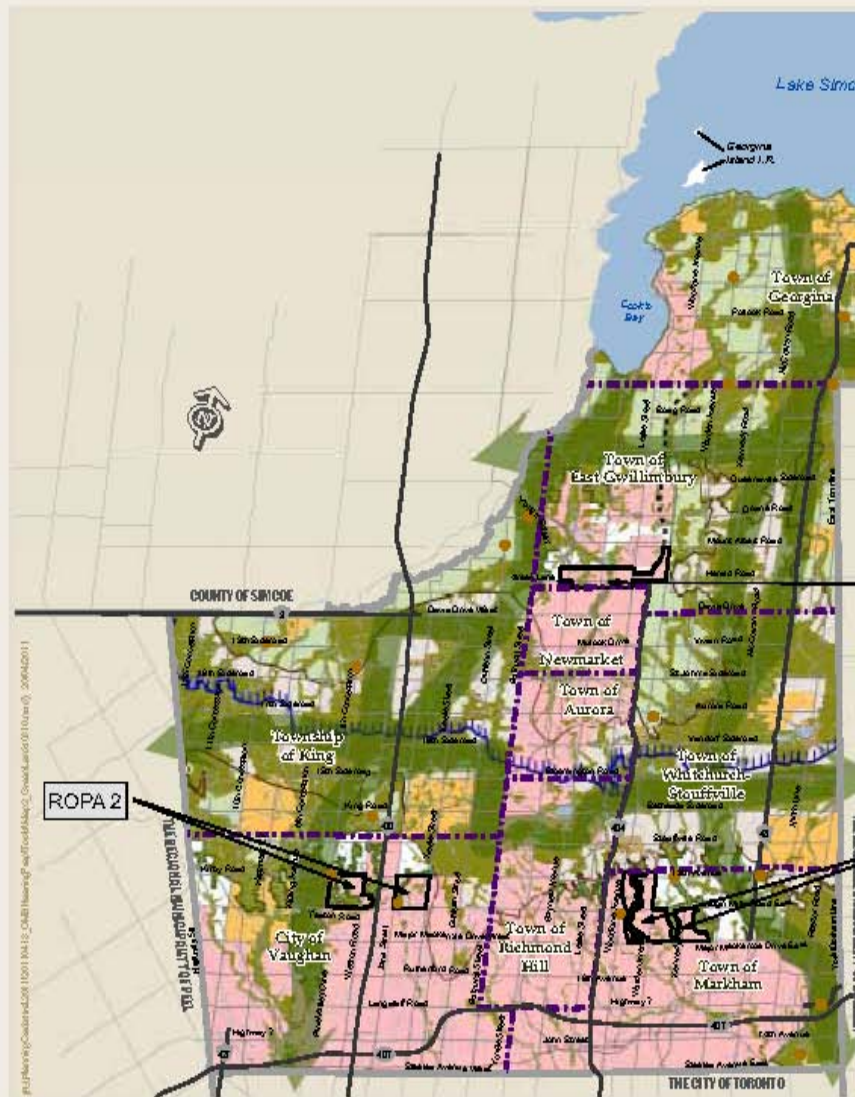
A Sustainable Natural Environment

York Region contains some of the most significant and environmentally sensitive natural heritage and hydrologic features in Ontario. York Region identifies, protects, and enhances a linked Regional Greenlands System as a permanent legacy for York Region. The Oak Ridges Moraine and the Greenbelt are key defining features of the Region's land structure, comprising 69% of its land base and providing finite limits to growth.

Key Policies

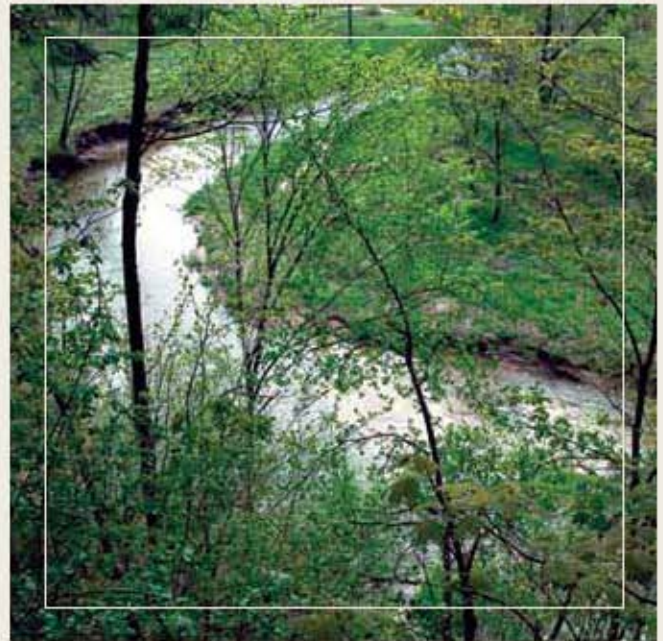
Greenlands System and Features

- An updated Regional Greenlands System with a focus on linking and enhancing the system
- A continued investment in Greenlands System through the Regional Greening and Securement Strategy
- Context sensitive design of infrastructure and development in new community areas to enhance Greenlands System
- Protection and enhancement of key natural heritage and hydrologic features
- Regional Significant Woodlands are protected
- Stronger protection for species at risk by incorporating the Endangered Species Act
- Incorporation of Greenbelt Key Natural Heritage and Key Hydrologic feature policies



Water Systems

- Prepare a regional water strategy including long term protection strategies, enhancement guidelines and monitoring requirements
- Maintain surface water, groundwater, hydrological and natural heritage features, functions and linkages
- Source water protection to protect drinking water sources from incompatible uses and contamination
- Encourage agricultural practices that minimize pesticides and nutrients
- Lake Simcoe Protection Plan policies are incorporated
- Reduce risks and costs associated with natural hazards and prepare for climate change impacts
- Implement watershed plans to support sustainable land use planning decisions
- Emphasize stormwater management through innovative techniques and alternative measures to conventional storm ponds



York Region's Greening Strategy

The Regional Greening Strategy has had a number of successes over the last 10 years, including:

- Over 750,000 trees and shrubs planted
- Environmental award of Excellence from the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators, 2009
- Environmental education provided to over 10,000 participants, with approximately 1,000 participating every year
- Securement of 938 ha (2319 acres) of greenlands by the Region or our partners with Regional support
- Public programs and stewardship initiatives, which include support for private rural reforestation projects, urban private-yard tree planting, community engagement and more



CHAPTER 3: *Healthy Communities*

Healthy communities are places where people can live, work, play and learn in an accessible and safe environment with clean air, land and water and a vibrant economy. Communities that provide a strong sense of belonging and identity contribute to a high-quality of life, health and well-being. The policies of the approved York Region Official Plan promote healthy communities by providing affordable housing choices and access to transit, a range of quality human services, schools, public spaces, local amenities and the promotion of healthy and active lifestyles.

Key Policies

Healthy Communities

- High-quality urban design and walkable pedestrian-friendly communities
- Citizen engagement and shared responsibility in community decisions
- Promote local food production, distribution and community gardens
- Support healthcare needs at all stages of life
- Implement the York Region Climate Change Action Plan
- Require human health, environmental and cumulative air quality impact studies for specific development types near sensitive uses
- Identify links between climate change, community planning and public health
- Increase air quality monitoring stations in York Region
- Co-ordinate human services delivery and community design
- Investigate emissions trading and carbon offsets to finance and showcase clean air initiatives
- Undertake and implement a York Region Archaeological Resources Management Plan
- Require conservation of significant cultural heritage resources
- Recognize and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of new Canadians
- Partner, engage and consult with First Nations and Métis Nation communities

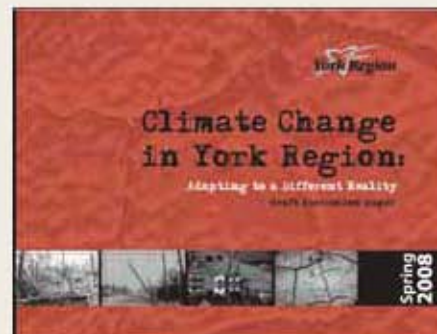


Housing Our Residents

- Implement and monitor the York Region Housing Supply Strategy
- Update the York Region Housing Needs Study
- Require a mix and range of housing types and tenures
- A minimum 25% of new housing units across the Region be affordable increasing to 35% in Regional Centres and Corridors
- Encourage "as-of-right" Secondary Suite policies

Key Elements of Healthy Communities

- Clean air, land and water
- Linked natural heritage system
- Acceptable and affordable housing
- A range of quality human services
- A vibrant and competitive economy
- Opportunities to live, work and play in the same community
- Community design that promotes active lifestyles, human interaction, safety and accessibility
- Protection of heritage and culture
- Public transit
- Safe, efficient infrastructure
- Access to locally grown food



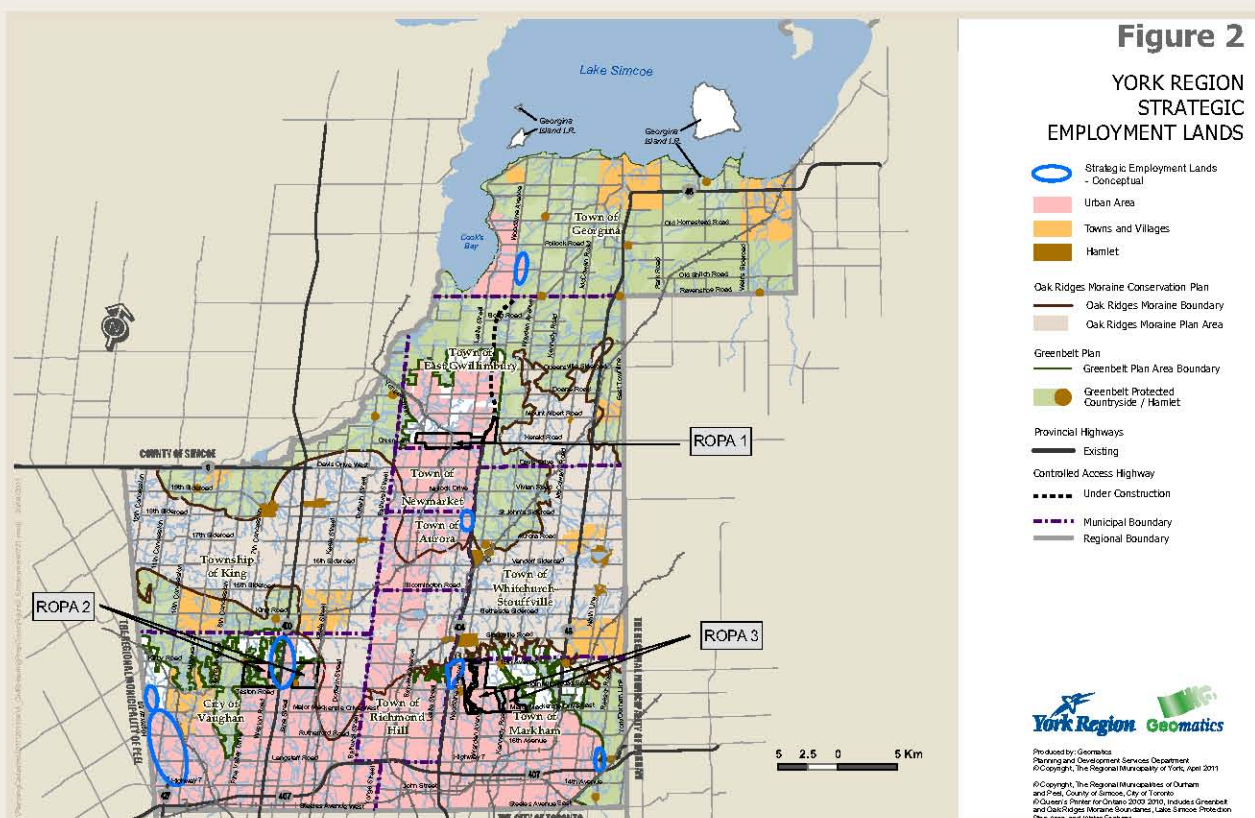
CHAPTER 4: *Economic Vitality*

A strong and stable economy is essential to York Region's health and prosperity. The Region's economy is heading in a direction that encourages entrepreneurship and investment, protects the natural environment and local markets and attracts a high-quality workforce. York Region is committed to achieving these goals through innovation, economic diversity and resilience. The policies of the York Region Official Plan provide direction on how to create economically viable cities, employment lands, and retail spaces that achieve the Region's sustainability goals.

Key Policies

Economic Vitality

- Create high-quality employment opportunities: goal of 1 job for every 2 residents
- Implement the York Region Economic Strategy
- Promote green industry clusters, knowledge-based activities and recreation and tourism destinations
- Encourage opportunities for telecommuting and work-at-home
- Promote Regional Centres and Corridors as hubs for business, cultural and entertainment activities; the preferred location for major office uses
- Protection of a 20-year supply of employment lands
- A prohibition on the conversion of employment lands to non-employment use
- Major retail will not be permitted in employment lands
- Better integration of retail into community design
- Regular updates to the 25-Year Fiscal Impact Study
- York Region will advocate for a new funding formula and sources for municipalities



CHAPTER 5:

An Urbanizing Region: Building Cities and Complete Communities

During the next 25 years, York Region will face significant growth. It is anticipated that the Region will reach a population of 1.5 million, 780,000 jobs and 510,000 households by 2031. York Region is committed to plan for this growth in a sustainable way while providing a high-quality of life for its residents. This growth will be accommodated in Regional Centres and Corridors, the Urban Area, Towns and Villages, and new community areas. While each of these areas is unique, they will be knitted together by common principles and policies that set a high standard for development. The policies of the York Region Official Plan will ensure that well-designed communities that have integrated greenspace and pedestrian and transit networks, and offer a variety of housing, transportation, human services and employment options.

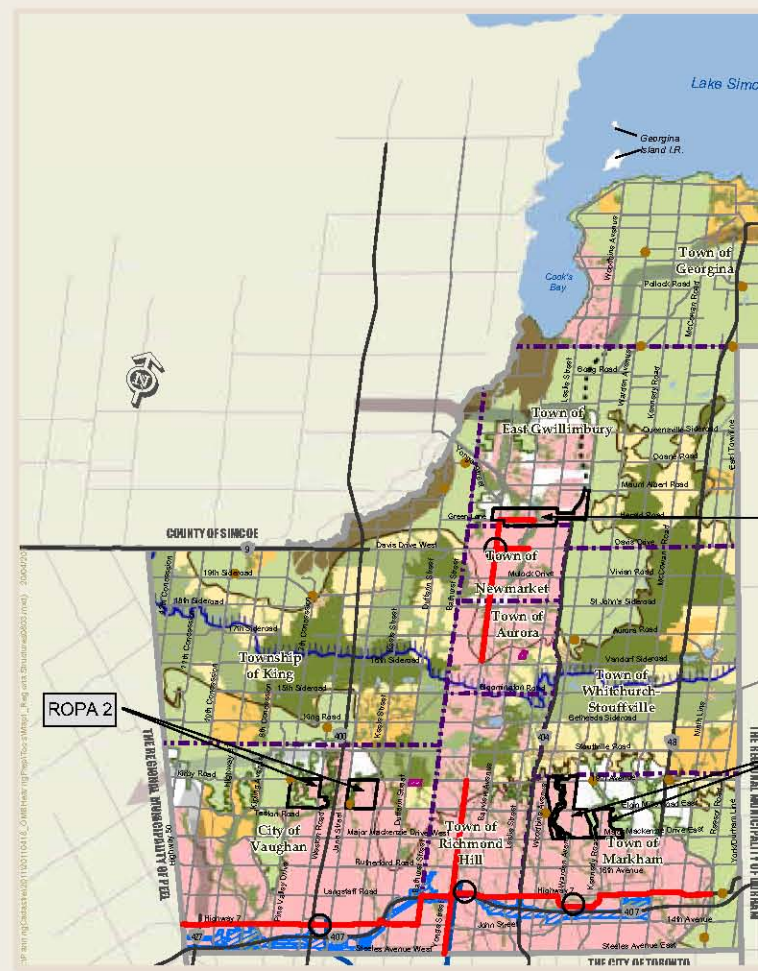
Key Policies

Forecasting and Phasing Growth

- The York Region Official Plan conforms with the Province's Places to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and other provincial initiatives
- Forecasts: 1.5 million people, 780,000 jobs and 510,000 household by 2031
- Local municipalities must maintain a 3-7 year supply of housing
- Development in new communities will be carefully phased and sequenced, generally 75% complete before proceeding to next phase
- Future Urban Area expansions will be completed by York Region as a part of a comprehensive review

York Region Population and Employment
Forecast by Local Municipality
TABLE 1

	2006	2016	2021	2026	2031
Aurora					
Population	49,700	63,700	68,100	69,600	70,200
Employment	20,300	29,000	32,400	33,500	34,200
East Gwillimbury					
Population	22,000	34,700	48,100	66,300	86,500
Employment	5,900	11,600	18,700	26,700	34,400
Georgina					
Population	44,600	52,800	57,900	63,900	70,300
Employment	8,000	11,000	13,900	17,400	21,200
King					
Population	20,300	27,000	29,900	32,500	34,900
Employment	7,100	9,700	11,000	11,400	11,900
Markham					
Population	273,000	337,800	370,300	398,300	421,600
Employment	144,800	200,300	221,500	231,200	240,400
Newmarket					
Population	77,600	88,700	91,900	94,500	97,100
Employment	42,100	47,600	48,700	49,000	49,400
Richmond Hill					
Population	169,800	216,900	231,400	239,100	242,200
Employment	61,100	86,100	94,300	97,400	99,400
Vaughan					
Population	249,300	329,100	360,400	388,800	416,600
Employment	162,200	226,000	248,900	257,600	266,100
Whitchurch-Stouffville					
Population	25,500	49,400	55,800	59,100	60,600
Employment	10,900	19,200	21,900	22,700	23,000
York Region					
Population	931,900	1,200,100	1,313,800	1,415,100	1,500,000
Employment	462,300	640,500	711,200	746,900	780,000

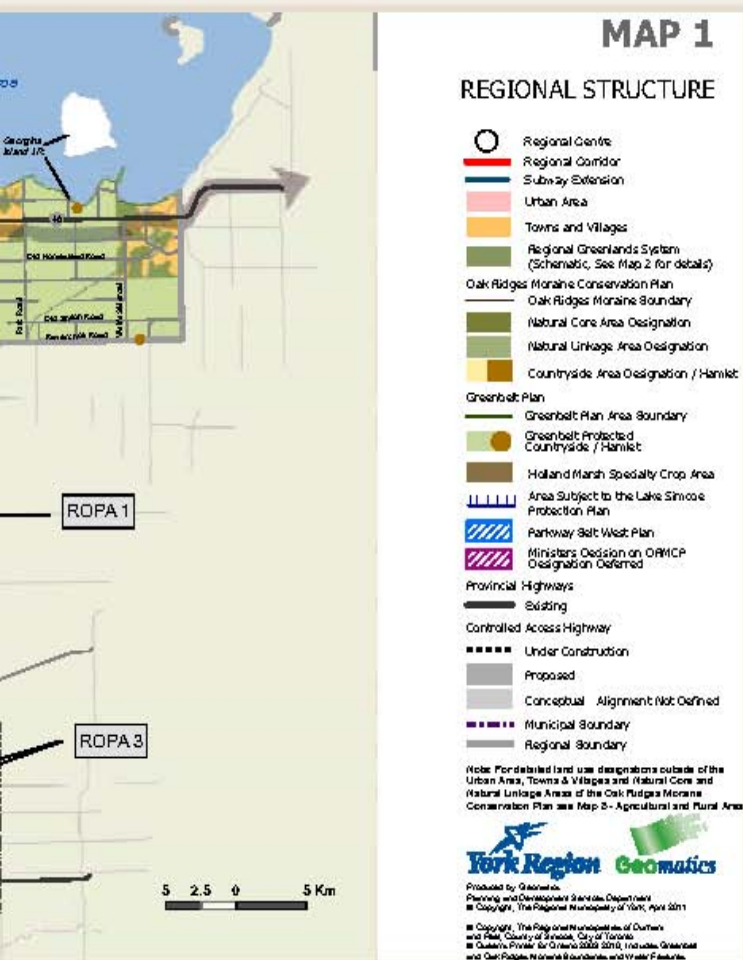


Building Complete Communities

- New communities will be created in Markham, Vaughan, and East Gwillimbury
- York Region has worked with local municipalities to identify the specific location of urban expansions through Regional Official Plan Amendments 1, 2 and 3, as shown on Map 1
- Detailed criteria for new communities
- Densities in new communities will be 70 people and jobs per hectare in the developable area (20 units per hectare) which is more compact than traditional York Region communities
- Collaborative approach to secondary plans
- Core areas integrated into community with a focus on retail, personal and human services, and walking connections to rapid transit
- Mix and range of housing types, sizes and affordability will be provided to improve live-work relationship

City Building

- Minimum 40% residential intensification in the built-up area, a total of 90,700 units
- Local municipalities must complete intensification strategies
- Highest level of intensification to occur in Regional Centres followed by key development areas along Regional Corridors
- Target of 2.5 FSI (floor space index) for Regional Centres and Corridors and 3.5 FSI at major subway stations
- Secondary Plans for Regional Centres and key development areas to emphasize walking, cycling and transit use, sustainable vibrant and attractive urban areas
- Parking management approaches to support city building including structured/underground parking, reduced standards and the establishment of a parking authority
- Integration of human services into the urban community and located along transit routes



**York Region Residential Intensification Targets
by Local Municipality 2006-2031**
TABLE 2

	Units
Aurora	3,140
East Gwillimbury	1,030
Georgina	2,690
King	920
Markham	31,590
Newmarket	5,250
Richmond Hill	15,300
Vaughan	29,300
Whitchurch-Stouffville	1,500
York Region	90,720

Innovative Policy Approaches

- Green building policies across the Region including energy efficiency and water conservation performance targets
- Community Energy Plans for Regional Centres and New Community Areas, designing for passive solar gains and future solar installations
- Integrated Mobility Planning that prioritizes walking, cycling and transit use
- Public Art on private and public developments and meeting places
- Greenlands System enhancements, urban greening and context sensitive infrastructure
- Excellence in Urban Design; creating sense of place and an attractive public realm

CHAPTER 6: *Agricultural and Rural Areas*

Agricultural and Rural Areas form an important part of the fabric of York Region, supporting a vibrant agricultural community and contributing to the economy, quality of life and natural heritage legacy. The Region has some of the most productive agricultural lands in Canada. The black organic soils in the Holland Marsh in King Township, East Gwillimbury and other market gardening areas and the equine industry distinguish the Region. Agricultural production is an important part of the Region's economy, providing jobs and agricultural products.

The majority of lands outside of the Urban Area and Towns and Villages of the Region are within the Greenbelt Plan and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, which comprise 69% of the Region's land base. A large portion of the Region's rural and agricultural areas are protected within the Greenbelt and the Oak Ridges Moraine plan areas. The policies of the draft York Region Official Plan – 2010 identify and protect these important land uses.

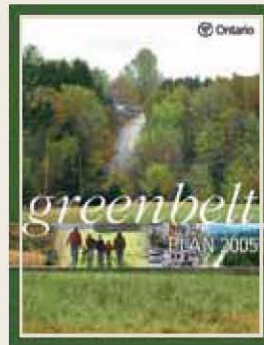
Key Policies

The Greenbelt Plan

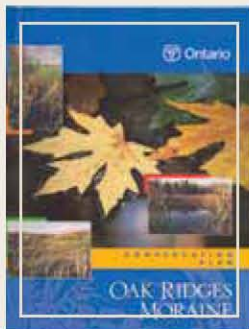
The *Greenbelt Plan* protects prime agricultural lands as Agricultural Areas, Specialty Crop Areas and the Rural Areas.

Local municipalities must identify the Greenbelt Protected Countryside and the Natural Heritage System in local official plans and determine permitted uses.

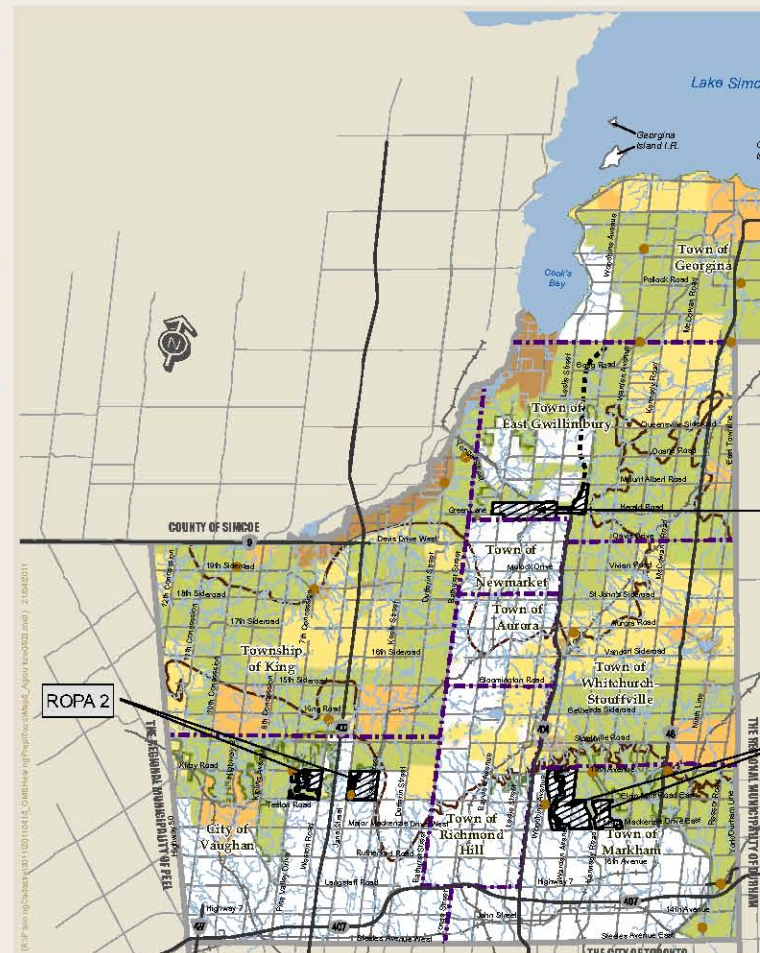
Estate residential development is no longer permitted.

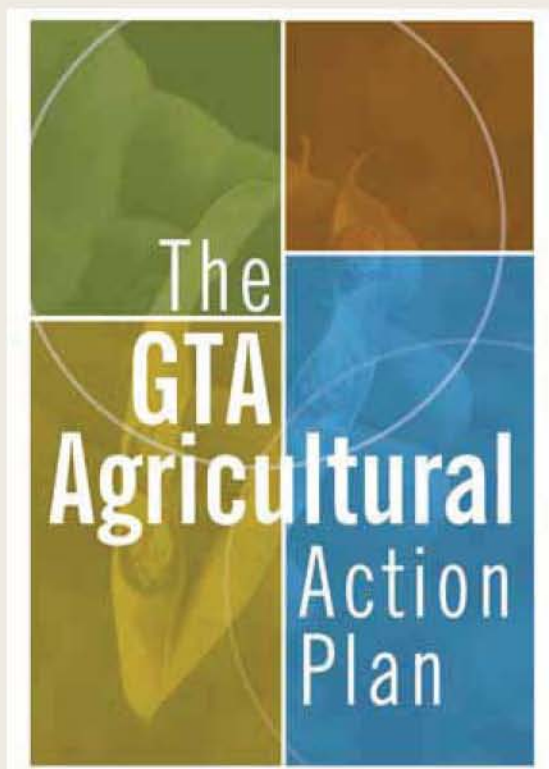


The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan



The Oak Ridges Moraine is one of Ontario's most significant landforms. The York Region Official Plan incorporates Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan land use designations and permitted uses in Natural Core, Natural Linkage, Countryside and Settlement Area. The Plan also protects key natural heritage and hydrologic features from development and site alteration.





Agricultural and Specialty Crop Areas

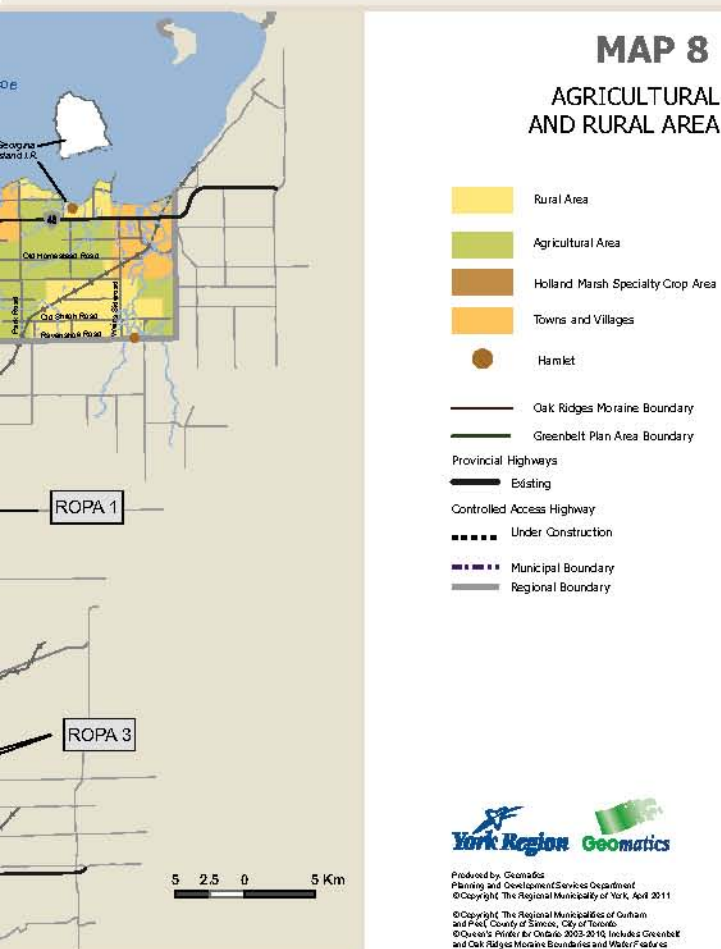
- Protects lands for agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses and secondary agricultural uses
- Permits farm-gate sales of produce or goods primarily grown or made on the farm subject to local municipal requirements
- Supports local food production and procurement
- Supports and assists agricultural industry in responding to changing conditions and markets
- Alternative energy systems and renewable energy systems are permitted within the Agricultural Area (except the Holland Marsh Specialty Crop Area) in accordance with Provincial and Federal standards
- Continued support of the *Greater Toronto Area Agricultural Action Plan*

Rural Area

- Policies directed at retaining the character of lands in the Rural Area and to protect the viability of existing agriculture, agriculture-related and secondary agricultural uses
- Permits cemetery uses subject to criteria
- Alternative energy systems and renewable energy systems are permitted within the Rural Area in accordance with Provincial and Federal standards

Mineral Aggregate Resource Areas

- Protects mineral resources for possible future extraction and ensures rehabilitation of extraction areas, except where prohibited by Provincial Plans

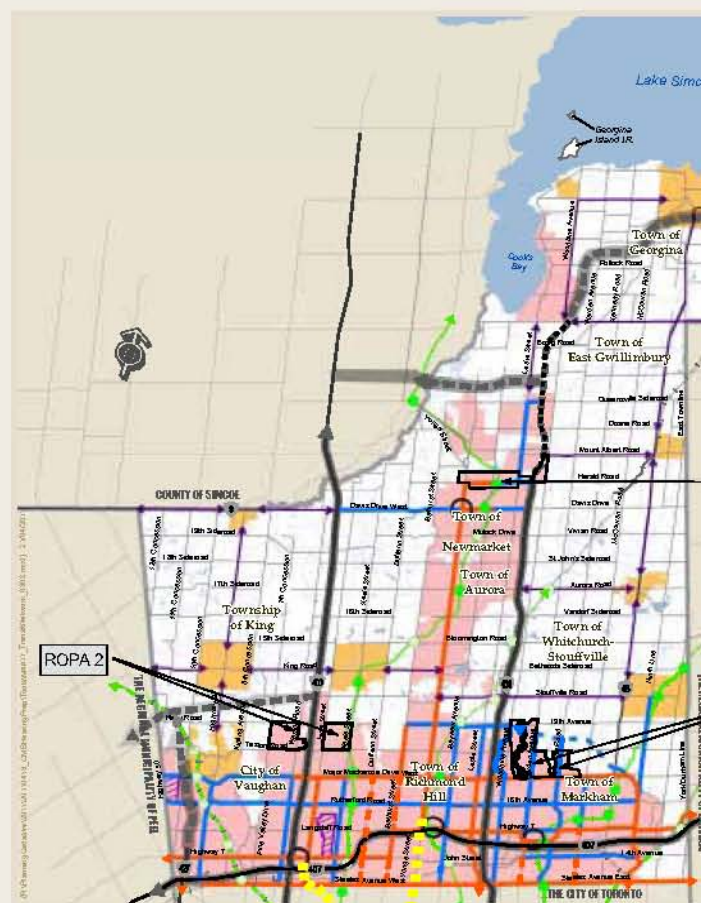


CHAPTER 7: *Servicing Our Population*

For the benefit of both residents and businesses, York Region is committed to providing state-of-the-art services that are vital to maintaining and improving quality of life and economic competitiveness. Services include transit, streets, water, wastewater, waste management, energy, rail, airport, utilities and communications which are operated by a variety of public and private sector agencies. Effectively providing these services means reducing demand while expanding and updating existing infrastructure. The policies of Chapter 7 of the approved York Region Official Plan co-ordinate the provision of services with the city and community building policies of Chapter 5, in keeping with the goals of the York Region Sustainability Strategy. The policies of the approved York Region Official Plan support the long-term vision of the York Region Pedestrian and Cycling, Transportation, and Water and Wastewater Master Plans.

Moving People and Goods

- Create an active transportation system and programs that encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transit that is accessible and convenient
- Implement the York Region Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan
- Connect Regional and local pedestrian and cycling networks to the Regional Greenlands System trails network
- Design and locate school campuses to promote walking, cycling and transit
- Achieve a transit modal split target of 30% in urban areas and 50% in Regional Centres and Corridors
- Require transit or high-occupancy vehicle lanes and bicycle lanes within the right-of-way of 6-lane Regional streets
- Support strong airport infrastructure within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, while minimizing conflicts between airport operations and surrounding lands
- Encourage the co-ordinated, efficient and safe integration of utilities to better serve residents and businesses
- Encourage complementary uses on utility corridors, such as trails, transit, commuter parking, community gardens, and appropriate vegetation
- Engage local municipalities, local utilities and other stakeholders in the advancement of energy conservation, demand management, renewable energy systems and local generation
- Demonstrate leadership in energy efficiency, conservation, and innovation and the use of renewable and alternative energy systems in York Region operations
- Permit on-site alternative energy systems and renewable energy systems in accordance with Provincial and Federal requirements



Resource Conservation and Efficiency

- Work to achieve the following energy efficiency and conservation
- Residential buildings achieve a minimum performance level equivalent to the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)
- Mid- to high-rise residential and non-residential building (excluding low-rise buildings) achieve a minimum performance level equivalent to the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code for Buildings
- All new buildings achieve 10% greater water conservation over the 2006 International Plumbing Code (IPC)
- Ensure that all new development reduces construction waste and materials by 10% over the 2006 International Building Code (IBC)
- Encourage the use of environmentally preferable and locally sourced materials

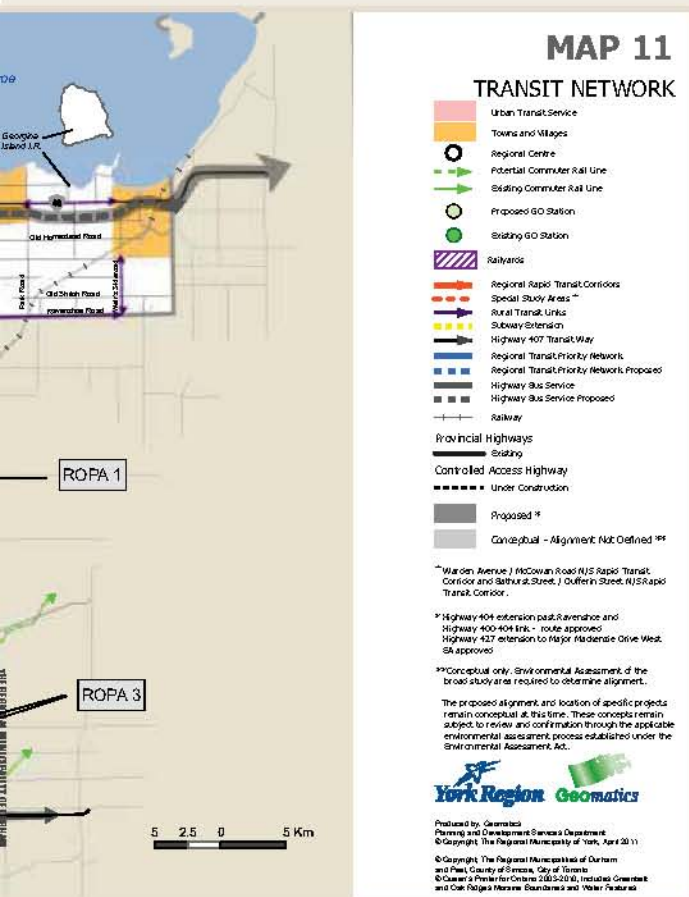
Reducing the Demand for Services

- Reduce automobile dependency by enhancing opportunities for residents and workers to walk, cycle, take transit and carpool
- New development must meet or exceed the York Region Transit-Oriented Development Guidelines
- Provide preferential carpool parking and bicycle storage facilities in new institutional, commercial and industrial development proposals
- Develop a long-term, innovative strategy for water conservation and efficiency and investigate innovative water efficiency and wastewater treatment technologies such as rainwater harvesting, grey water reuse and naturalized wastewater treatment



Waste Management

- Develop York Region Integrated Waste Management Master Plan
- Achieve an efficient waste management system that minimizes material entering the waste stream, and are sustainably managed
- Achieve over 90% diversion from landfill by 2016 and eliminate disposal of unprocessed waste in landfill by 2020
- All new multi-unit residential buildings to incorporate three-stream waste collection systems
- Develop a public awareness program on waste reduction strategies, increasing reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and participation rates
- Deliver safe, clean drinking water and provide long-term water and wastewater services to York Region's communities that are safe, well-managed, and sustainable
- Ensure that municipal water quality is protected from contamination from incompatible land uses through wellhead and surface water intake protection
- Investigate source water risk management planning, including spills response, contaminant recovery, aquifer rehabilitation plans and public education
- Construct and operate water and wastewater services in a way that protects, enhances, and provides net benefit to the Region's natural and cultural heritage
- Protect surface water quality by addressing both point and non-point sources of pollution



on standards for all new buildings
ual to an Energy Star standard
ding industrial) shall be designed to achieve a 25% greater energy

Ontario Building Code

nd diverts construction waste from landfill

sourced materials



MINIMUM LANDFILL DISPOSAL

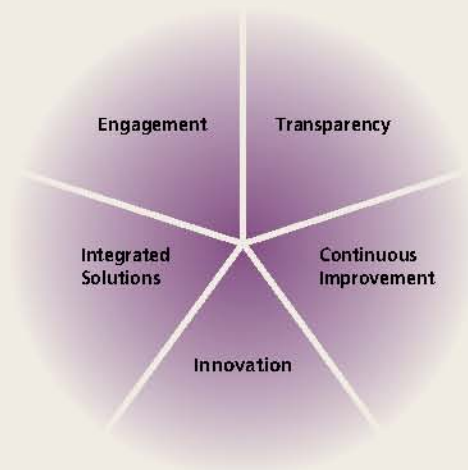
CHAPTER 8: *Implementation*

The primary goal in implementing the policies of the York Region Official Plan is to ensure resiliency and the ability to adapt to changing economic and environmental conditions, and increasing social diversity. York Region will provide leadership by applying the policies of the approved York Region Official Plan fairly and equitably. In working with the public, stakeholders and partners, York Region can effectively co-ordinate infrastructure investment and human services delivery to accommodate population and employment growth.

An Effective and Efficient Planning Process Means...

- Conducting the process in a transparent and timely manner
- Involving stakeholders at the outset of the review process to ensure that concerns and requirements are identified and addressed
- Ensuring positive outcomes for the economy, community and environment
- Ensuring that new development meets or exceeds the density and intensification targets, and green building standards specified in the approved Regional Official Plan
- Emphasizing excellence in urban design and transit-oriented development
- Ensuring diversity in housing types and affordability

IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES



Components of Implementing the Regional Official Plan

- Innovative approaches and integrated solutions to decision-making process
- Ongoing public consultation
- Annual monitoring of progress
- Partnership with local municipalities, stakeholders and the public

We Need Your Input!

Several strategies and plans currently under development will assist in the implementation of the York Region Official Plan. The development of these initiatives will benefit from your input. Comments can be provided on any of the existing or proposed documents in written form, by e-mail, telephone and through facebook and twitter.



Vision 2051

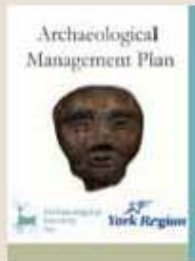
Vision 2051 will be a strategic document that takes a 40-year look at the Region's future and provides guidance on achieving the York Region we envision in 2051.

Visit us at www.york.ca/vision2051

Vision 2051 Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/YorkRegion2051



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www.twitter.com/YorkRegion2051



Archaeological Resources Management Plan

The Archaeological Resources Management Plan will guide the identification, protection and conservation of the Region's archaeological resources.



Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy will identify best management practices, examine climate change impacts York Region is likely to experience and identify strategic climate change actions for implementation.



The Guidelines for New Communities

The Guidelines for New Communities will provide guidance on how to implement the policies and achieve the performance targets identified in the Sustainable Buildings and New Community Areas sections of the York Region Official Plan.



Integrated Waste Management Master Plan

The Integrated Waste Management Master Plan will establish a strategic 25-year direction and planning framework for waste management with a focus on leading-edge, integrated waste management solutions that meet the needs of the Region and the local municipalities. See www.sm4rtliving.ca

For further information or to make comments contact:

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Mayor
Frank Scarpitti
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Jack Heath
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Jim Jones
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Gordon Landon
Town of Markham



Regional Councillor
Joe Li
Town of Markham



Mayor
David Barrow
Town of Richmond Hill



Mayor
Maurizio Bevilacqua
City of Vaughan



Chairman and CEO
Bill Fisch



Regional Councillor
Vito Spatafora
Town of Richmond Hill



Regional Councillor
Gino Rosati
City of Vaughan



Regional Councillor
Michael Di Biase
City of Vaughan



Regional Councillor
Deb Schulte
City of Vaughan



Mayor
Robert Grossi
Town of Georgina



Regional Councillor
Danny Wheeler
Town of Georgina



Mayor
Geoffrey Dawe
Town of Aurora



Mayor
Virginia Hackson
Town of East Gwillimbury



Mayor
Steve Pellegrini
Township of King



Mayor
Wayne Emmerson
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

Message from Regional Council

The York Region Official Plan, approved by the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on September 7, 2010, was prepared to conform with a number of pieces of Provincial legislation that fundamentally changed the way planning occurs in south-central Ontario and York Region.

That legislation included the following:

- ♦ *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act*
- ♦ *Greenbelt Act*
- ♦ *Places to Grow Act*
- ♦ *Clean Water Act*
- ♦ *Lake Simcoe Protection Plan*

To identify our priorities and help focus our response to the new legislation, The Regional Municipality of York undertook the Planning for Tomorrow initiative. This growth management planning exercise involved an extensive public and stakeholder engagement process, including town hall meetings, local municipal consultations and technical committees.

The York Region Official Plan, represents the final outcome of that initiative. As our residents and stakeholders suggested, the York Region Official Plan enhances existing sustainability policies to ensure our communities and emerging urban areas offer healthy and vibrant places to live, a variety of housing, job and transportation choices and sustainable lifestyle choices.

We are mindful that the York Region Official Plan sets the stage for our decisions and actions for many years to come. We encourage you to read this summary and become more familiar with the Plan. As we move forward with initiatives that implement the Plan, your input during their development will continue to be critical to shaping the future for our community as expressed in the York Region Official Plan.



Regional Councillor
Brenda Hogg
Town of Richmond Hill



Mayor
Tony Van Bynen
Town of Newmarket



Regional Councillor
John Taylor
Town of Newmarket

