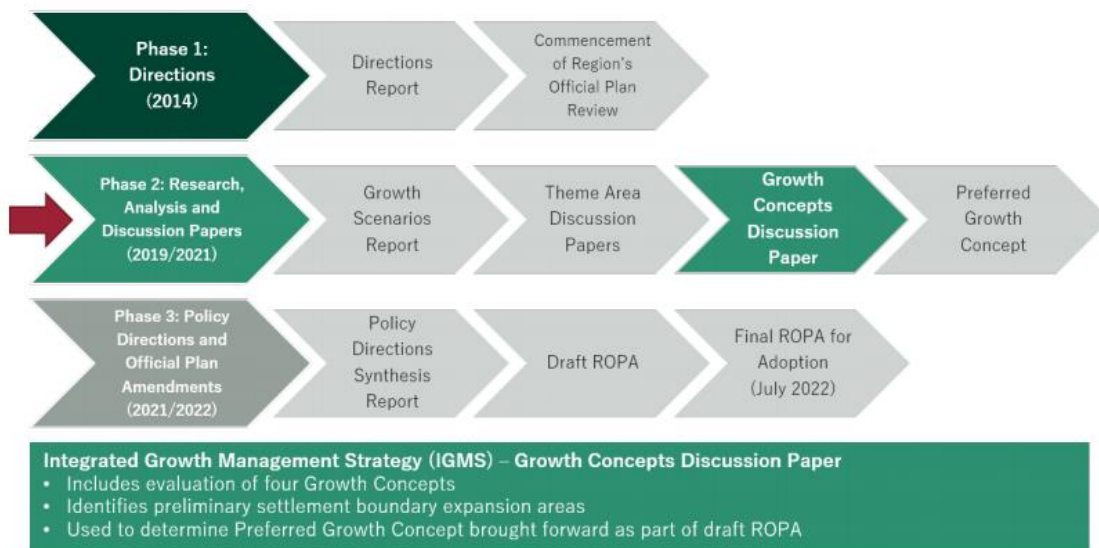


PL-21-21: Appendix B - Regional Official Plan Review Chronology

1.0 Regional Official Plan Review Chronology

The Regional Official Plan Review has been underway since 2014. In April 2014, through Report No. [LPS28-14](#), Regional Council authorized the commencement of a statutory five-year review of the Halton Region Official Plan, referred to as the Regional Official Plan Review (ROPR). Regional staff developed a Work Plan, Communications and Engagement Strategy, and Directions Report to guide the ROPR through Report No. [LPS110-16](#) which was delivered to Regional Council in October 2016. The Directions Report was the culmination of Phase 1 of the ROPR and identified a high-level work plan for subsequent phases.

The Regional Official Plan Review is being advanced in partnership with Halton's local municipalities and in consideration of local plans and priorities. The Region continues to be responsive to the local vision for growth established by the local municipalities throughout the process.



The Growth Scenarios Report, [LPS41-19](#) was released in June 2019 and detailed 8 growth scenarios providing 8 preliminary options for the allocation of growth across the Region. Through this report, Regional Staff were authorized to proceed with further analysis and refinement of the 'Local Plans and Priorities' scenarios to generate the Growth Concepts.

PL-21-21: Appendix B - Regional Official Plan Review Chronology

In May 2020, through report [LPS44-20](#) *IGMS – Local Municipal Consultation on the Evaluation Framework and Status Update Report* detailed a framework for the evaluation of the Growth Concepts built on the evaluation of 4 themes based on regional and provincial planning policies.

In Phase 2, the Regional Official Plan Review (ROPR) focused on research, analysis and the preparation of a set of Discussion Papers on five key theme areas. The Discussion Papers were prepared and released for public consultation in July 2020. For more details and to review the submission provided by the City in September 2020, please refer to staff report [PL-28-20](#) titled *Submission on Region of Halton's Official Plan Discussion Papers*. The submission highlighted key issues related to the various discussion papers as well as discussing recent changes including Amendment 1 to the Growth Plan, and the Burlington City Council Direction to request the Region consider an adjusted Urban Growth Centre boundary.

During the consultation period related to the Discussion Papers, City of Burlington Staff prepared staff report [PL-33-20](#). As a result of the report's recommendation to: "adjust the boundary of the Downtown Burlington Urban Growth Centre to generally align with the land in proximity to the Burlington Go Station", a supplemental discussion paper was prepared jointly by Regional and City staff titled "[Downtown Burlington Urban Growth Centre and MTSA Supplemental Discussion Paper](#)" which was released in October 2020. City of Burlington comments were provided in staff report [PL-59-20](#) titled *Update on the Downtown Burlington Urban Growth Centre (UGC) and Major Transit Station Area (MTSA) Supplemental Discussion Paper*.

Regional Staff prepared staff report [LPS84-20](#) titled *Advancing Key Planning Priorities of the Halton Municipalities through the Regional Official Plan Review*. The report directed staff to prepare an initial Scoped ROPA, under Section 26 of the Planning Act which would advance select local municipal planning priorities related to urban structure as presented in the Regional Urban Structure and Supplemental Discussion Paper. Report No. [LPS84-20](#) outlined a number of local municipal planning priorities that were to be considered as part of the initial Scoped Regional Official Plan Amendment including boundary and policy changes to Urban Growth Centres, delineation and assignment of density targets for MTSA's, identification of additional growth nodes and strategic growth corridors with a corresponding policy framework and limited employment conversions.

Further discussion of the adjusted Downtown Burlington Urban Growth Centre is provided in report [PL-20-21](#), presented at CPRM Committee on May 4, 2021.

PL-21-21: Appendix B - Regional Official Plan Review Chronology

On February 17, Regional Council considered three reports on its agenda related to the Regional Official Plan Review:

[LPS05-21 – Regional Official Plan Review – Phase 2 Initial Consultation Summary](#)

[LPS18-21 – Regional Official Plan Review – Integrated Growth Management Strategy – Growth Concepts Discussion Paper](#)

[LPS17-21 - Draft Regional Official Plan Amendment 48 - An Amendment to Define a Regional Urban Structure.](#)

At a subsequent Regional Council meeting on March 24, 2021, a motion which proposed amendments to report LPS18-21 was considered and deferred for discussion pending a report from Regional Staff on the matter. On April 21, 2021, Regional Council carried revised motions to amend LPS18-21 through information received in report LPS45-21: Additional Information Related to the Growth Concepts Associated with the IGMS - ROPR. The motions read:

THAT Halton Region be requested to develop and add to the public consultation work an analysis that builds on Concept 3 and proposes to accommodate growth to 2051 based on no expansion at all of the existing Halton settlement area boundary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Halton Region be requested to provide an assessment of the relative impact on greenhouse gas emissions that would reasonably be expected to be associated with each of the Growth Concepts; and

As a result, Regional Staff have provided details regarding a 5th Growth Concept, now referred to as Concept 3B, for public consideration through the public consultation process. Concept 3B builds on Growth Concept 3(A) to propose no expansion of the existing settlement area boundary in Halton. Further, the motion requests that an assessment of the relative impact of greenhouse gas emissions for each of the growth concepts be evaluated. This Greenhouse Gas Emissions Assessment Report will be made available on the Region of Halton's website in the coming weeks.

These motions resulted in the extension of the public consultation period by an additional 45 days and an increase in the number of Public Information Centres (PICs) from 2 to 6 with a dedicated PIC for each local municipality. Other revisions to the format and function of the PICs and consultation process were made to ensure the needs of residents are met as engagement is undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 3rd, Regional Staff provided details regarding Growth Concept 3B on their website. City Staff are including comments on all 5 growth concepts as part of the City of Burlington's comments to the Region included in this report.

2.0 Integrated Growth Management Strategy Key Facts

The Integrated Growth Management Strategy (IGMS) work is an integral component of the Regional Official Plan Review (ROPR) that will ultimately address where and how Halton grows as required by the Province's Growth Plan, 2019.

The IGMS is focused on the accommodation of population and employment growth to achieve conformity with the province's 2019 Growth Plan. Currently, Halton Region is planned to 2031 as a result of the last Regional Official Plan Review conducted in 2009.

Phase 1 of the IGMS considered directing population and employment growth to 2041. However, on August 28, 2020, Amendment 1 to the Growth Plan came into force and effect along with a new Land Needs Assessment Methodology. As a result, the Growth Plan now requires that the region plan for an additional 20 years (to 2051) of population and employment growth. These changes to the Growth Plan and the new Land Needs Assessment methodology have been addressed through the Growth Concepts Discussion Paper released on February 17, 2021 and are now reflected in the 5 growth concepts.

The evaluation framework, further analysis and the feedback gathered through public consultation will be used to identify a Preferred Growth Concept, this preferred concept will be used in drafting future Regional Official Plan Amendments. It is important to note that the Preferred Growth Concept will most likely be a composition of elements of a number of the Growth Concepts put forth in the Discussion Paper and will involve exploring tradeoffs and striking a balance amongst competing interests such as mitigating climate change, building complete communities, protecting agricultural and natural heritage lands, meeting market demand and providing adequate protection to employment lands while achieving conformity with the Growth Plan.