City of Burlington Submission on Region of Halton's ROPR Discussion Papers

PL-28-20

Community Planning, Regulation and Mobility Committee
September 22, 2020



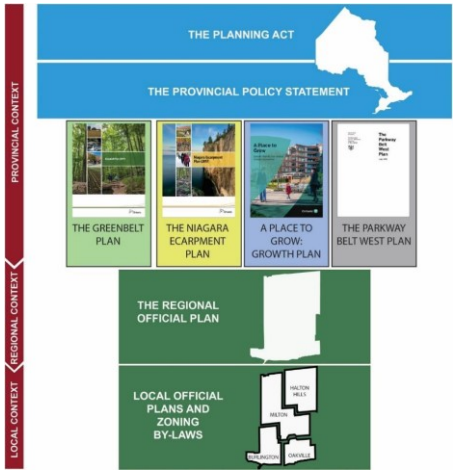
Regional Official Plan Review

Overview

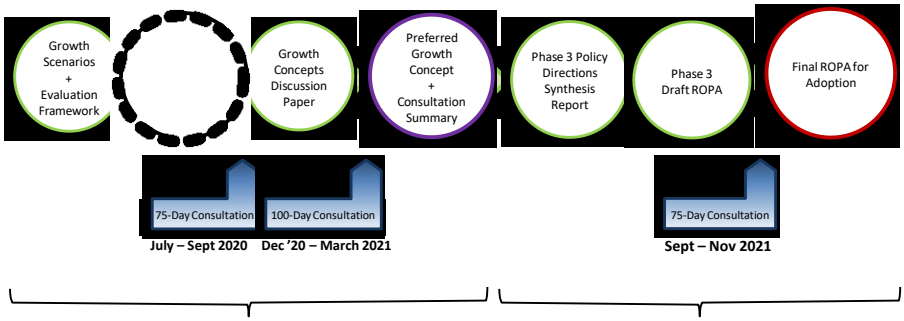
- There is a legislative requirement for the Region to update the ROP to conform with recently updated Provincial Plans and Provincial Policy Statement.
- Regional Official Plan Review (ROPR) is also an opportunity to examine the evolving trends in the Region
- Current ROPR is a scoped exercise that addresses specific strategic issues.
- Other inputs into the ROPR process include:
  - Review of local municipal official plans; and
  - Minutes of Settlement for OMB/LPAT cases.

ROPR and Local Municipal Context

- ROPR determines how and where Local Municipalities grow based on:
  - Local identification of areas appropriate for growth (e.g. MTSAs)
  - Efficient and cost-effective infrastructure
  - Complete community needs
  - Protection of assets like Natural Heritage System and Prime Agricultural Areas
  - Response to Climate Change
- Local OPs must conform to Halton OP within one year.



Current Regional Official Plan Review Status



Integrated Growth Management Strategy

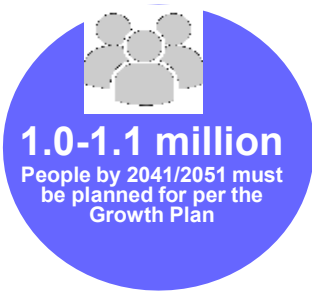
Regional Urban Structure

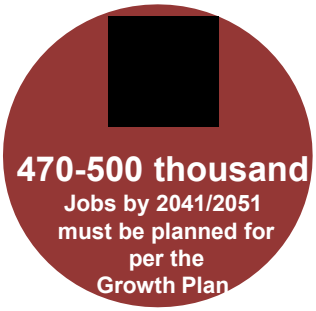
Phase 1 Discussion Paper



Growth Plan Requirements
Regional Urban Structure

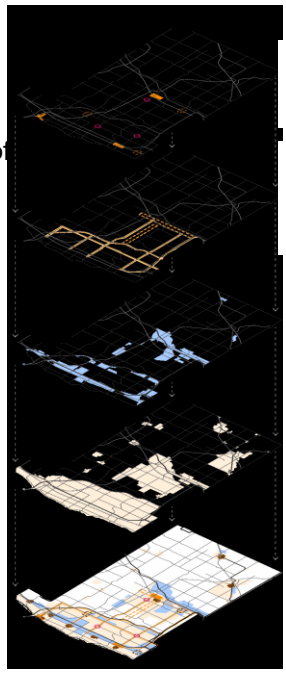
- Integrated planning to accommodate population and employment forecasts in Provincial Growth Plan
- Intensification Strategy with targets
- Designate all Employment Areas and establish density targets
- Assess need and location for settlement boundary expansion





Objectives
Regional Urban Structure

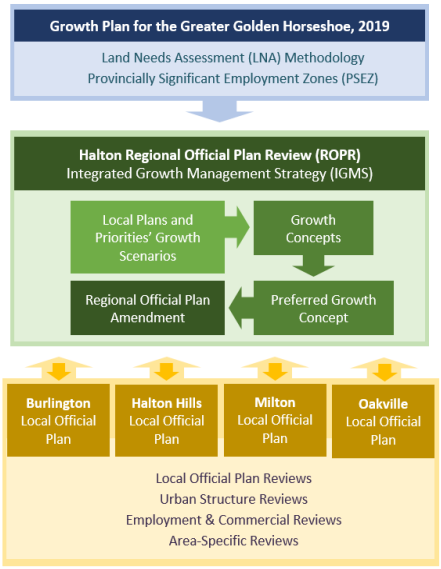
- Policy context and requirements of Growth Plan (2019)
- Current Regional Structure, and development of a proposed Regional Urban Structure
- Obtain feedback on the elements of the proposed Regional Urban Structure
- Inform the development and evaluation of Growth Concepts



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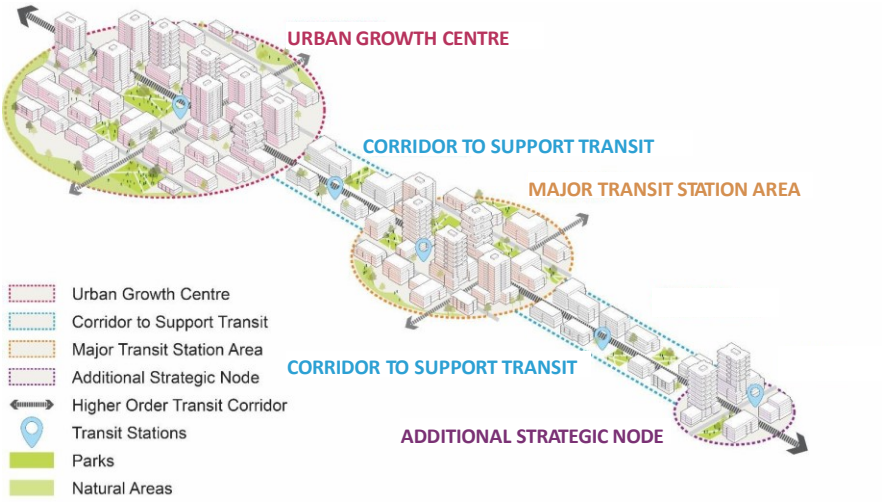
Local Municipal Role
Regional Urban Structure

- Local Municipalities play an integral role in the Integrated Growth Management Strategy by:
  - Conducting studies which inform the 'Local Plans and Priorities' Growth Scenarios and the proposed Regional Urban Structure
  - Implement the Regional Official Plan Amendment into Local Official Plans



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Strategic Growth Areas
Community Areas



Strategic Growth Areas

- **Urban Growth Centres (UGCs)**
  - City has requested the Region through the MCR, to adjust the boundary of the Downtown Burlington UGC to generally align with the lands in proximity to the Burlington GO Station

- **Major Transit Station Areas**
  - All GO Station MTSAs should be Protected MTSAs under the Growth Plan
  - No concerns with the Region's proposal to remove the Downtown Burlington MTSA/Mobility Hub from the ROP as permitted by the Province
  - No concerns with Burlington GO and Appleby GO MTSA proposed boundaries
  - Aldershot GO MTSA proposed boundary is consistent with Region's delineation methodology following NHS boundary

- **Corridors and other Strategic Growth Areas**
  - Concerns with the identified network as contained in the Defining Major Transit Requirements - focus should be placed on the local vision for corridors
  - Concerns with the establishment of minimum density targets along corridors

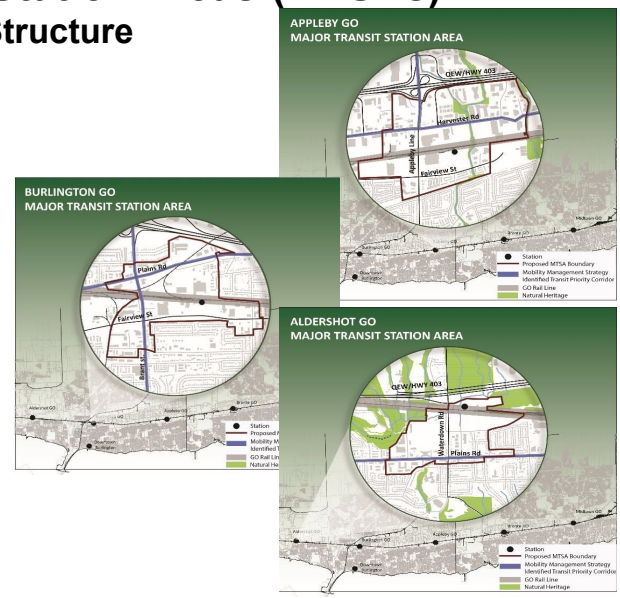
Strategic Growth Areas

- **Employment Areas**
  - Encourage the Region to support the policy directions with new tools and programs to reinforce employment policies and to support employment growth within key Strategic Growth Areas
- **Employment Conversions**
  - Supportive of the identified subjects and principles set out in the employment area conversions criteria
- **Employment Area Additions**
  - Agree that not all lands that accommodate employment uses need to identified within an Employment Area
  - Support the approach of working closely with the Region to refine the extent of the areas previously identified as “to be added to the Region of Halton Employment Area”

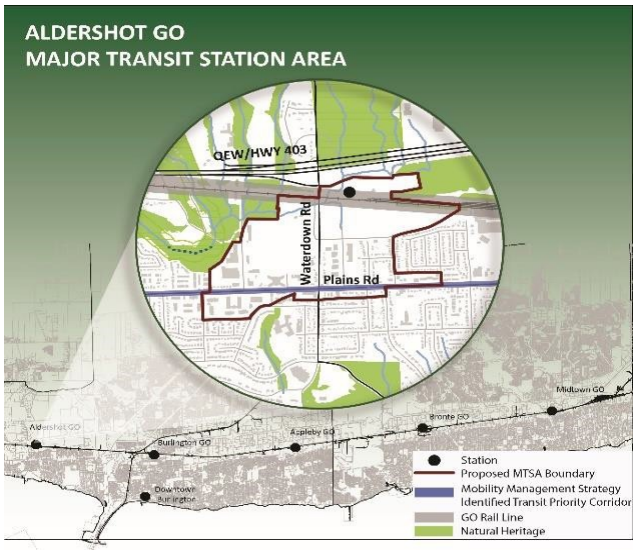
Major Transit Station Areas (MTSAs)

Regional Urban Structure

- The Region proposes to establish a boundary for the Burlington, Appleby and Aldershot GO Stations
- The Region proposes to remove the Downtown Burlington MTSA/Mobility Hub designations from the ROP as permitted by the Province

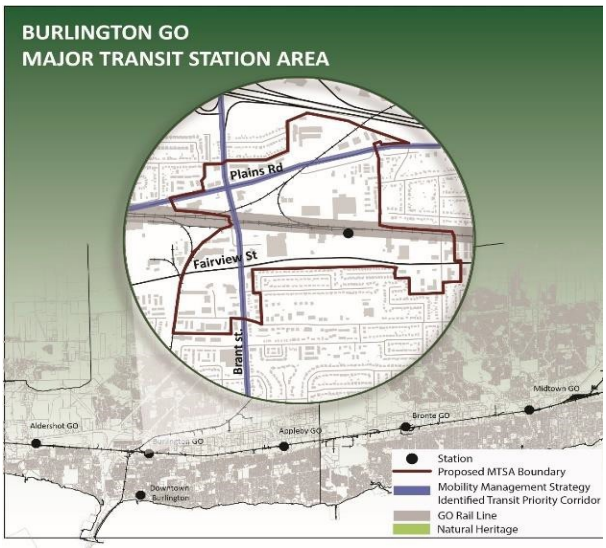


Major Transit Station Areas (MTSAs)
Regional Urban Structure



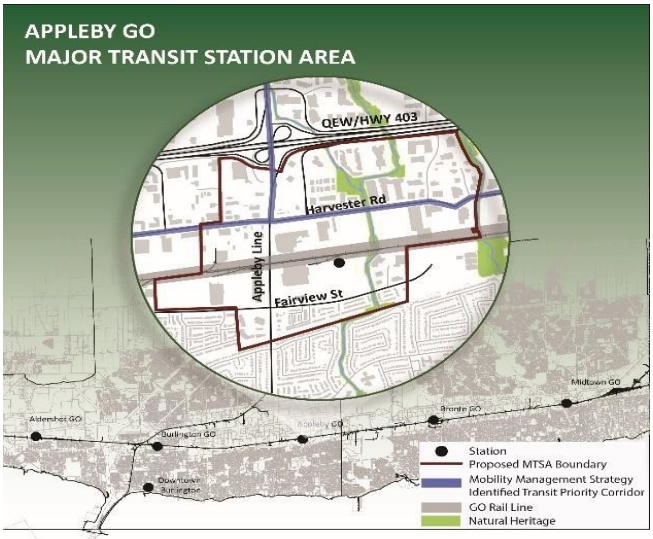
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Major Transit Station Areas (MTSAs)
Regional Urban Structure



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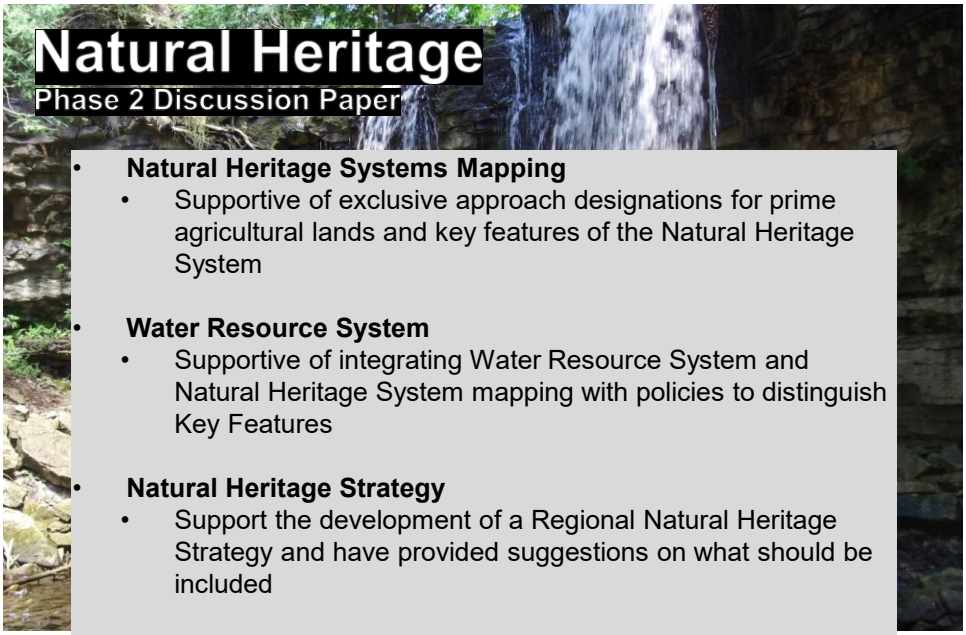
Major Transit Station Areas (MTSAs)
Regional Urban Structure



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Rural and Agricultural System
Phase 2 Discussion Paper

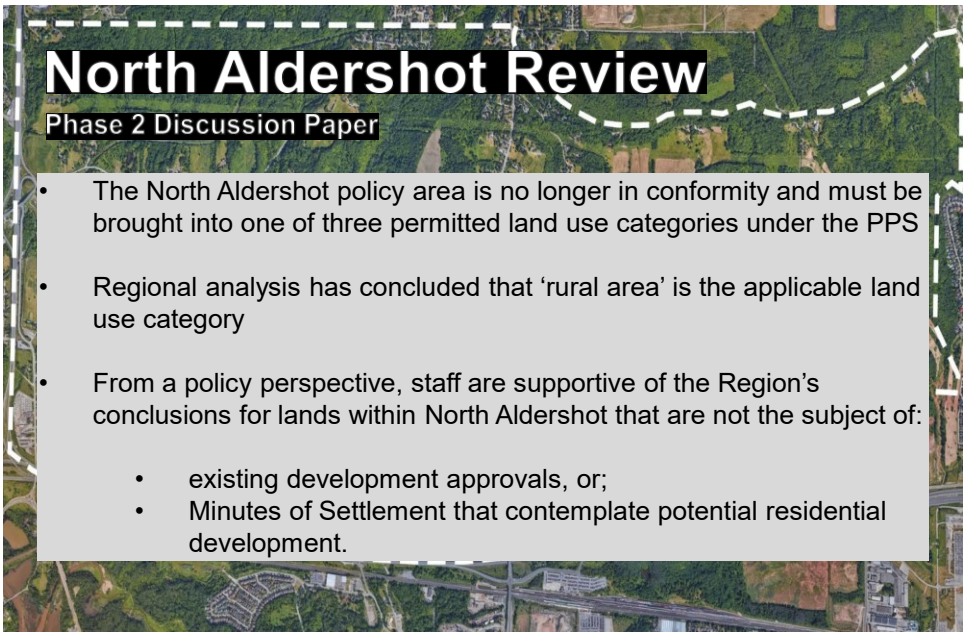
- **Agricultural Systems Mapping**
  - Supportive of a mutually exclusive approach that includes prime agricultural lands and key features of the Natural Heritage System
- **Agriculture-related and On-Farm Diversified Uses**
  - Recommend that full extent of these uses be permitted within the ROP
- **Cemeteries**
  - Not supportive of locating cemeteries in prime agricultural areas
- **Agricultural Impact Assessment**
  - Recommend re-consideration of the need for separate Regional guidelines once the draft Provincial guidelines have been finalized
- **Special Needs Housing**
  - Generally supportive of special needs housing outside of the urban area



Natural Heritage

Phase 2 Discussion Paper

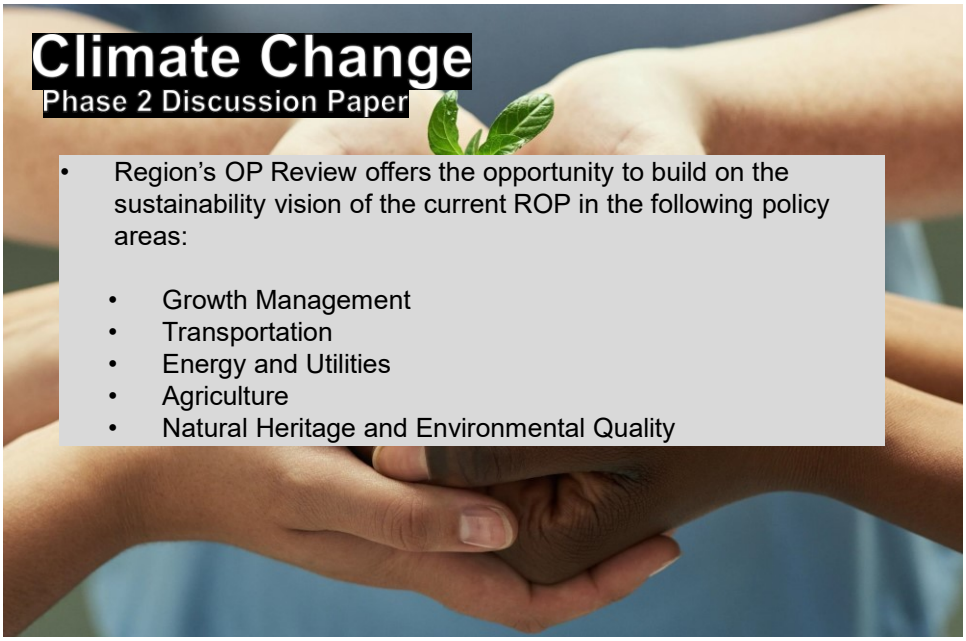
- **Natural Heritage Systems Mapping**
  - Supportive of exclusive approach designations for prime agricultural lands and key features of the Natural Heritage System
- **Water Resource System**
  - Supportive of integrating Water Resource System and Natural Heritage System mapping with policies to distinguish Key Features
- **Natural Heritage Strategy**
  - Support the development of a Regional Natural Heritage Strategy and have provided suggestions on what should be included



North Aldershot Review

Phase 2 Discussion Paper

- The North Aldershot policy area is no longer in conformity and must be brought into one of three permitted land use categories under the PPS
- Regional analysis has concluded that ‘rural area’ is the applicable land use category
- From a policy perspective, staff are supportive of the Region’s conclusions for lands within North Aldershot that are not the subject of:
  - existing development approvals, or;
  - Minutes of Settlement that contemplate potential residential development.



- Region's OP Review offers the opportunity to build on the sustainability vision of the current ROP in the following policy areas:
  - Growth Management
  - Transportation
  - Energy and Utilities
  - Agriculture
  - Natural Heritage and Environmental Quality