

Report To:	Chair and Members of the Inter-Municipal Liaison Committee
From:	J. E. MacCaskill, Commissioner, Corporate Services and Regional Treasurer
Date:	October 15, 2009
Report No. - Re:	IMLC12-09 - Sustainable Halton Fiscal Affordability Analysis

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the “Sustainable Halton Fiscal Affordability Analysis”, under separate cover, be received and forwarded to Council for release for public consultation.

REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present to the Inter-Municipal Liaison Committee (IMLC) the “Sustainable Halton Fiscal Affordability Analysis” and recommend that the report be released to the public for consultation.

It is important to note that IMLC, and subsequently Planning and Public Works Committee and Council are not being asked to endorse the contents, conclusions and recommendations of the report but rather, to endorse them for release to the public. The Fiscal Affordability Analysis is an input to the Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) 38 decisions in December.

Sustainable Halton Fiscal Affordability Analysis

The “Sustainable Halton Fiscal Affordability Analysis” provides a high level analysis of the anticipated fiscal impact of the “Preferred Growth Option” for Sustainable Halton on the Region and the Local Municipalities. The purpose of the report is to determine whether there are any significant fiscal issues associated with the growth. The focus of the report is on tax rates, capital expenditures and development charges for the period 2021-2031.

The study highlights only a few areas of potential concern including:

- the projected fiscal impacts for the Town of Milton 2021-2031 are higher than the impacts projected for the Region and the other Local Municipalities however are consistent with previous growth studies in Milton,
- the costs associated with the Enhanced Transit model and the assumption in the study that the operating and capital costs associated with Enhanced Transit will be funded by the Province, GO Transit and/or Metrolinx,

- the potential financial implications associated with intensification beginning in 2015 and the implications if growth targets are not met.

The foundation of the fiscal analysis for the Region is the Region’s 2009 Budget and Forecast and the Development Financial Plan Framework (Report No. CS-73-08/PWE31-08). The fiscal analysis therefore assumes that the current development financing policies, which ensure that existing taxpayers are not impacted by the cost of growth related capital, will continue through the 2021-2031 period. The ROPA 38 policies include the requirement for a Council approved Financial Plan prior to development proceeding.

FINANCIAL/PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to this report.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports the goals of the Strategic Plan to “preserve and enhance Halton Region’s strong fiscal foundation and administrative excellence”.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Scinocca
Director, Financial Planning and Budgets



J. E. MacCaskill
Commissioner, Corporate Services and
Regional Treasurer

Approved by



Pat Moyle
Chief Administrative Officer

If you have any questions on the content of this report, please contact: Mark Scinocca

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