

January 10, 2022

Dear Mayor Meed Ward and City Councillors,

**Re. Submission on Region of Halton's Draft Preferred Growth Concept and Draft Land Needs (PL-06-22)**

Staff Report PL-06-22 expresses Burlington planning department's perspective on growth management in Halton Region. It calls immediate attention to a key planning pillar for the city- sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment. It also clearly expresses that when considering Halton's Integrated Growth Management Strategy (IGMS), "Concepts 3A/3B most closely align with the objectives of the City of Burlington as outlined in the City's new Official Plan, Strategic Plan, and Climate Action Plan. "

The Report concludes that the Draft Preferred Growth Concept is not in alignment with either Concept 3A or 3B. It explains that staff is still awaiting critical information, including a wide range of more detailed technical information and engagement feedback. Perhaps important to also note- work related to the Agricultural and Natural Heritage System and Climate Change sections in the Regional Official Plan Amendment isn't expected for another year.

Like all of the diverse local municipalities in Halton, Burlington is a unique part of the Region. As staff Report PL-06-22 recommends, an intensification-first approach must be championed. We believe city leaders should be pushing for growth Concepts that align with its vision and, as this report outlines, those Concepts are 3A and 3B.

Planning for the future with a 21<sup>st</sup> century brain is incredibly important right now as our municipalities face questionable timeline pressures and population growth predictions. This climate era and our undeniable understanding of the importance of prime farmland, natural ecosystems and complete communities must frame how we grow.

We hope the City will stand behind a growth concept that aligns with its stated vision.

Thank you,

Roger Goulet and Sarah Harmer

Protecting Escarpment Rural Land (PERL)  
2080 Appelby Line, Millcroft Plaza  
P.O. Box 75054  
Burlington ON L7L 6M0