



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

June 17, 2009

Linda Axford
Senior Policy Analyst - Sustainability
Legislative and Planning Services Department
Region of Halton
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville, ON

Dear Ms. Axford;

Re: Report No. PDS-2009-0065- Sustainable Halton (Sustainability Matters)

Please be advised that Council for the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, June 15, 2009 adopted the following Recommendation:

Recommendation No. GC-2009-0185 (Resolution No. 2009-0112)

THAT Report No. PDS-2009-0065, dated June 4, 2009, regarding Sustainable Halton (Sustainability Matters) be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council endorse Town staff's position on sustainability matters related to Sustainable Halton, as contained within this report;

AND FURTHER THAT the Region be respectfully advised that it is the Town's position that:

- In principle, the Town supports the Region's decision to develop a 'sustainability lens' or 'test' for future decision-making, as set out in Direction #1 of the Region's Directions Report (dated April 14, 2009).
- At this time, it is premature to conclude that The Natural Step is the most appropriate sustainability framework for the implementation of sustainability initiatives, prior to the Region completing a detailed

Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threats analysis, and undertaking public consultation relating to The Natural Step and other contemporary sustainability frameworks.

- Any sustainability framework adopted by the Region should be sufficiently flexible to enable local municipalities to respond to local sustainability programs, policies and directions.
- The proposed requirement for *all* development applications to be evaluated through the Region's 'sustainability lens/test' is premature and may place an onus on the Town to adopt The Natural Step as its sustainability framework, prior to a detailed evaluation of this and other contemporary sustainability frameworks being completed. Furthermore, the Region should consider local Secondary Plans as a means to implement sustainability requirements at the policy level as an effective alternative to the development application level.
- The Region should investigate the development of sustainable community indicators to complement the preparation of a Regional sustainability lens or test.

AND FURTHER THAT, in light of the Town's own and delegated planning authority under the Planning Act and the Halton Area Services Review, the Region be respectfully advised that it is the Town's position that the Region should *not* be involved in detailed land use development review by way of requiring the application of a Regional sustainability lens/test, especially when this would pertain to local planning applications;

AND FURTHER THAT, it is Town staff's position that, the Region's land use planning interests should be vested at the Regional and Provincial level, and focus on setting broad sustainability policy direction rather than requiring the application of a sustainability lens/test to all development applications;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this report and associated Council recommendation be forwarded to Halton Region, the City of Burlington, and the Towns of Oakville and Milton, the Town Environmental Advisory Committee, Sustainable Halton Hills and P.O.W.E.R.

CARRIED

Accordingly, a copy of Report No. PDS-2009-0065 is attached for your information.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Szybalski from our Planning, Development and Sustainability Department (905)873-2601 ext. 2289.

Yours truly,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Debbie Edmonds
Deputy Clerk

:attachment

- c. Ms. Lynn Robichaud, Senior Environmental Coordinator – City of Burlington
- Ms. Sue Lathan, Regional Clerk- Region of Halton
- Ms. Suzanne Whitehead, Acting City Clerk – City of Burlington
- Ms. Cindy Toth, Director Environmental Policy – Town of Oakville
- Ms. Cathie Best, Town Clerk – Town of Oakville
- Ms. Stephanie Jarvis – Town of Milton
- Mr. Troy McHarg, Town Clerk – Town of Milton
- Ms. Christine Upton, Sustainable Halton Hills
- Ms. Leslie Adams, POWER
- Ms. Christine Lacombe, TEAC
- Mr. Damian Syzbalski, Office of Sustainability Coordinator (letter only)

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