

Appendix A.



Planning for Tomorrow

York Region Growth Management

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Spring/Summer 2007

Towards A Sustainable Region

Creating Strong, Growing, Safe Communities

Growth Management Strategy

The Challenge

York Region has a number of important decisions to make about how to manage growth over the next 25 years.

The Province of Ontario has prepared growth forecasts and a Provincial Growth Plan - Places to Grow, as well as the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and the Greenbelt Plan to direct where and how growth will occur.

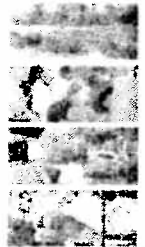
These plans require the Region to update its Growth Management Strategy and its Official Plan.

We need your input on these issues that will shape our future.

Regional Official Plan

The Region already has a progressive Official Plan in place. The Plan is based on the themes of Sustainable Natural Environment, Economic Vitality and Healthy Communities. A series of Policies in the Plan require:

- Linked greenland system
- Compact development
- Human Service Planning
- Centres and Corridors
- Transit, cycling and walking
- Long-range water, waste water, and transportation plans
- Intensification

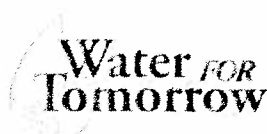


In 2006 our residents raised a number of issues:

- Pace and Location of Growth
- Protection of Environment, water systems and agricultural lands
- Traffic Congestion and Transit
- Human Services and Affordable Housing
- Energy
- Quality of Life
- Need for additional and ongoing consultation
- Need to fully integrate Sustainability into our decision making structure

Regional Growth Management Successes

- Public Transit and VIVA Rapid Transit
- Water for Tomorrow
- Greening and Land Securement Initiatives
- Human Services Plan
- Housing Strategy
- Tom Taylor Place: Energy Efficient Affordable Housing
- Corporate Clean Air Task Force
- LEED Buildings Program & Retrofits
- Smart Commute Initiative
- Centres and Corridors Strategy
- Waste Diversion Strategy
- And much more.....



Towards a Sustainable Region

York Region Sustainability Strategy

York Region's Council recently endorsed a draft Sustainability Strategy. The Sustainability Strategy provides a long-term framework for making smarter decisions about growth management and municipal responsibilities that better integrate the economy, environment and community. The Sustainability Strategy also makes good business sense, translates concept into practical action, coordinates initiatives and shows leadership.



The Sustainability Strategy contains over 80 actions that will inform and improve all Regional policies, programs and operations. These actions are organized under the following themes:

- I. Corporate Culture of Sustainability
- II. Healthy Communities
- III. Economic Vitality
- IV. Sustainable Natural Environment
- V. Education, Engagement and Partnerships
- VI. Sustainability Implementation and Monitoring

Updating our Master Plans

In keeping with the theme of sustainability, the growth management strategy update and Regional Official Plan review will be integrated with the updates to the Infrastructure Master Plans. This approach ensures that any updated policies in the Regional Official Plan will be coordinated with the updates to the master plans for transportation and transit, water and wastewater and pedestrian and bicycling.

A 25 year fiscal impact analysis will also be completed to further assess the fiscal challenges associated with growth options. In this way, the Region can devise a decision-making model that gives equal consideration to land-use and infrastructure planning, human services and fiscal impacts.

What does Sustainability Mean?

Sustainability means leaving our communities, our Region, our World in a healthy state for our children and grandchildren.

Sustainability means evaluating the community, environmental and economic effects of our actions.

Sustainability means thinking differently, being more innovative and collaborative.

Sustainability means making smarter decisions about our lifestyle, community design, infrastructure and financial decisions.

Eight Guiding Principles of Sustainability

1. Provide a long-term perspective on sustainability.
2. Evaluate using elements of environment, economy and community.
3. Create a culture of continuous improvement, minimizing impact and maximizing innovation.
4. Identify specific short-term actions that contribute towards a sustainability legacy.
5. Set targets, monitor and report on progress.
6. Foster partnerships and public engagement.
7. Raise the level of sustainability awareness through education, dialogue and reassessment.
8. Promote a sustainable lifestyle and re-evaluation of our consumption and expectations.

The Sustainability Strategy is in Draft Form

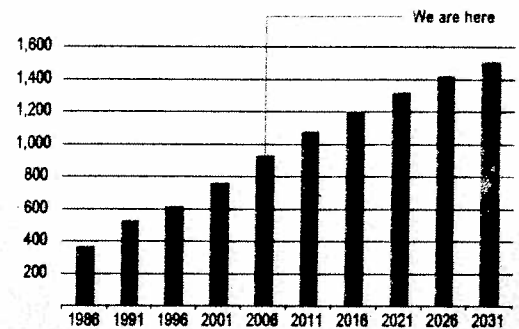
We need your input

Please visit www.york.ca

What Does Places to Grow Mean?

The new Provincial Plan, Places to Grow, is based on a number of growth policies. When applied to York Region we get a picture of the magnitude and nature of the growth anticipated.

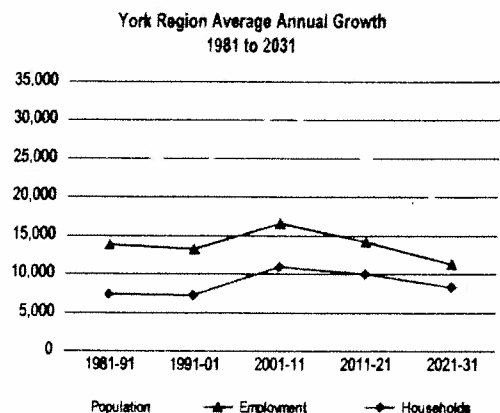
- Compact, transit supportive densities in our new communities – 50 people and jobs per ha.
- Four Regional Centres in York Region (Markham Centre, Newmarket Centre, Richmond Hill/Langstaff Gateway Centre, Vaughan Corporate Centre) – 200 people and jobs per ha.
- 40% Intensification by the year 2015 and each year thereafter – a total of 85,000 units in the Region's built-up area.
- 60% of development in Greenfield areas – 150,000 units.



York Region Forecast Summary			
	2006	2031	2006-2031 Increase
Population	935,000	1,505,000	570,000
Employment	455,000	800,000	345,000
Housing	278,000	516,000	238,000

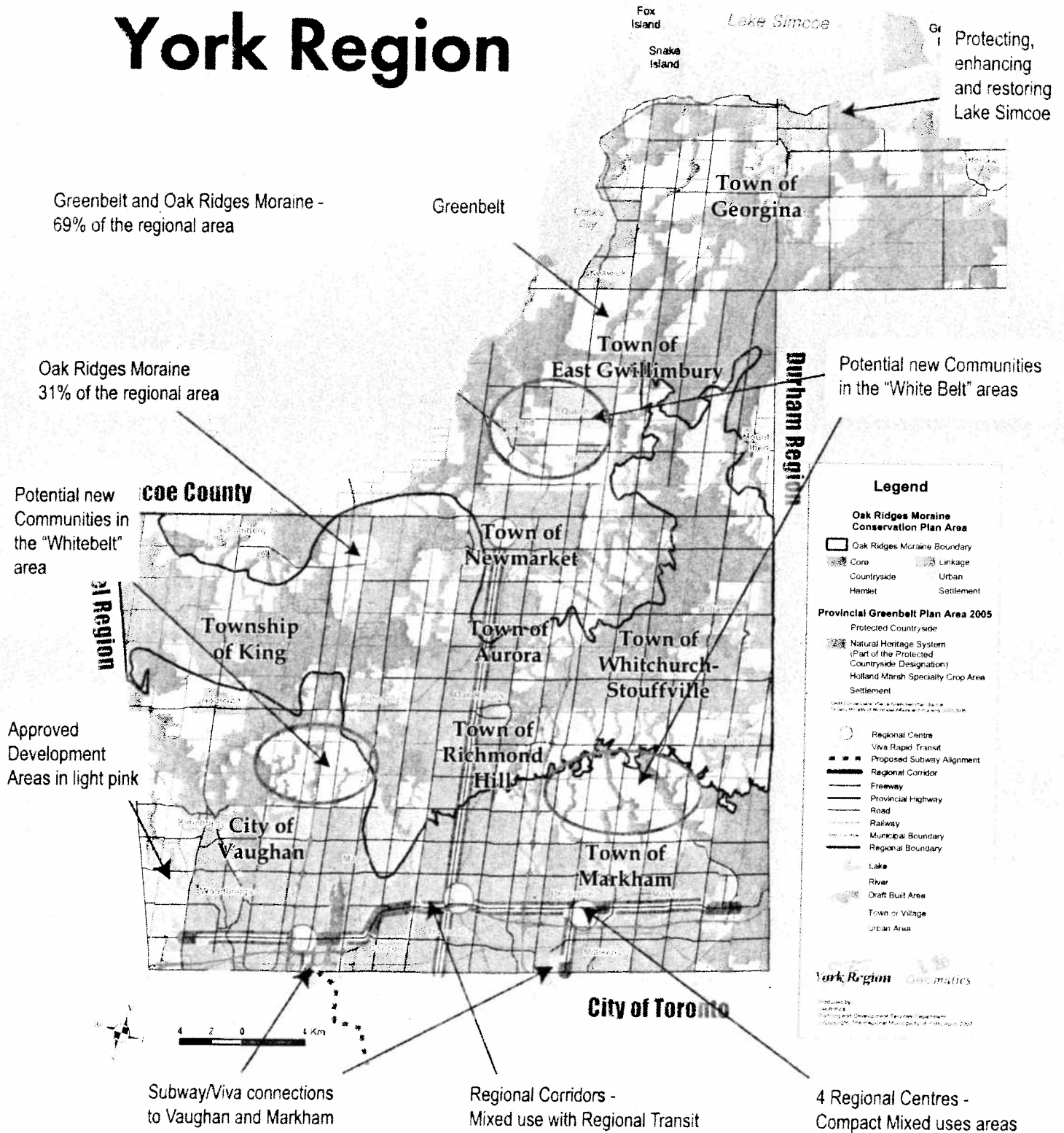
York Region Forecast by Local Municipality				
Local Municipality	Population		Employment	
	2006	2031	2006	2031
Aurora	49,200	70,800	19,900	34,000
East Gwillimbury	22,500	75,500	7,300	32,500
Georgina	45,700	68,700	8,000	23,000
King	20,400	30,100	7,300	11,500
Markham	273,900	444,100	143,600	255,000
Newmarket	78,300	96,100	41,700	50,000
Richmond Hill	174,000	229,800	60,500	94,000
Vaughan	244,800	433,100	155,500	278,000
Whitchurch-Stouffville	26,200	56,700	11,200	22,000
York Region	935,000	1,505,000	455,000	800,000

- **The Regional Official Plan** forecast updated to 2031 horizon – 1.36 million people and 733,000 jobs.
- **A 30% Intensification Scenario**, which assumes that 30% of all household growth will occur inside the built boundary – 1.5 million people and 800,000 jobs.
- **A 40% Intensification Scenario**, which assumes that 40% of all household growth will occur inside the built boundary – 1.5 million people and 800,000 jobs.
- **A 2051 Scenario** which assumes the complete built-out of all potential development lands and a continuation of intensification – 1.7 million people and 932,000 jobs.



The Growth Scenarios will be assessed using a number of models including fiscal impact, natural heritage system, water and waste water and transportation infrastructure requirements.

York Region

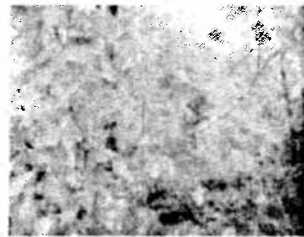


Growth Management Principles

The following draft growth principles reflect the ideas in our Regional Official Plan, new Provincial Policies and input we have received from the public and stakeholders. We need to discuss and refine these ideas with your input.



- How much growth?
- Well planned and designed intensification.
- Designation of additional residential land is required.
- New communities in the whitebelt are required.
- Each community will have to appropriately intensify.



- Intensification versus greenfield development.
- Protect ORM and Greenbelt.
- Improve Air Quality.
- Consider Climate Change.
- Balance environmental protection with additional growth.



- Create jobs to match new residents.
- 345,000 new jobs to 2031.
- Ensure there is an adequate supply of employment land.
- Designation of additional employment lands is required.



- 85,000 new units required to meet provincial target of 40% intensification.
- Intensification should focus on Regional Centres, Regional Corridors, and transit stations.
- Quality urban design is key.
- Ensure that intensification occurs in the right places.



- Need adequate infrastructure in place to support growth.
- Clean water and state of the art waste water treatment.
- Regional Road Network Plan.
- Highway 427 and 404 extensions.
- Adequate Transit funding.
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Waste.
- Energy efficiency.



- Need to plan for adequate human services.
- Hospital, schools, and all services must increase with population.
- Plan for an aging population.



Quality of Place: New Communities

- Creating well designed communities.
- Pedestrian focused environment.
- More choice in housing and transit.
- Closer live/work.
- Preserving heritage and promoting culture.
- New generation of sustainable community design.



- Municipalities cannot bear the cost of growth alone.
- Provincial, Federal Investment is required.
- Municipal fiscal capacity needs to be improved.
- Complete a 25 year fiscal impact analysis of growth.



How Will York Grow?

- Significant additional growth will occur in York Region
- A dramatic shift in housing choices and preferences will be required
- Building cities and protecting the countryside
- More compact, mixed-use communities located along centres and corridors and served by transit will need to be created
- 40% intensification is required by 2015
- Provincial infrastructure investments are needed

Next Steps

- Assessment of Growth Scenarios
- Consider Sustainability Strategy
- Update natural heritage system and impact on Lake Simcoe
- Prepare fiscal impact assessment
- Consider Human Services requirements
- Recommend Preferred Growth scenario to Regional Council in Fall 2007

We Need Your Input

Come and share your thoughts and ideas with us on one of the following dates:

6:00 to 7:00 p.m. - Open House

7:00 to 7:30 p.m. - Presentation

7:30 to 9:00 p.m. - Facilitated Discussion

Tuesday, May 1, 2007 City of Vaughan	Vaughan Civic Centre 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Maple Council Chambers
Thursday, May 3, 2007 Town of Markham	Town of Markham Anthony Roman Centre 101 Town Centre Boulevard, Markham Canada Room
Tuesday, May 8, 2007 Town of Richmond Hill	Richmond Hill Municipal Offices 225 East Beaver Creek Road OMB Hearing Room & Lobby 1st Floor
Wednesday, May 9, 2007 Town of Aurora	Aurora Town Hall 1 Municipal Drive, Aurora Council Chambers
Thursday, May 10, 2007 Town of East Gwillimbury	East Gwillimbury Civic Centre 19000 Leslie Street, Sharon Council Chambers
Tuesday, May 15, 2007 Town of Newmarket	Newmarket Municipal Offices 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket Council Chambers

For more information on the processes and issues related to Planning for Tomorrow 2007, or to send us your comments, please contact us using one of the following methods.

www.york.ca

Click on the "Planning for Tomorrow 2007" icon on the main page

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York Region



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Towards A Sustainable Region



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Mayor
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Town of East Gwillimbury



Mayor
Margaret Black
Township of King

Message from York Regional Council

The Regional Municipality of York continues to experience rapid population and employment growth. According to provincial forecasts, the Region is expected to grow by 570,000 residents and 345,000 employees by 2031. There are a number of significant challenges that will come with this growth, including ensuring a continued high quality of life for our residents, protecting and enhancing our natural heritage and culture, creating employment for our residents, and providing human and physical services.

The choices we make together over the next few years will shape our communities for generations to come. York Region's Official Plan and draft Sustainability Strategy focus on the values of sustainable natural environment, healthy communities and economic vitality. Our infrastructure master plans, including Transportation, Water and Wastewater, and Pedestrian and Cycling master plans, all incorporate these sustainability themes. York Region's Natural Heritage System will also be updated to ensure the Region's natural environment is protected and enhanced while creating new, healthy and livable communities. Finally, a 25-year fiscal impact analysis will be completed to assess the fiscal challenges associated with growth.

We are now embarking on Phase II of public consultation to review future growth scenarios that were developed from ideas we received during the first phase of consultation last year.

Your input on these growth scenarios and the challenging growth issues that we face will help us to move forward to create more sustainable communities in which our children, grandchildren and future residents will live.

