

Report To:	Chair and Members of the Planning and Public Works Committee
From:	Peter M. Crockett, P. Eng., Commissioner of Planning and Public Works
Date:	November 20, 2007
Report No. - Re:	PPW162-07 - Conclusion of Sustainable Halton Phase I: Technical Background Reports and Results of Consultation

### RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Regional Council support the revisions to the Technical Background Reports on “Land Supply Analysis”, “Urban Structure: Potential Long-Term Growth Areas”, “Explaining Density”, and “Aggregate Resources Strategy” as outlined in Report No. PPW162-07 re: “Conclusion of Sustainable Halton Phase I: Technical Background Reports and Results of Consultation”.
2. THAT Regional Council conclude Phase I of the Sustainable Halton program and refer the twenty-two Sustainable Halton Technical Background Reports to Phases II and IV of the Sustainable Halton process at which time the reports’ recommendations will be evaluated.
3. THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Report No. PPW162-07 to the Local Municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Halton, the Niagara Escarpment Commission, Halton Regional Police Service, Halton District School Board, Halton Catholic District School Board, and the Provincial Ministries of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Public Infrastructure Renewal, Natural Resources and Northern Development and Mines for their information.

### REPORT

Regional Council endorsed the Sustainable Halton Multi-Year Work Program through Report PPW15-06 in February 2006 to ensure Regional Official Plan conformity with the Provincial Plans and policies including the Places to Grow Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and the 2005 Provincial Policy Statement, by June 2009, in accordance with the ROPA 25 Minutes of Settlement. There are four phases to Sustainable Halton: Phase I: Building Blocks; Phase II: Regional Growth Management Options and Scenarios; Phase III: Release of Preferred Growth Option; and Phase IV: Official Plan Review. The focus and product of the first phase of Sustainable Halton is the twenty-two Technical/Background reports.

The purpose of this report is to summarize the consultation process undertaken in Phase I, the communication tools applied by the Sustainable Halton team, and the comments received from Stakeholders, Technical Agencies and the public throughout the first phase of Sustainable Halton (Attachment #1). In addition, the report summarizes the revisions that have been made to the

reports and includes a recommendation that Regional Council refer the reports to Phases II and IV of the Sustainable Halton process.

### Background

Phase I of the Sustainable Halton Plan commenced in May 2006. Through Report PPW79-06, Regional Council authorized staff to enter into a sole-sourced professional services contract with Meridian Planning Consultants Inc. and Hemson Consulting Ltd. for Phase I of the Sustainable Halton Plan (formerly known as the Durable Halton Plan). Through Report PPW15-06, the expected outcome for Phase I was outlined and included a series of reports that would constitute the “Building Blocks” or foundation for strategic planning and decision-making related to land uses for the “designated non-urban areas”, known as the Primary Study Area, and ultimately the accommodation of up to 780,000 people and 390,000 jobs in Halton Region by 2031 as prescribed by the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

### Phase I Consultation

At the onset, consultation was determined to be integral to the Sustainable Halton process and imperative to its success. Consultation opportunities for Phase I (Attachment #2) fell into two time-frames: May 2006 to March 2007 -- Initial Consultation (A); and April 2007 to October 31, 2007 -- Consultation on the Draft Technical Background Reports (B).

#### ***Initial Consultation: May 2006 to March 2007***

In May 2006, staff and the consulting team led by Meridian Planning and Hemson Consulting launched the Sustainable Halton planning process with the Core Technical Team (Regional Departments, Halton Police, Halton District School Board, and Halton Catholic School Board) and the Inter-Municipal Technical Committee (Local Municipal partners, the Niagara Escarpment Commission, Conservation Halton, Credit Valley Conservation Authority, Grand River Conservation Authority, and the Provincial Ministries of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and Public Infrastructure Renewal) before consulting with the Halton community throughout June 2006. Open Houses within each Local Municipality and a Joint Councillor Workshop were held in June 2006 to introduce the Sustainable Halton initiative and to solicit feedback on the study design and work plan. In total, one hundred and thirty people attended the June 2006 open houses, and twenty Councillors participated in the 2006 Joint Council Workshop.

During the Summer and Fall of 2006, staff continued to present the Sustainable Halton initiative to Local Councils and stakeholders and engaged the Core Technical Committee, the Inter-Municipal Technical Committee, Technical Agencies, the Local Municipal partners, Regional staff and various Regional Advisory Committees on the direction and content of the Terms of Reference for the Technical Background Studies and sought input into the draft versions of the studies. Report PPW76-07 contains information on the scope of all comments from this consultation phase. In total, staff and/or the consulting team participated in 88 separate meetings between May 2006 and March 2007 to discuss the Sustainable Halton project. A list of all the consultation events for this component of Phase I is attached (Attachment #2 (A)). The Terms of Reference for the Draft Technical Background Studies was the product of this consultation phase.

During the Summer of 2006, an introductory newsletter was distributed to individuals on the Planning and Transportation Services mailing list to advertise the public open houses and explain

the purpose and intent of the exercise. The newsletter was made available to open house attendees and was included on the Sustainable Halton website. The website was developed to make available to the public all background information including staff reports on the Places To Grow initiative, the presentation from the June 2006 open houses, and open house feedback.

***Consultation on the Draft Technical Background Studies: April 2007 to October 31, 2007***

On May 9, 2007, Regional Council authorized staff to release the twenty-two Draft Technical Background Studies for public and agency review. Information disseminated at these sessions included brochures summarizing the twenty-two Draft Technical Background Reports, the full versions of the twenty-two Draft Reports, CDs of the reports, the second Sustainable Halton newsletter, and an article written by the Regional Chair for Simply Halton. Display panels were prepared to communicate the reports' contents at the PICs, complementing the information contained in the brochures. A video on Sustainable Halton was prepared and shown on Cogeco's cable television station.

▪ ***Public Information Centres and Symposium***

After the release of the Draft Technical Background Studies, staff held four public information centres (PICs) and a half-day Sustainable Halton Symposium in June 2007. The PICs and symposium were the public means of communicating the findings of the Draft Technical Background Reports to the Halton community. During the PICs and symposium, staff and the consulting team were commended on the range and breadth of the Draft Technical Background Studies covered for the Phase I exercise. Comments and issues raised by participants of the symposium are summarized in Attachment #3. Questions on the need to accommodate the Places To Grow population and employment numbers vis-à-vis notions of sustainability and the relationship to the Campaign for Fairness were raised by the participants. Sustainability within a Halton context and identifying the fit among all the studies was called for.

Issues and opportunities relating to intensification constituted the majority of comments on the reports relating to urban issues. Comments on agriculture ranged from looking beyond the 2031 time-horizon to realize sustainable agriculture, to investigating tools for its permanent protection and the need to be realistic about its future. The main comments for aggregates pointed to the need to look at best practises when developing a strategy for Halton and the transportation and recycling of aggregates. Similar to agriculture, comments for the Natural Heritage System were at both ends of the spectrum – support for Option 3 as being truly sustainable, to questions on the rationale for expanding Option 1 in view of the Greenbelt and the Niagara Escarpment.

Healthy and complete communities were supported, although the fit with sustainability was questioned. The need for region-wide transit, infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing population, and air quality were also raised. It was suggested that the effects of climate change should constitute a lens for every paper.

With the re-naming of the project to Sustainable Halton, issues on sustainability were raised in addition to suggestions on gaining input from specific demographic groups, such as youth. Water and water-taking as a land use was raised by the participants. This is being addressed through a number of initiatives including participation on Source Protection Committees and through preparation of the Water and Waste Water Master Plan for Sustainable Halton.

In total, 217 people attended both the PICs and the symposium. Both consultation opportunities were extensively advertised in the community newspapers and on the Region's website.

▪ *Advisory Groups and Stakeholders*

Throughout the Sustainable Halton process, input from the advisory committees has been, and will continue to be, requested. As part of Phase I, presentations were made to various Regional Advisory Committees (Lake Ontario Shoreline Algae Action Advisory Committee, the Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee, Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee, and the Halton Housing Advisory Committee) and various stakeholders. During June and July 2007, the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee convened three special meetings to deal with comments on Sustainable Halton, particularly the Agricultural Countryside report and the Phase II work. In addition, a sub-committee of the Halton Developers' Liaison Committee was struck to specifically deal with the Sustainable Halton Draft Technical Background Reports and to assist in the formulation of comments to the Region.

In addition to meeting with the Regional Advisory Groups, staff met with stakeholders including the Milton Chamber of Commerce, the Halton Economic Development Partnership, Oakvillegreen, community-based groups (POWER, PERL), and other interested groups on the Sustainable Halton process. Staff also met with various Provincial Ministries to apprise them of the Draft Technical Background Report on the Aggregate Resources, to obtain new Provincial mapping of the shale resources, and to discuss the implications of the new mapping on the Sustainable Halton Plan and the Region's conformity exercise in particular. For this round of consultation, staff and/or consultants held 37 meetings. Details are contained in Attachment #2 (B).

Consultation tools for this phase were expanded to communicate the content and complexity of the Sustainable Halton initiative and the Draft Technical Background Reports. As previously noted, formal consultation occurred through the four public information centres (PICs) and the half-day Sustainable Halton Symposium. To visually communicate the intent and scope of the exercise, a Sustainable Halton video was produced and shown at each public information centre, the symposium, and was broadcast by Cogeco Cable. The Sustainable Halton website was updated to include all of the aforementioned information including content from the display boards used at the PICs and symposium. In an effort to broaden the public's reach, a dedicated Sustainable Halton phonenumber and e-mail address was set up, and a survey was made available on the project's website. All remain active communication tools today. Advertisements in the Burlington Post, Oakville Today, and the Canadian Champion notified the public of staff's availability to present the Sustainable Halton Plan to community groups.

In September, a third Sustainable Halton newsletter was published summarizing feedback from the Sustainable Halton Symposium, as well as a bookmark. These items were made available at the Burlington Public Library display on Sustainable Halton during August and at the Georgetown, Acton and Milton Fall Fairs in September. The newsletter was also distributed to the Regional Advisory Committees and displayed at the Halton Regional Centre for staff and visitors.

▪ *Halton Region Strategic Plan – Quality of Life in Halton Region*

A telephone survey was conducted by Environics Research Group for Halton Region to measure Halton residents' perceptions of quality of life in the Region. The survey was completed by the CAO's office to inform the Strategic Plan. Follow up focus groups sessions were held to gain a better understanding of some of the findings of the telephone survey. The focus groups also investigated other areas, such as perceptions of growth, attitudes toward ways of dealing with growth, use and attitudes toward transit, and perceptions of safety. Regional Council was presented the telephone survey results during the Strategic Plan process.

The research conducted by Environics Research Group was composed of two research components – quantitative (telephone surveys) and qualitative (focus groups). The quantitative research consisted of a random telephone survey conducted among 800 adult residents of the Region (200 in each of Oakville, Burlington, Milton, and Halton Hills) between January 11 and 19, 2007. The qualitative research consisted of seven focus groups (2 in Oakville, 2 in Burlington, 2 in Milton, and 1 in Halton Hills). The focus groups consisted of a mix of individuals by gender and age and by those who had responded to the telephone survey and those who had not. In Milton and Halton Hills, the groups included rural residents.

The research conducted by Environics Research Group will result in quantitative and qualitative research on residents' opinions and their perceptions of “good growth”, “bad growth”, “urban sprawl”, and “sustainable growth”, which will feed into the Sustainable Halton process. It will help in understanding the opinions of the residents of Halton Region relating to growth and will assist the Sustainable Halton team in formulating ways of better reaching out to the public and identifying educational opportunities and ways of presenting issues surrounding growth to the public.

The Twenty-Two Studies: Consultation And Comments From The Public, Stakeholders, And Technical Agencies

Since commencement of Sustainable Halton, staff has received fifty-nine formal submissions on the process and the Draft Technical Background Reports (refer to Attachment #4 for a list of the reports). This does not include informal inquiries seeking general information about Sustainable Halton, the process or requests to become involved. Throughout the Sustainable Halton process comments will be received; however, this staff report addresses comments received up to October 31, 2007.

The majority of comments (58%) came from the Halton public. The balance of the comments were from development interests (developers and consultants) (10%), technical agencies (10%), and stakeholders (9%). Ratepayer and community groups and Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee (HAAC) account for the remaining 13%. A significant number of comments focussed on land supply and related analysis, the Agriculture Countryside, Options for A Natural Heritage System, and the Aggregate Technical Background Reports. Highlights of comments are contained in Attachment #1.

The general public commented on the growth forecasts as contained in the Growth Plan and on the hard and soft infrastructure costs to support the projected growth. The public, as well as community groups, indicated that they felt that a definition of sustainability was required. These

concerns constitute the basis of Phase II work for Sustainable Halton and broader Regional initiatives. Air quality issues were cited as an additional problem that Halton would experience from increased growth.

Comments from the Technical Agencies focussed on the need to address Greenbelt conformity, planning for the Region as a whole (not just the Primary Study Area), meeting the Provincial intensification targets (i.e. 40% of residential development within the built boundary by 2015 and each subsequent year), orienting land use patterns and densities to a nodes and corridors concept, co-ordinating transportation infrastructure with adjacent municipalities. It was suggested that the Region should wait for the finalization of the built boundary by the Province and local municipal intensification studies before finalizing the land budget.

Development interests sought clarification on the proportion of other urban lands cited at 20% in the urban series reports, the need to consider additional takeouts of the developable land in the Primary Study Area for the natural heritage system, and according higher priority for employment lands. Future prospects of agricultural land were raised as well as intensification in view of the socio-demographic and income profiles and demand preferences of Halton residents. In addition, landowners within the Primary Study Area noted that the new provincial mapping on shale should be analysed prior to selecting growth areas.

Community groups and HAAC commented on the need to provide both a context and a framework for sustainability and articulated support for agriculture. A timeframe beyond 2031 and support for farmers were deemed necessary to accommodate permanent agriculture. Compensation for development rights to secure permanency also needs to be considered. HAAC suggested that agriculture be considered a high priority in view of its contribution to Halton's food supply and air quality and that supporting local farmers and protecting agricultural land are means to achieving community food security. Climate change and its potential to diversify agriculture products grown in Halton were also raised.

The Aggregate Industry identified the need for a Provincial Aggregate Strategy and suggested that the report overestimated the amount of unconstrained resources and bedrock reserves, in addition to stating that aggregate extraction is not a threat to groundwater and that maintaining a close to market supply of aggregate is required to reduce economic, social and environmental impacts. They also advised that the Region should not consider policy options to reduce the amount of aggregate material that can be brought on-site for re-use and recycling.

Stakeholder comments focused on the Energy Demand and Supply, and the Aggregate Resources Studies. Renewable energy and addressing limited future supply, rising energy costs, and peak electrical demand needs to be emphasised. Pursuing best management practises, pit and quarry rehabilitation, the use of recycled materials, and stewardship rounded out comments on the aggregates paper.

Comments on agriculture and natural heritage covered both ends of the spectrum – from permanent agriculture to the suitability of the land base for urban development, and from an enhanced natural heritage system, Option 3, to the status quo of retaining an already protected

system as delivered by Option 1. The fit between agriculture and the natural heritage system and reconciling conflicts between these land uses was also raised.

There was general support for healthy and complete communities. Conservation was a recurring theme for water, energy use, and aggregate resources. It was suggested that the Region communicate the benefits of energy conservation to educate the public on climate change. Designed and funded regional transit was presented as a way of truly addressing a balanced transportation strategy. Comments on water and waste water infrastructure pertained to the need for a longer planning horizon, and expansion of the lake-based system and pipe over-sizing to accommodate future growth. Other recycling technologies in concert with the Green Cart programme and permitting disposable diapers in the Green Cart were suggested. Engaging youth was also emphasised. Providing more information on the location of archaeologically sensitive sites was suggested.

### ***Staff's Response to the Comments***

Attachment #1 contains the staff's response to the thematic grouping of comments collected during Phase I of Sustainable Halton. Some of the comments will be addressed through revisions to the Phase I Background Reports whereas many of the remaining comments will be addressed through other stages and components of Sustainable Halton. The comments relating to Greenbelt and Provincial Policy Statement conformity will be addressed through the Region's conformity exercise and will be reflected in the Region's 5-year Official Plan update (Phase IV). Concerns regarding the new employment areas will be reviewed as part of the comprehensive employment assessment that will be undertaken as part of Phase II. Many of the concerns surrounding water and wastewater will be dealt with through the Master Plan updates to 2021 and the new Master Plans for 2021-2031 which will directly feed into Sustainable Halton.

In addition, many of the concerns raised will be reflected in the Principles and Evaluation Criteria created as part of Phase II of Sustainable Halton. This includes the information forwarded by Halton Hills Council on evaluation criteria. These Principles will be used to evaluate the growth options and will include many of the issues raised in the comments, such as taking advantage of existing public transit, locational criteria of new residential land uses, maintaining community identity, increased densities, and capital costs of new infrastructure. The Region will be conducting a LEAR Study (Land Evaluation Area Review) as part of Phase II of Sustainable Halton which will address many of the comments raised relating to agriculture, i.e. community food security, tools available for farmers, agricultural productivity, farm sizes and agriculture infrastructure. With respect to Aggregates, the comments raised included supply, resource protection, impacts on natural areas and best management practices. To respond to these issues, a "Made in Halton" Aggregate Study will need to be developed by Regional staff.

It is important to note that some of the comments received do not directly relate to Sustainable Halton but are broader Regional and Provincial issues that are, or may be, addressed through different means.

### ***ROPA 25 Settlements***

As part of the settlements of appeals to ROPA 25, agreements were made between the Region and the landowners in South Georgetown with respect to the Sustainable Halton work plan. It was

agreed that the Sustainable Halton work program would consider all relevant studies and reports from all sources including private parties. The South Georgetown landowners provided detailed comments on all the Phase I Background reports particularly focusing on issues, such as urban land budgets, servicing, and aggregates. Staff's responses to the grouped thematic responses are contained in Attachment #1.

Revisions to the Technical Background Reports

Not all comments received pertain to Phase I of the Sustainable Halton process, and a large number will be addressed through Phases II and IV. In terms of Phase I, revisions are only necessitated to the Land Supply, Urban Structure, and Aggregate Resources studies. Changes to the Explaining Density paper do not stem from comments received. Instead, they are made to clarify the discussion on low employment land densities in Halton. The ensuing table identifies the extent of the revisions.

**Scope of Revisions to the Technical Background Reports**

<b>Technical Background Report</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Revision</b>
Land Supply	Employment Density (i.e. 37.5 Employees per Net Hectare)	The revision provides clarification to issues raised surrounding the use of an employment density of 37.5 employees per net hectare. Employment density of 37.5 per ha for employment land is a reasonable estimate of employment density and was used in work on both the Oakville OPA 198 and North Oakville Secondary Plan. Estimated employment land densities in other municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton are comparable. It is important to note that freestanding office buildings within employment areas are not included. All freestanding office buildings are separately calculated as part of the major office employment category. Employment density of 250 per ha for major office employment is based on 0.7 coverage and 28m <sup>2</sup> per employee. Employment density of 75 per ha for population related employment is based on 0.3 coverage and 40m <sup>2</sup> per employee, both are typical ratios for this type of development in the GTA.
Land Supply	20% Calculation for Other Urban Land Uses	<p>The changes relate to clarification of how the 20% was calculated. Total urban land need in new urban areas is determined through the addition of the residential and employment land needs plus a factor for other urban uses that are not necessarily provided within the calculated gross residential or employment areas. This analysis is based on these other uses taking up 20% of the total urban land area in addition to the calculated gross residential and employment land needs.</p> <p>These other urban uses include a wide range of activities not included within normal neighbourhood and subdivision plans, for example major retail centres, arterial roads, secondary schools, major institutions, cemeteries, urban golf courses and</p>



		major utilities. In the past, including in the HUSP work in the 1990s, a typical assumption for these other uses was 30% of total urban land. The 30% of total urban land remains a reasonable assumption for the overall development of the Region. However, since the Sustainable Halton exercise is specifically selecting lands suitable for urban development, it is assumed that some other land uses will not be present in the identified Sustainable Halton expansion areas. For example, it is unlikely that hydro corridor lands or golf course lands would be included in potential development areas under analysis in Sustainable Halton (based on the 20%), but might ultimately be within the urbanized area of the Region (based on the 30% figure). In addition, it has also been assumed that the various policy initiatives underway to reduce urban land consumption will also affect the other urban uses, making a reduced assumption of 20% more appropriate for Sustainable Halton.
Urban Structure	Delineation of the Potential Employment Areas	Several options within the Primary Study Area for preferred employment areas were identified. Taken together, lands in all of these areas would far exceed the established need for additional employment land in the period to 2031, and only one or more of these locations would need to be considered to meet the employment land needs to 2031. As part of a long-term strategy, other areas may be considered for protection for potential employment use in the future. In the next phase of the Sustainable Halton work these potential employment areas will be more clearly delineated, based on overall land need, topography, environmental constraints, and buffers.
Explaining Density	Employment Density and Calculation of Land Budget	The discussion on low employment densities in Halton Region is more carefully explained. Changes to Table 1 of Appendix 1 on Examples of Residential Densities include lot sizes that better reflect the Halton condition and include estimation of residential densities against those prescribed in the Provincial Growth Plan.
Aggregates	New Provincial Shale Mapping – June 2007	Analysis of the location of shale and discussion on the quality of the resource. This may not include mapping for Milton.

Given the Phase II time-frame and limited staff resources from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, revised shale mapping for Milton may not be available until late 2007 or early 2008. These revisions are recommended by staff and that Regional Council receives these revised Technical Background reports for information.

Other Technical Background Reports

Report PPW76-07 noted that staff would be working on a Health Facilities study, as well as a Density Choices study over the summer to round out Sustainable Halton’s Technical Background Studies. Staff are still collaborating with Local Municipal staff on the Density Choices paper. Oblique air photographs, pedestrian views, and development profiles will communicate the elements of density and will be available for public consultation during Phase II. Planning for health infrastructure requires much longer time horizons. As a result, there may be new opportunities to look at health infrastructure plans, taking cue from the Regional Hospital

Infrastructure Plan for Halton and Peel, done for the former District Health Council, which employed 2008 and 2016 time horizons. Staff will continue to monitor implementation of the Integrated Health Service Plans, particularly the detailed planning action teams for the Mississauga Halton and the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHINs, and wait for identification of the growth scenarios in Phase II, before fully engaging them.


FINANCIAL/PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

The Sustainable Halton project is on budget, and there are no financial implications arising from this report.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

The Sustainable Halton initiative supports the 2007 Planning and Public Works Committee Plan Theme 1: Control and Manage Growth for Sustainable Communities, Theme 2: Protect and Enhance our Natural Environment, and Theme 3: Create and Improve Safe, Healthy, Liveable, Inclusive Communities.

Respectfully submitted,



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Peter M. Crockett P. Eng.  
Commissioner of Planning and Public Works

Approved by



Pat Moyle  
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If you have any questions on the content of this report, please contact: Mary Lou Tanner Tel. # 7966  
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## SUMMARY OF COMMENTS ON THE SUSTAINABLE HALTON MAY 2007 DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS

DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORT	THEMES	HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMENTS	RESPONSE
GENERAL COMMENTS	SUSTAINABILITY	<p>Sustainability needs to be defined, and a sustainability framework is needed to guide the Plan and decision-making if Halton is to be truly sustainable. All the Technical Background Reports need to be integrated into a sustainability framework. An internationally recognised, science-based sustainability framework should be pursued. It is unclear how the sustainability plan would integrate businesses, education, and government sectors, and how the Regional government would be re-organised to accommodate a sustainability framework. Common sustainability language is needed.</p>	<p>ROPA 25 contains policies relating to Halton's Planning Vision and support for the notion of Sustainable Development which meets the need of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need. Planning decisions will be made based on a proper balance of protecting the natural environment, enhancing its economic competitiveness and fostering a healthy, equitable society. The overall goal is to enhance the quality of life for all people of Halton.</p> <p>Phase II of the Sustainable Halton Plan involves the development of robust Principles and an Evaluation Framework to be used to evaluate the growth options. Sustainable Halton is a Growth Management Strategy and constitutes just one piece of the overall Regional Strategic Framework, which includes other areas such as the Strategic Plan, Housing, Health and Finance. Sustainable Halton will not</p>

DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORT	THEMES	HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMENTS	RESPONSE
			look at how to integrate various sectors and a re-organization of the Regional structure, but is a plan to look at where and how Halton should grow.
	NO GROWTH	A bigger population is not better, and the Region should push back the Province on the growth population and employment numbers contained in Places To Grow. More growth means more traffic and waste generation, and the Region is struggling to meet basic environmental standards with its current population - there are too many days with poor air quality, poor lake water quality, and too many traffic jams, watering bans. The Region's hard and soft infrastructure (eg. Medical doctors) is taxed to the limits. Growth and sustainability are inherently contradictory. More emphasis should be placed on current residents, not future ones.	As part of the Places to Grow Plan, the Region is required to plan for the growth numbers included within the Plan. Through Phases II and III of the Sustainable Halton Plan, it may be determined that achieving the targets outlined by the Province are not sustainable and that different population and employment targets are achievable. However, the Region is required to conform to the Places to Grow Plan by June 2009 and a full analysis must be completed. All the factors identified in the comment, such as traffic, waste generation, water quality and quantity and provision of hard and soft infrastructure will be analyzed through the development of, and selection of, the preferred growth option.
	GREENBELT CONFORMITY	Greenbelt conformity has not been addressed in any of the Draft Technical Background Reports.	Greenbelt Plan conformity and conformity with the 2005 Provincial Policy Statement will be completed as part of the Region's 5 year Official Plan Review (Phase IV of Sustainable Halton).

<b>DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORT</b>	<b>THEMES</b>	<b>HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMENTS</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
	MISSING STUDIES	The Region should consider adding water resources to the technical reports and consider water taking as a land use issues in the Sustainable Halton process.	The Region will be required to implement the Province's Clean Water Act and related Source Water Protection Regulations which will deal with water quality and quantity. Storm Water Management is a local municipal responsibility and will not be reviewed in great detail through Sustainable Halton.
<b>LAND SUPPLY ANALYSIS</b>	CONSISTENCY OF POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT NUMBERS	There is a need for consistency in the population and household numbers used between the Sustainable Halton reports and those of the Best Planning Estimates.	The Best Planning Estimates to 2021 do not reflect the census undercount. Places to Grow requires that we use the Places to Grow population numbers which do include the census undercount.
	OTHER URBAN LAND CALCULATIONS	The report suggests that urban lands, other than those used for housing and employment, make up 20% of urban land uses. This is inaccurate as the figure is realistically in excess of 40%. The HUSP work done in the 1990's uses 30%.	The Urban Land Supply Technical Background Report will be updated to clarify how the 20% figure was calculated, including other uses taking up 20% of the total urban land area in addition to the calculated gross residential and employment land needs.
	PLANNING HORIZONS	The time horizons for urban expansions should not exceed 20 years.	As part of Sustainable Halton, the Region will only be designating a 20 year urban land supply.

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	GROWTH PLAN CONFORMITY	Land use scenarios and housing needs should focus on attaining the 40% intensification target, and not deal with the potential for various housing mixes.	The Sustainable Halton Plan will focus on how the Region can achieve the 40% intensification target and how to accommodate the remaining 60% as Greenfield development. Intensification options with a density higher than 40% will also be investigated to see if a higher density can be achieved.
	LAND BUDGET	<p>Final determination of the land budget would need to consider delineation of the built boundary and local municipal intensification studies</p> <p>The land budget for employment lands should not be based on assumptions such as flexibility and long-term vacancy rates, as they increase the need for additional greenfields.</p>	<p>The Built Boundary should be made available to the Region by the end of 2007 and will be reflected in the growth scenarios and intensification strategy completed as part of Phase II.</p> <p>As part of Phase II, a comprehensive employment assessment will be completed.</p>
Regional Land Analysis	POTENTIAL ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH POPULATION GROWTH	<p>Increased population in already built-up areas could potentially exacerbate existing traffic problems. Increased criminal activity may result. Both would have a significant impact on policing services.</p> <p>The four land use scenarios do not</p>	<p>The location of intensification corridors will be based on a number of principles that reflect good planning including taking advantage of existing transit services.</p> <p>The growth options that will be identified as</p>

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		<p>appear to fully address the Provincial Growth Plan which states by 2015 and each year thereafter, a minimum 40% of all residential development occurring annually within each upper tier, will be in the built-up area.</p> <p>Time horizons for urban expansions should not exceed 20-years.</p> <p>Delineation of the built boundary and local municipal intensification studies are required before the land budget can be finalised.</p> <p>The land budget should not be based on flexibility and long-term vacancy rates, the use of very low net to gross factors, and other similar assumptions.</p>	<p>part of Phase II of the Plan will address the Growth Plan policies.</p> <p>As part of Sustainable Halton, the Region will only be designating a 20 year urban land supply.</p> <p>The Built Boundary should be made available to the Region by the end of 2007 and will be reflected in the growth scenarios and intensification strategy completed as part of Phase II.</p> <p>Staff are reviewing this as part of Phase II of Sustainable Halton.</p>
	PRIMARY STUDY AREA	The 10,700 net hectares that can potentially accommodate development does not take into consideration further Natural Heritage System takeouts which could be significant.	The growth options that will be identified as part of Phase II will investigate the total land impacts of an enhanced Natural Heritage System.
Urban Structure: Potential Long-Term Growth Areas	POTENTIAL FUTURE EMPLOYMENT AREA	Highway 407 Corridor is identified as a potential future employment area. The Sustainable Halton process should not	Phase II of the Plan will identify potential employment lands based on a set of Principles including compatibility with

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		<p>reopen land uses within the Ninth Line corridor since the Region completed ROPA 28.</p> <p>Potential Future Employment Areas has received higher order priority than non-residential lands. This marginalisation of residential land is inappropriate. Locational criteria for residential land uses should be developed.</p> <p>The location of future employment lands should be considered within a GTA context, using competitive analysis criteria.</p> <p>The land area requirements for new employment areas are understated given the expected growth in the Region over the next 25 years. The criteria used to identify potential future employment lands should be expanded to include a longer planning horizon.</p> <p>The employment density of 37.5</p>	<p>existing uses and access to major transportation routes and will also identify long-term strategic employment areas. The Sustainable Halton plan will not reopen the land uses adopted under ROPA 28.</p> <p>The Principles and evaluation criteria developed through Phase II to evaluate the growth options will include locational criteria for new residential land uses.</p> <p>The employment density is a function of the range of permitted uses. It is anticipated that densities will increase over time as Industrial Business Parks mature. As part of</p>



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		employees per net ha (epnh) is too high. A more realistic density (20-25epnh) should be used.	Phase II, a comprehensive employment assessment will be completed.
	FUNCTION AND DESIGN/MUNICIPAL ZONING STANDARDS	Significant changes are required to the function and design of employment land to meet the Growth Plan's targets, including reducing the amount of land for landscaping, efficient use of multi-storey buildings, and shared use of land.	These issues will not be reviewed as part of Sustainable Halton as the Region's responsibility is to identify employment lands on a Regional scale. Site specific design details are the responsibility of the Local Municipalities.
	SERVICING	Infrastructure and financing of it are equally important when determining residential and employment areas. Servicing plans should be strategic and long-term. The Region should establish a 40 to 50-year planning horizon when dealing with servicing plans.	The new Water and Waste Water Master Plan for 2021-2031 will look at infrastructure needs to 2031 with consideration for a longer term servicing strategy.
	NEW TOWN	Creating a new town option is contrary to the Provincial Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement.	As a starting point, all the growth options developed as part of Phase II will respect existing Provincial directions.
	SELF-SUSTAINING	There is a need for independent self-sustaining independent villages.	The Sustainable Halton process will not be looking in great detail at the existing rural

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Towards An Intensification Strategy for Halton Region	INTENSIFICATION	<p>Intensification opportunities should be repositioned to look at optimising existing infrastructure, especially in built-up areas. Mall parking lots should be used for offices and/ or residential purposes; parking facilities should be either multi-storied or underground. The report currently overemphasises the use of greenfields to accommodate new development</p> <p>Urban separators should be used to ensure that communities in municipalities across the Region are not contiguous. While ideal, urban separators would increase trip lengths and reduce efficiency energy uses that would be achieved by contiguous urban areas.</p> <p>The report acknowledges the challenges to intensification given the Region’s socio-economic profile, housing demand preferences, neighbourhood/community sentiment, and availability and/or cost of municipal services. Also, intensification will play a limited role in meeting future</p>	<p>settlement areas.</p> <p>As part of Sustainable Halton we will be identifying intensification corridors and opportunities with input from the Local Municipalities.</p> <p>The principles and evaluation criteria developed through Phase II will assess the implications of urban separators. The development of growth options will look at the idea of urban separators.</p> <p>The Sustainable Halton Plan will focus on how the Region can achieve the 40% intensification target and how to accommodate the remaining 60% as Greenfield development. Intensification options with a density higher than 40% will also be investigated to see if a higher</p>

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		<p>housing demand as the housing stock is relatively young, significant intensification is contrary to current trends, and a dramatic rise in vertical built forms will have a destabilising effect on existing neighbourhoods. The 40% intensification target is unrealistic for Halton.</p> <p>The amount of intensification that could realistically be achieved needs to be determined prior to a determination of the new urban envelope. A firm urban boundary is needed. A moratorium on Greenfield development is the only way to achieve intensification and the redevelopment of already urbanised areas. Intensification needs to consider the availability and potential for infrastructure (pipes and electricity).</p>	<p>density can be achieved.</p> <p>The Built Boundary should be made available to the Region by the end of 2007 and will be reflected in the growth scenarios and intensification strategy completed as part of Phase II. The current urban boundary will accommodate growth to 2021 therefore an urban boundary expansion will be needed to accommodate the growth projected between 2021 and 2031.</p>
	DENSITIES	Densities of recently-planned and constructed residential developments in Halton exceed the 50 persons and jobs per hectare for Greenfield areas as prescribed by the Growth Plan. In all	Upon receipt of the Built Boundary, a density assessment will be undertaken but new growth areas in Milton and North Oakville are planned to meet or exceed 50 people and jobs per hectare.

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		<p>likelihood, these densities are not high enough to counter the low Greenfield densities in employment and commercial areas, and public open space uses.</p> <p>The amount of land which is increasingly set aside for open space in the form of parks and the NHS poses an obstacle to increasing higher densities.</p>	
<b>HOUSING</b>	SENIORS HOUSING	The need for a comprehensive mix of seniors housing in Acton should be addressed through the Sustainable Halton Plan.	The Sustainable Halton Plan will look at where residential growth will occur in the Region, but will not look at specifically identifying where housing types and tenures should be accommodated. This is a local municipal responsibility.
<b>AIR QUALITY, HUMAN HEALTH, AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>	COMPLETE COMMUNITIES	The objective of designing and building complete and healthy communities is supportable, achievable, and represents good planning. Complete communities require an effective transit system.	The principles and evaluation criteria developed through Phase II to evaluate the growth options will include public transit principles.
	AIR POLLUTION	Air pollution is the most critical problem that the Region would face from increased growth.	The principles and evaluation criteria developed through Phase II to evaluate the growth options will include principles

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			regarding public transit and increased densities.
<b>TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	REPORT DIRECTION	The report is deficient by design as it impossible to plan for road network improvements when the growth areas have not yet been determined.	The Sustainable Halton process is an integrated approach which includes an update to the existing Transportation Master Plan and a new Master Plan for 2021-2031. The Sustainable Halton Plan will feed into the new Transportation Master Plan.
	REGIONAL TRANSIT	The Region does not have a balanced transportation strategy. Public transit needs to be designed, funded, and operated on a Regional basis.	The principles and evaluation criteria developed through Phase II to evaluate the growth options will include public transit principles.
	LAND USE PATTERNS	Consideration should be given to land use patterns and densities associated with developments along nodes and corridors.	As part of Phases II and III of Sustainable Halton an Intensification Strategy will be developed which will look at appropriate areas for corridors where intensification and higher densities could be directed.
	CO-ORDINATION	Sustainable Halton should co-ordinate transportation infrastructure with adjacent municipalities particularly with regard to potential land use scenarios and the GTA West Future Transportation Corridor and	The Sustainable Halton process is an integrated approach which includes an update to the existing Transportation Master Plan and a new Master Plan for 2021-2031. The Sustainable Halton Plan

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		the North-South Transportation Corridor.	will feed into the new Transportation Master Plan and will look at future Provincial transportation needs.
	INVESTMENTS	Investments in public transit and road network will require significant lead times and the political will to mobilize financial resources. The Region should use a 2081 planning horizon instead.	The Provincial Places to Grow Plan requires the Region to plan for 2031 and the Provincial Policy Statement only permits designation of lands for a 20 year horizon.
	ROAD MAINTENANCE	There is a need to consider road maintenance, especially in view of existing high traffic volumes and the projected population growth, and truck traffic.	The principles and evaluation criteria developed through Phase II to evaluate the growth options will include capital costs. In addition, the Sustainable Halton process is an integrated approach which includes an update to the existing Transportation Master Plan and a new Master Plan for 2021-2031. The Sustainable Halton Plan will feed into the new Transportation Master Plan.
	PROVINCIAL PLANS	The Parkway Belt West Plan needs to be factored into the Sustainable Halton planning process. To this end, discussions are needed with MMAH.	The Region has retained a consultant to look at the Parkway Belt and will engaging in discussions with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.
<b>WATER AND WASTE</b>	WATER TREATMENT	Plants could be extended if municipalities	The new Water and Waste Water Master

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<b>WATER INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	PLANT EXPANSIONS	purchase adjoining properties	Plan for 2021-2031 will look at infrastructure needs to 2031 with consideration for a longer term.
	Water Conservation	Conservation methods should be considered including rain barrel programmes, requiring swales instead of storm drains, reuse grey water, requiring porous surfaces in parking lots.	This is not something that will be dealt with as part of Sustainable Halton but is a broader Regional issue. For example, the Region is developing its first Halton Water Efficiency Master Plan (staff report PPW57-07).
	Lake-based System	Existing systems are limited in their capacity to expand and accommodate future growth. Expansion of the lake-based system should be considered, including servicing areas that are currently served by ground water.	The new Water and Waste Water Master Plan for 2021-2031 will look at infrastructure needs to 2031 with consideration for a longer term servicing strategy.
	Planning Horizon	A planning horizon longer than 2031 is needed. Alternative servicing solutions should be examined including the over-sizing of services.	The new Water and Waste Water Master Plan for 2021-2031 will look at infrastructure needs to 2031 with consideration for a longer term servicing strategy.
	MISSING ELEMENTS	The report is limited to a discussion on servicing and infrastructure. A more holistic view of water and all its related elements should be considered.	The new Water and Waste Water Master Plan for 2021-2031 will look at infrastructure needs to 2031 with consideration for a longer term servicing strategy.
<b>WASTE</b>	NEW RECYCLING	The Region should collaboratively	This will be considered as part of the

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<b>MANAGEMENT FACILITIES</b>	TECHNOLOGIES	investigate new and more cost-effective recycling technologies with other Regions, as an expansion to the GreenCart programme.	Region's Waste Management Strategy.
	LIFE OF LANDFILLS	Life of the Landfill site could be extended if it did not accept disposable diapers. Some municipalities are allowing disposable diapers in their equivalent GreenCart programmes.	This will be considered as part of the Region's Waste Management Strategy.
	WASTE DIVERSION PROGRAMMES	A long-term approach should consider how population growth influence waste reduction programmes.	This will be considered as part of the Region's Waste Management Strategy.
<b>ENERGY DEMAND AND SUPPLY</b>	ENERGY DEMAND AND SUPPLY	<p>The report does not take the increasing limited supply, the rising costs of energy, and the issue of peak electrical demand into consideration. It is not only a question of infrastructure (pipes).</p> <p>The surety of natural gas supplies needs to be revisited, particularly in view of growth projections and tar sands development in Alberta.</p>	This is not something that will be dealt with as part of Sustainable Halton but is a broader Regional issue. The current Regional Official Plan already contains policies relating to energy and conservation. As part of the next Official Plan there is the opportunity to review these policies and identify changes.
	RENEWABLE ENERGY	Sustainable Halton should emphasise renewable energy sources and energy conservation and look at developing	This is not something that will be dealt with as part of Sustainable Halton but is a broader Provincial and Regional issue.



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		renewable power resources as quickly as possible, as well as requiring the greatest energy efficient building standards and energy conservation measures.	
	OVERALL APPROACH	The report is generally too general. More specificity and greater guidance in terms of the recommendations are needed.	The Phase II consultant will assist with understanding energy related issues with respect to the growth options.
<b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b>	ENERGY CONSUMPTION	Home-owners should be made aware of the benefits of energy conservation. The introduction of 3-tier electricity charging through the use of smart metres starting in 2008 will almost triple electricity costs in peak hours. Municipalities should strongly advocate reduced residential energy use.	This is not something that will be dealt with as part of Sustainable Halton but is a broader Regional issue.
<b>NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM</b>	SYSTEMS-BASED APPROACH	<p>The systems-based approach offers greater environmental protection than a features-based approach. However, instead of dealing with a systems approach, the report deals with connecting areas and bulking-up of linked features. It would be more useful to define functions, features, and linkages that can be optimised within an appropriate local NHS.</p> <p>A systems-based approach is ambitious</p>	<p>All of these will be investigated in greater detail as part of Phase II of Sustainable Halton.</p> <p>The Region will be relying on the Provincial Greenbelt mapping in its own Greenbelt Plan conformity exercise.</p>

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		<p>and can only function in an area where urban uses are not considered.</p> <p>Different definitions of NHS are needed for the different areas in Halton such as the Greenbelt and the Primary Study Area, and this would lead to a greater chance of achieving the NHS goals as espoused.</p> <p>It is premature to select a preferred NHS without first identifying species, conditions, locations, and functionality criteria.</p> <p>Establishing a more robust NHS in the Protected Countryside in the Greenbelt was not examined.</p> <p>The Province has already completed extensive NHS within Halton, particularly through the Greenbelt and within the Niagara Escarpment.</p>	
	INFORMATION, DATA, AND	A full disclosure of these is needed to see how the conclusions were made. As a	Mapping of Options 2 and 3 is not available at this time. The NHS system will be

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	MAPPING	result, Option 3 cannot be fully evaluated.	mapped with the growth options.
	OPTION 1	Option 1 provides full protection of all Regionally-designated Greenlands A and B, as well as protection of lands under the Greenbelt Act, and Candidate Significant Woodlands. The description for Option 1 “Minimum Policy Standards” biases individuals against this option, particularly as it sets aside a significant amount of land where environmental functions are highest.	It was meant to clarify that Option 1 is the minimum requirement of Provincial policy and that Options 2 and 3 take a more enhanced approach.
	OPTION 3	There is no major difference between Options 2 and 3, in terms of the land base and percentages. The impression conveyed is that with a small increase in area, a substantial increase in functionality is afforded. The differences need to be clarified.	The difference is that Option 2 is a Systems Based Approach which looks at enlarging the size of some existing core areas whereas Option 3 reflects Enhanced Ecological Integrity which provides regional centres of biodiversity protection as well as more and larger ecological linkages in the landscape. There would be a difference in land base and percentages between both options.
	ANOTHER OPTION – OPTION 4	Practical Sustainability reflecting the local nature of the NHS within the broader	All of these will be investigated in greater detail as part of Phase II of Sustainable

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		regional NHS which includes extensive systems-based conservation planning already completed by the NEC and the Province. This will enable sound sustainable development decisions which balance the importance of the natural environment with the Region's social and economic objectives. This would recognise the importance of local environmental systems and features within the context of creating a viable long-term local conservation system within an urbanising community.	Halton.  The Region will be relying on the Provincial Greenbelt mapping in its own Greenbelt Plan conformity exercise.
	FUNCTIONAL LINKAGES	Creating and connecting core areas is admirable, but, will require large amounts of land, and potentially be cost-prohibitive. This may not be realistic.	The land base required to accommodate the Growth Plan targets and provide for an enhanced natural heritage system will be investigated as part of Phase II of the process.
	ENVIRONMENTAL SPRAWL	Creating functional linkages between ecological features will effectively remove developable land from the Region's land supply and would require more land to be converted to urban uses. Environmental sprawl may be created where residential areas are separated by vast expanses of farm fields serving as functional linkages.	The land base required to accommodate the Growth Plan targets and provide for an enhanced natural heritage system will be investigated as part of Phase II of the process.

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	SERVICING CONSTRAINTS	There needs to be recognition of physical development and servicing constraints, and the related higher development and servicing costs due to the proximity to natural features, the NHS linkages, and core areas. These could impact the viability and competitiveness of Halton's employment lands within the GTA market.	The land base and cost required to accommodate the Growth Plan targets and provide for an enhanced natural heritage system will be investigated as part of Phase II of the process.
	FIT WITH OTHER USES	There is a need to determine how the NHS fits with agriculture, aggregates, and urban uses.	This will be investigated as part of Phase II of Sustainable Halton.
	POLICY FRAMEWORK	There is need to create a policy framework to recognise the policy and legislative differences between the Greenbelt and the NHS beyond the Greenbelt.	This policy framework will be created as part of the Region's Greenbelt Plan conformity exercise (Phase IV of Sustainable Halton).
<b>AGRICULTURE COUNTRYSIDE VISION</b>	PRIORITY FOR AGRICULTURE	Agriculture should be considered a high priority as it contributes to Halton's food supply and helps maintain air quality. The Official Plan should put agriculture first, with the NHS, aggregate, and urban development as lower priorities. Urban development can occur on poorer agricultural soils unlike food production.	The Halton Land Evaluation Area Review (LEAR) study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton) will further investigate Halton's rural areas to define in greater detail prime agricultural areas based on various factors. This will feed into the Sustainable Halton process.
	PERMANENT AGRICULTURE	Maintaining agriculture is an important land base, but, it should not be permanent. Careful evaluation is required	The Halton LEAR study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton) will further investigate Halton's rural areas to define in greater

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		<p>to determine the appropriateness of agriculture, prior designating lands as such. This should include the limitations associated with the abilities of the land. Further understanding of this approach is needed.</p> <p>Establishing a permanent agriculture preserve at this time is premature and would restrict opportunities to accommodate growth beyond 2031.</p> <p>To preserve agricultural land beyond 2031 and to realise permanency, the Region would have to buy the land and rent it back to farmers. A discussion on permanency has to consider what agriculture needs to survive. Agriculture also needs the opportunity to evolve. Zoning and legislation can ensure permanency.</p> <p>Compensation needs to be on the table. We must pay development rights to permanently freeze the land.</p>	<p>detail prime agricultural areas based on various factors. This will feed into the Sustainable Halton process.</p> <p>The Province does not permit designation of land beyond a 20 year planning horizon so permanent preservation of agricultural land beyond 2031 cannot be reviewed until after 2011.</p> <p>This is not something that will be dealt with as part of Sustainable Halton but is a broader Regional issue.</p>
	RECRUIT FARMERS	The Region should develop a programme	This is not something that will be dealt with

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		to recruit farmers similar to the one used to recruit physicians.	as part of Sustainable Halton but is a broader Regional issue.
	FIT BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND THE NHS	There is a need to determine the fit between the agriculture and the NHS land bases. The conflicts between these land uses must be reconciled. Agricultural lands and natural heritage lands could work hand in hand by protecting each other from urban land encroachment.	These issues will be investigated as part of Phase II of Sustainable Halton.
	AID TO FARMERS – REGIONAL AND MUNICIPAL INCENTIVES	<p>There is a need to develop a way to provide financial assistance to farmers, enabling them to buy new equipment and grow marketable crops. There should also be start-up funding for young farmers, assistance with preparing 5-year business plans, access to low interest loans, and land leasing to potential farmers for farming purposes.</p> <p>Government could develop education programmes to help farmers learn how to grow new crops successfully. Either Halton Region or a farm trust could purchase land and thereby protect the land base.</p>	Issues such as assistance and education will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV of Sustainable Halton) however some of the other issues identified are broader Regional issues and will not be dealt with as part of Sustainable Halton.

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	SPECIALITY CROPS, AND FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION	There is no analysis to support the suggestion that the area is good for speciality crops.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV of Sustainable Halton).
	AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY IN HALTON	A thorough review is needed to assess agricultural productivity, beyond the three variables (number of farms, farmland acres, and gross farm receipts) cited.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton).
	FARM SIZES	The report refers to farm operations size instead of parcel size. Farm operations may consist of more than one parcel.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton).
	INFORMATION AND DATA	Current information and data needs to be used.	The Region will ensure that the most up-to-date information and data are utilized.
	PROVINCIAL POLICY FRAMEWORK	Sustainable Halton needs to integrate the Agricultural Systems policies contained in the Greenbelt Plan.  Sustainable Halton must reconcile prime agricultural lands outside the Greenbelt with the land base for future growth as per the Provincial Policy Statement. Also need to ensure that prime agricultural	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton) and the Region's Greenbelt Plan conformity exercise.



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		areas will not conflict with PPS policies and other applicable provincial plans.	
	AGRICULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE	If the infrastructure necessary to support agriculture cannot be maintained or provided in the Primary Study Area, then forestry might be considered as an appropriate land use.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II of Sustainable Halton) and related agricultural studies.
	MISSING ELEMENTS	The report does not address other rural land uses including utilities, roads, recreational uses.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV).
		The report does not address water which is a critical factor in intensive agriculture. Water supply is critical in having an agriculture preservation area, and is an important determinant of soil capability.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV).
<b>COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY</b>	ENERGY COSTS AND FOOD MILES	As energy costs rise it would be more expensive to import food into Halton Region. Local farmers should be supported and agricultural land protected.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV).
	FARMERS' SKILLS	The report is silent on the lack of farmers with the necessary skills to farm in view of climate change and energy shortages.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase

<b>DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORT</b>	<b>THEMES</b>	<b>HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMENTS</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
			IV).
	PESTICIDES AND OTHER INPUTS	The environmental costs associated with production, and pesticide, fertilizer, and water use was not considered. Food security needs to consider the impacts on the methods of production.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV).
	SELF-SUFFICIENCY	There is a need to be realistic about self-sufficiency within the context of a global industry.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV).
	CLIMATE CHANGE	The ability to grow new crops in a warmer climate is one of the positives of global warming.	This will be investigated as part of the Region's LEAR study (Phase II) and related agricultural studies which will feed into the Region's 5-year Official Plan review (Phase IV).
	FOOD STORES	Food stores should be located within walking distance for every neighbourhood in Halton.	The principles and evaluation criteria developed through Phase II to evaluate the growth options will include walkable communities. Specific land uses are a local responsibility.
<b>AGGREGATE RESOURCES STRATEGY</b>	SUPPLY	There is an inconsistency in the interpretation of supply for Southern Ontario between the Sustainable Halton report and the Gartner Lee report prepared for the NorthWest Brampton	Staff is in talks with the Province to gain clarity on state of supply in Ontario and the Phase I report has been revised with respect to this issue.

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		hearings. There is an overestimation of the amount of unconstrained resource in the report.	
	SHALE LOCATION	The report should be reassessed in light of new shale resource mapping from the Province, released in June 2007.	The Aggregate Resource Technical Background Report will be revised to reflect the updated shale mapping from the Province.
	RESOURCE PROTECTION	There appears to be a bias for protecting aggregate resources. The strategy needs to incorporate the intent of the PPS, Greenbelt Plan, the NEP, and the Provincial Growth Plan with respect to protecting and preserving all resources of provincial interest – natural heritage resources, water resources, agricultural resources, cultural resources, and archaeological resources. Maintaining a close to market supply is required to reduce economic, social and environmental impacts. New Supply is needed to implement the PPS and the Growth Plan.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context balanced against other competing land uses.
	CONSERVATION	Aggregate resource conservation must become a primary objective for each level of government. Municipal and provincial leadership is needed to conserve the finite aggregate resources.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.

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	NET GAIN	Net gain or enhancement allows for the destruction of one ecosystem in favour of another. Artificially created habitats are not equivalent to natural habitats.	This will form part of the Sustainable Halton Phase II Natural Heritage System work.
	REHABILITATION	Pit and quarry rehabilitation is done to minimal standards. MNR must enforce progressive rehabilitation standards.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
	RECYCLED MATERIALS	Recycled construction waste materials, alternative materials, and new construction technologies must be mandated. Provincial and municipal governments need to change the regulations and standards which restrict the use of recycled materials or alternative materials and technologies in new construction.	The Region already permits use of recycled materials. The “Made in Halton” Aggregate Strategy will explore this further.
	STEWARDSHIP	The aggregate industry needs to adopt a “cradle-to-grave” life cycle stewardship approach to their businesses.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
	BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTISES	Best management practises should be pursued in Halton.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.

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	POLICIES	Municipal governments should have the ability to set policies and operating conditions for pits and quarries to meet municipal goals and objectives, even if such goes beyond provincial legislation.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
	INTERIM USES	Open pit mining is a permanent alteration of the landscape. The practise of classifying sand, gravel, stone, and shale pits and quarries as an “interim” is illogical, particularly as some of these are left interim for 25 to 100 years.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
	EXPANSIONS	Drawing distinctions between expansions and new operations are not useful. Expansions should require a license applications process.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
	COMPLIANCE REPORTING	There should be a role for local government in resolving complaints. The establishment of a multi-stakeholder advisory group/committee is an excellent idea.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
	ACCESSORY USES	Accessory uses in licensed areas should be reviewed on a periodic basis, and Certificates of Approvals should be issued for a limited time period.	A “Made in Halton” Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
	AGGREGATE STRATEGY	Not supportive of Aggregate Strategy being completed by the Region and	The Region has been informed that there will not be a Provincial Sub-Area

<b>DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORT</b>	<b>THEMES</b>	<b>HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMENTS</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
		instead should be a Provincial undertaking.	Assessment completed at this time. Halton Region's work will be used to inform the Region's "Made in Halton" Aggregate Study and any future Provincial work on the Sub-Area Assessment.
	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	Report indicated that the PPS does not permit aggregate extraction within Municipal Wellhead Protection Zones 1 and 2. The PPS requires authorities to implement the necessary restrictions of development and site alteration to protect drinking water supplies.	A "Made in Halton" Aggregate Study is being developed to translate Provincial requirements into a local context.
<b>ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>	INFORMATION	More information on the locations of the archaeological areas should be provided.	More details will be made available as part of the update to the Region's Archaeological Master Plan.
<b>COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSULTATION</b>	ENGAGING THE PUBLIC	There should be more opportunities to engage Halton's highly-educated and committed public into the Sustainable Halton planning process. A working team with representatives from different sectors, key stakeholders, and municipal departments needs to be involved.	Sustainable Halton is committed to engaging all sectors and ages. Key stakeholders, Advisory Groups and members of the public have been engaged and involved in the project from the beginning. In addition, a significant youth outreach program has been designed for Phase II to educate and seek input from the youth of the Region.

**(A)**  
**SUSTAINABLE HALTON PHASE 1 CONSULTATION OPPORTUNITIES: INITIAL CONSULTATION**

<b>INITIAL CONSULTATION: MAY 2006 TO MARCH 2007</b>		
<b>AUDIENCES</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>EVENTS</b>
<b>Public</b>	Public Meetings to garner input on the scope and content of the Sustainable Halton Plan process and studies, including outreach and consultation ideas	June 14, 2006 in Oakville June 20, 2006 in Halton Hills June 21, 2006 in Milton June 29, 2006 in Burlington
<b>Core Technical Team</b> (Regional Departments)	To introduce the Sustainable Halton Plan initiative, including the intent, process, and timing, to gain feedback on approach and content of Background Reports and to provide updates on status of Phase I Background Reports	May 5, 2006 June 1, 2006 July 6, 2006 September 7, 2006 October 12, 2006 November 9, 2006 November 27, 2006 December 14, 2006 February 19, 2007 February 26, 2007 March 5, 2007 March 12, 2007
<b>Internal Consultation</b> Urban Cluster Working Group	Brainstorming exercises, input on Terms of Reference, review Terms of Reference, Finalising Terms of Reference	July 14, 2006 July 20, 2006 September 14, 2006 October 23, 2006 November 16, 2006
Environment Cluster Working Group	Input on Terms of Reference, Review Terms of Reference, Finalising Terms of Reference	September 27, 2006 October 26, 2006 November 16, 2006

**INITIAL CONSULTATION: MAY 2006 TO MARCH 2007**

AUDIENCES	PURPOSE	EVENTS
<p>Rural Cluster Working Group</p> <p>Health and Community and Social Services Workshop</p> <p>Health Department</p>	<p>Input on Terms of Reference, Review Terms of Reference, Finalising Terms of Reference</p> <p>Regulatory Planning Framework in Ontario, Health issues related to planning and possibilities for Durable Halton.</p> <p>Input into Healthy Communities Principles Technical Background Paper</p>	<p>September 27, 2006 October 26, 2006 November 16, 2006</p> <p>November 13, 2006</p> <p>February 14, 2006 February 20, 2006</p>
<p><b>Inter-Municipal Technical Committee</b> (Local Municipal Partners, Conservation Authorities, NEC, Province).</p> <p><b>Staff Working Groups</b></p> <p>Urban Cluster Working Group</p> <p>Environmental Cluster (NEC and Conservation Authorities)</p> <p>Environmental Cluster Working</p>	<p>To introduce the Sustainable Halton Plan initiative, including the intent, process, and timing, and to gain feedback on approach and content of Background Studies</p> <p>Brainstorming exercise, input on Terms of Reference, review Terms of Reference, Finalising Terms of Reference</p> <p>Brainstorming exercise, input on Terms of Reference</p> <p>Brainstorming exercise, input on Terms of</p>	<p>May 5, 2006 June 1, 2006 September 7, 2006 October 23, 2006 November 9, 2006 November 30, 2006 December 14, 2006 February 23, 2007 March 2, 2007</p> <p>July 18, 2006 September 14, 2006 October 23, 2006 November 16, 2006</p> <p>July 21, 2006</p> <p>July 25, 2006</p>



**INITIAL CONSULTATION: MAY 2006 TO MARCH 2007**

AUDIENCES	PURPOSE	EVENTS
<p>Group</p> <p>Rural Cluster Working Group</p>	<p>Reference, review Terms of Reference, Finalising Terms of Reference</p> <p>Brainstorming exercise, input on Terms of Reference, review Terms of Reference, Finalising Terms of Reference</p>	<p>September 27, 2006 October 26, 2006 November 16, 2006</p> <p>August 22, 2006 September 27, 2006 October 26, 2006 November 16, 2006</p>
<p><b>Regional and Local Councillors</b></p>	<p>To explain the intent, approach, process, and timing of the Sustainable Halton Plan process, including scope of studies, consultant's role, and consultation programme</p>	<p><b>Joint Council Workshop</b> June 28, 2006 in Oakville</p> <p><b>Local Councils</b> August 25, 2006 in Milton September 11, 2006 in Oakville September 18, 2006 in Halton Hills</p>
<p><b>Local Municipal Planners</b> (Halton Area Planning Partnership Meetings)</p>	<p>Updates on Sustainable Halton Plan process</p>	<p>May 19, 2006 May 26, 2006 September 14, 2006 November 23, 2006 December 7, 2006 February 15, 2007 March 8, 2007 March 29, 2007</p>
<p><b>Regional Advisory Committees</b></p>	<p>To introduce the Sustainable Halton Plan initiative, including the intent, process, and timing, and to gain feedback on approach and content of Background Studies. Updates were also provided at other meetings.</p>	<p><b>Natural Resources Management Liaison Committee</b> June 22, 2006 January 25, 2007</p> <p><b>Developers Liaison Committee</b> October 13, 2006 December 15, 2006</p>

**INITIAL CONSULTATION: MAY 2006 TO MARCH 2007**

AUDIENCES	PURPOSE	EVENTS
		<p><b>Ecological &amp; Environmental Advisory Committee</b> July 12, 2006 October 11, 2006</p> <p><b>Elder Services Advisory Committee</b> October 10, 2006</p> <p><b>Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee</b> October 3, 2006</p> <p><b>Special Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee</b> October 18, 2006</p> <p><b>Halton Housing Advisory Committee</b> October 18, 2006</p>
<p><b>Agency Consultation</b></p>	<p>To introduce the Sustainable Halton Plan initiative, including the intent, process, and timing, and to gain feedback on approach and content of Background Studies</p>	<p><b>Conservation Halton</b> September 28, 2006</p> <p><b>Credit Valley Conservation Authority</b> September 8, 2006</p> <p><b>Grand River Conservation Authority</b> September 29, 2006</p> <p><b>Catholic School Board</b> October 17, 2006</p> <p><b>Niagara Escarpment Commission</b> October 19, 2006</p> <p><b>Police Services</b> September 28, 2006 November 15, 2006</p>
<p><b>Stakeholders:</b></p> <p>ROPA 25 Appellants</p> <p>Nelson Aggregate</p>	<p>Introductory presentation on the Sustainable Halton Plan</p>	<p><b>Aggregate Industry</b> November 6, 2006</p> <p><b>Georgetown Landowners (ROPA 25)</b> October 17, 2006</p> <p>November 7, 2006</p>

**INITIAL CONSULTATION: MAY 2006 TO MARCH 2007**

AUDIENCES	PURPOSE	EVENTS
<p>South Britannia Landowners Group</p> <p>Ratepayers</p>	<p>Feedback from consultant retained by landowners on the Implications of the Growth Plan on Halton Region, and how these findings could assist the Sustainable Halton Plan.</p> <p>Introductory presentation on Durable Halton and request for input on the initiative.</p>	<p><b>Fieldgate Developments and Trinison Management Corp</b> November 22, 2006</p> <p><b>Chartwell-Trafalgar Ratepayers Association</b> February 12, 2007</p>
<p><b>Ontario Ministries of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Natural Resources, and Public Infrastructure Renewal</b></p>	<p>MMAH and MNR regarding the Provincial Aggregate mapping</p> <p>MPIR - To get feedback on the process and preliminary Technical Background Reports prior to release for public and agency review</p>	<p>October 31, 2006</p> <p>March 29, 2006</p>

(B)

**SUSTAINABLE HALTON CONSULTATION OPPORTUNITIES: DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS**

<b>CONSULTATION ON DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS: APRIL 2007 TO OCTOBER 19, 2007</b>		
<b>AUDIENCES</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>EVENTS</b>
<b>Inter-Municipal Liaison Committee</b> Regional Chair, Regional and Local Councillors, Regional and Local Chief Administrative Officers, Regional Commissioners and Solicitor, and Local Planning Directors.	Inaugural meeting to inform Committee members about the purpose of the initiative, seek advice on public consultation, and present preliminary Technical Background Study findings.  Presentation on the remaining preliminary Technical Background Study Findings	April 5, 2007  April 17, 2007 June 20, 2007
<b>Regional and Local Councillors</b>	Joint Council Workshops on Draft Technical Background Studies  One-on-one with Councillor Tom Adams	April 10, 2007 in Halton Hills April 12, 2007 in Milton April 16, 2007 in Oakville May 31, 2007 in Oakville  April 11, 2007
<b>Core Technical Team</b> (Regional Departments)	Update on Sustainable Halton Process and release of Draft Technical Background Reports for public and agency review and comment	April 26, 2007 August 27, 2007
<b>Regional Employees</b> CAO FYI Live	To introduce purpose and intent the Sustainable Halton initiative to Regional staff.	April 23, 2007 at Allendale April 24, 2007 at Regional Headquarters April 26, 2007 at Regional Headquarters May 28, 2007 at Dorval
<b>Inter-Municipal Technical</b>	Update on Sustainable Halton Process and	April 27, 2007

**CONSULTATION ON DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS: APRIL 2007 TO OCTOBER 19, 2007**

AUDIENCES	PURPOSE	EVENTS
<b>Committee</b> (Local Municipal Partners, Conservation Authorities, NEC, Police Services, School Boards, Province).	release of Draft Technical Background Reports for public and agency review and comment.	September 10, 2007
<b>Local Municipal Planners</b> (Halton Area Planning Partnership Meetings)	Updates on Sustainable Halton	April 24, 2007 May 10, 2007 June 5, 2007 June 14, 2007 August 9, 2007
<b>Public</b>	<p>Public Information Centres to communicate information on the process and findings of Draft Technical Background Reports</p> <p>Symposium to have a more in depth discussion on the findings of the Draft Technical Background Reports</p> <p>Sustainable Halton Display – Burlington Public Library</p> <p>Distribution of 3<sup>rd</sup> Newsletter</p>	<p>June 4, 2007 in Oakville June 6, 2007 in Milton June 12, 2007 in Burlington June 20, 2007 in Halton Hills</p> <p>June 23, 2007 in Oakville</p> <p>August 6<sup>th</sup> to August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007</p> <p><b>Georgetown Fall Fair</b>– September 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 <b>Acton Fall Fair</b> – September 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 <b>Milton Fall Fair</b>– September 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007</p>
<b>Regional Advisory Committees</b>	To present the findings of the Draft Technical Background Reports and obtain preliminary feedback	<b>Developers' Liaison Committee</b> May 28, 2007

**CONSULTATION ON DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS: APRIL 2007 TO OCTOBER 19, 2007**

AUDIENCES	PURPOSE	EVENTS
	<p>To obtain feedback on the Draft Technical Background Reports</p> <p>To introduce the Sustainable Halton initiative and timelines</p> <p>To present the findings of the Sustainable Halton Draft Technical Background Reports on Agriculture, Natural Heritage, and Aggregates</p> <p>To introduce the Sustainable Halton initiative, timelines, and key issues</p> <p>To discuss the Sustainable Halton timelines and discuss the Draft Housing Directions Technical Background Report</p>	<p><b>Developers' Liaison Sub-Committee</b> June 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2007</p> <p><b>LOSAAC</b> June 1, 2007</p> <p><b>Special Meeting Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee</b> July 4<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 <b>Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee Sub-Committee</b> August 13, 2007</p> <p><b>Ecological &amp; Environmental Advisory Committee</b> June 13, 2007</p> <p><b>Halton Housing Advisory Committee</b> July 18, 2007</p>
<b>Stakeholders:</b>	<p>To introduce the Sustainable Halton initiative, timelines, and key issues</p> <p>To introduce the Sustainable Halton initiative and timelines</p> <p>To learn more about Oakville Green's and POWER's concerns about Sustainable Halton and how their expertise can assist with the Regional exercise</p> <p>To be briefed on the Region's conformity exercise</p> <p>To go over comments on the Aggregate Resources Strategy</p>	<p><b>Milton Chamber of Commerce</b> June 21, 2007</p> <p><b>Halton Economic Development Partnership</b> June 1, 2007</p> <p><b>Oakvillegreen and POWER</b> August 20, 2007</p> <p><b>Shoppers' Drug Mart</b> August 31, 2007</p> <p><b>PERL</b> September 5, 2007</p>

**CONSULTATION ON DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS: APRIL 2007 TO OCTOBER 19, 2007**

<b>AUDIENCES</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>EVENTS</b>
<b>Ontario Ministries</b> (MNR, MMAH, MPIR, MNDM)	To ascertain status of aggregate mapping and fit with the Sustainable Halton timelines	June 19, 2007

## SUSTAINABLE HALTON SYMPOSIUM

Held on June 23, 2007  
9 am to 1 pm  
the Auditorium at the Halton Regional Centre

### Opening Remarks

The Facilitator, Glenn Pothier, welcomed everyone to the symposium and reviewed the agenda. He stressed the importance of receiving everyone's input throughout the morning.

### Welcome from the Regional Chair

Gary Carr gave welcoming remarks.

### Sustainable Halton in Context

Mary Lou Tanner, Director of Planning and Transportation Services, gave an overview of the Sustainable Halton initiative with a PowerPoint presentation. She explained the background of provincial initiatives and the work on the 22 Sustainable Halton background studies. She said that it is important to receive input from stakeholders and the public, and she encouraged everyone to stay engaged in the process.

### Overview of and Feedback on the Background Studies

Rotating small group presentations and discussion of the background studies done by table groupings; the 22 studies were collapsed into seven thematic areas. After a brief presentation, the format was for **Questions** of fact or clarification, whether anything had been missed or whether there are other options to consider, then for participants to give comments on and implications of options and results.

There were several **Questions** and comments from the table discussions that were about the study process overall, or were about topics that overlap several subject matters, and they are reported below first. Then the table discussions are reported under two headings: **Questions** and Comments. There were many **Questions** asked at the tables that are **Answered** in the reports – those **Questions** are not reported here.

### General Questions and Comments

**Question:** At what stage of process will options be looked at?

**Answer:** Options for the future will be identified and evaluated in the next phase.

**Question:** How much land is needed for aggregates, agriculture, NHS, housing and employment. I would like to compare the needs.

**Answer:** These needs will be compared and evaluated in the next phase of Sustainable Halton.

**Question:** How does the Campaign For Fairness fit with Sustainable Halton?

**Answer:** The Campaign For Fairness was explained.



### **Comments**

- The Sustainable Halton Plan needs basic sustainability assumptions upon which all decisions are made. Need to get this top level right before making other decisions.
- Should have started with Healthy Communities principles first.
- There are competing themes or issues, particularly NHS, aggregates and agriculture.
- Concern that there doesn't seem to be any higher order principles reflected in papers, would like to see greater inter-relations and cross-links between papers.
- Concerns over peak oil and energy efficiency.
- How do we protect farmland into perpetuity?
- The 2031 time frame is inadequate. We need to plan for centuries.
- There should be more focus on intensification, maybe more than 40%.
- How far is the Region willing to go to make unpopular decisions?

Transportation issues were raised many times at many tables, in particular:

- North-South transportation linkages/connections and transit are needed, particularly to Georgetown.
- We need to put transit first.
- Support for an integrated Transit System Plan with Mississauga and other neighbouring municipalities.
- Need jobs in Halton if we are to reduce transportation within the Region.
- Need to increase density to improve transit.
- Need a Regional transit system to coordinate service.
- Seniors and kids need transit so they can be independent.
- Should provide tax breaks to companies that provide transit.

Complete communities and urban design issues:

- Community centers should be with integrated facilities (i.e. libraries, arenas) and combined and linked to transit. The current arrangement results in people driving to a number of different facilities.
- Want to see a greater mix of housing types
- Stop building malls and superstores that destroy "main street" and are designed solely for access by cars.
- Need community centres that are built in "hubs" with all community services grouped together and centralized so people don't need cars to get everywhere.
- People want to "age in place"; services for elderly should be available throughout the community.
- Need greater choice of housing for all stages in life in Halton.

### NHS Table

Presenter/Facilitator - Mirek Sharp, North-South Environmental  
Recorder/Facilitator - Jason Scott, Senior Planner, Halton Planning

**Question:** In all likelihood, how feasible is Option 3? How will the Region implement these Options?

**Answer:** The likelihood and implementation was explained.

**Question:** Does the Region have any control over natural heritage and agricultural lands in the Greenbelt?

**Answer:** The level of control was explained.

**Question:** Is the development of the NHS options unique to Halton Region? What other municipalities are taking a similar approach?

**Answer:** Halton is trying to be unique.

**Question:** Can the NHS system being developed in North Oakville be revisited through the Sustainable Halton project, in particular, the notion of Regional biodiversity centres?

**Answer:** The North Oakville plan will be approved before Sustainable Halton is approved, but the work being undertaken in North Oakville will inform the Sustainable Halton process.

### **Comments**

- The development of the NHS inherently implies that other land uses must be sacrificed. The NHS system cannot trump other critical elements of the Growth Plan and Greenbelt Plan.
- Option 3 is the only logical and truly sustainable choice if Halton Region truly wants to be sustainable.
- The NHS may significantly hinder the efficient and effective development of land and infrastructure. In particular, the notion of linkages and increased buffers tend to sterilize developable lands between them and thereby, lead to further land requirements to accommodate growth by displacing needs further out. The NHS may lead to inefficient planning resulting in longer commutes to shopping, schools and recreation areas thus being counterproductive to the protection of the environment.
- With almost half of Halton Region within the Greenbelt Plan and Niagara Escarpment Plan Area, why do we need additional NHS area?
- Who is going to pay for all this? An increased NHS will also affect the affordability of housing.
- If Option 1 is chosen, the project should be named "Unsustainable Halton".
- It would appear that the Region already has a pre-conceived notion that Option 3 will be the one that is recommended.
- There are negative impacts of an increased NHS, particularly in close proximity to urban settings? (i.e.: nuisance wildlife, safety, human-wildlife conflicts)
- The NHS should be considered and promoted as green "infrastructure" as critical to the necessity of human health, equal or greater than any other element of the SH Plan.
- Would like to see mapping of the NHS.

### Agriculture-Countryside Table

Presenter/Facilitator - Margaret Walton, Planscape

Recorder/Facilitator - Helma Geerts, Senior Planner, Halton Planning

**Question:** How much produce can be produced here for local markets?

**Answer:** Hard to get a handle on because realistically we need to look beyond Halton boundaries. We also have to consider the contribution to the quality of life in Halton.

**Question:** How are agriculture & NHS linked?

**Answer:** Agriculture creates natural corridors; natural heritage features can be isolated; agriculture creates the linkages; in some ways the two areas compete for the same land.

**Question:** Did you consider Alternative Land Use Services (e.g. Norfolk County)?

**Answer:** Yes. Competing uses are a factor e.g. corridors used for habitat. However, farmers

may not want to allow land to naturalize if it has some future development potential.

**Question:** Is it the intent to make Halton self sufficient in food?

**Answer:** No, but Halton has a role to play.

**Question:** We think agriculture is very important (transportation costs, food security). Is there any way of swapping prime agriculture land with less productive land for urban development?

**Answer:** There may be some opportunity during the Greenbelt boundary review in 2015. Halton needs its own solution.

**Question:** Can farmers be forced to sell land?

**Answer:** No.

### Comments

- Most food travels 3000 km – more should be local for when energy costs increase. Love the Halton Fresh Food Box program - should expand; very well received by young families, seniors, everyone.
- Average age of farmers is old; no infrastructure left; agriculture is doomed in Halton; only hope is the final harvest (sell farm). No farmer gets a pension.
- Need to provide for allotment gardens as in Britain. Also agricultural co-ops for local food.
- Agricultural land immediately abutting Greenbelt should be protected.
- Some compensation is required for farmers. Buy development rights to ensure farmer is not worse off. This will take money & commitment.
- Big difference between protecting the resource and protecting the industry. Urban separators and Greenbelts may just be a playground for the rich.
- I take my family to local farms and greenspace. I value this.
- If you want sustainable agriculture, agriculture-related businesses must be allowed in rural area.
- Land Trusts should be considered - difference paid to farmers between land value for development and agriculture use. Land can then be put in agricultural preserve.
- Whatever it takes to protect agriculture, we need to do it.
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a model to consider as the risk is shared amongst members.
- In England, farmers sell corridors for trails. This increases trail users appreciation for agriculture.
- South Halton Hills farmland is all prime. Can't we protect it all?

### Aggregates Table

Presenter/Facilitator - Nick McDonald, Meridian Planning Consultants

Recorder/Facilitator - Lynne Gough, Meridian Planning Consultants

**Question:** How do we coordinate with other Regions, particularly Brampton and Caledon?

**Answer:** We have been consulting with the Province to get that sort of context.

**Question:** What happens when an operator wants to expand a pit?

**Answer:** Individual applications are filed (OPAs and re-zoning), and all applications tend to be adversarial because there is no overall strategy.

**Question:** What is the negative effect on the environment if the aggregate industry increases production?

**Answer:** We have not studied that relationship in this report. All extraction will have impacts, but the Province requires that environmental impacts be minimized, which assumes that some level of impact may be considered to be acceptable in principle.

**Question:** Water is a concern – are wells considered?

**Answer:** Wells are considered when evaluating an application.

**Question:** When an application is made does it give a time frame for extraction?

**Answer:** Theoretically the application could give an estimate of the amount of the resource and the length of time anticipated for the pit/quarry to remain in operation.

**Question:** You imply that we are running out of shale, but a study undertaken by Gartner Lee showed that there is 14,000 years of supply. You say that there is little supply in Halton, so I am concerned about your statement.

**Answer:** The 14,000 years of supply refers to the supply in the whole of the province. The province has identified 3 areas in the GTA – Halton, Brampton and Caledon. In Ontario there is also Creemore and Meaford, but the province says that they are too far away to be economic.

**Question:** Have you done an analysis on the cost of obtaining supply from other areas? It costs \$800 to truck bricks from further away which is 10% of the cost, and the roads already exist for the trucks.

**Answer:** We have not undertaken an independent analysis of the cost of transporting shale from afar. At this point, the province's view is that supply close to market is required. The Region would be happy to review any data you may have on this issue.

**Question:** Ontario Hydro is drilling a tunnel in Niagara through shale that is 18 km long. Why cannot we use this shale? Why do we need any more than this?

**Answer:** The industry has indicated an interest in using that shale, however, shale cannot be exposed to the air for longer than 3 years, so its use is limited.

**Question:** There is a large area for shale – what is the quality of the shale?

**Answer:** The shale usually has good quality throughout the deposit, and the prime consideration is the depth of the overburden – it has to be less than 8m. In the report the mapping changed in December 2006 and the provincial mapping changed again last week, so there are technical issues on determining exactly which areas are most suitable for extraction.

**Question:** There is a provincial policy on aggregates, but what about wood? We should be growing forests for the wood for homes, and if we follow the logic, we should not truck the wood a long way.

**Answer:** There is no equivalent provincial policy for wood.

**Question:** The steel industry brings limestone in by ship from Lake Michigan – we do not have to use trucks for aggregate, we can use ships.

**Answer:** This suggestion has been made to the industry - they say it is too expensive.

**Question:** How is enforcement of the industry done?

**Answer:** It is self-policing.

**Question:** There is a different approach in Caledon – why didn't Halton use their approach, which was to identify where the resource is and prioritize it?

**Answer:** That is an option for discussion in Halton.

**Question:** There were several **Questions** related to the maps.

**Answer:** The maps were explained; they are obtained from the Ministry of Mines and Northern Development.

**Question:** There were several **Questions** related to the operation, remediation and longevity of quarries.

**Answer:** The operation of quarries was explained.

### Comments

- Want to encourage LEED buildings and to use local products, so we should develop local products like local bricks, which may be a different way of looking at the issue.
- If we increase the cost to operate a quarry, we will increase the cost of homes, which will affect affordable housing.
- If we increase population we increase aggregate and cause poor air quality because of the fine particulates that come from quarries.
- Expansion is the main problem. Local people do not like seeing quarries on the escarpment, but industry needs aggregate.
- It would be most efficient to maximize re-cycling at an existing quarry – it would outweigh opening a new quarry.
- Aggregates are non-renewable resources. Although fossil fuel is limited it was previously thought that it was unlimited, so now we are looking at alternatives that were previously thought to be uneconomic. Maybe the same will happen with aggregates.
- We have maps that show the depth of the overburden.
- The Niagara Escarpment Plan and the Greenbelt allow for extraction, so there are many areas available for extraction.
- Perhaps the housing industry could look at building houses in a different way – we do not need brick houses.

### Urban Structure Table

Presenter/Facilitator - Russell Matthew, Hemson Consulting

Recorder/Facilitator - Mary K. Cichocki-Beaudry, Senior Planner, Halton Planning

**Question:** Will overall immigration to Canada continue? And do we have to accept it?

**Answer:** Talked about overall trends (immigration accounts for the bulk of Canada's growth) and generally confirmed the likelihood that the trends will continue.

**Question:** Manufacturing jobs are being lost to China. Employment in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Will they be getting the majority of migrants to Canada?

**Answer:** Quite a lot of manufacturing jobs occurring in China. Southern Ontario is a manufacturing powerhouse and is an industrial-based economy.

**Question:** Employment - why is the number of jobs per hectare higher in York Region than in Halton?

**Answer:** Generally York has multi-story offices; Halton and Peel have major industries.

**Question:** Why doesn't the Region's Best Planning Estimates (BPE 2007 Series) match the report numbers?

**Answer:** It was explained that the BPE forecasts do not include the Census undercount. In addition, the BPE forecasts are only to 2021.

**Question:** Employment Lands - in Burlington, they're putting in office buildings that should be downtown in employment corridors and industrial parks. Wouldn't it be good to put them into the heart of the community?

**Answer:** There is an interest in focusing employment in the core. But there's only so much you can regulate. The status quo is corporate centres competing with other corporate centres. It's a challenging issue.

### Comments

- It is important to bring jobs to Halton, to minimize commuting; reduce travel costs; improve air quality; and the quality of life generally.
- Commented that we are starting to see mixed-use "live-work" developments. Thinks there will be more of these types of mixed-use residential/home office developments.
- What other types of housing are in the vision for 2031? How can we be part of it? We have concerns about the types of housing because of the types of high-rises we've seen in other communities. Multiples should be no more than 5 storeys high at maximum, not 25 storeys! They should be developed on at least 10-acre lots. You can pool them (i.e. housing unit clusters) and provide/preserve more green space.
- We could encourage more businesses to locate in live-work developments, but some people want to intensify employment lands.
- We should cluster industries, so resources are close by. There should be an Ecological/Industrial Business Centre in the Halton Hills Highway 401 Employment Corridor. *"If the Region could work with Halton Hills, we could create an energy resource Business/Industrial Park. We did it with the nuclear industry."*
- Concern about intensification targets as set out in the Growth Plan.
- Higher densities, more compact forms of development and transit needed.
- Intensification Targets- Need to make better use of existing infrastructure first. The amount of development in the form of intensification, infill and redevelopment will be dictated by the 40% target.
- Halton is a prosperous Region. To maintain it, we need a range of incomes. We're on the verge of ignoring that.
- Affordable Housing- *"What's affordable? Something that can be carried at \$500 or less a month."*
- Economic Corridors- The 401/GTA West Corridor will influence land uses in the Region.
- Young people/young families still want single-family dwellings. Does fire/police/EMS increase with population growth too?

### Healthy and Complete Communities Table

Presenter/Facilitator - Perry Vagnini, Senior Planner, Halton Planning

Recorder/Facilitator -Gena Ali, Senior Planner, Halton Planning

### Comments

- We need to increase densities to accommodate walkability.
- We need to stop giving the impression that people won't have to leave Halton to find housing.

- There aren't enough things to do/activities for seniors in the NW corner of Milton. Some communities are losing elderly populations (such as Halton Hills) – need seniors housing in Acton.
- Halton and the local municipalities need to assess how garden suites and granny flats would be put in.
- Most people in Halton do not see the need for affordable housing. The market is not interested in building affordable housing
- In Milton, we need to get affordable housing where people are working. There are multiple wage earners in a household as affordability is out of reach.
- Affordable housing could bring in crime.
- If you want to address density, then we need to ensure that concrete jungles are not created. There needs to be a lot of green areas around them.
- The Region needs to integrate immigrants.
- Need to define community. Is it regional, local, or neighbourhood?
- Complete Communities - needs to include: local energy production, local waste diversion, local food production, and community gardens.
- Schools are a major piece of infrastructure, and should be used as community facilities, then portables won't be an issue and schools would not only be built for current populations. Parents should be banned from parking at schools.
- Intensification/Infilling - should only be in nodes so as to not create ghettos.

#### Air, Climate Change & Energy Tables

Presenter/Facilitator - Kim Perrotta, Senior Policy Analyst, Halton Health Department

Presenter/Facilitator - Glen Wood, ICL International

**Question:** Why did we not build the Energy from Waste Facility?

**Answer:** EFW decision was explained

**Question:** Can the Region require LEED standards?

**Answer:** The local municipalities, not the region, would implement them.

#### **Comments**

- Don't call it "sustainable" if it is NOT a sustainable process.
- No higher order principles articulated to support sustainability goals.
- The Region should be innovative.
- Need to act locally to lead globally.

#### **Comments on Air Quality**

- Need to look at retrofitting older, existing communities.
- Distributed energy can produce localized air quality issues; need to address these.
- Concern that more intensification and development along transportation corridors will have an impact on health. Air quality around roads a concern.
- Where do we see ourselves being in 2031. Can communities set their own targets and objectives?

#### **Comments on Energy Related Issues**

- Need to increase the energy efficiency of buildings.
- Need to develop renewable energies.

- Consensus around table that Renewable energy and energy efficiency (i.e. LEED standard buildings) should be a priority.
- Some developers are doing LEED; they say it sells; but need to use section 37 of the Planning Act to encourage it.
- Should look at LEED standards for neighbourhood design as well.
- Region needs to lead with its own corporate initiatives; it needs to set examples by pushing renewables, solar energy, ground-source heat pumps, and LEED standards for its own projects.
- How do we build district energy into the planning system?
- It is great that the Region is using methane from landfill for electricity.
- Need guidelines to clarify where electricity generating stations can and cannot go. Differing opinions were expressed regarding the gas-fired generating facilities.
- Need to encourage geothermal too; under parking lots for example.
- The Region should develop a policy on wind farms and wind turbines. Need wind-generated electricity; should be easier to locate than a natural gas plant.
- Region should do more to encourage co-generation.
- Concern expressed regarding the availability of natural gas on a national basis.
- Several people are worried about the planned TransCanada plant in Halton Hills regarding air quality impacts.
- Broad support for solar development; support development of more solar energy for heating water in homes.
- **Question** raised as to whether energy-from-waste is worthwhile or the most effective use of resources.
- District heating and lake water cooling should be encouraged.
- **Question** of whether the commercial/business sector is doing its part to reduce energy use. Example of buildings that are lit up at night.
- Suggestion that “bringing jobs to where people live” is one key to reducing transportation energy use.
- Has the Region conducted an inventory of renewable energy potential?

### **Comments on Community Design**

- Land use design cannot fix all problems re: Air & Climate Change.
- Need higher densities to reduce air pollution.
- We need alternative development standards for community design.
- Concern that street lighting is excessive.
- Suggestion that district heating, water re-use, etc. be incorporated in subdivisions and developments at the design stage.
- Plan discusses “walkable communities”, but should also consider the aging population and weather (i.e. ability of Seniors to get around in snow – need covered walkways).

### **Comments on Climate Change**

- Need to set a Regional Target for Climate Change; suggest a 66 to 80% reduction in carbon emissions.
- Should be woven into every single paper.
- Need planning tools that allow us to conserve water.
- Concern re implications of climate change to infrastructure - have we looked at the shorelines and flooding potential with Climate Change?



- What can Halton do to encourage and take a lead in addressing Climate Change? Point made that personal choices are important and that the focus should not be solely on what governments can do.
- Suggested that Halton should act locally, but lead globally; promoting innovative ideas to address Climate Change. Action will require cooperation among municipalities.

### Revisions Suggested for Papers

#### Air Paper

- Need to discuss Aggregates as important sources of PM2.5.
- Need to discuss traffic corridors in terms of setbacks and separators; does this conflict with nodes and corridors development?

#### Climate Change Paper

- Update paper to reflect the new Plans announced by the Province.
- How do we plan for water supply in the future with climate change?

#### Energy

- Need to address the peak power issue.

### Infrastructure Table

Presenter/Facilitator - Jacqueline Weston, Manager of Infrastructure Planning, Halton Planning and Public Works

Presenter/Facilitator - Alvaro Almuina, Dillon Consulting

Presenter/Facilitator - John Watson, Environmental Services, Halton Planning and Public Works

Recorder/Facilitator - Kathy Kielt, Liaison Technician, Halton Planning

**Question:** Concern is that EMS, fire and police services will not be able to keep pace with development. This has become a significant problem in Peel.

**Answer:** Those are part of the soft services that must be addressed. EMS and police are part of Halton Region and are involved in the project, and they will comment on their needs in a later part of the project.

**Question:** What is the relationship between transportation and the mix of natural and urban areas? Development of 'complete communities' should include access to natural areas.

**Answer:** We normally look at the peak period when planning a transportation system but linkages to activities other than home and work are also important.

**Question:** We should increase the use of trains. Trucks are a problem, not just cars. Why is this not addressed?

**Answer:** The report was not intended to recommend solutions but it does recognize that we cannot rely on the status quo.

**Question:** What about the proposed GTA West Transportation Corridor? Is there information about its location, timing of development, and potential impact on growth. Shouldn't we plan now for that impact? Is it part of the Mid-Peninsula Corridor (Niagara to GTA Transportation Corridor)?

**Answer:** The GTA West Transportation Corridor would not be developed until some time after 2021. The large study area associated with it includes part of Halton Region and includes part of the Greenbelt. It could cross the escarpment at some point but is a separate project from the Niagara to GTA Transportation Corridor.

**Question:** Is there a limit on the amount of water that can be drawn from Lake Ontario?

**Answer:** We don't anticipate a limit since the Province has directed growth to Halton.

**Question:** What is the status of the Peel servicing option for Halton Hills?

**Answer:** Peel Region is looking at their expansion and capacity before responding to us on this matter.

**Question:** Is there any chance of blending groundwater and lake-based water for flexibility.

**Answer:** That was considered for Milton but the waters were not compatible. We could consider a wide range of options.

**Question:** What about leaks in the wastewater system.

**Answer:** There are always some leaks in the water systems - it is a systemic issue. There is not one hole to plug but many infiltrations from weeping tiles and stormwater drains.

**Question:** Are there figures available on the amount of water that goes in and out of the systems.

**Answer:** Yes. Those figures will be included in the next reports.

**Question:** Private servicing (septic tile beds) can be a threat to groundwater supply.

**Answer:** Halton Region is addressing that through Source Protection. We are required to do an assessment by 2008 and to prepare a Source Protection Plan within 5 years.

**Question:** Halton Region is providing water to Hornby residents. Is that part of the plan?

**Answer:** No. Water is being provided because construction activity in the Hornby area has disrupted the groundwater supply. We anticipate that this will be a short-term situation.

**Question:** Will Georgetown have lake-based water in the near future?

**Answer:** No. We are exploring the options and part of that exercise is to look at the potential for expanding ground-based sources as part of the growth option evaluation in the next phase of Sustainable Halton.

**Question:** How is ICI waste handled? Is it included in the waste management plan?

**Answer:** ICI waste currently goes mainly to Michigan, which is a cheaper alternative to Halton's landfill site. The waste management plan addresses residential waste only. Halton Region is looking at the potential to address ICI waste, including waste diversion. Information will go to Regional Council this fall.

**Question:** The Michigan option will be shutting down soon.

**Answer:** Michigan is shutting to residential waste but will continue to take ICI waste.

**Question:** What about EFW and other options?

**Answer:** The EFW proposal has been postponed for 5 years. Methane gas is collected from the landfill site and used to generate electricity that will be added to the grid. The methane gas production will continue for about 20 years after the landfill site closure but the production capacity is limited.

**Question:** A waste management strategy is needed for higher density built form.

**Answer:** Recycling facilities and educational programs are in place in higher density buildings (apartments and condominiums). Halton Region is also looking at the potential to extend the GreenCart program into these buildings.

**Question:** Markham has achieved 75% diversion. EFW has been postponed. European Parliament says no more incineration. The producer should be responsible for the waste. In Europe, manufacturers are expected to recycle. Is Halton Region looking at other options to reduce waste?

**Answer:** Halton Region is launching a voluntary Take it Back program directed to the manufacturers and will lobby the Province to legislate to address this matter. It is not within Halton Region's power to require the producer to be responsible for waste.

### General Comments

- Several major subjects were combined in this presentation. It should have been extended over more than one team.
- Criteria should be established for new buildings [to facilitate waste diversion, better use of water/wastewater, transit].
- If people demonstrate less need you could plan for less demand.

### Comments on Transportation

- There is not enough parking at GO stations.
- Transit is the obvious **Answer** for moving people. I would like to see a real functional transit system in Halton.
- Sustainability must be transit-based. This is not reflected in the Transportation Report. We have lots of capacity but travel patterns are very focused.
- We need a regionally based transit system and inter-regional transit.
- Halton Region should consider taking over transit. Look at the York Region model. Halton Hills could get transit if transit was Halton-based. Look at phasing for transit and road expansion.
- It would take a couple of hours to use transit to get from my home in North Oakville to the Oakville library.
- I want to see more walking and cycling options.
- We are still seeing the same type of development with single family homes right up to transportation corridors. Those areas should be reserved for higher density.

### Comments on Water and Wastewater

- Many comments were related to reducing demand and making better use of existing systems, including inter-regional sharing options and addressing systemic flaws.
- A longer term servicing strategy was suggested.
- Water supply management seems to be fine but demand management should also be addressed through conservation, education and use of grey water.
- Conservation targets should be established for water and wastewater as it is for solid waste diversion.
- It makes sense to use inter-regional infrastructure if Peel has capacity. York Region sized their infrastructure for the horizon period only. Halton Region must size infrastructure for an ultimate build-out to prevent the need to construct services twice.
- There should be rebates for low-flow toilets.

### Looking Ahead and Open Forum

Glenn Pothier summed up the morning, asked participants to use the workbook that had been provided and to phone in or e-mail any **Questions** or comments. Glenn then opened up the symposium for additional participant comments, ideas, and issues.

Mike Lansdown noted that Oakville is undertaking an Official Plan Review, and it has to conform to the Halton Official Plan, which is on-going. He is involved as a Bronte, or Ward 1 resident, and he asked whether they are wasting their time in Bronte?

Mary Lou Tanner replied that it is never a waste of time to look at communities that are growing, and although everyone has to review their Official Plans, they will be done iteratively.

A comment was made that people are coming to Halton and infrastructure is needed, but he wonders why we have to grow. He thinks that “sustainable growth” is an oxymoron. He suggests that all municipalities band together and stop growth – growth would then have to go elsewhere.

A comment was made that 15 minutes at the end of a 4-hour session is not long enough for feedback. Some of the participants are concerned about the lack of seniors housing in Acton. They are not interested in plans for 25 to 30 years time – they want seniors housing in Acton today. They want to continue to live in the community where they grew up and where they have friends, family, shops and their church. Another concern was that there is a desire for intensification for some condos in Acton for seniors. The commentator asked the symposium not to forget seniors.

A comment was made regarding how we achieve the behavioural changes that are needed and that we need to get people to make changes in their lives and to be included in the process.

A comment was made about the communication and consultation process. She wants to see a collaborative approach to public engagement and she hope that this symposium is not a one-off.

A comment was made that some segments of the population are left out – youth, and that healthy communities principles should be a guiding framework.

A comment was made about increasing densities; the concern with dense areas and drug problems.

A comment was made about a concern about the NHS and connectivity and that the NHS should not take land out of agricultural production.

### Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Glenn Pothier thanked everyone for coming and for being passionate and articulate.

Mary Lou Tanner thanked everyone for their time and their interest, and she also thanked all the staff and consultants.

## **LIST OF THE TWENTY-TWO DRAFT TECHNICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS**

1. Land Supply Analysis by Hemson Consulting
2. Regional Land Analysis by Hemson Consulting
3. Urban Structure: Potential Long-Term Growth Areas by Hemson Consulting
4. Towards An Intensification Strategy for Halton Region by Hemson Consulting
5. Explaining Density by Hemson Consulting
6. Effect of Demographic Change on Halton Region by Hemson Consulting
7. Housing Directions by SHS Inc.
8. Air Quality, Human Health, and the Built Environment by Halton Health Department
9. Physical Activity and the Built Environment by Halton Health Department
10. Human Services by Halton Social and Community Services
11. Transportation Infrastructure by Dillon Consulting
12. Water and Waste Water Infrastructure by Halton Planning and Public Works Department
13. Waste Management Facilities by Halton Planning and Public Works Department
14. Energy Demand and Supply by ICF International
15. Climate Change by ICF International
16. Options for a Natural Heritage System in Halton by North South Environmental
17. Agricultural Countryside Vision by Planscape
18. Community Food Security by Halton Health Department
19. Aggregate Resources Strategy by Meridian Planning
20. Archaeological Resources by Archaeological Services Inc
21. Healthy Communities Principles by Halton Health Department
22. Communications and Consultations Plans by Halton Community Relations and GLPi