

Council Information Package

Index of Attachments

Circulation Date: April 27, 2018

Note: If a Member of Council wishes to include any of the enclosed documents on a future Council or Committee of the Whole agenda, please email Legislative Services at clerks@newmarket.ca.

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March, 2018
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April 13, 2018
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April 3, 2018
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April 3, 2018
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April 20, 2018
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23. **Re: Vector-Borne Disease Program 2017/2018 Annual Update**
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April 20, 2018
24. **Re: York Region Seniors Strategy Update**
Region of York
April 20, 2018

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Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

Ministère des Affaires civiques et de l'Immigration

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March 2018

Dear Friends,

Throughout the year, Ontarians from all walks of life play a vital role in championing diversity and the richness it brings to the province.

Today, I am writing to encourage you to submit a nomination for the **Champion of Diversity Award** so that outstanding individuals, groups and employers receive the recognition they deserve for actively promoting diversity and inclusion and immigrant economic success in Ontario. You can submit a nomination under the following award categories:

- Inclusion and Diversity
- Cross-Cultural Understanding
- Business Leadership in Immigrant Employment

To submit a nomination for this award:

- Visit ontario.ca/honoursandawards.
- Select the **Inclusion** category.
- Click on **Champion of Diversity Award**.
- Download the PDF form.
- Read the eligibility criteria and instructions carefully.
- Fill out the form, then submit it **no later than May 15, 2018**. Instructions for submitting your nomination package can be found on the website.

If you have any questions please call 416-314-7526, toll free 1-877-832-8622 or TTY 416-327-2391, or email ontariohonoursandawards@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your support of this important recognition program.

Sincerely,

Laura Albanese
Minister



The Corporation of The Town of Amherstburg

April 13, 2018

VIA EMAIL

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
200 University Avenue, Suite 801
Toronto, ON M5H-3C6
Email: amo@amo.on.ca

Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
200 University Avenue, Suite 800
Toronto, ON M5H-3C6
Email: roma@roma.on.ca

Re: Offering School Property to Municipalities

At the Regular meeting of April 9th, 2018, Amherstburg Town Council passed the following:

Resolution # 20180409-107

“That a letter BE SENT in support of the Town of Essex’s resolution regarding offering closed school properties to municipalities for one dollar.”

Regards,

Tammy Fowkes
Deputy Clerk

cc: Ontario Municipalities
enlc: Town of Essex correspondence dated February 1, 2018



RECEIVED
MAR 15 2018
Town of Amherstburg

February 1, 2018

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
200 University Avenue, Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6
Email: amo@amo.on.ca

Rural Ontario Municipal Association
200 University Avenue, Suite 800
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6
Email: roma@roma.on.ca

Ontario Municipalities

Re: Offering School Property to Municipalities

Dear Sir/Madam,

At its regular council meeting of January 15, 2018, Essex Town Council discussed the ongoing issue of school closures throughout Ontario. These school closures in many cases result in properties that are left as vacant and unused for substantial periods of time and this often results in properties that not only become eyesores for the affected communities but as well often have further negative impacts on the social and economic development of that community and its municipality.

Many municipalities might be interested in purchasing these properties for development and sustainment as a hub in their community. However the feasibility of this certainly becomes more daunting and for some municipalities even impossible when municipalities that are interested in purchasing must first (pursuant to current regulations) purchase these properties at fair market value with taxpayer dollars and then may need to spend further taxpayer monies in order to retrofit and/or remediate the building (s) on these properties.

Given the fact that these properties were already originally purchased and developed into schools using taxpayer dollars we ask that consideration be given to the fact that the taxpayers should not again have to purchase these properties at fair market value if the intent



is for the particular Municipality to develop and/or sustain these properties for the betterment of its community.

As a result of the discussion the following resolution was passed by Essex Town Council at its January 15, 2018 regular meeting:

Moved by Councillor Bondy
Seconded by Councillor Voakes

(R18-01-013) That the Town of Essex send a request to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), ROMA and all other municipalities in Ontario requesting that when schools boards make decisions to close schools, that they have to offer the building to the local municipality for a dollar.

Carried

Council believes that providing the opportunity to purchase the buildings for a dollar would give municipalities a meaningful opportunity to ensure that these properties remain a key hub for social and economic development in their respective communities.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Auger".

Robert Auger, L.L.B.
Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services
Town of Essex
Email: rauger@essex.ca

RA/lm

April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

**Re: 2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing,
Education and Immigration**

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration":

1. This report be circulated by the Regional Clerk to the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 5 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 5 is enclosed for your information. The 2016 Census Release Reports (Attachment 2) can be found on york.ca.

Please contact Paul Bottomley, Manager, Policy, Research and Forecasting, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71530 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,



Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S. Dumont
Attachments

Clause 5 in Report No. 5 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

5

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force,
Housing, Education and Immigration

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 2, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Acting Chief Planner:

1. This report be circulated by the Regional Clerk to the local municipalities.
-

Report dated March 2, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Acting Chief Planner now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. This report be circulated by the Regional Clerk to the local municipalities.

2. Purpose

This report provides Council with an overview and analysis of income, employment, labour force, housing, education, immigration and agriculture data from the 2016 Census.

3. Background

2016 Census Overview

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

Statistics Canada's nation-wide Census collects information on the demographic and social characteristics of the population

The 2016 Census included a mandatory short form questionnaire sent to all households, a mandatory long form questionnaire sent to a random sample of 1 in 4 households and the mandatory Census of Agriculture.

The short form questionnaire consists of questions on population, age, household characteristics and language. The long form questionnaire collects a range of demographic data including immigration, place of work, income, education, and ethnicity.

Statistics Canada has released all 2016 Census data. A [November 16, 2017](#) staff report summarized data releases for York Region up to August 2017 (not including the May 10, 2017 agriculture release).

Table 1
2016 Census Release Dates

Census of Population	
Release Date	Release Topic
February 8, 2017	Population and Dwelling Counts
May 3, 2017	Age and Sex, Type of Dwelling
May 10, 2017	Census of Agriculture
August 2, 2017	Families, Households and Marital Status, Language
September 13, 2017	Income
October 25, 2017	Immigration and Ethnocultural Diversity, Housing, Aboriginal Peoples
November 29, 2017	Education, Labour, Journey to Work, Language of Work, Mobility and Migration

This report summarizes the findings of data from the final releases pertaining to income, employment, labour force, housing, education, immigration and includes the agriculture release.

Census data plays a vital role in Regional planning and service delivery

Census data is important to York Region and its local municipalities, providing detailed information on the characteristics of the Region's population and economy. The information collected is used by various regional and local

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

municipal departments including planning and economic development, environmental services, transportation, finance and community and health services and will be integral to the work being done for the Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR). Examples of how Census data is used throughout the Region is provided in Attachment 1, and includes:

- Providing the basis for the Region's long term population and employment forecasts
- Planning for services such as roads, transit, water and sewer infrastructure
- Providing base line data for municipal funding and federal/municipal transfer funds
- Monitoring targets in the Regional Official Plan and Provincial Growth Plan including urban growth centres, intensification targets, employment and density targets
- Providing input to various Regional initiatives such as York Region's Seniors Strategy, Ten Year Housing Plan, Immigration Settlement Strategy and assisting the Human Services Planning Board to identify and address future human service needs

A Census Data Working Group was established across Regional departments

The objective of the data working group is to collaborate on interpretation and analysis of Census data and to produce products in a timely manner for information purposes. The working group produced a series of bulletins, covering information from all the Census releases, which can be found on the York Region web site (www.york.ca/census) and are included as Attachment 2 in this report.

Census data provides insight to promote economic vitality

Economic Vitality is a goal in York Region's Official Plan, which seeks "to create a competitive and flexible economic environment that encourages investment and a diversity of employment opportunities." Analysis of Census data in the areas of labour force, employment, and income provides insight into the state of York Region's economy and identifies competitive pressures facing York Region's labour market and employment base.

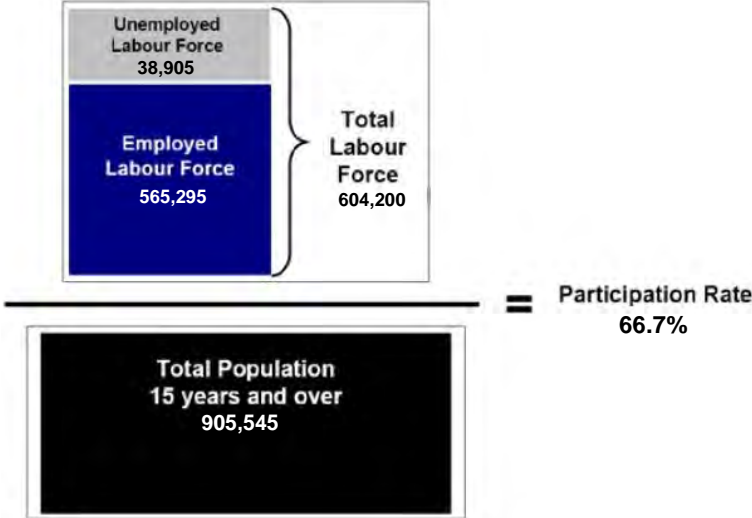
4. Analysis and Implications

Labour Force

York Region’s employed labour force was 565,295 in 2016

According to the Census, there were 604,200 York Region residents aged 15 years and over in the total labour force in 2016. The total labour force figure includes persons who were either employed or unemployed (yet were actively looking for work). Ninety four percent of the total labour force, or 565,295, were employed. Figure 1 shows how the total labour force figure is broken down as well as how the labour force participation rate is derived.

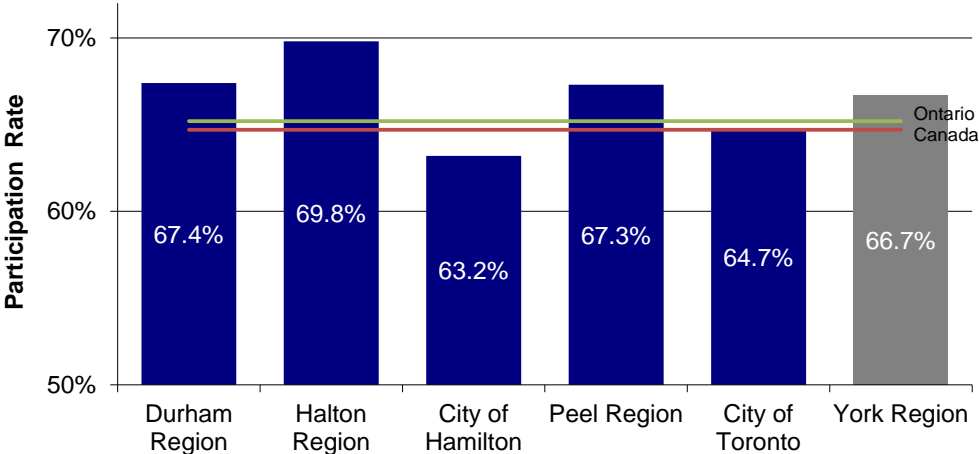
Figure 1
Total Labour Force Breakdown, York Region, 2016



The participation rate measures the total labour force (including those who are employed and unemployed) relative to the size of the population 15 years of age and over, excluding institutional residents. In other words, it is the share of the working-age population that is working or looking for work. Figure 2 shows the participation rate of each upper and single-tier municipality in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). The participation rate in York Region was 66.7% in 2016, which is higher than Ontario and Canada, but ranks fourth among GTHA municipalities. The participation rate in York Region has decreased since 2006 when it was 70.5%.

Figure 2
Participation Rates,
GTHA, Ontario and Canada, 2016

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration



York Region's aging population is a factor that may lower the participation rate of its resident labour force in the years to come. York Region will be competing with other municipalities in the GTHA and Ontario for migrants and it is important that the Region remains an attractive destination for residents, workers, and businesses.

In 2016, the 565,295 employed York Region residents worked across a wide variety of industries. Employment growth in services-producing sectors such as professional, scientific and technical services, health care and transportation and warehousing are amongst the fastest growing industry sectors. The top five industries by employment were Retail Trade (11.4%), Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (11.3%), Manufacturing (9.2%), Healthcare and Social Services (8.7%) and Financial and Insurance Services (8.5%).

More people are working past the age of 65

Compared with a decade ago, more of York Region's seniors remained active in the labour force in their late 60s and even their 70s. In 2006, seniors represented only 2.5% of York Region's labour force. However, in 2016, the proportion of seniors in the Region's labour force nearly doubled to 4.5% (reaching a total of 26,885 workers).

Of the total working-age population, women are almost equally represented in the labour force with men in York Region. The 2016 Census reported 291,340 women in York Region's labour force, or 48.2% of the total labour force in 2016, an increase from 47.8% in 2006.

Fewer people are working full-time than in the past

The 2016 Census data recorded fewer employed York Region residents working full-time than at any time in the past decade. According to the 2016 Census,

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

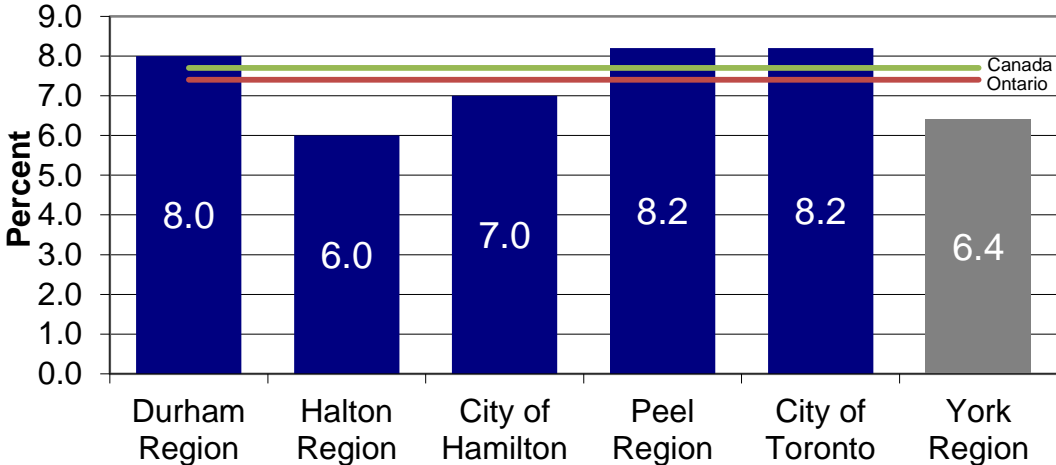
53.1% of employed residents worked full-time, down from 57.0% in the 2006 Census, with a corresponding increase in part-time employment.

York Region’s unemployment rate is among the lowest in the Province

York Region’s unemployment rate of 6.4% in 2016 (see Figure 3) was among the lowest in Ontario, and the second lowest in the GTHA upper and single tier municipalities (slightly higher than Halton Region).

For the working-age population between 25 and 64 years of age in York Region the unemployment rate was 4.8%. However, the unemployment rate faced by younger residents between the ages 15 and 24 was much higher, at 17.5%.

Figure 3
Unemployment Rates,
GTHA, Ontario, and Canada, 2016



Education

70% of York Region’s working age population (aged 25-64) have a post-secondary education, the second highest in the GTHA

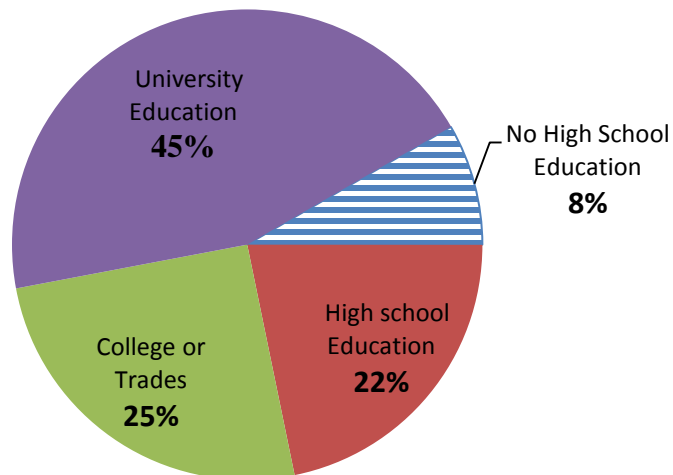
Overall York Region residents are well educated. In 2016, 45% (or 269,535) of York Region’s working-age residents between 25 and 64 years of age, were pursuing or had a university certificate, diploma or degree, while an additional 25% reported the same for a college and trade related education.

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

York Region ranks fourth in Canada and second in the GTHA for the proportion of residents with a university degree at bachelor level or above. Only 8% (or 50,360) of York Region's working-age residents had not completed a high school certificate, diploma or degree in 2016. This was the second lowest share of residents without a high school education in the GTHA, after Halton Region.

York Region is in competition with municipalities across the world to attract new employers, skilled employees and high quality well-paying jobs. A number of major international and domestic companies make decisions to locate in York Region to access the Region's talented workforce.

Figure 4
Level of Education of the Working Age Population (Aged 25-64) in York Region



Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census

Immigration

York Region is ethno-culturally diverse with more than 230 distinct ethnic origins reported in the 2016 Census

York Region was home to an estimated 515,225 immigrants in 2016, approximately 47% of the total population. In 2016, York Region had the third

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

highest proportion of immigrant population in the GTHA, after Peel Region (52%) and Toronto (47%). In 2016, 541,200 residents within York Region identified themselves as a member of a visible minority group, representing 49% of the total population.

Of the total 515,225 immigrants living in York Region, 51,410 arrived in Canada between 2011 and 2016. These recent immigrants made up 10% of the total immigrant population and approximately 5% of the total population in York Region.

51% of York Region immigrants have a university degree

York Region has a large number of highly educated immigrants, many of whom have connections within the global economy. The percentage of all immigrants with a university certificate, diploma or degree was 51% in 2016, compared to 41% of the Canadian-born population. Of the total working-age residents (25 to 64 years of age) with a post-secondary education, 31% (or 130,375) studied outside of Canada. The top three locations of study outside of Canada were China, the United States and India.

Employment

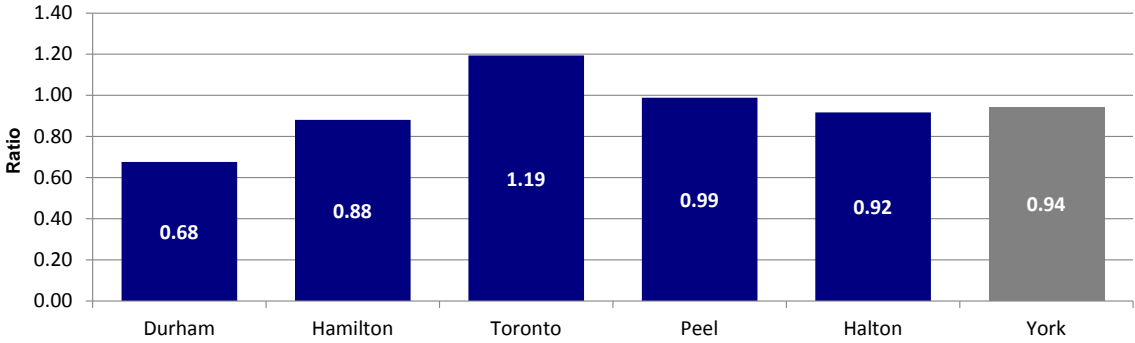
Total number of jobs in York Region is almost equal to the resident employed labour force

The jobs to resident employed labour force ratio gauges the strength of the regional economy by comparing the number of jobs to the resident employed labour force. A ratio of 1 implies that one job opportunity is being created for every member of the resident employed labour force. This ratio relates directly to the Regional Official Plan policy of “creating high-quality employment opportunities for residents with the goal of 1 job for every 2 residents”, which is based on the assumption that about half of the Region’s population is in the labour force.

At the regional scale, York Region’s jobs to resident employed labour force ratio was 0.94 in 2016, the third highest ratio among GTHA municipalities (see Figure 5).

Figure 5
Jobs to Resident Employed Labour Force Ratio, GTHA, 2016
Resident Employed Labour Force Aged 15 Years and Over

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration



Source: 2016 Census York Region resident employed labour force: 565,295
2016 Census York Region employment: 532,895

The City of Toronto is the only municipality with a ratio of over 1 (1.19), meaning that a larger share of its employment is filled by workers from other municipalities. Durham Region has the lowest ratio at 0.68, meaning a larger share of its resident employed labour force go outside of Durham to find employment.

York Region’s live-work percentage has improved

The live-work percentage depicts the number of residents who are in the employed labour force that live and work within the same municipality. Improving the York Region live-work percentage is positive for the economy. Shorter commute times, less traffic congestion on roads and more quality time for workers to spend with their families improve the quality of life and strength of the overall economy in York Region.

York Region’s live-work percentage of 57.6% in 2016 (the percentage of residents who live and work within the Region) shows a small improvement compared to 2006 Census data (55.7% in 2006). York Region’s live-work percentage is higher than Halton’s (53.9%) and lower than the Cities of Toronto (82.4%) and Hamilton (69.2%) and the Regions of Peel (65.5%) and Durham (58.6%).

Number of York Region residents taking transit to work increased by 45%, the highest increase in the GTHA

The percentage of commuters who use public transit was 12.8% in York Region in 2016, third highest in the GTHA behind Peel and Toronto. The number of residents taking transit to work has increased, from 45,000 in 2006 to 65,320 in 2016, an increase of 45%. This was the highest increase in the GTHA. However, driving a car, truck or van was by far the most commonly used mode of transportation, with 77.3% of commuters (395,785 workers) driving a vehicle to work. Another 6.4% (32,935 people) made the work trip as passengers. The

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

average commuting duration of all residents that commuted was approximately 34.6 minutes.

The transit investments the Region is making support business and job growth and is paying off with increasing transit ridership. The subway extension into Vaughan, the construction of VIVA rapidways and two-way all-day Regional Express Rail to GO transit stations into York Region will greatly improve the level of service, further increasing transit ridership and help attract increasing numbers of businesses and workers.

Agriculture

The 2016 Census recorded 712 farms in York Region, with an estimated 3,255 jobs related to agriculture

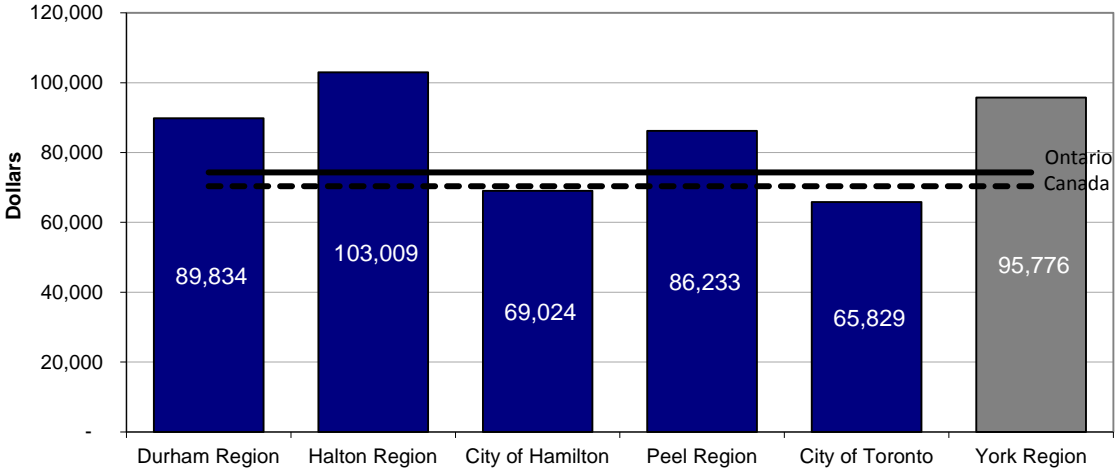
According to the [Agriculture and Agri-food strategy report](#), the economic impact of the agricultural industry in York Region continues to grow with gross farm sales totalling approximately \$301 million in 2016. According to the 2016 Census, York Region had the second highest gross farm receipts per acre in the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) in 2016 at \$2,114 per acre. The top three commodities produced in York Region by dollar value were fruits and vegetables (\$74.8M), floriculture and nursery (\$25.1M) and sod (\$16.4M). Seventy-one per cent (71%) of farms in York Region are smaller than 130 acres in size, and 61% of all farm operators are over the age of 55. Across the GGH, York Region accounts for 15% of the total farmland available, behind Durham Region (31%) and Niagara Region (23%).

Income

York Region median household income ranks second among all municipalities in Ontario

According to the 2016 Census, York Region's median household income in 2015 was \$95,776, ranking second among all municipalities in Ontario. Figure 6 compares median household incomes across the GTHA to that of Ontario (\$74,287) and Canada (\$70,336).

Figure 6
Median Household Income, GTHA, Ontario and Canada, 2015

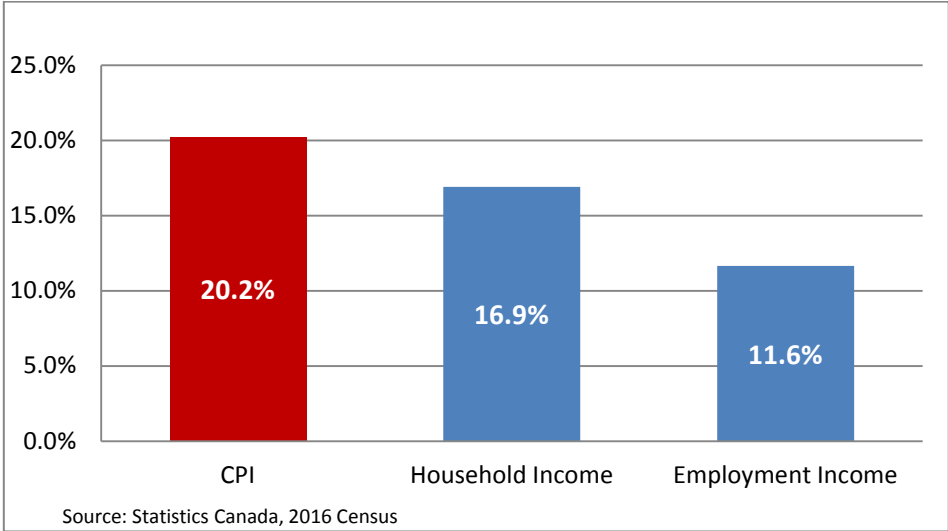


Continued investments in education and skills training will ensure that York Region’s household income levels remain strong in the years to come. The development of the new York University campus in Markham and implementation of York Region’s Economic Action Plan strive to maintain and improve the link between higher education and a talented labour force.

Income growth in York Region is not keeping up with the growing cost of living

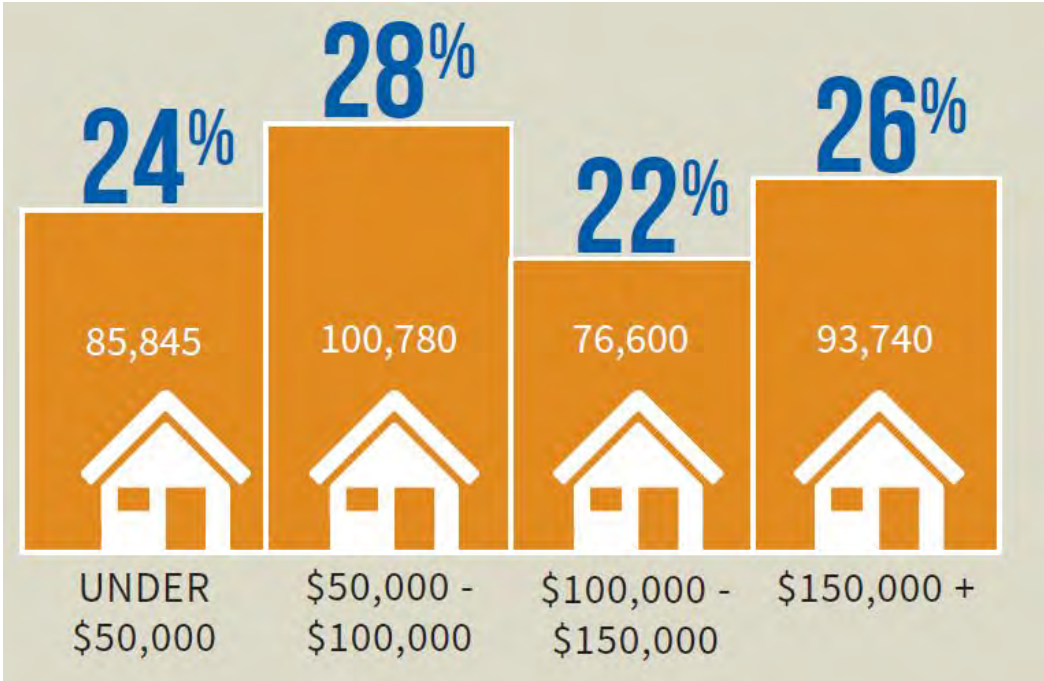
Between 2005 and 2015, median household income increased by 16.9% in York Region, while individual income (includes all income sources such as wages, salaries, investments and pensions) increased by 14.4% and employment income (includes wages and salaries) increased by 11.6%. However, the income growth in York Region is not keeping up with the growing cost of living. The Ontario consumer price index (inflation) shows that prices in 2015 increased an average of 20.2% since 2005, as shown in Figure 7. This suggests that household and employment income, adjusted for inflation, has decreased over the last ten years by 2.8% and 7.1% respectively.

Figure 7
Consumer Price Index and Income Growth in York Region, 2005-2015



The median household income in York Region increased from \$81,928 in 2005 to \$95,776 in 2015 (16.9%). Almost 48% of respondents reported an annual household income of over \$100,000, as shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8
Distribution of York Region Households by Income Group, 2015



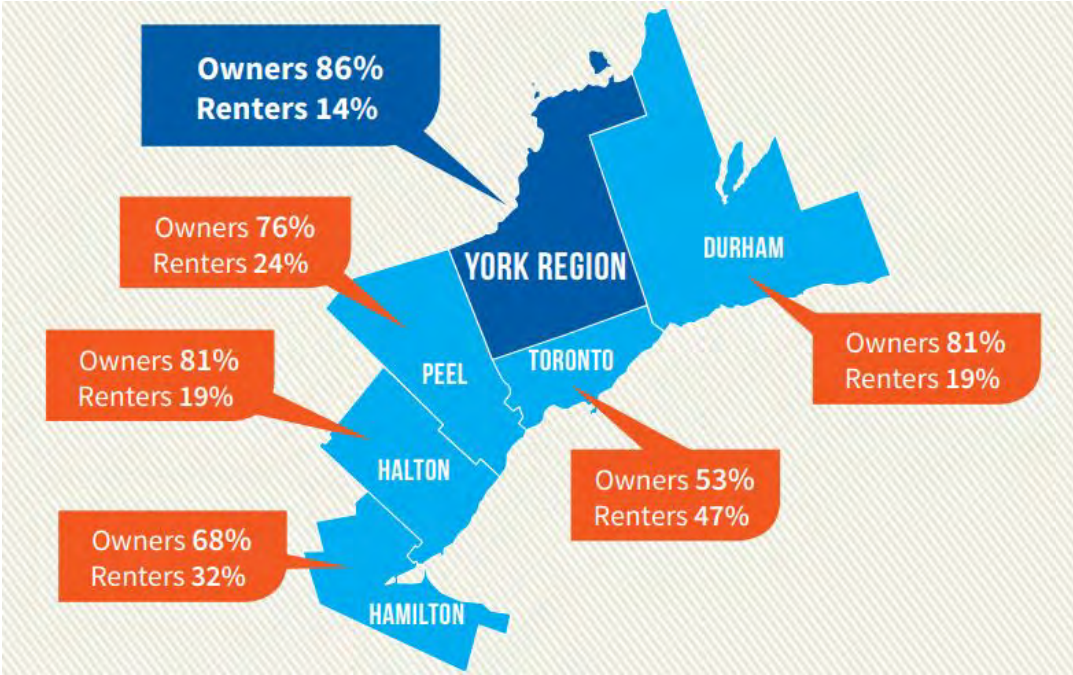
Housing

York Region has the highest rate of homeownership in the GTHA

In 2016, 85.8% (306,030) of households in York Region were occupied by owners, the highest rate of homeownership in the GTHA (see Figure 9). In comparison, 69.6% of the total households in Ontario and 67.8% in Canada were owner occupied. Between 2006 and 2016, the number of owner occupied households in York Region increased by 26%.

In 2016, 63% of York Region owner households had a mortgage, while 37% were without a mortgage.

Figure 9
Private Households by Tenure, GTHA, 2016



Total number of rental households in York Region increased by 56% between 2006 and 2016

In 2016, only 14.2% (50,485) of total households in York Region were occupied by renters. This includes primary purpose built rental housing and units in the secondary rental housing market. This is the lowest proportion of renter households in the GTHA. In comparison, 30.4% of the total households in Ontario and 32.2% in Canada were renter occupied households.

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

However, between 2006 and 2016 the total number of renter households in York Region increased by 56%, outpacing the growth of owner households, at 26%. This is the highest increase of renter occupied households in Ontario and the third highest in Canada since 2006.

5. Financial Considerations

Data from the 2016 Census is used by various Regional departments to support a number of regional initiatives as outlined in Attachment 1. York Region's departments coordinate and share Census data purchases within the Region.

Some of the data used in this report was purchased through a consortium of GTHA municipalities. A collective purchase of key cross tabulations on labour force, employment, and income reduces cost to the Region and is included in the approved budget.

6. Local Municipal Impact

The information provided from the Census is of great value to the Region, its local municipalities, and other public and private agencies, providing information on the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of the Region's population. Local municipalities use this data to inform decisions related to the planning of infrastructure, servicing, and land use. The Region shares custom Census data tabulations with local municipalities.

7. Conclusion

Census data indicates that York Region has a strong and diverse labour force – one of the most highly educated in the GTHA and Canada. Forty-seven percent (47%) of the Region's residents are foreign born and over half of these immigrants have post-secondary education with connections to the global economy.

The number of York Region residents taking transit to work increased by 45% between 2006 and 2016, the highest increase in the GTHA. During the same time period, York Region's live-work percentage (defined as the percentage of residents who live and work within the Region) improved from 55.7% to 57.6%.

As the competition for skilled workers grows, Regional initiatives that strive to attract and retain both businesses and residents in the Region will be important. Attracting knowledge-based jobs to York Region, along with the provision of affordable housing are examples of Regional efforts to strengthen the Regional economy.

2016 Census Results on Income, Employment, Labour Force, Housing, Education and Immigration

Census data collected is used by various Regional departments including planning and economic development, environmental services, transportation, finance and community and health services and will be integral to upcoming work for the MCR.

For more information on this report, please contact Paul Bottomley, Manager, Policy, Research and Forecasting, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71530.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

Recommended by:

Paul Freeman, MCIP, RPP
Acting Chief Planner

March 2, 2018

Attachments (2)

8248460

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

York Region Department	Examples of how Census Data is used by Department
Community and Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze trends in immigrant population to build comprehensive understanding of newcomers needs. • Inform decisions impacting newcomer services (Local Immigration Partnership, Newcomers Centres, Community Agencies) • Assess the needs for community programs and services to determine how funds should be allocated (Social Services, programs for children, employment services, Community Investment Strategy) • Analyze York Region’s children population and to develop Children’s profile and programs such as day care • Provide background information for the updated 10 year Housing Plan and determine the needs for subsidized housing and Home Repair Program • Planning and development of York Region’s Senior Strategy and to assist for program planning for seniors, supportive living and long-term care. • Public Health uses Census data for Chronic Disease Surveillance and Monitoring Programs, and for health policy planning and analysis • The Human Services Planning Board (HSPB) of York Region uses Census data to understand income trends to find new ways on improving health and well-being for low and moderate income residents by addressing such issues as the lack of affordable housing and economic and social well-being
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census data provides base information for the Transportation Forecasting Model • The Transportation Forecasting Model is then applied to a wide variety of planning studies, including Transportation Master Plans, Road and Transit Environmental Assessment Studies and Transportation Impact Studies for Development Approvals

<p>Corporate Services – Long Range Planning Division</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Census data provides base information for the Population and Employment Forecast Model which is used as input into a number of major regional initiatives and studies including the Development Charges By-law, the Transportation Master Plan and the Water and Wastewater Master Plan • Census data will also be used extensively as input to the Region’s Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Land Needs Assessment ○ Housing Strategy ○ Intensification Strategy ○ Employment Strategy ○ Vacant Employment Land Inventory Update ○ Vacant Residential Land Inventory Update ○ Delineation of Major Transit Station Areas (MTSA) and targets ○ Indigenous Engagement and Public Consultation • Other Long Range Planning projects that utilized Census data include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10 Year Housing Plan Progress Report ○ Housing Matters Update – background to the 10 Year Housing Plan ○ Mid-Range Affordable Housing Incentives: Development of Framework ○ Affordable Housing Monitoring ○ Monitoring of targets and policies in the Regional Official Plan ○ Agricultural System Update ○ Live / Work studies ○ Base data for Short Term Forecast ○ Urban growth centre targets ○ Intensification targets ○ Designated Greenfield Density targets ○ Community Energy Plan ○ Demographic and Socio Economic Analysis studies
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April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 09 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: 2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "2017 Drinking Water Systems Report":

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities, City of Toronto, Region of Peel and the Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector (Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change).

A copy of Clause 9 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 4 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Wendy Kemp, Director, Strategy and Innovation at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75141 or Roy Huetl, Director, Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring at ext. 75323 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 9 in Report No. 4 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

9

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities, City of Toronto, Region of Peel, and the Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector (Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change).
-

Report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities, City of Toronto, Region of Peel, and the Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector (Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change).

2. Purpose

This report and included attachments, along with the information released online, satisfies reporting requirements in Ontario Regulation 170/03 – Drinking Water Systems, and helps Council to meet its Standard of Care requirements in the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*.

3. Background

Drinking water system owners report annually to Council and the public to comply with the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (the Ministry) regulates drinking water systems in Ontario. The *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, (the Act) requires municipal drinking water system owners to report annually on the quality and quantity of drinking water produced.

This year, the regulatory requirement is satisfied through:

- This report, presentation and attachments to Council and Committee
- Water quality Section 11 reports available at york.ca/drinkingwater

In addition, the newly developed online reporting tool provides enhanced customer accessibility to the information, available through York Region's Drinking Water webpage at york.ca/drinkingwater

Report helps Council exercise due diligence and meet its Standard of Care under the Act

In 2000, seven people died and thousands became ill from municipal drinking water severely contaminated with E. coli bacteria in Walkerton, Ontario. A range of contributing factors was identified. As a result of this tragedy, the Province developed the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* to address some of these factors and reduce the risk of drinking water related illness.

The Act imposes a Standard of Care upon individuals with decision making authority over municipal drinking water systems. Consequently, Council is in a unique position to protect the people in their community by demonstrating a level of diligence over the delivery of water services. Council's due diligence ensures York Region's drinking water systems continue to provide safe, high quality drinking water.

Council members fulfil this duty through their ongoing commitment and efforts on Regional Council. Council direction ensures financial sustainability of its water systems, asset management strategy implementation and continuous improvement actions to proactively manage risks. This report summarizes 2017 information that supports Council in their Standard of Care including:

- Process improvements to enhance operational diligence and collaboration to continually improve drinking water operations
- Water quality and water quantity performance

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

- Major drinking water system expenses incurred
- Reported adverse water quality events and associated corrective actions, and a summary of Ministry inspection findings and associated corrective actions (Attachments 1 and 2)
- Summary of the new online reporting tool for each Drinking Water system (Attachment 3)

York Region's Medical Officer of Health is a key partner in mitigating and monitoring potential public health risks related to drinking water

The Region's Medical Officer of Health plays a key role in protecting public health through safe drinking water by assessing any potential health impact from an adverse water quality test result, and may direct the owner of a drinking water system to take corrective actions beyond what is prescribed by regulations.

In the event of a water emergency, procedures are in place to ensure close cooperation between the Medical Officer of Health, the Region, the local municipalities and the Ministry to ensure effective communication with the public to protect public health. Environmental Services and Public Health maintain a 24/7 response process to address potential water quality issues.

Multi-barrier approach to risk management protects drinking water systems and public health

A key recommendation resulting from the Walkerton tragedy is a multi-barrier approach to drinking water quality and safety. Elements of this approach include source water protection, training of operators, a drinking water quality management standard (DWQMS), and a strict Provincial inspection and enforcement program. The multi-barrier approach ensures both preventive and corrective actions are taken to protect drinking water quality.

Environmental Services staff continue to identify and mitigate current and future threats to drinking water sources. The 2017 Report on Source Water Protection Implementation was presented to Committee of the Whole on January 18, 2018. York Region continues to develop and participate in top quality Operator training. The management standard protects public health by mandating consistent practices for managing and operating water systems and by identifying and mitigating risks. York Region facilities are regularly inspected by the Ministry, and staff maintain a positive working relationship with regulators to identify and mitigate risks identified in our watersheds.

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

The 2017 Integrated Management System Update Report, (also on today's agenda) provides more information on the Region's continual improvement efforts to proactively manage risks to drinking water systems.

York Region's drinking water sampling program and monitoring tools protect public health and safety

York Region uses a variety of monitoring methods to address the unique needs of each water system. Online analyzers and a comprehensive sampling program allow staff oversight of individual facilities. Enhanced monitoring above minimum regulatory requirements provides valuable information that is used to support our industry leading drinking water operations. Some examples include:

- Online analyzers continuously monitor many regulated parameters, and automatic shut offs stop the flow of drinking water when these parameters approach regulatory limits
- A comprehensive sampling program includes both regulatory and research samples and is frequently updated in response to operational needs and regulation changes
- Analyzers and dosing equipment are calibrated during regularly scheduled preventive maintenance and are recalibrated as needed by trained operators and technologists to ensure accurate readings

4. Analysis and Implications

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Environmental Services collaborates to drive improvement and is recognized as one of the Leading Utilities of the World

2017 saw many Council-approved and staff-driven process improvements across the Region's drinking water systems. Innovation drives performance and efficiency across all systems. By supporting Environmental Services' efforts in research and innovation, Council demonstrates due diligence and commitment to their Standard of Care for continually improving drinking water performance and mitigating future risks. The Update on Water and Wastewater Research and Innovation Memo on today's agenda provides more details on this innovative and challenging work. Remote monitoring and data communication systems were enhanced for performance and security, and infrastructure received carefully selected upgrades. New in-house and Ministry approved training was developed to support Operators and informed by research and regulatory updates. These

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

successful improvements are the result of collaboration across all branches within Environmental Services.

Research and innovative thinking guide the automation and technology that support York Region's reputation as a leading utility provider. Often, public utilities are locally focused and disconnected from global neighbours. In 2017, York Region was inducted into the Leading Utilities of the World network. Membership indicates a gold standard of utility innovation and performance, and provides access to industry experts and offers the opportunity to share best practices with other leading utilities around the world.

Open Data and online reporting tool support Vision 2051 and the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan

Open data is the release of easy to access government data for public use. The Federal and Provincial governments, and most major municipalities in Canada participate in Open Data. Open Data increases transparency, promotes understanding of government, and fosters trust among customers by proactively making data publicly available. Environmental Services is committed to contribute to the Region's growing Open Data program.

Publishing the annual drinking water report data through Open Data:

- Meets the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan objective to provide greater access to Regional information, increase the number of datasets online and increase visits to Regional websites
- Supports the Vision 2051 goal area of Open and Responsive Governance

Access to the drinking water Open Datasets is available at york.ca/opendata

The new online reporting tool hosted on York Region's Drinking Water Quality webpage, york.ca/drinkingwater, replaces the previous printed Summary Report, and showcases essential reporting details from the Open Dataset in a user-friendly, self-serve interface. This initiative supports the Region's commitment to accessibility, customer service, and to be a leader in public services.

WATER QUALITY PERFORMANCE

Public health and safety has been maintained at all times, including during adverse water quality events

York Region reports all adverse water quality parameters and observations to the Ministry and the Region's Medical Officer of Health, and in some instances, over and above what is required by regulation as a due diligence measure. York Region follows a conservative approach by consistently reporting analyzer

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

readings that appear to represent performance outside the regulated requirements. Adverse water quality incidents must be reported immediately with a written follow-up report provided within twenty-four hours, therefore reporting these types of incidents as due diligence ensures compliance. Determining the cause of the readings can take several days. The strict documentation process identifies the contributing factors to systematically analyze the causes of the events and develop case-specific action plans to drive continual improvement. An example of this includes continuous analyzer readings for parameters related to disinfection:

- Optimization projects recently completed on new equipment at facilities in Aurora, Newmarket and Schomberg have proven effective in preventing most of the triggers for adverse readings and has decreased adverse events reported as due diligence from these facilities

The strong working relationship between Public Health, the Ministry and the operations' teams is demonstrated with:

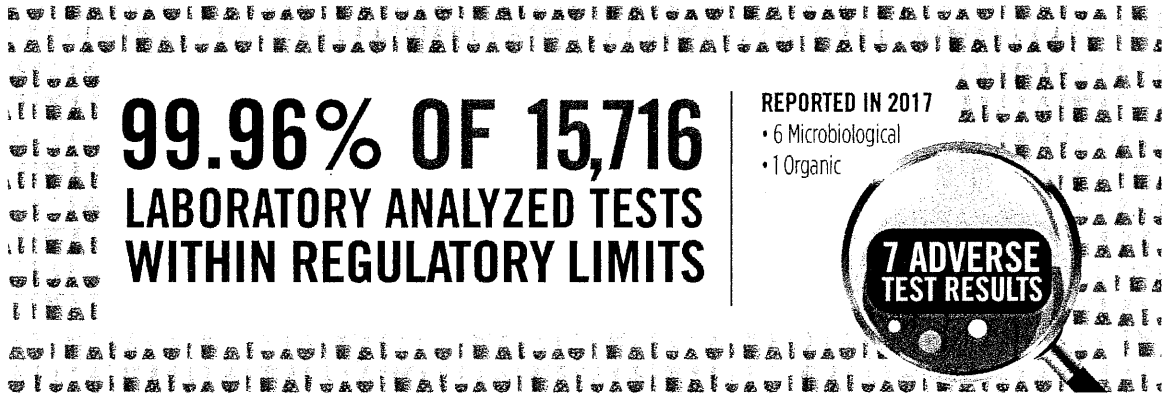
- Quick operator response and transparent communication for all events
- No additional corrective actions directed for any reported event by the Ministry or by the Medical Officer of Health
- Regular collaboration between Environmental Services, the Ministry, and Public Health for action plans and process improvements
- No water use restriction advisories due to water quality concerns have been issued by the Medical Officer of Health in more than a decade

99.96 per cent of laboratory analyzed samples in 2017 within regulated standards and confirm York Region's high quality drinking water continues to be safe

In 2017, York-Durham Laboratory performed 15,716 water quality tests for York Region's drinking water systems, resulting in only seven reported adverse test results. This means 99.96 per cent of all samples collected and analyzed by the laboratory in 2017 were within regulated standards (see Figure 1). The laboratory initiates the reporting process when analysis indicates a parameter is outside regulatory limits. Staff responded to each adverse test result and performed corrective actions accordingly.

Figure 1

Adverse Water Quality Events Reported from Laboratory Analyzed Test Results in 2017



Attachment 1 includes a list of all adverse laboratory samples and the corrective actions taken by staff. Figure 1 and Table 1 summarize the laboratory analyzed water quality test results reported as adverse water quality events in 2017.

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

Table 1
Adverse Water Quality Events Reported from
Laboratory Analyzed Test Results in 2017

Parameter	Discussion
Microbiological (6 of 7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Coliform bacteria detected in Newmarket and in King City. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In King City, Total Coliform including E. coli were detected in one sample following construction activities. The storage facility was offline and no water was sent to users. The facility was thoroughly flushed and re-disinfected. Resample results and ongoing weekly sampling results confirm these tests were an anomaly. - In Newmarket, Total Coliform was detected at two storage facilities. One facility was offline for maintenance and was thoroughly flushed and re-disinfected. The second facility did not require draining. Resample results and ongoing weekly sampling results confirm these tests were an anomaly. • As a precaution, staff also reviewed sample collection and handling procedures
Organic Compound (1 of 7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dichloromethane is an organic solvent and was detected at trace amounts at Holland Landing Well 1, with a concentration of 0.057 mg/L against the regulated limit of 0.05 mg/L. Resample results were non-detectable for Dichloromethane

System performance is monitored continuously and automatic safeguards stop water flow when approaching regulatory limits

In addition to sampling by operators, 340 online analyzers continuously monitor system performance. Analyzers monitor several parameters, including chlorine residual which is also known as the “disinfection level”, creating approximately 36 million records in 2017. When analyzers detect an issue, the system shuts down facility operation until an operator takes action.

Given the robust nature of the system, water can be drawn from different parts of the system while staff correct the conditions that resulted in the alarm. A team of control panel operators monitor the system and dispatch operators to respond to alarms or unusual trends. Facilities can only return to operation after an operator attends the site to inspect the equipment, manually test the water, and complete any other required corrective actions including confirming the water quality is acceptable.

Analyzers remotely monitor system performance, 99.99 per cent of analyzer readings complied with regulated standards

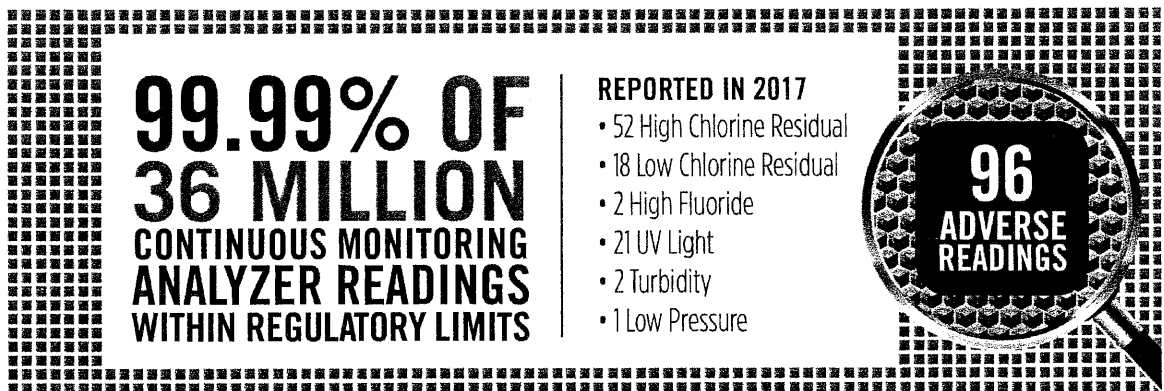
Staff reported 96 adverse system performance events in 2017. In every occurrence, the flow of water was stopped by automatic safeguards. Analyzers record point-in-time measurements. Occasional high or low readings on an analyzer are not representative of overall disinfection level in the distribution system.

- 59 of these events occurred at storage and re-treatment facilities. Several of these facilities are new or have been recently upgraded, therefore equipment optimization is ongoing to fine tune performance
- More than half of the events self-corrected or required minor adjustment, and required no operator intervention aside from confirming compliant readings and restarting the facility
- 23 events were reported as due diligence or best management practice

Attachment 2 includes the reported system performance events detected with continuous monitoring and the actions taken to correct them. Figure 2 and Table 2, below, summarize the continuously monitored analyzer readings reported as adverse water quality events.

Figure 2

Adverse Water Quality Events Reported from Continuous Monitoring Analyzer Readings in 2017



2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

Table 2
Adverse Water Quality Events Reported from
Continuous Monitoring Analyzer Readings in 2017

Parameter	Discussion
High Chlorine Residual (high disinfection) (52 of 96)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many high residual events occurred at facilities operating near the upper regulatory limit. This practice helps to optimize water quality in areas of the distribution system that are furthest from the treatment source. The local Medical Officer of Health, the Ministry, and local municipalities were consulted when planning this action.
Low Chlorine Residual (low disinfection) (18 of 96)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most low disinfection events involve equipment error or maintenance at the time of the alarm. • Corrective actions for low disinfection include collecting grab samples and standardizing analyzers against hand-held equipment. If analyzers are found to be reading low disinfection level correctly, staff backflush the water in cooperation with the local municipality and monitor the chlorine residual until it is compliant.
High Fluoride (2 of 96)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluoride is continuously monitored at the Georgina and Keswick Water Treatment Plants, where it is applied at the optimal level recommended by the Ministry and the Medical Officer of Health. • Fluoride readings approaching the maximum standard trigger immediate facility shut down. In these two events, there was no flow at the time of the alarm and staff recalibrated the equipment to ensure accurate readings. • For each event, an operator backflushed the system to prevent water from leaving the facility and restored the correct dose.
UV (ultraviolet) Light Disinfection Level (21 of 96)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UV light is used for primary disinfection at some facilities as an alternative to chlorine for primary disinfection. York Region monitors UV continuously at facilities where it is used. • All UV incidents occurred at the Schomberg Water Treatment Plant during equipment upgrades. Staff identified programming enhancements to optimize flow rates and UV disinfection level. • Most 2017 adverse UV dose readings were reported during these enhancements as due diligence since the alarm duration was less than the time defined as reportable by the Ministry. • The local Medical Officer of Health was consulted and had no further direction for these events. The Ministry provided additional direction on what threshold to report UV dose readings.

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

Parameter	Discussion
Turbidity (2 of 96)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Turbidity was reported as due diligence at the Keswick Water Treatment Plant. Readings were related to maintenance activities and did not require additional corrective actions.
Low System Pressure (1 of 96)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low pressure was reported as a best management practice due to a brief change in flow direction. In 2016, the Region received permission from the Ministry to no longer report low pressure.• The Region continues to investigate and respond to low pressure events, and will report adverse system conditions if there are actual or potential negative impacts to the system.

INSPECTIONS BY THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

York Region top scoring municipality in the Greater Toronto Area and top ranking in Ontario for the Ontario Chief Water Inspector's 2016-2017 Annual Report

Ontario's Chief Drinking Water Inspector releases an annual report rating for drinking water systems. Reporting timelines are based on the Ministry's previous fiscal year from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017. York Region achieved top compliance scores for Ministry inspections and for samples meeting provincial water quality standards. Attachment 2 explains the findings and any corrective actions for Ministry inspections conducted in the 2017 calendar year.

- **Inspections:** York Region achieved an overall rating of 99.60 per cent for all systems combined
 - 13 of 15 systems scored 100 per cent
 - Georgina and York Drinking Water Systems received a score of 95.54 and 98.44 per cent, respectively, resulting from noncompliance inspection findings relating to administrative issues in 2015 and 2016 for quality of logbook entries, timing of documentation, and license administration. These issues did not impact water quality or system performance
- **Samples meeting provincial water quality standards:** York Region achieved an overall rating of 99.93 per cent for all systems combined
 - 13 of 15 systems scored 100 per cent
 - Newmarket and Kleinburg Drinking Water Systems received a score of 99.62 and 99.26 per cent, respectively, for samples

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

meeting provincial water quality standards relating to infrequent presence of total coliform bacteria

The City of Toronto and Peel Region, who supply the majority of York Region's drinking water, also received high scores.

Inspectors evaluate facilities against regulations, licenses, permits and Ministry procedures. There were no risks to public health relating to the deficiencies identified by the Ministry. As demonstrated in Table 3, below, York Region continues to receive top marks on Ministry inspections and sampling results, consistently leading the Province along with our Greater Toronto Area municipal partners and neighbours.

Table 3
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change
2015-2017 Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report

Municipality	Inspection Rating (%)		Water Quality Tests Meeting Standards (%)		Overall Score	
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2015-2016	2016-2017	2015-2016	2016-2017
York Region*	99.73	99.60	99.96	99.93	99.85	99.77
Durham Region*	99.72	99.36	99.94	99.95	99.83	99.67
Peel Region*	96.26	97.76	99.95	99.92	98.11	98.84
City of Toronto*	97.46	95.57	99.65	99.72	98.56	97.65
Provincial Average	98.49	98.47	99.89	99.89	99.19	98.18

* Average of scores for all drinking water systems within municipality.

WATER VOLUME AND CAPACITY

All drinking water systems operated within all permitted water volume and capacity limits in 2017

In 2017, all of York Region's drinking water systems operated within the monthly average flow, maximum daily withdrawal and allowable daily withdrawal limits. York Region continues to maintain compliance with:

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

- The *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* and its regulations
- Terms and conditions of the Region's Permits to Take Water and supply agreements with the City of Toronto and Peel Region
- The permitted Intra-Basin Transfer volumes for water taken from (and returned to Lake Ontario) for communities in the Lake Huron watershed

York Region continues to ensure sufficient drinking water capacity for the Region's growing population. Maximum permitted volumes in current servicing agreements align with forecasted population growth to 2031 and long term needs will be refined in the upcoming Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update, currently planned for 2021.

5. Financial Considerations

Effective asset management is critical to delivering reliable and sustainable water services

York Region delivers high quality drinking water in a safe and efficient manner. The estimated replacement cost for York Region's water facilities and underground infrastructure is approximately \$2.0 billion, accounting for approximately 16 per cent of all the Region's assets. These assets are wholly owned by the Region and do not include shared assets with the City of Toronto and with Peel Region. Effective asset management, including infrastructure maintenance, is critical to the Region's ability to deliver services that are safe, reliable and efficient while sustaining our growing communities. Environmental Services ensures operational excellence by collaboratively planning and prioritizing upgrades, repairs and expansions.

In October 2015, Council approved new 2016 – 2021 water and wastewater rates supported by a detailed analysis described in the Financial Sustainability Plan. The plan was implemented commencing in April 2016, and focuses on achieving full cost recovery pricing in 2021 and eliminating shortfalls in asset management funding.

York Region spent approximately \$20.9 million in 2017 to maintain and improve drinking water systems

Section 11 of the Drinking Water Systems regulation requires water utility owners to "describe any major expenses incurred during the period covered by the report to install, repair or replace required equipment."

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

In 2017, York Region spent approximately \$20.9 million installing, repairing or replacing equipment used to treat, store and deliver safe drinking water. Costs are funded through the rate-supported Environmental Services water budget, as approved annually by Council. These expenses are summarized below in Table 4.

Table 4
Summary of Major Expenditures for the Drinking Water Systems in 2017

Drinking Water System (DWS)	Installation, Repair or Replacement Activity	Expenses (\$)
Ansnoerveldt DWS	General maintenance and repair	\$60,556
Ballantrae/Musselman's Lake DWS	General maintenance and repair	\$35,438
Mount Albert DWS	General maintenance and repair	\$23,161
Nobleton DWS	General maintenance and repair, and elevated tank recoating	\$247,623
Schomberg DWS	General maintenance and repair	\$134,836
York DWS		
Vaughan, Richmond Hill, Markham communities	General maintenance and repair, Islington watermain rehabilitation, Bathurst watermain emergency replacement	\$12,540,586
Aurora sub-system	General maintenance and repair, Ridge Road Pumping Station upgrades	\$2,032,794
Holland Landing sub-system	General maintenance and repair, Sherwood Forest Pumping Station electrical upgrades	\$458,364
King City sub-system	General maintenance and repair	\$20,668
Kleinburg sub-system	General maintenance and repair, one elevated tank recoating, well upgrades	\$1,891,170
Newmarket sub-system	General maintenance and repair, Davis Drive meter chamber upgrades, Yonge Street Aquifer rehabilitation, and SCADA upgrades to four elevated tanks, five wells, and five meter chambers	\$2,258,879
Queensville sub-system	General maintenance and repair	\$38,170
Stouffville sub-system	General maintenance and repair	\$148,677

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

Georgina DWS		
Lakeshore, Sutton Communities	General maintenance and repair, SCADA upgrades to one elevated tank	\$656,210
Keswick sub-system	General maintenance and repair, SCADA upgrades to one elevated tank and one reservoir	\$314,973
Total		\$20,862,105

6. Local Municipal Impact

York Region and the nine local municipalities work together to distribute high quality drinking water

Water quality standards are maintained by collaboration between York Region and the nine local municipalities. Although ownership and operation of the systems is two-tiered, the Region and the local municipalities coordinate operation of the systems to provide safe and uninterrupted water supply to their customers.

York Region collaborates with the nine local municipalities on data transparency and customer service

York Region recognizes the importance of engaging customers online. Transparency of data is an important part of customer service. The Open Dataset and online reporting tool allow anyone to analyze the performance of water systems in a readily accessible and easy to understand format. To support this goal of transparent customer service, the reporting tools were shared for feedback with local municipality water quality groups, data teams, and some Regional Council members.

7. Conclusion

This report and all attachments, along with the drinking water Open Dataset posted on york.ca/opendata and the content on york.ca/drinkingwater, satisfies reporting requirements under the Act. Council is able to demonstrate due diligence required for decision making under the Statutory Standard of Care by reviewing and considering the information on the Region's drinking water systems contained in this report when exercising decision making authority.

2017 Drinking Water Systems Report

York Region's drinking water systems are subject to strict regulations implemented by the Province of Ontario to keep drinking water safe. Results from the 2017 reporting year continue to prove the excellent performance of York Region's drinking water systems. This report demonstrates the Region's commitment to operational excellence through continuous improvement, while also fulfilling our obligation to communicate performance to Council, stakeholders and the public.

For more information on this report, please contact Wendy Kemp, Director, Strategy and Innovation at 1-877-464-9675 extension 75141 or Roy Huetl, Director, Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring at extension 75323.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

February 16, 2018

Attachments (3)

8207143

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Summary of Reported Adverse Water Quality Incidents in 2017

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) and the Medical Officer of Health were satisfied with the corrective actions taken for all reported events in the summary below and had no further direction.

Location	Parameter	Event Date(s) (2017)	Result (mg/L unless noted)	Limit (mg/L unless noted)	Corrective Action
Ballantrae-Musselman's Lake Drinking Water System					
Musselman's Lake Elevated Tank	Free Chlorine Residual	March 18 July 4	0.00 0.00	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Georgina Drinking Water System, Keswick Sub-System					
Keswick Water Treatment Plant	Turbidity	March 4* October 12*	2100 NTU Unmeasured reading due to equipment error	1.0 NTU (N/A)	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
	Fluoride as F	June 29 August 28*	1.75 1.51	1.50 maximum	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
	Primary Disinfection	February 15	Pre-treatment chemical ran out, which could have resulted in decreased disinfection performance	N/A	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Keswick West Park Heights Reservoir	Free Chlorine Residual	March 18*	5.00	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site. Facility returned to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Mount Albert Drinking Water System					
Mount Albert Well 3	Free Chlorine Residual	February 28*	4.24	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site. Facility returned to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Nobleton Drinking Water System					
Nobleton North Elevated Tank	Free Chlorine Residual	April 23	0.00	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Nobleton Well 3	Free Chlorine Residual	May 29	0.00	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.

*reported as Best Management Practice or as due diligence measure

Location	Parameter	Event Date(s) (2017)	Result (mg/L unless noted)	Limit (mg/L unless noted)	Corrective Action
Schomberg Drinking Water System					
Schomberg WTP	UV Dose (Primary Disinfection)	August 3 August 10 August 10* August 10* August 11 August 12 August 24 September 1 September 1* September 12 September 13 September 21 September 27 September 29 October 1 October 7* October 20 October 30 November 2 November 29 December 7*	Less than 40 mJ/cm ² during startup or shutdown	Greater than 40 mJ/cm ² at peak flow rate	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. All UV incidents occurred during equipment upgrades, and staff identified programming enhancements to optimize flow rates and UV dose. The local Medical Officer of Health was consulted and had no further direction for these events. MOECC clarified UV dose readings do not need to be reported for startup or shutdown low UV dose events lasting less than 10 minutes.
	Combined Chlorine Residual	October 18*	0.24	0.25 to 3.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
York Drinking Water System, Aurora Sub-System					
Aurora Ridge Road Reservoir	Combined Chlorine Residual	February 22* August 1* August 1 August 9 September 12 November 22	5.00 4.21 4.91 4.11 4.03 4.58	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Aurora South Reservoir	Combined Chlorine Residual	April 30 May 13 August 9 August 29 August 31 October 4 December 4 December 6 December 21* December 26*	5.00 5.00 4.72 4.99 4.10 4.17 4.76 4.20 4.15 4.06	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.

*reported as Best Management Practice or as due diligence measure

Location	Parameter	Event Date(s) (2017)	Result (mg/L unless noted)	Limit (mg/L unless noted)	Corrective Action
Ridge Road Booster Pumping Station	Combined Chlorine Residual	September 10 October 19	4.14 4.42	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
York Drinking Water System, Holland Landing Sub-System					
Holland Landing Well 1	Dichloromethane	April 12	0.057	0.05	Operator attended site. Resample taken. Resample result non-detectable for dichloromethane.
	Combined Chlorine Residual	April 19 December 17*	0.00 0.22	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Holland Landing Well 2	Combined Chlorine Residual	August 25 August 29 October 2	0.15 0.15 0.00	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Holland Landing West Elevated Tank	System Pressure	March 7*	0 psi	20 psi minimum	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Sherwood Forest Pumping Station	Combined Chlorine Residual	November 23	0.08	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
York Drinking Water System, King City Sub-System					
King City Dufferin Elevated Tank	E. coli & Total coliform (bacteria)	April 17	Presence	Absence	Operator attended site. Resample taken. Resample result non-detectable for e.coli and total coliform.
York Drinking Water System, Newmarket Sub-System					
Glenway Reservoir	Combined Chlorine Residual	March 8	4.09	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
		June 19	4.23		
		July 11	4.08		
		August 3	4.25		
		August 6	4.19		
		August 7	4.41		
		August 7*	4.64		
		August 13	4.02		
		August 19	4.24		
		August 30	4.32		
		October 12	0.0		
		November 14	4.26		
		November 15	4.01		
November 15	4.08				

*reported as Best Management Practice or as due diligence measure

Location	Parameter	Event Date(s) (2017)	Result (mg/L unless noted)	Limit (mg/L unless noted)	Corrective Action
Kirby Cres Booster Pumping Station	Total Chlorine Residual	July 20	0.00	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
		July 26	4.22		
		July 26*	4.12		
		July 28	4.31		
		August 3	4.26		
		October 16	4.45		
Newmarket Magna Tank	Combined Chlorine Residual	March 14	4.93	0.25 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Newmarket Southeast Elevated Tank	Total coliform (bacteria)	June 18	Presence	Absence	Operator attended site. Resample taken. Tank isolated until resample result non-detectable for total coliform.
		August 7	Presence		
		August 9	Presence		
		August 11	Presence		
Newmarket Well 1 and 2	Primary Disinfection Contact Time	June 13*	Online trend showed insufficient time	N/A	Operator on-site for equipment upgrade, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Newmarket Well 15	Primary Disinfection Contact Time	June 14*	Online trend showed insufficient time	N/A	Operator on-site for equipment upgrade, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Newmarket West Reservoir	Total coliform (bacteria)	July 3	Presence	Absence	Operator attended site. Resample taken. Resample result non-detectable for total coliform.

York Drinking Water System, Stouffville Sub-System

Stouffville Booster Station (High Lift)	Free Chlorine Residual	December 12	0.02	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Stouffville Reservoir	Free Chlorine Residual	October 26	0.02	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
Stouffville Wells 1 and 2	Free Chlorine Residual	March 11*	5.00	0.05 to 4.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.

*reported as Best Management Practice or as due diligence measure

Location	Parameter	Event Date(s) (2017)	Result (mg/L unless noted)	Limit (mg/L unless noted)	Corrective Action
York Drinking Water System, Vaughan Community					
East Vaughan Pumping Station	Combined Chlorine Residual	October 8	6.96	0.25 to 3.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
		November 18	4.87		
		December 4	>3.00		
		December 13	>3.00		
		December 18	9.94		
		December 28	>3.00		
East Woodbridge Pumping Station	Combined Chlorine Residual	July 5	7.14	0.25 to 3.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
South Maple Pumping Station	Combined Chlorine Residual	February 24	3.48	0.25 to 3.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.
		March 1	4.54		
		September 19	3.08		
South Maple Reservoir	Combined Chlorine Residual	February 22 September 1	5.0 >3.0	0.25 to 3.00	Operator attended site, restored facility to normal operation. Compliant grab sample taken.



Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Inspection Results Summary from January 1 to December 31, 2017

For all findings in the summary below, the Ministry of the Environmental and Climate Change acknowledged that corrective actions the Region implemented were sufficient.

Drinking Water System (DWS)	Rating (per cent)	Findings	Corrective Action
Ansnoerveldt DWS November 17, 2016	100	This inspection started in 2016 and was completed in February 2017. There were no findings.	Not Applicable
Ansnoerveldt DWS February 14, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable
Ansnoerveldt DWS September 12, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable
Ballantrae-Musselman's Lake DWS May 2, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable
Mount Albert DWS June 29, 2017	95.85	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Two (2) Non Compliances:</i></p> <p>1. Well casing required repair. York Region to repair the well casing and strengthen the well inspection process.</p> <p>2. One set of quarterly nitrate/nitrite samples was completed four days too early. York Region to plan how to prevent recurrence and review this plan with Operators.</p>	<p>1. Well inspection and repair procedure and work plans reviewed and updated, and the well casing was repaired.</p> <p>2. Sampling scheduling software and procedure have been reviewed and revised, and sampling timeframes were reinforced with staff.</p>
Nobleton DWS April 18, 2017	100	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>One (1) Best Management Practice:</i></p> <p>Logbook entries appeared to meet Regulatory requirements, however York Region Logbook Protocol was not followed on four occasions. York Region to review internal record keeping practices with Operators.</p>	<p>Logbook Protocol updated. Requirements were reinforced at operational team meetings by management team. Operators received in-house practical training. Digital Logbook pilot underway.</p>
Schomberg DWS January 18, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable
Schomberg DWS August 15, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable

Drinking Water System (DWS)	Rating (per cent)	Findings	Corrective Action
York Drinking Water System			
Vaughan, Richmond Hill, Markham communities March 13, 2017	98.44	<p><i>One (1) Non Compliance:</i> Overall Responsible Operator's license was expired. The Region noted this deficiency during review and reported it to Ministry prior to the inspection. No further action required. Note: this issue was already reported to Council in early 2017.</p> <p><i>One (1) Best Management Practice:</i> On several occasions, Logbook Protocol was observed to not be followed. York Region to review logbook practices and determine the feasibility of an electronic logbook.</p>	<p>Non Compliance: Operational management is notified when license expiration is approaching</p> <p>BMP: Logbook Protocol being updated requirements were reinforced at operational team meetings by management team. Operators received Ministry approved and in-house practical training. Digital Logbook pilot analysis underway.</p>
Aurora sub-system June 15, 2017	100	<p><i>One (1) Best Management Practice:</i> One reservoir facility was deemed to require strengthened security. Several satisfactory actions were taken immediately. York Region directed to install new vent screen.</p>	York Region immediately implemented corrective actions, increased deterrence measures and is investigating additional security measures for Regional facilities, where needed.
Holland Landing sub-system February 7, 2017	100	<p><i>One (1) Best Management Practice:</i> One due-diligence Adverse Water Quality Incident was reported under the York Drinking Water System instead of the Holland Landing subsystem. York Region is reminded to report using the correct system.</p>	York Region reminded staff to verify the correct system/subsystem name when reporting Adverse Water Quality Incidents.
Holland Landing sub-system October 10, 2017	100	<p><i>One (1) Best Management Practice:</i> Well Inspection process and paperwork to better align with projected schedule. The Region to strengthen the well inspection process and documentation.</p>	York Region revised the well inspection Work Order process by creating a checklist report, and streamlined documents for well inspections.
King City sub-system January 10, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable
King City sub-system July 18, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable
Kleinburg sub-system April 18, 2018	100	None	Not Applicable
Newmarket sub-system January 25, 2017	100	None	Not Applicable

Drinking Water System (DWS)	Rating (per cent)	Findings	Corrective Action
Newmarket sub-system August 31, 2017	94.92	<p><i>One (1) Non Compliance:</i></p> <p>Operator response to a self-correcting high disinfection level adverse water quality incident was deemed insufficient. York Region to ensure an operator attends the facility for all analyzer readings outside regulated levels or when equipment loses power.</p> <p><i>One (1) Best Management Practice:</i></p> <p>Inspector noted several due diligence reports for spikes of high disinfection level when flow was reversing, and sometimes when flow was forward. York Region recommended to be consistent when reporting due diligence spikes of high disinfection level.</p>	<p>Non Compliance: York Region reviewed adverse response and documentation requirements with staff and re-reviewed facility logbooks. In-house adverse training for Adverse reporting developed with more modules pending.</p> <p>BMP: York Region management meeting to discuss approach to due diligence reports.</p>
Sharon/Queensville sub-system February 10, 2017	100	<p><i>Two (2) Best Management Practices:</i></p> <p>1. A piece of well monitoring equipment was passed through an open conduit. York Region is recommended to ensure all open conduits going into a well are temporarily sealed until a permanent seal is made.</p> <p>2. Comparison of results on handheld equipment against online equipment should be consistent. York Region is recommended to choose a consistent practice for comparing handheld and online analyzer readings.</p>	<p>BMP 1: York Region confirmed the conduits were temporarily sealed until the equipment was removed, at which point it was permanently sealed.</p> <p>BMP 2: York Region reviewed legal requirements, procedures, and job plans and concluded no updates to procedures are currently required.</p>
Stouffville sub-system December 12, 2016	100	This inspection started in 2016 and was completed in January 2017. There were no findings.	Not Applicable
Stouffville sub-system July 31, 2017	100	<p><i>One (1) Best Management Practice:</i></p> <p>It was noted that documentation for Operator response to one high residual alarm was minimal. York Region is reminded to add more detail about factors contributing to abnormal operating events.</p>	BMP: Logbook Protocol being updated requirements were reinforced at operational team meetings by management team. Operators received Ministry approved and in-house practical training. Digital Logbook pilot analysis underway.

Drinking Water System (DWS)	Rating (per cent)	Findings	Corrective Action
Georgina Drinking Water System			
Keswick, Lakeshore, Sutton communities (Georgina Water Treatment Plant) February 21, 2017	95.54	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Two (2) Non Compliances:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 2016, two reports of high fluoride spikes were correctly reported verbally, but written notice was not provided in a timely manner. York Region to ensure documentation is submitted within the regulated timeframe for adverse water quality incidents. 2. A review of 2015 logbooks revealed a high fluoride adverse water quality incident was deemed to be a false analyzer reading without sufficient documentation to support this conclusion. York Region to review practices and procedures to ensure proper documentation and reporting of water quality parameters outside regulatory limits. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Three (3) Best Management Practices:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Some logbook entries were unclear and quality of details was inconsistent. York Region recommended to provide additional training on logbook entries and record keeping. 2. The Drinking Water Works Permit was being updated at the time of the inspection, and the inspector noted equipment that should be added during the revision. 3. For one observed logbook entry from 2015, an Operator conducting routine sampling did not properly document chlorine residual. York Region to review record keeping practices with staff. 	<p>Non Compliances and BMP #1 & #3: In-house adverse training for Adverse reporting developed with more modules pending. Staff also attended Director approved training on regulatory reporting requirements and reviewed relevant procedures.</p> <p>BMP #2: York Region added the recommended equipment to the revised Drinking Water Works Permit</p>
Keswick sub-system (Keswick Water Treatment Plant) February 21, 2017	100	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Two (2) Best Management Practices:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language in the Drinking Water Works Permit should be updated to clarify operation of some equipment. 2. Reporting of one Sodium result over 20 mg/L was determined to be reported verbally but not in writing within 24 hours as would have been required if the result needed to be reported. Further review demonstrated this test result did not need to be reported since Sodium is reported 57 months after the previous reported result. York Region to ensure written notices are given within 24 hours of the verbal report for adverse test results. 	<p>BMP 1: The DWWP was amended to reflect equipment operation.</p> <p>BMP 2: Sodium reporting requirements updated with the laboratory and staff reminded of reporting time windows for adverse test results.</p>

2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Ansnorveldt DWS

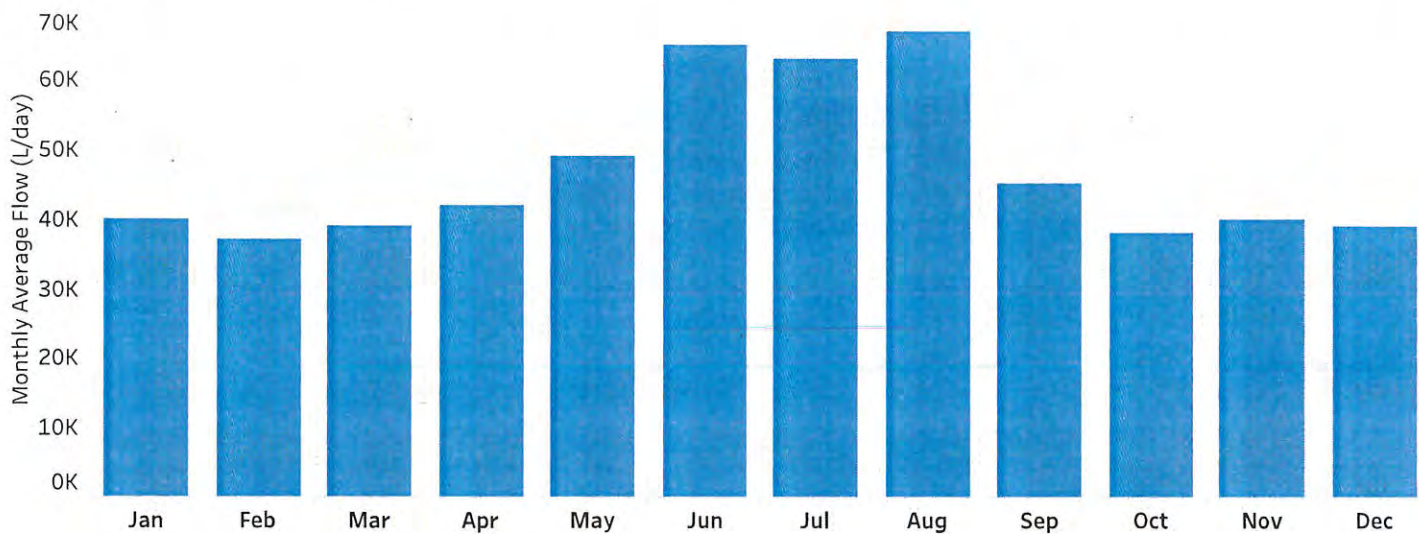
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Ansnorveldt DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.68 mg/L	0.23 mg/L	40 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

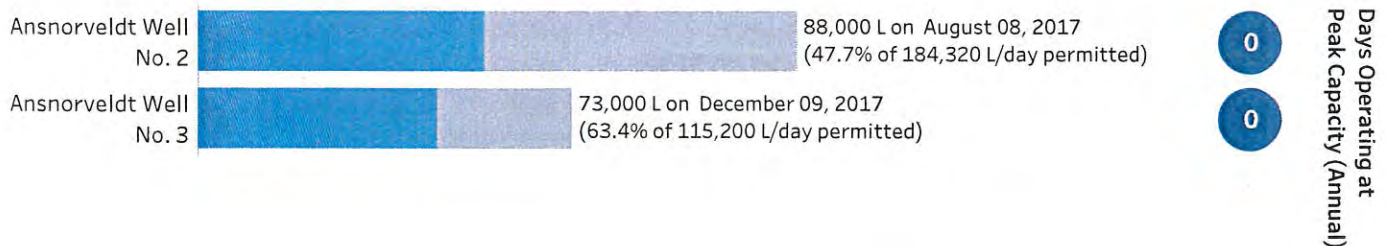
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Ansnorveldt DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Aurora DWS

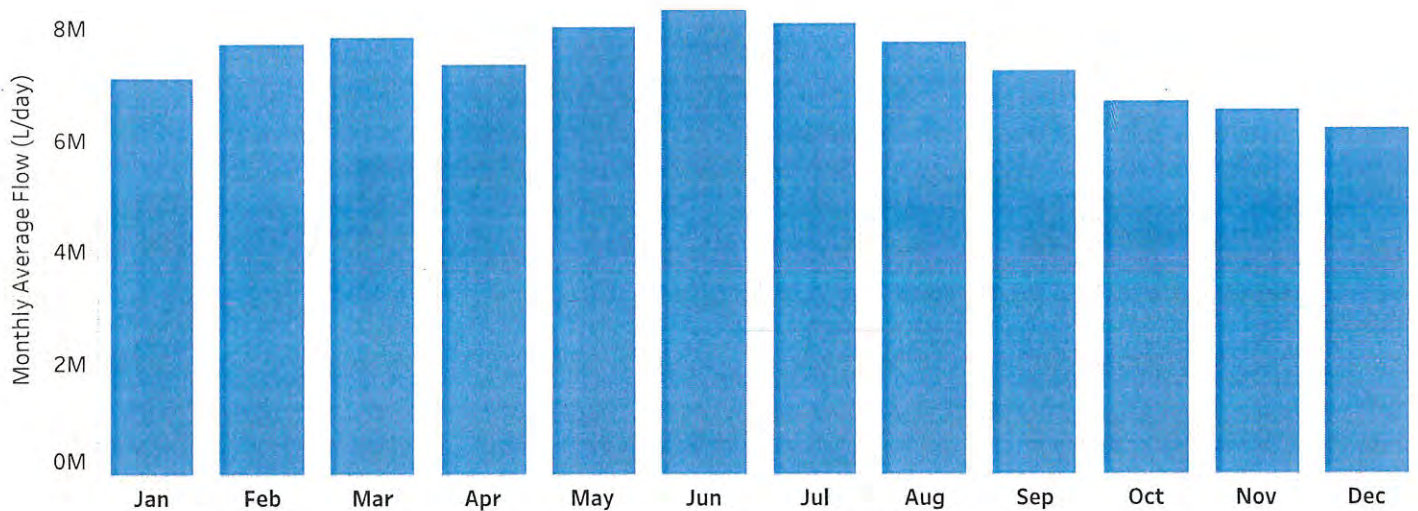
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Aurora DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
2.43 mg/L	0.34 mg/L	19 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

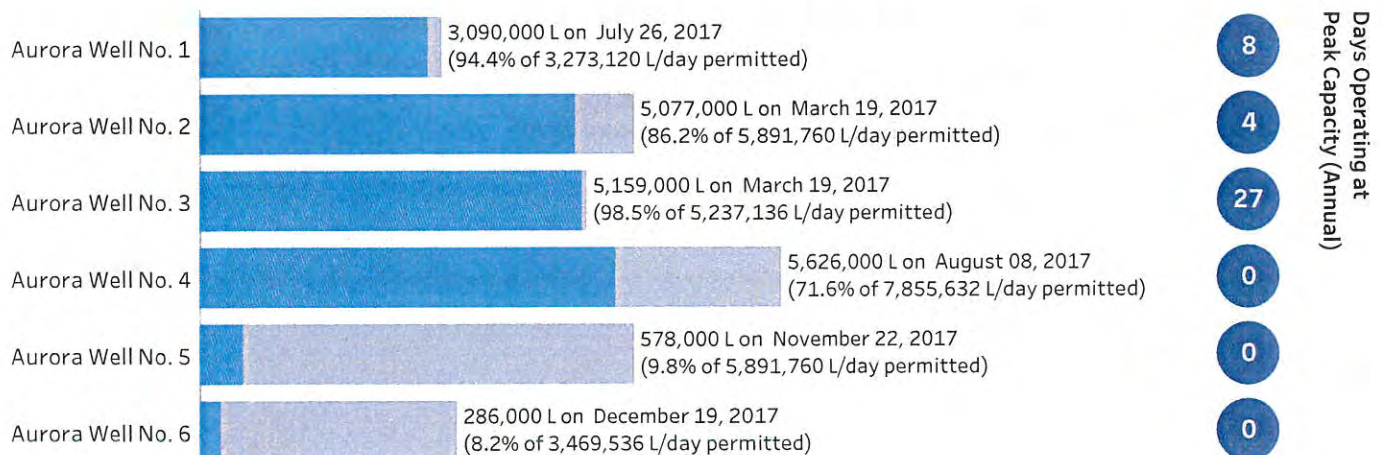
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Aurora DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Ballantrae/Musselman's Lake DWS

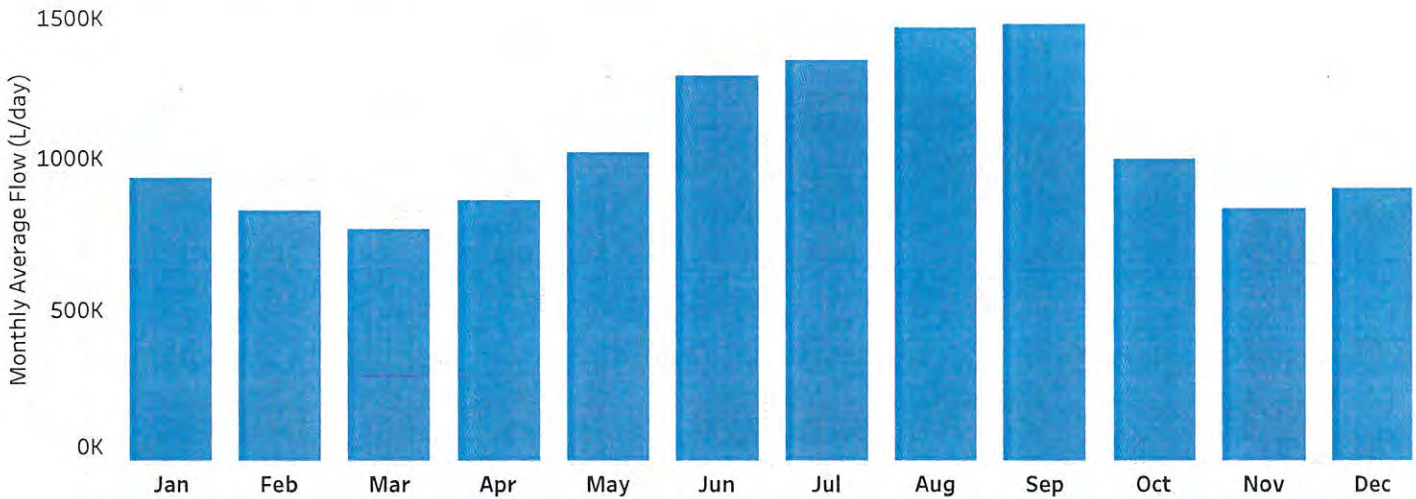
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Ballantrae/Musselman's Lake DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.34 mg/L	0.09 mg/L	12 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

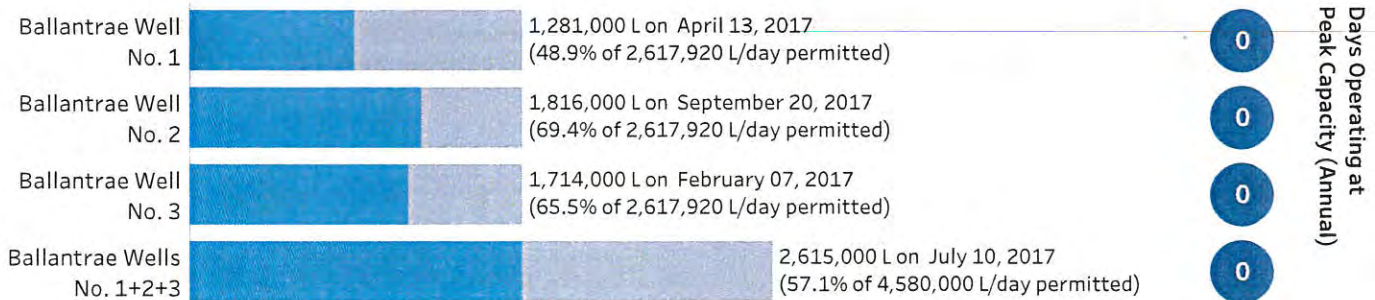
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Ballantrae/Musselman's Lake DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Georgina DWS

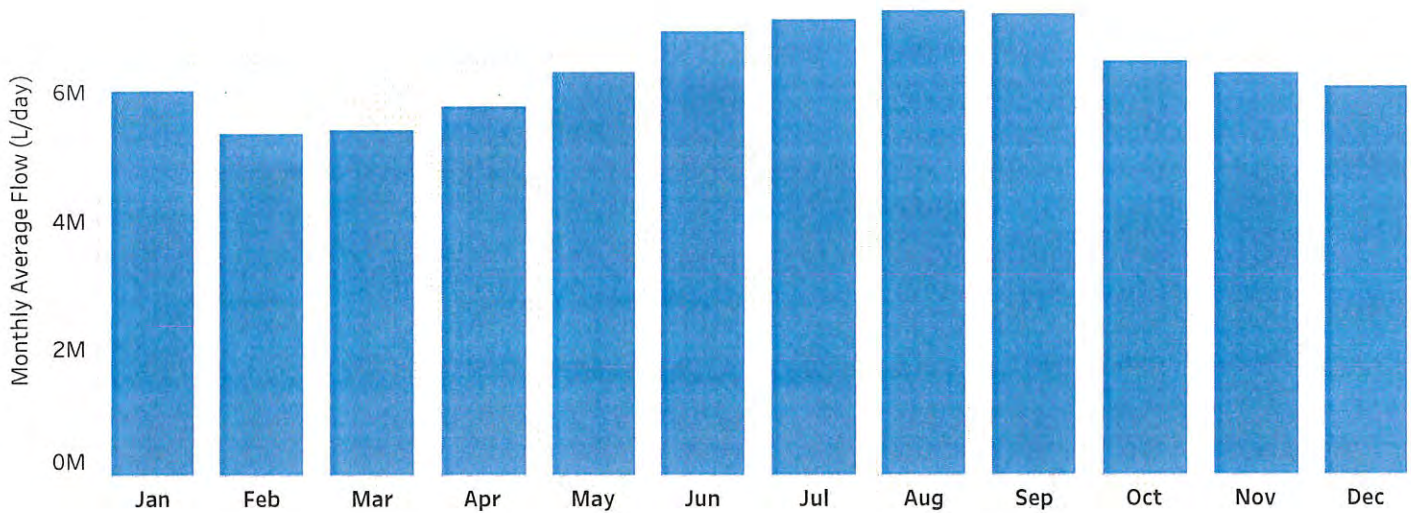
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Georgina DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.61 mg/L	0.32 mg/L	28 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Georgina DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Holland Landing DWS

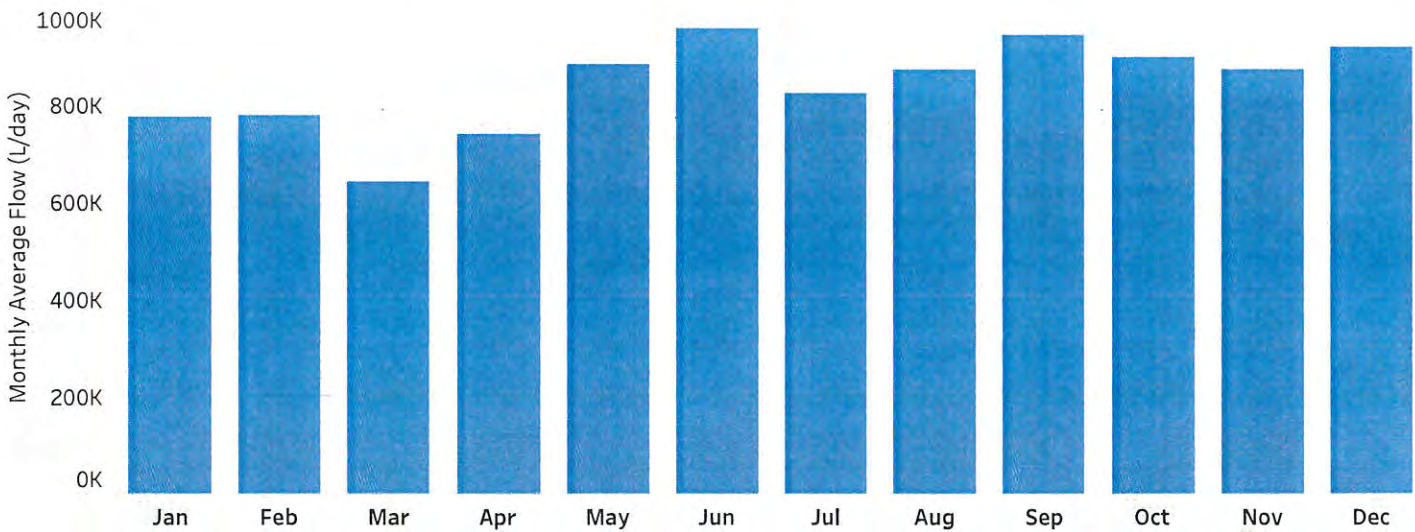
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Holland Landing DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
2.15 mg/L	0.21 mg/L	21 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

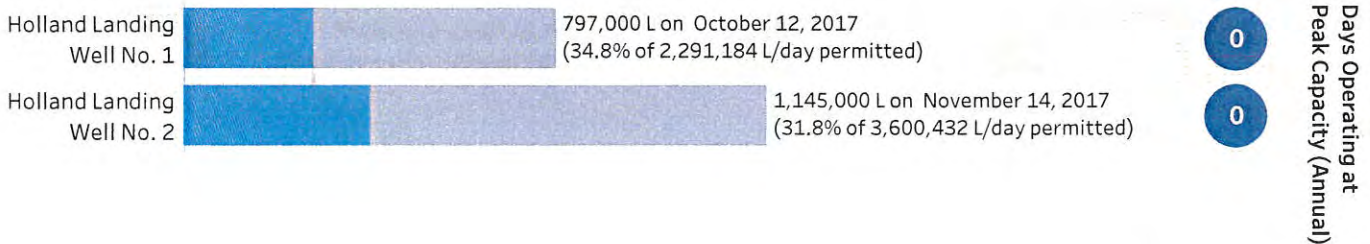
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Holland Landing DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Keswick DWS

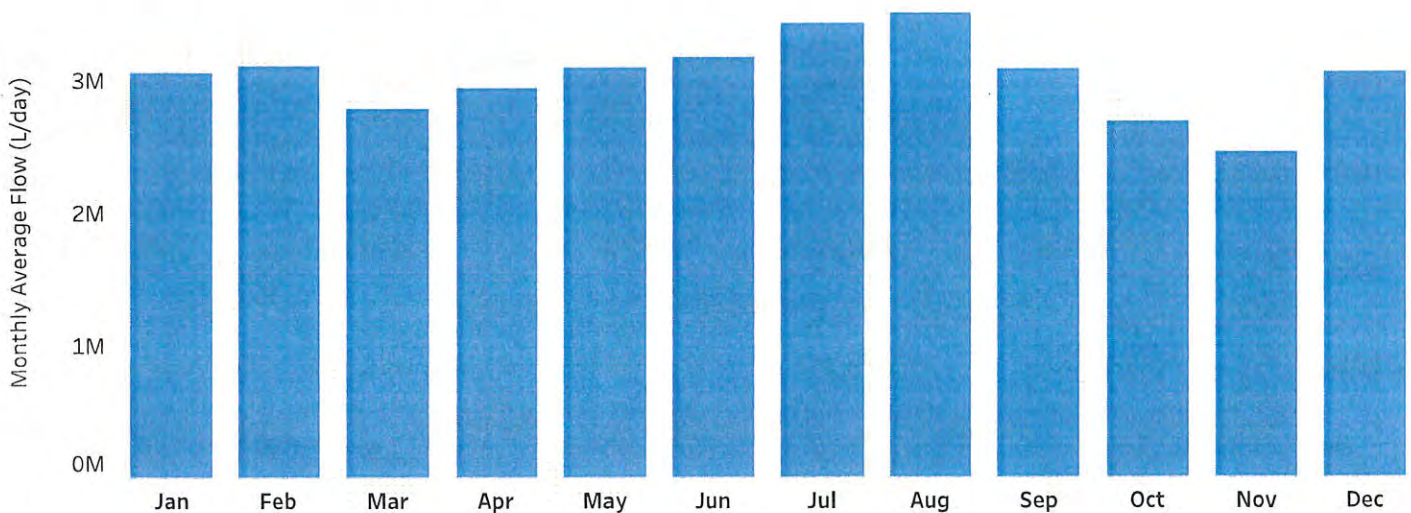
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Keswick DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.17 mg/L	0.64 mg/L	33 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

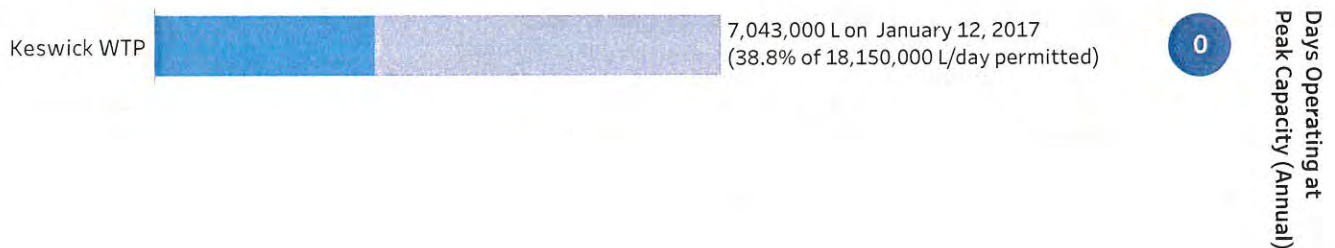
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Keswick DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | King City DWS

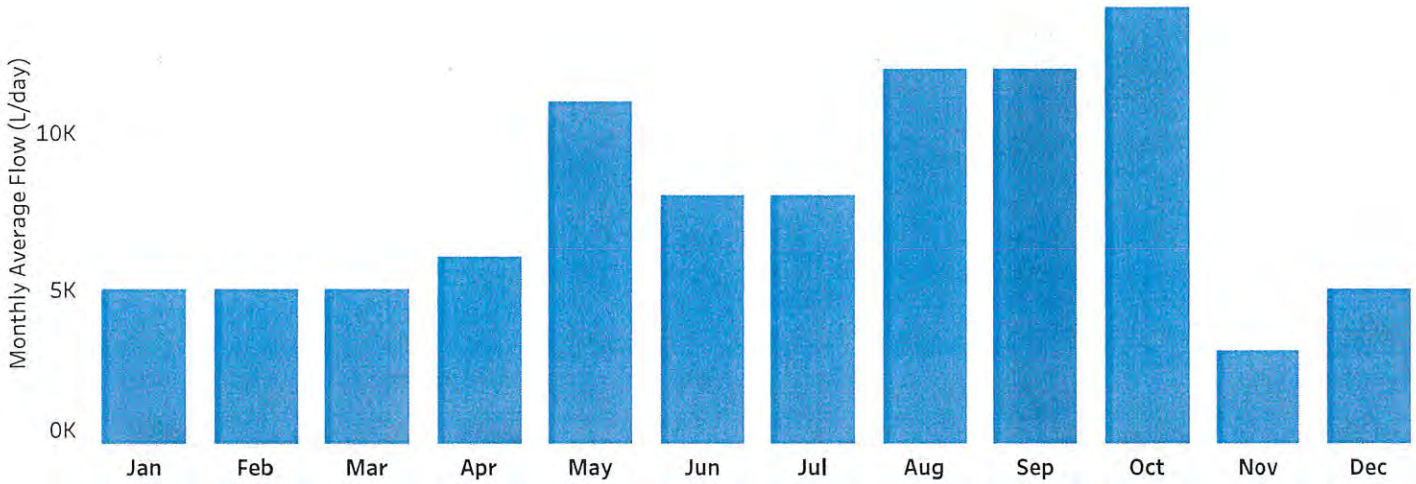
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the King City DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.76 mg/L	0.60 mg/L	24 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

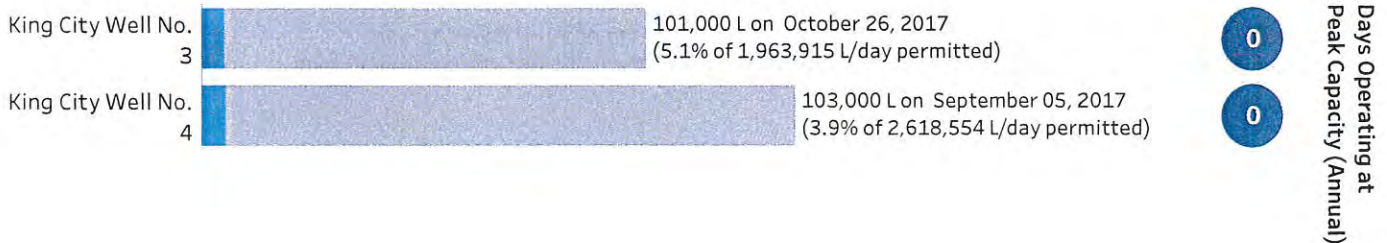
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the King City DWS. In 2017, water from wells was used for testing and maintenance, not for supply.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Kleinburg DWS

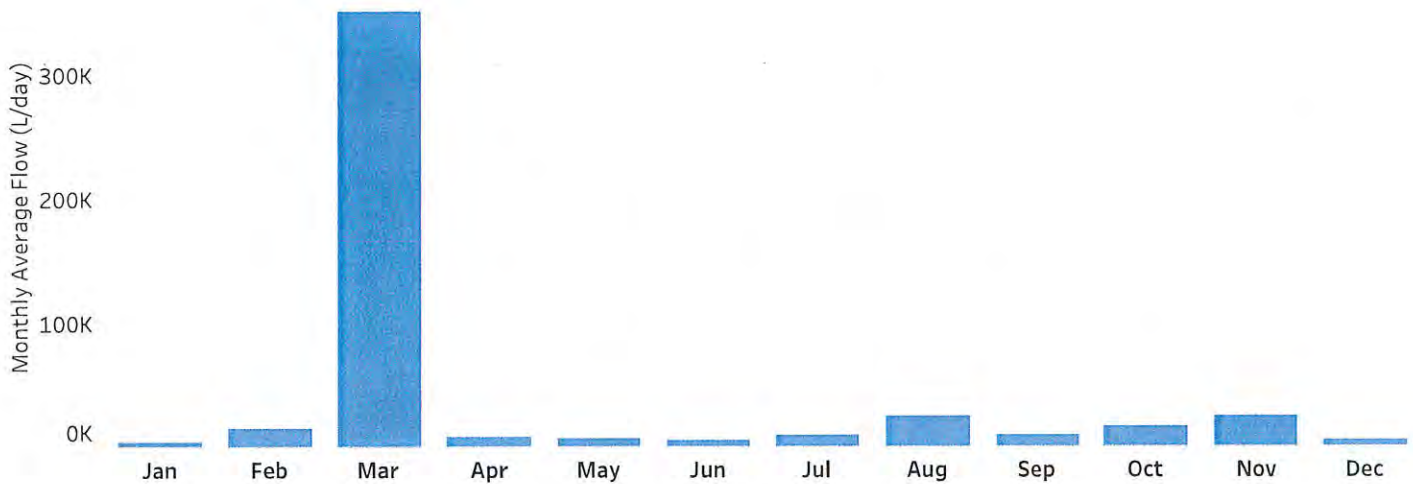
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Kleinburg DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.68 mg/L	0.61 mg/L	N/A	
		*See York DWS for approximate results	

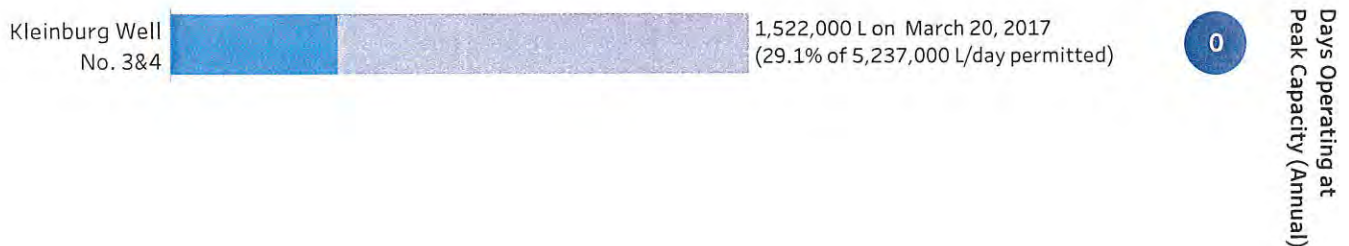
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Kleinburg DWS. In 2017, water from wells was used for testing and maintenance, not for supply.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Mount Albert DWS

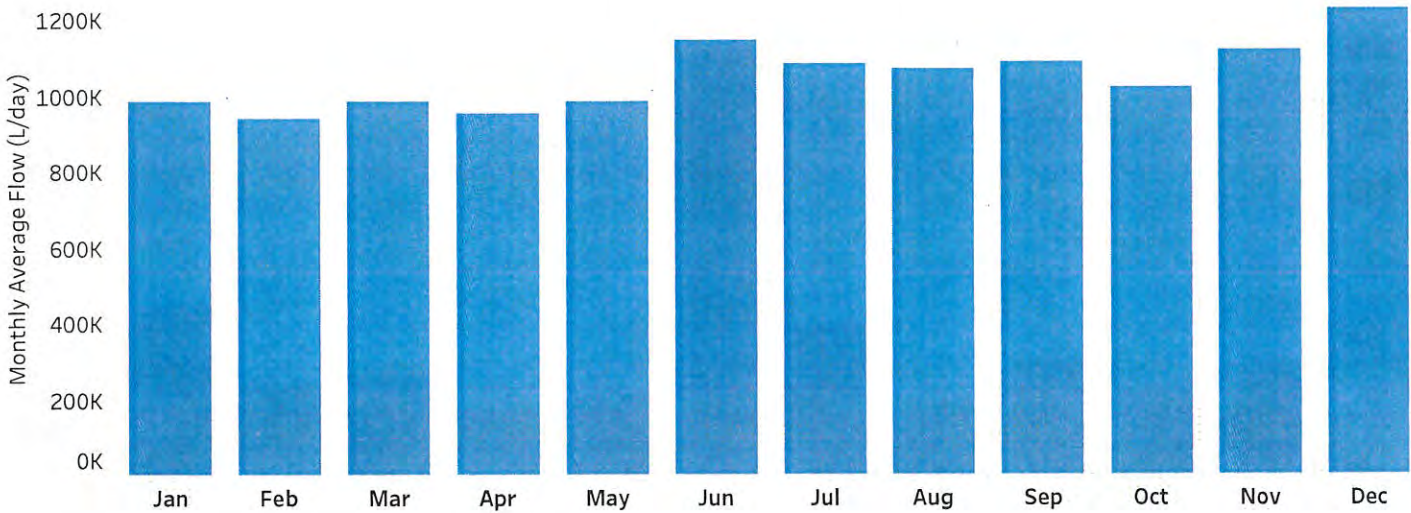
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Mount Albert DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.49 mg/L	0.11 mg/L	11 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

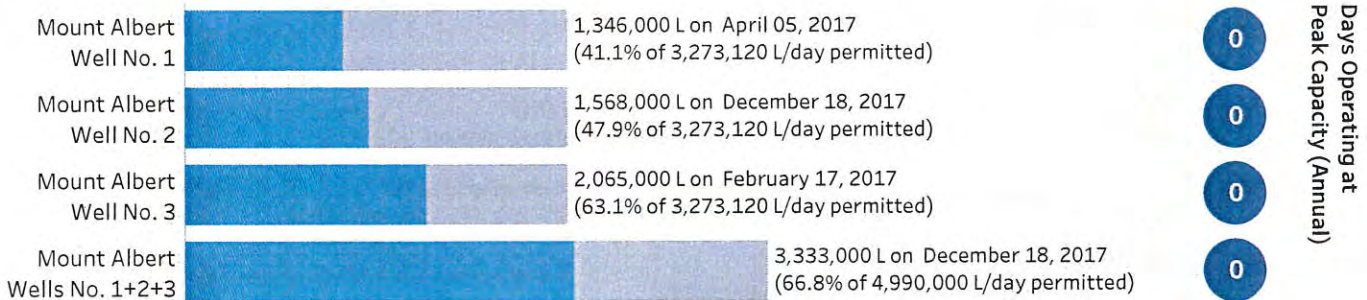
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Mount Albert DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | **Newmarket DWS**

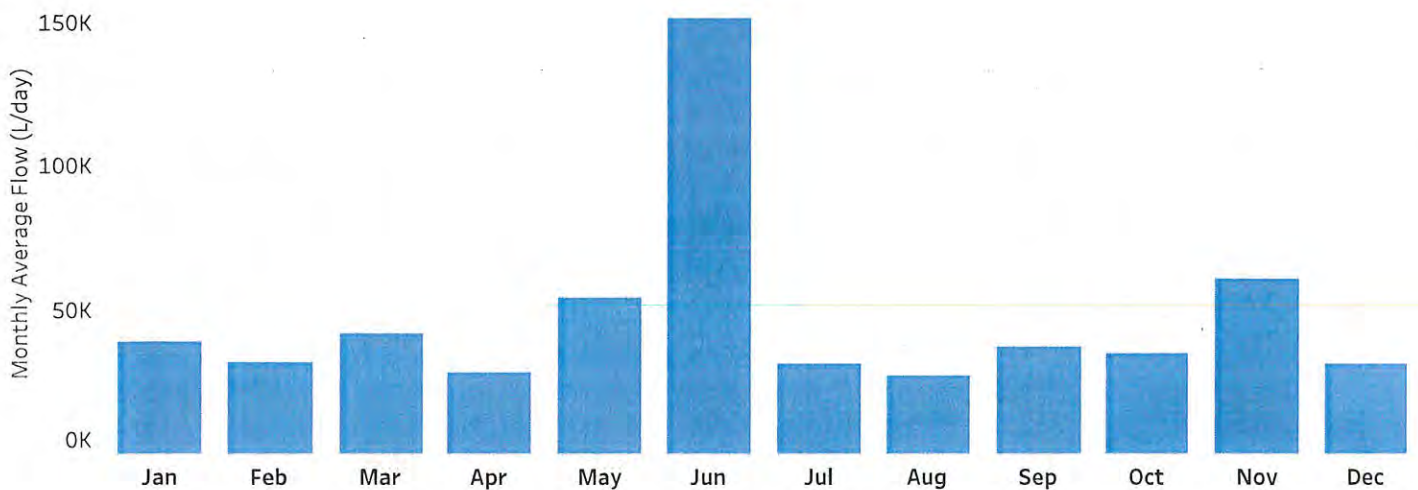
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Newmarket DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.82 mg/L	0.46 mg/L	21 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

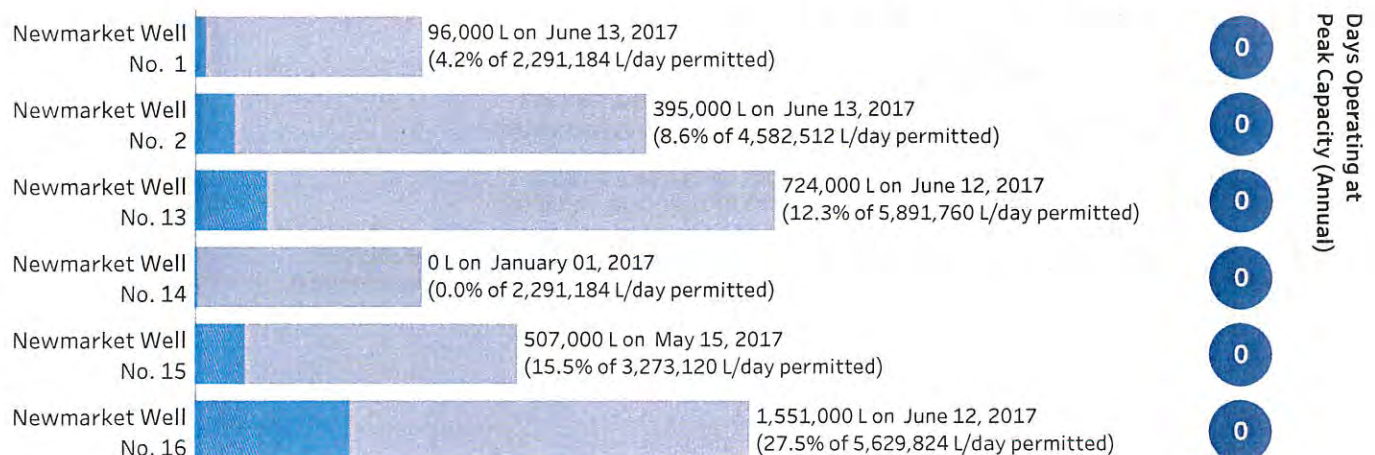
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Newmarket DWS. In 2017, water from wells was used for testing and maintenance, not for supply.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | **Nobleton DWS**

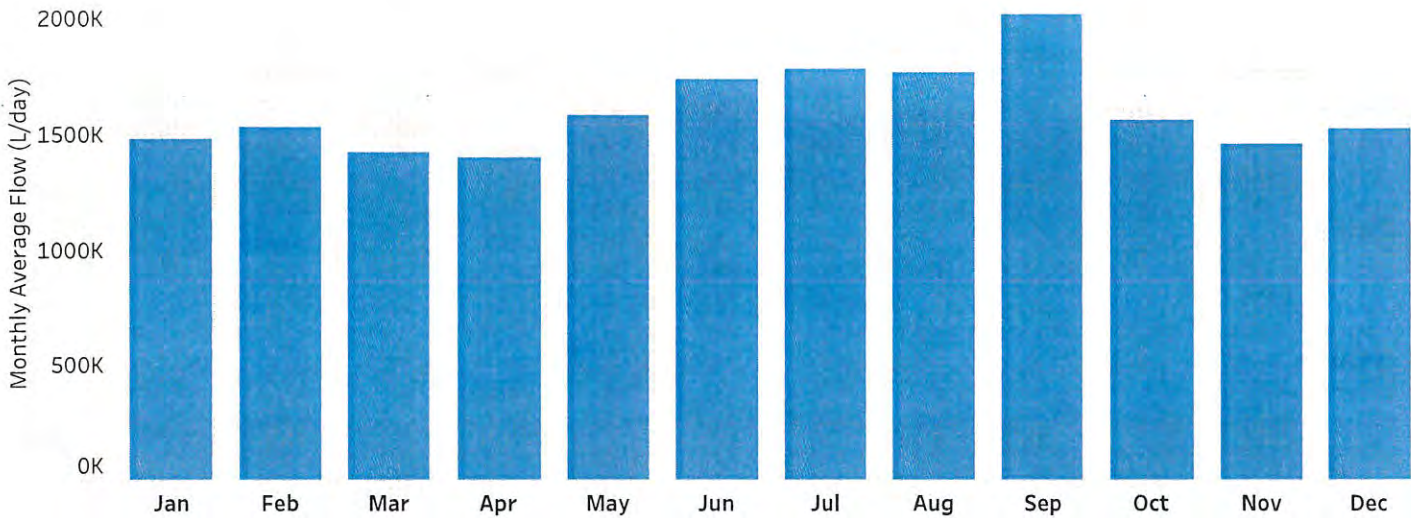
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Nobleton DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.53 mg/L	0.15 mg/L	19 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

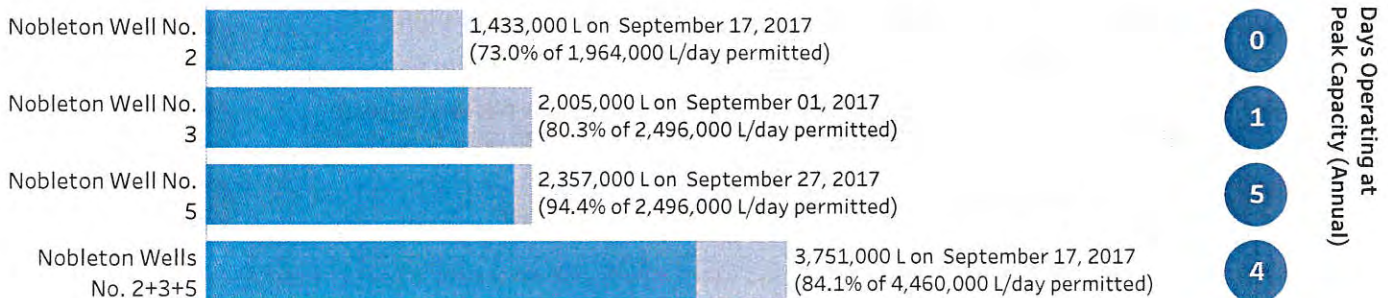
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Nobleton DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Schomberg DWS

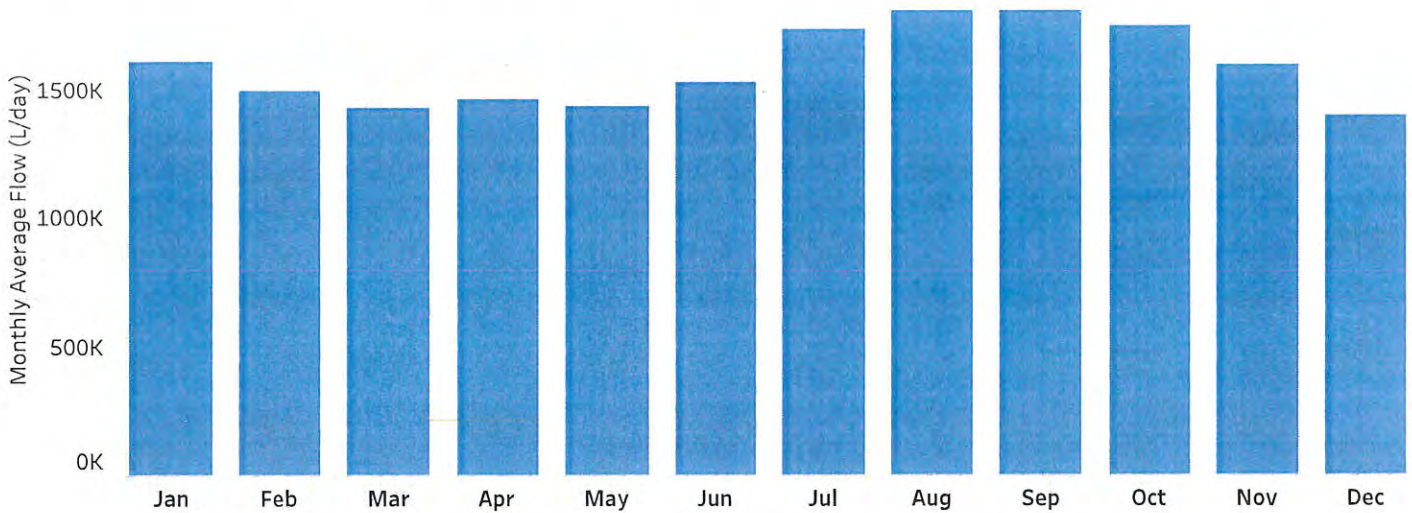
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Schomberg DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
2.20 mg/L	0.18 mg/L	19 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

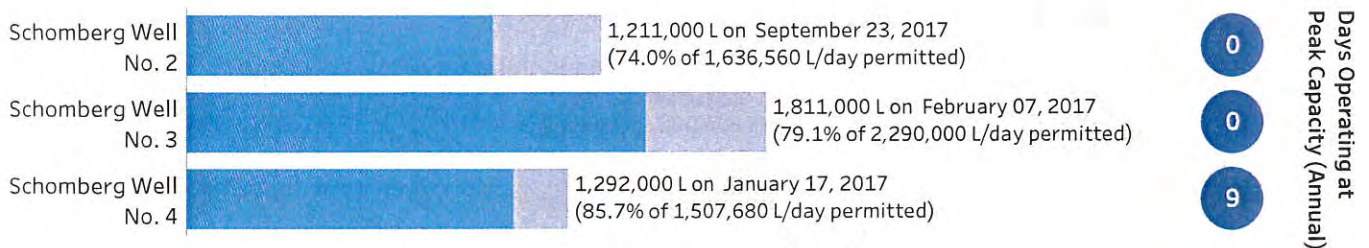
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Schomberg DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | Sharon/Queensville DWS

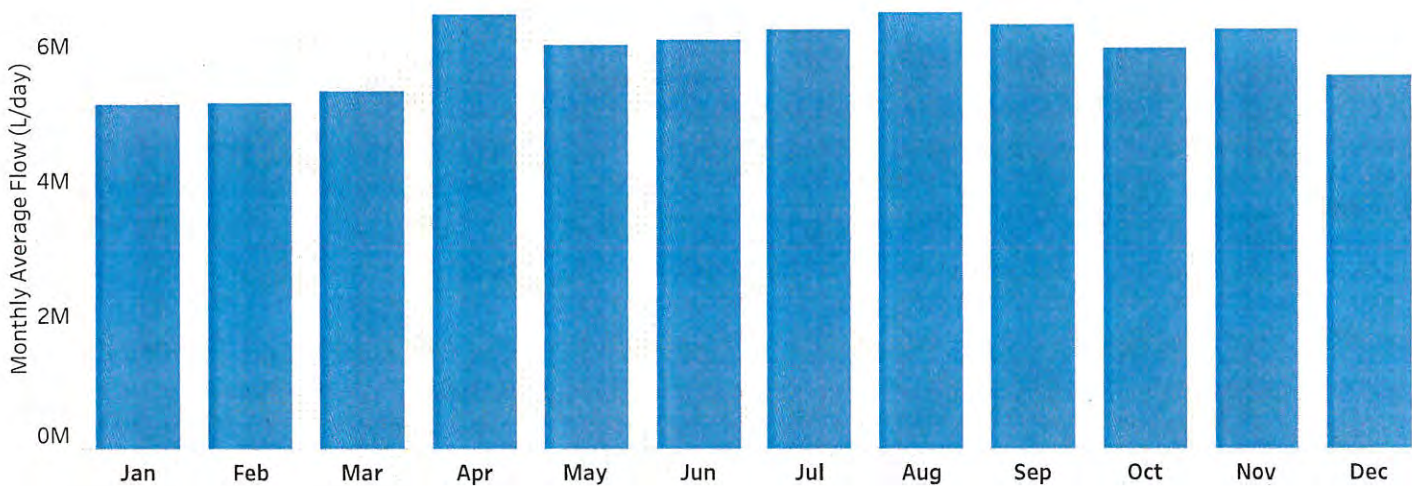
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Sharon/Queensville DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
2.33 mg/L	0.21 mg/L	21 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

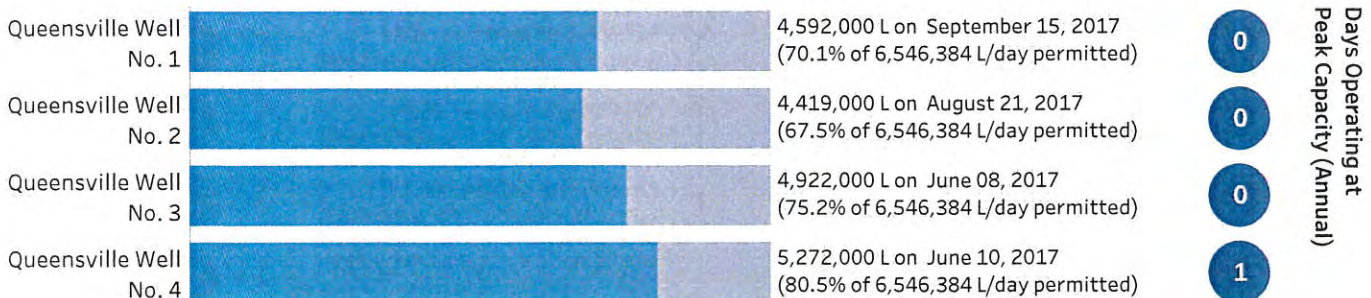
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Sharon/Queensville DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | **Stouffville DWS**

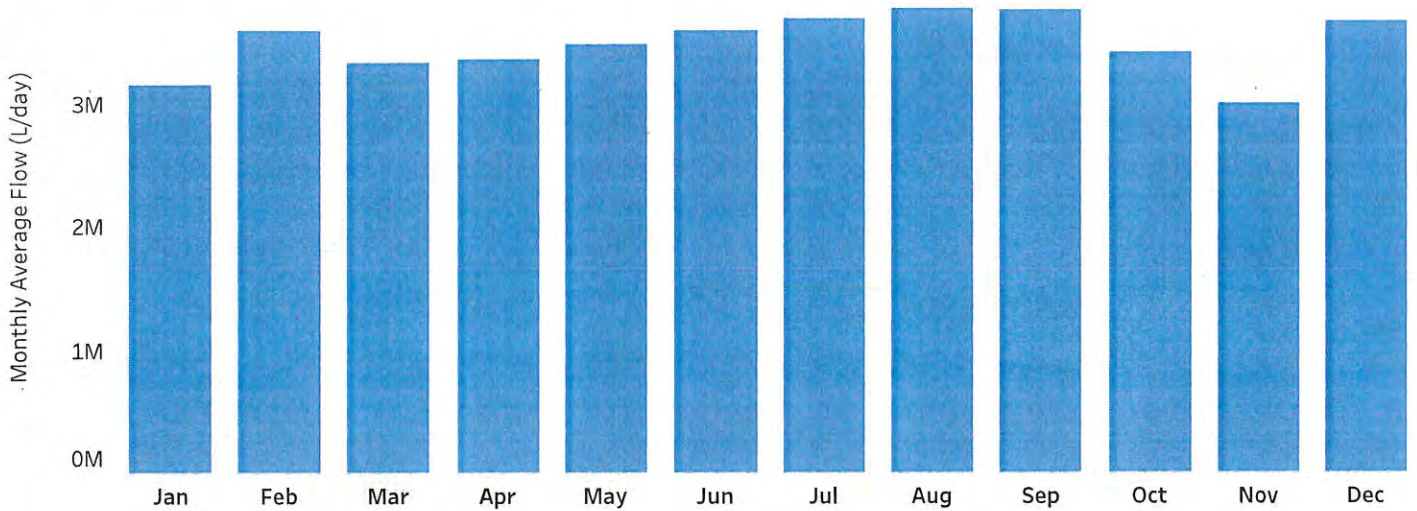
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from treatment and distribution facilities in the Stouffville DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.46 mg/L	0.13 mg/L	38 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

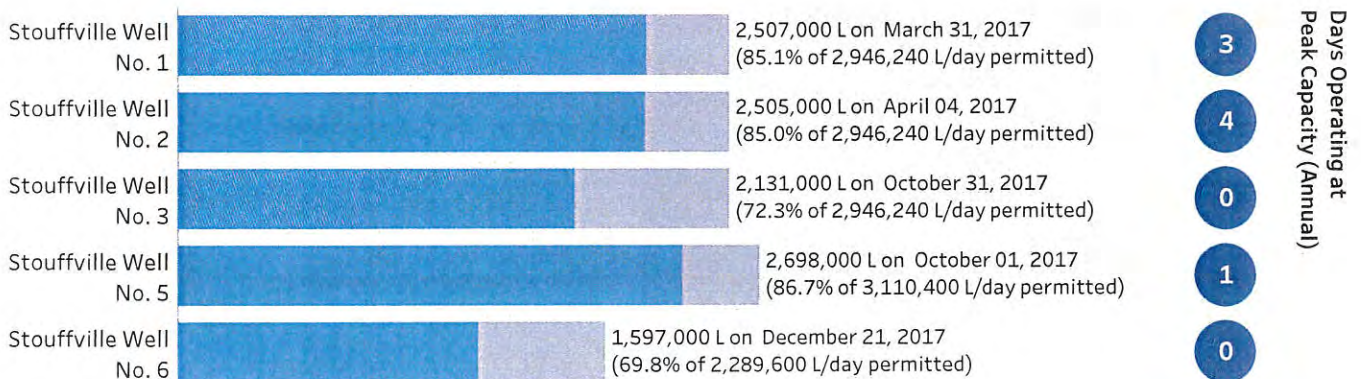
System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the average flow of water produced (treated) in litres per day (L/day) each month in the Stouffville DWS.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Withdrawal

The following chart shows the maximum volume of water produced in a single day from each water supply facility (blue bar) compared to the maximum withdrawal permitted by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (grey bar). Also shown to the right is the number of days where the water supply facilities were operating at peak capacity (80% or more of the permitted withdrawal).



2017 Water Quality & Capacity Summary | York DWS

Vaughan | Richmond Hill | Markham

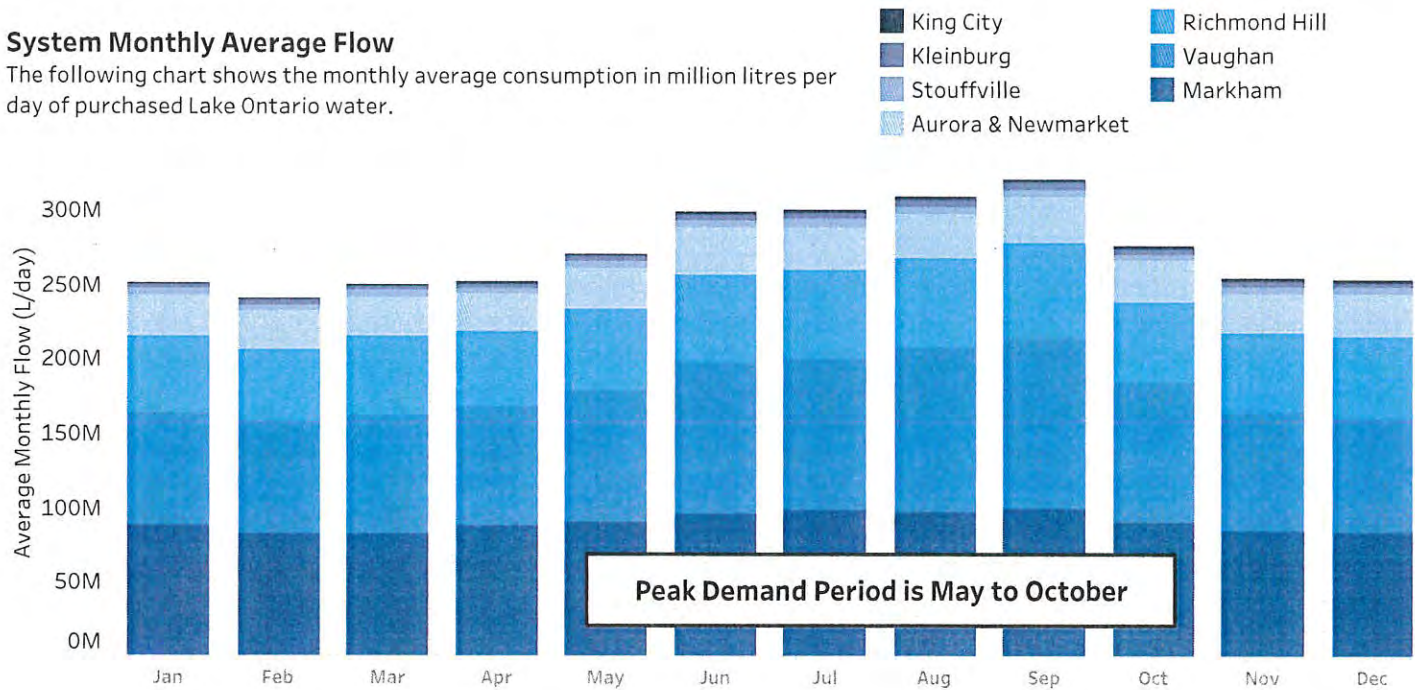
Top Requested Water Quality Parameters

Drinking water is monitored for a wide range of chemical parameters through a combination of continuous monitoring by online analyzers and routine grab samples by operators. The following annual average concentrations in milligrams per litre (mg/L) were reported from distribution facilities in the York DWS.

Chlorine	Fluoride	Sodium	Lead
1.45 mg/L	0.56 mg/L	17 mg/L	Not Detected (<0.0005 mg/L)

System Monthly Average Flow

The following chart shows the monthly average consumption in million litres per day of purchased Lake Ontario water.



Permitted and Actual Maximum Daily Flow

The City of Toronto and Peel Region supply water to York Region under water supply agreements. The following chart shows the maximum volume of water purchased from each municipality in a single day (blue bar) compared to the maximum flow permitted under the applicable water supply agreement (grey bar).



April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: 2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management":

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities for information.

A copy of Clause 10 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 4 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Wendy Kemp, Director, Strategy & Innovation at 1-877-464-9675 at ext. 75141 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,



Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachment

Clause 10 in Report No. 4 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

10

**2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water,
Wastewater and Waste Management**

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated February 13, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities for information.
-

Report dated February 13, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities for information.

2. Purpose

This report updates Council on the status of Environmental Services' Integrated Management System, including water, wastewater and waste management operations. This report on the performance of the management system is required by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard and helps Council to meet its Standard of Care obligations required by the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*.

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

3. Background

Councillors have unique responsibility to ensure safe drinking water under the *Safe Drinking Water Act*

Councillors have a unique and important role to play in ensuring that York Region's drinking water systems provide safe, high-quality drinking water. Section 19 of the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* clarifies the legal responsibility held by people with decision-making authority over municipal drinking water systems by imposing a statutory Standard of Care. Council fulfills this duty through ongoing commitment to financial sustainability of water systems, asset management strategy implementation and continual improvement actions to proactively managing risks to protect the people in the community. This requirement is further defined in the 2017 Drinking Water Systems Report (also on this agenda), and includes the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change's inspection findings.

Environmental Services' Integrated Management System includes registration to ISO 14001, ISO 9001 and Ontario's Drinking Water Quality Management Standard

Environmental Services' Integrated Management System provides a consistent framework for minimizing operational impacts on the environment and protecting residents by complying with applicable regulatory requirements. It also provides a structured approach to continually evaluate and improve program delivery.

Environmental Services' Integrated Management System is a framework consolidating three requirements for delivery of water, wastewater and waste management services. The services to which each of these standards apply are summarized in Table 1. York Region's adherence to ISO standards is voluntary, while compliance with the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard is a legal requirement under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002* and the Municipal Drinking Water Licensing Program.

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

Table 1
Integrated Management System Framework

Services	Management Standard
Water	Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS) International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001 Quality Management Standard
Wastewater Waste Management Public Drop Off Depots	International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14001 Environmental Management Standard

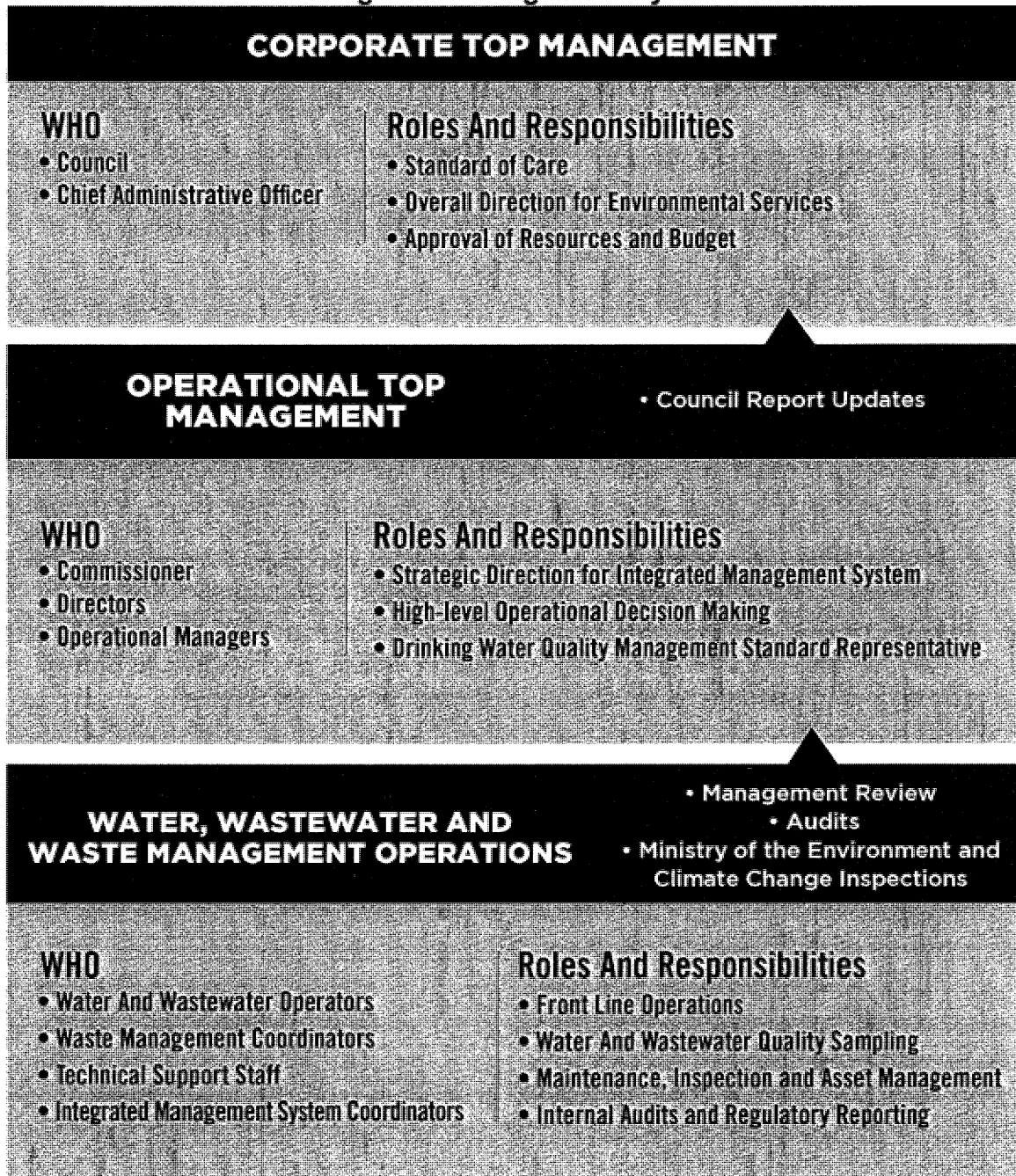
Integrated Management System supports Council's Standard of Care and due diligence obligations

The Integrated Management System aids York Region in meeting the needs of customers and stakeholders, while continually improving quality, monitoring and mitigating risk. It also helps Council fulfill Standard of Care and due diligence requirements by establishing and monitoring appropriate management controls over Regional drinking water systems. Figure 1 summarizes roles and responsibilities, as defined by the System. Council and the Chief Administrative Officer, identified as Corporate Top Management, are required to provide oversight to ensure suitability and effectiveness of the System.

Along with the 2017 Drinking Water Systems Report, this report is one way that information is shared with Council. Council meets its Standard of Care obligations by being informed and asking questions related to the provision of safe drinking water including: the budget process, provision of resources, and approval of Source Water Protection, asset management and capital project plans.

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

**Figure 1
Roles and Responsibilities for Environmental Services
Integrated Management System**

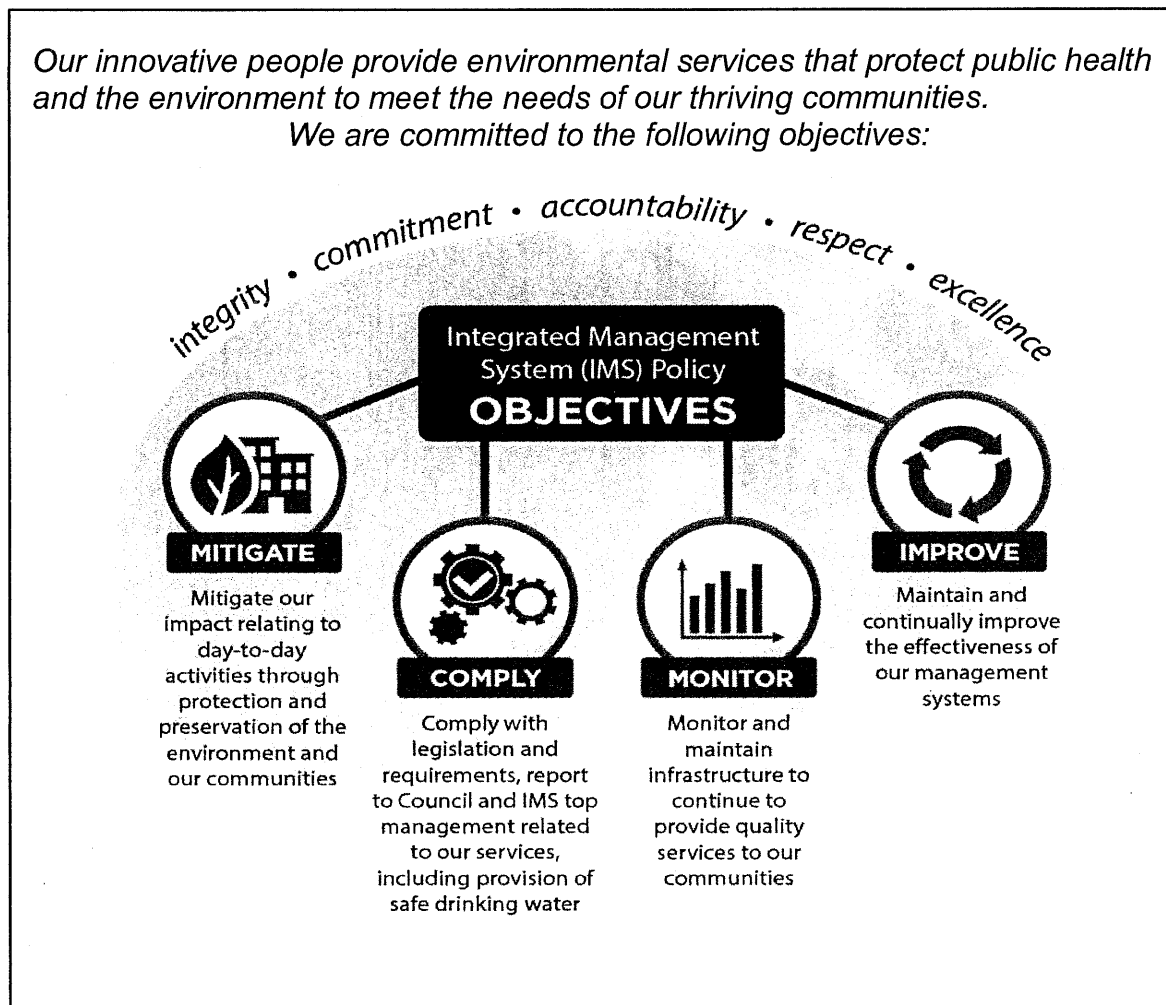


2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

Policy defines the purpose of the Integrated Management System

The Integrated Management System Policy provides the foundation for management system commitments and is displayed at all registered water, wastewater and waste management facilities. The Policy, which aligns with the Corporate Strategic Plan, provides a framework for setting objectives, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2
Integrated Management System Policy



Auditing verifies effectiveness by evaluating conformance with each management system standard

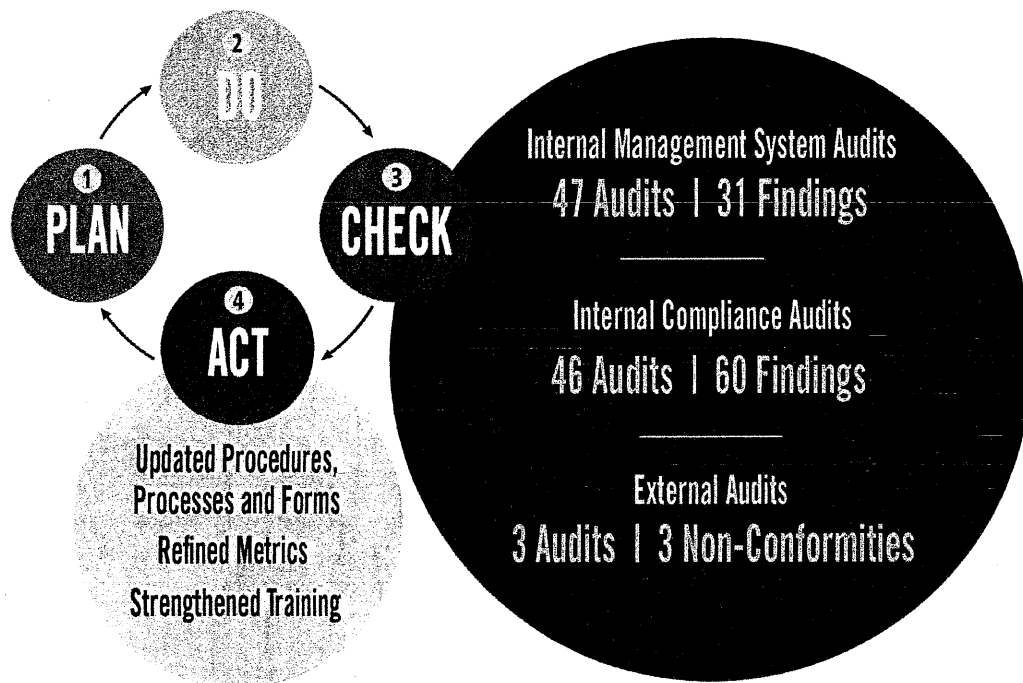
An effective audit program is a critical component of the Integrated Management System. Audit programs monitor compliance with regulatory requirements and strengthen system performance through continual improvement. Both facilities and programs are audited via three types of audits, as shown in Figure 3.

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

- Internal management system audits - conducted by trained auditors within Environmental Services annually, confirm conformance to internal management system requirements
- Internal compliance audits - conducted by certified auditors within Environmental Services annually, evaluate compliance with regulatory requirements
- External audits - completed by a third party registration body annually, confirm conformance to the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard, ISO 9001, and ISO 14001

Figure 3

2017 Regional Water, Wastewater and Waste Management Audits



Audit findings help demonstrate system strength by challenging the status quo

Environmental Services' comprehensive audit program drives continual improvement in the Integrated Management System. Every year, audit findings identify internal business process improvements and system enhancements. Audit findings help demonstrate system health and due diligence by ensuring that staff are continually challenging the status quo and looking for opportunities to strengthen the delivery of services. This practice minimizes risk to the Region, and ensures public safety.

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

Improvements to existing procedures, clarify requirements and strengthen staff training identified through audits

Environmental Services Integrated Management System has provided a systematic approach to addressing audit findings for the past 18 years. Corrective actions identified today tend to be fewer, but are more complex and require more time to implement. For example, keeping in step with each license renewal for every licensed operator that may involve four different types of licenses with varying expiration dates required to re-examine our process. Through the lens of continual improvement, Environmental Services streamlined the process for better records management. External audits conducted in 2017 identified three non-conformities that were minor in nature and required additional refinements to procedures and staff training.

4. Analysis and Implications

Operational Top Management confirms adequacy, suitability and effectiveness of the Integrated Management System

Annual management review meetings are a requirement of the three management standards. Operational Top Management use this opportunity to assess the Integrated Management System. The review focuses on system performance, audit results, regulatory requirements and resources. This collaborative review process helps identify opportunities for continual improvement of business practices to improve efficiency and drive results. Operational Top Management met on February 7, 2018 to review system performance for the past year and confirmed the adequacy, suitability and effectiveness of the Integrated Management System.

Continual improvement initiatives drive efficiencies in Integrated Management System performance

As part of ongoing continual improvement, Environmental Services made several enhancements to internal systems and processes in 2017 to drive efficiencies in water, wastewater and waste management and mitigate risks to the environment. Some of these include:

- Migrated paper documentation (e.g. procedure binders) to electronic via use of field tablets, to improve ready access to the most updated versions of policies, procedures, forms, permits, and approvals

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

- Consulted with stakeholders to refine emergency response plans including reporting requirements, post incident debrief sessions identifying improvement opportunities and ongoing communication with municipal service partners
- Incident tracking processes were improved to ensure continued capture of regulatory information and support departmental data needs
- Completed customized online Integrated Management System overview training for internal stakeholders within Environmental Services to meet ISO standard requirements
- Automated monthly reporting of Integrated Management System performance metrics
- Improved records management for Operator regulatory licensing

Together, the initiatives above support efficiency, cost savings, and enhanced system performance, which help strengthen the Integrated Management System.

Integrated Management System is expanding to further benefit departmental processes and reduce risk

Throughout 2017, application of Integrated Management System principles expanded, including defining overarching capital delivery processes, improving inter-departmental processes, and developing metrics to monitor performance requirements. Benefits include streamlined project management documentation, improved transparency, efficiency and rigour facilitating regulatory compliance. These enhancements will be monitored through system controls, reporting and regular process auditing.

Waste Management expands scope to strengthen customer focus

The Region's public waste drop-off facilities are currently registered to ISO 14001 and are undergoing scope expansion to include ISO 9001 registration. This work is scheduled and on track for 2018. In 2016, a multi-year implementation plan was initiated, and throughout 2017, project milestones were met. Achieving ISO 9001 registration will strengthen our customer focus and provide additional opportunities to mitigate operational risks, and working closely with end markets regarding product quality.

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

Work plan and audit schedule developed to support updates to DWQMS, ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 management standards

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change finalized changes to the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard in 2017. As a result, Environmental Services is continuing to implement changes to meet the new requirements including updates to our risk assessment incorporating climate change implications and finalizing updates to the Management System Policy Manual in early 2018. All updates will be implemented before the Region's 2019 deadline, to transition to the new requirements.

ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 management standards were updated by the International Organization for Standardization in September 2015. The revised standards now follow a common framework for system structure and include alignment of terms and definitions. Conformance to 2015 versions of the standards must be achieved by September 2018. A transition audit is scheduled for May 2018 to facilitate continued ISO 9001 and 14001 registration.

5. Financial Considerations

Integrated Management System helps mitigate risk, comply with regulatory requirements and support continual improvement

Investment in the management system assists Council with meeting Standard of Care obligations prescribed in the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*. The management system leverages a framework for staff to mitigate risk, monitor and comply with regulatory requirements and continually improve programs and processes used to deliver water, wastewater, and waste management services.

Total annual program costs to operate the Integrated Management System are \$1.2 million, including external audit services, and were approved by Council through the 2018 budget process. Eighty per cent of program costs are funded from water and wastewater user rates, representing 0.24 per cent of the total rate budget. Twenty per cent of program costs are funded from the tax levy portion designated for waste management activities under the scope of the Integrated Management System.

2017 Integrated Management System Update Report for Water, Wastewater and Waste Management

6. Local Municipal Impact

Lessons learned are shared with provincial and municipal partners

An Integrated Management System for Environmental Services provides benefits to local municipalities as it supports a systematic approach to mitigating risk and environmental impacts. It also helps improve service delivery by documenting customer and regulatory requirements in a shared service delivery model for water, wastewater and waste management operations. All local municipalities have a quality management system to meet requirements of the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard. Environmental Services staff meet regularly with municipal and provincial partners to address challenges, share best practices, develop common approaches and evaluate operating procedures to provide effective service delivery. These meetings include participation in quarterly Municipal Water and Wastewater Regulatory Committee, informal local municipal DWQMS/Compliance meetings also held quarterly, and the annual Drinking Water Quality Management Standard provincial workshop.

7. Conclusion

Providing information on enhancements and the performance of the Integrated Management System supports Council in meeting Standard of Care requirements under the *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*. Continual improvement projects help make the system more efficient and accomplish greater risk mitigation with the same resources. Rigorous and comprehensive evaluation performed under the management system, including the audit program and management review process, demonstrates York Region's commitment to ongoing improvement of its programs and services.

For more information on this report, please contact Wendy Kemp, Director, Strategy & Innovation at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75141.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

February 13, 2018

8205962

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: All-Way Stop Control on Regional Roads

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "All-Way Stop Control on Regional Roads":

1. Council delegate authority to the Commissioner of Transportation Services to implement an all-way stop control at intersections under the Region's jurisdiction, where warranted or where required to improve traffic operations and traveller safety.
2. The Regional Clerk be authorized to amend the schedule to the all-way stop control bylaw to reflect any decisions made by the Commissioner of Transportation Services under delegated authority.
3. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to local municipalities and the Chief of York Regional Police.
4. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaw.

A copy of Clause 7 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 4 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Joseph Petrunaro at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75220 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Christopher Raynor', written in a cursive style.

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachment

Clause 7 in Report No. 4 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

7

All-Way Stop Control on Regional Roads

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. Council delegate authority to the Commissioner of Transportation Services to implement an all-way stop control at intersections under the Region's jurisdiction, where warranted or where required to improve traffic operations and traveller safety.
2. The Regional Clerk be authorized to amend the schedule to the all-way stop control bylaw to reflect any decisions made by the Commissioner of Transportation Services under delegated authority.
3. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to local municipalities and the Chief of York Regional Police.
4. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaw.

Report dated February 14, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Council delegate authority to the Commissioner of Transportation Services to implement an all-way stop control at intersections under the Region's jurisdiction, where warranted or where required to improve traffic operations and traveller safety.
2. The Regional Clerk be authorized to amend the schedule to the all-way stop control bylaw to reflect any decisions made by the Commissioner of Transportation Services under delegated authority.

All-Way Stop Control on Regional Roads

3. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to local municipalities and the Chief of York Regional Police.
4. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaw.

2. Purpose

This report recommends Council delegate authority to the Commissioner of Transportation Services to implement an all-way stop control at intersections under the Region's jurisdiction as required. This would allow staff to enact Regional stop-control immediately in those instances where the situation warrants such action, as explained herein.

3. Background

The *Ontario Highway Traffic Act* permits municipalities to implement an all-way stop control

The *Ontario Highway Traffic Act* governs the installation of stop control. Section 137(a) stipulates council of a municipality may, through bylaw, provide for the installation of stop signs at intersections on highways under its jurisdiction.

The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario provides criteria for implementation of an all-way stop control

The Region evaluates intersections for an all-way stop control using criteria set out by the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario. The criteria consist of vehicular and pedestrian volumes, as well as collision experience. In addition, an all-way stop control may be considered when traffic engineering studies indicate it will be effective in addressing safety concerns.

The majority of all-way stops are recommended by staff through engineering studies. In the past five years, Council has endorsed six all-way stop locations. Two of the six locations satisfied Ontario Traffic Manual all-way stop criteria while four were recommended by staff in order to address traffic safety concerns.

All-Way Stop Control on Regional Roads

The *Municipal Act, 2001* permits delegation of certain powers and duties of Council, subject to conditions

Section 23.1 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* permits municipalities to delegate their powers and duties subject to certain restrictions, depending on the nature and scope of the delegation. A delegation may be made to members of Council, committees, individuals appointed by Council or Regional staff and may be subject to conditions that Council considers appropriate. In 2015, under this provision, Council delegated authority to the Commissioner of Transportation Services to implement load restrictions on Regional roads, thereby eliminating the need for Council approval in each case.

Council has since delegated authority to the Commissioner to implement and remove right turn on red restrictions, as well as U-Turn restrictions, as appropriate. In each case, the Regional Clerk was authorized to amend the schedule to the respective bylaws to maintain an official record of the Commissioner's decisions.

Traffic control is approved though delegated authority or Council approval

The Region uses three main types of intersection control measures. Evaluation and approval for each type varies as follows:

- Two-way stop control is the default intersection control. Under the Highway Traffic Act and Bylaw R-629-79-109, stop control is automatically assigned to a lower volume road that intersects with a "Through Highway". All Regional roads are designated as "Through Highway".
- All-way stop control is evaluated using the Ontario Traffic Manual all-way stop criteria. Currently, to install an all-way stop, Bylaw R-629-79-109 must be amended which requires Council approval. This report recommends delegating authority to the Commissioner of Transportation Services to install all-way stop where warranted or where required.
- Traffic signals are evaluated using the Ontario Traffic Manual Traffic Signal Warrant. Under Bylaw 2016-3, staff has delegated authority to install traffic signals that satisfy the traffic signal warrant. However, when the warrant criteria has not been satisfied, traffic signal installation can only be approved by Council.

4. Analysis and Implications

An all-way stop control provides for the orderly movement of traffic and helps reduce right-angle and turning movement collisions

An all-way stop control provides for the orderly movement of traffic and is recommended at intersections with high collision frequency to help reduce right-angle and turning movement collisions. An all-way stop control is not as common at Regional intersections as traffic signals. An all-way stop control is generally considered at intersections of two lower volume roadways with relatively similar traffic volumes and operating characteristics on all approaches.

Under some circumstances, an all-way stop control may improve traffic operations and traveller safety, despite not meeting Ministry of Transportation of Ontario criteria. Examples include locations with unconventional intersection configuration, limited sight distance or unique traffic patterns.

Delegated authority is requested to implement an all-way stop control when required

To be more responsive to traffic operations and traveller safety, delegated authority is requested for the Commissioner of Transportation Services to implement an all-way stop control at intersections under the Region's jurisdiction as required. This would allow staff to react more quickly to operational and safety concerns. Enactment of a bylaw providing for the delegation and setting out the criteria to be applied is required.

To ensure appropriate records are maintained, the Commissioner will formally advise the Regional Clerk of any decisions made under the delegated authority and that the Regional Clerk be directed to amend the schedule to the bylaw governing all-way stop control and to notify York Regional Police of the amendments.

Council may continue to receive deputations to review an all-way stop control assessment

Citizens may appear at any public meeting of council or a Committee and present a deputation to request an all-way stop control or request results of a previous assessment be reconsidered. Council may refer the deputation to staff for review or exercise their powers to approve or deny the request.

All-Way Stop Control on Regional Roads

5. Financial Considerations

There is no financial impact as a result of this report. Costs to implement any all-way stop control would be included in the annual Transportation Services Operating Budget.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Local municipal staff would be consulted on a case-by-case basis when considering implementing an all-way stop control at intersections under the Region's jurisdiction.

7. Conclusion

An all-way stop control provides for the orderly movement of traffic and helps reduce right-angle and turning movement collisions. In addition, an all-way stop control may be implemented at specific locations to improve traffic operations and traveller safety despite not meeting Ministry of Transportation of Ontario criteria.

As permitted under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Council may delegate certain powers and duties to staff to promote efficiencies in managing daily business.

Delegated authority is requested for the Commissioner of Transportation Services to implement an all-way stop control at intersections under the Region's jurisdiction. The Commissioner will formally advise and direct the Regional Clerk to amend the schedule to the bylaw governing all-way stop control and to notify York Regional Police of the amendments.

For more information on this report, please contact Joseph Petrunaro, Director, Roads and Traffic Operations, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75220.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

February 14, 2018

8205873

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 - Community Safety and Well-being Plans

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 Community Safety and Well-being Plans":

1. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services be requested to extend funding to municipalities required to complete a Community Safety and Well-being Plan in the amounts made available during the community pilots.
2. Council confirm the direction to proceed, subject to budget consideration, with completion of a Community Safety and Well-being Plan to meet the statutory requirements once they have been established.
3. Council direct the Commissioner of Community and Health Services to revise the Terms of Reference for the Human Services Planning Board of York Region to also meet the requirements of the "Advisory Committee" set out in Bill 175, and report to Council in June 2018 with a revised Terms of Reference for approval.
4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the local municipalities, the Human Services Planning Board of York Region and the Chief of York Regional Police.

A copy of Clause 17 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 4 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CR', written over a faint circular stamp or watermark.

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachment

Clause 17 in Report No. 4 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

17

**Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017
Community Safety and Well-being Plans**

Committee of the Whole recommends:

1. Receipt of the memorandum from Joy Hulton, Regional Solicitor dated March 1, 2018 regarding “AMO Submission on Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act and The Regional Municipality of York’s Written Submission to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy” and endorsement of AMO’s submissions and the written submissions to be made on behalf of Regional Council in support of AMO’s position.
2. Receipt of the communication from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario dated February 12, 2018 regarding “AMO’s Submission on Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act”.
3. Adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:
 1. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services be requested to extend funding to municipalities required to complete a Community Safety and Well-being Plan in the amounts made available during the community pilots.
 2. Council confirm the direction to proceed, subject to budget consideration, with completion of a Community Safety and Well-being Plan to meet the statutory requirements once they have been established.
 3. Council direct the Commissioner of Community and Health Services to revise the Terms of Reference for the Human Services Planning Board of York Region to also meet the requirements of the “Advisory Committee” set out in Bill 175, and report to Council in June 2018 with a revised Terms of Reference for approval.
 4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the local municipalities, the Human Services Planning Board of York Region and the Chief of York Regional Police.

Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 Community Safety and Well-being Plans

Report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services be requested to extend funding to municipalities required to complete a Community Safety and Well-being Plan in the amounts made available during the community pilots.
2. Council confirm the direction to proceed, subject to budget consideration, with completion of a Community Safety and Well-being Plan to meet the statutory requirements once they have been established.
3. Council direct the Commissioner of Community and Health Services to revise the Terms of Reference for the Human Services Planning Board of York Region to also meet the requirements of the "Advisory Committee" set out in Bill 175, and report to Council in June 2018 with a revised Terms of Reference for approval.
4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the local municipalities, the Human Services Planning Board of York Region and the Chief of York Regional Police.

2. Purpose

This report informs Council about the province's proposed requirements that will mandate municipalities to develop Community Safety and Well-being Plans and to establish an Advisory Committee as part of Bill 175, Section XIII, Safer Ontario Act, 2017. It recommends advocating for funding to cover costs of preparing the Plan, directing staff to proceed with completion of a Plan to meet the statutory requirements once they have been established, and amending the Terms of Reference for the Human Services Planning Board of York Region to meet the requirements of the "Advisory Committee" set out in Bill 175.

Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 (the Bill) has received Second Reading and was referred to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy. The Committee held public hearings in the City of Toronto on February 22, 2018 and March 1, 2018.

3. Background

The Ontario Government has developed a new framework for community safety with the introduction of Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017

On November 2, 2017, the Province of Ontario introduced Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 a comprehensive public safety legislative package that, if passed, would represent the largest policing transformation in a generation.

Although the proposed Bill focuses largely on policing issues, it also requires each municipality in Ontario to develop a Community Safety and Well-being Plan (the Plan) and to establish an Advisory Committee to guide the Plan.

In 2012, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (the Ministry) began working with municipal, policing and community safety stakeholders to address the rising cost of policing and local community concerns. Main components of the Ministry's work were focused on Community Safety and Well-being Plans. Most recently, the Ministry released a booklet Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Framework: A Shared Commitment in Ontario that includes a toolkit for Community Safety and Well-being Planning, including the establishment of advisory bodies and implementation teams.

As part of a provincial initiative, eight municipalities were selected by the Ministry to pilot aspects of Community Safety and Well-being Planning to ensure that they are as practical and helpful as possible. These municipalities include: the Regions of Waterloo and Chatham-Kent, the Cities of Greater Sudbury, Brantford, Sault Ste. Marie and Kenora, the Town of Bancroft and the Township of Rama. Provincial grants were provided to each municipality, ranging from \$80,000 - \$185,000. In addition, Halton Region and the Halton Region Police Services recently jointly prepared a Community Safety and Well-being Plan.

The Community Safety and Well-being Plans must identify risk factors to the community and identify holistic strategies to reduce prioritized risk factors

Provincially, the concept of Community Safety and Well-being Planning has been championed by the Ontario Working Group on Collaborative, Risk-driven Community Safety (a subcommittee of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police) and the Ontario Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. In 2014, the Ontario Working Group released the report New Directions in Community Safety which encourages Community Safety and Well-being Planning within four levels of intervention. The levels include:

Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 Community Safety and Well-being Plans

- **Social Development:** Addressing the underlying causes of social issues through upstream approaches that promote and maintain individual and community wellness. This includes opportunities for employment, income, adequate housing, access to education and other supports that promote social and economic inclusion.
- **Prevention:** Applying proactive strategies to known and identified risks that are likely to result in harm to individuals or communities if left unmitigated.
- **Risk Intervention:** Identifying and responding to situations of acutely elevated risk and mobilizing immediate interventions before an emergency or crisis-driven response is required.
- **Emergency Response:** Circumstances that require intervention by first responders such as police, paramedics and other crisis-driven services in the human services system.

Community Safety and Well-being Planning is a collaborative process so that people in need of help receive the right response, at the right time, and by the right service provider

This approach to planning recognizes that complex risks to safety and well-being cannot be addressed in isolation by any one organization or sector. Too often, situations rooted in issues like mental health, addictions, a lack of safe and affordable housing, inadequate access to services or social isolation require an emergency response from the police, paramedics, hospital emergency department or other crisis-driven services. In many cases, these issues could be addressed earlier and more effectively through greater collaboration among sectors including police, paramedics, education, public health, healthcare, social services and community-based human services agencies (Community Safety and Well-Being in Halton, 2017).

4. Analysis and Implications

Community Safety and Well-being Plans will require municipal government, police and the community to work together to address crime, victimization and community safety

The purpose of these Plans is for municipal government, police, community-based organizations and other sector representatives to work collaboratively to find solutions to crime, victimization and community safety by mobilizing resources. As currently drafted, the Bill states the Plans must:

Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 Community Safety and Well-being Plans

- Identify risk factors in the municipality such as systemic discrimination and other social factors that contribute to crime, victimization, addiction, drug overdose and suicide and other prescribed factors
- Identify which risk factors the municipality will treat as a priority
- Identify strategies to reduce risk factors, including providing new services, changing services, improving integration and coordinating existing services in a different way
- Set out measurable outcomes
- Address any other issues that the municipal government may prescribe by regulation

Council must also:

- Publish the Plan
- Monitor, evaluate and report on the progress of the Plan
- Review the Plan within timelines to be established by regulation
- Provide information to the Minister such as how the Plan was prepared, implementation and outcomes. If a municipality does not meet its Community Safety and Well-being obligations, the Minister may appoint a Community Safety and Well-being Planner, with costs to be paid by the municipality.

Municipal councils must prepare and adopt their first Community Safety and Well-being Plan within two years of the Bill coming into force. Timelines for review and implementation, details for the Plan and Advisory Committee requirements will be set out in regulation.

Municipalities would be required to establish an Advisory Committee to guide preparation of Community Safety and Well-being Plans

The Advisory Committee must be representative of the municipality (or municipalities), having regard for the diversity of the population. Subject to the regulations, membership at a minimum must include representatives from the Local Health Integration Network, healthcare, education, social services, child services, a municipal employee or a member of municipal council, a person who represents the police services board and others as prescribed.

Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 Community Safety and Well-being Plans

Municipalities are also required to consult with members of the public, including racialized groups and members of First Nation, Inuit and Metis communities. The province may prescribe other consultation requirements.

Under Bill 175 Community Safety and Well-being Plans can be developed individually or jointly by municipalities

Bill 175 does not differentiate between upper and lower tier municipalities when referencing a municipality or council. While the details of implementation will be set out in regulation, as it is currently written York Region may develop Plans in the following ways:

- One joint Region-wide Plan with the nine local municipalities; or
- Ten separate Plans by the Region and each of the nine local municipalities; or
- Somewhere between one and ten Plans, depending upon whether groups of municipalities chose to jointly prepare Plans.

Initial indications from local municipal staff are that they are interested in having one joint Region wide Plan. York Regional Police has also expressed interest in a partnership with the Region to develop and implement the Plan.

There is potential for the Human Services Planning Board to take on the Community Safety and Well-being Advisory Committee function

A recent review of existing boards/committees which align with the conditions set out by the Province, indicates that York Region's Human Services Planning Board may be most suited to take on this additional mandate for the Region.

Human Services Planning Board membership already includes representatives from most of the sectors required. The current membership includes:

- Catholic and Public school boards
- Southlake and Markham-Stouffville Hospitals
- Central Local Health Integration Network
- York Regional Police
- The United Way of Toronto and York Region
- Members of Regional council

Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 Community Safety and Well-being Plans

- Business community
- Social services organizations
- Community leaders
- Federal and provincial governments

Additional representatives would need to be added to meet the minimum requirements set out in the Bill, for example, a person who represents the police services board, child services and social services and representatives of all local area municipalities participating in development of a joint plan. Coordination and support to the Board would continue to be provided by the Community and Health Services Department with Regional staff from other departments participating as required.

The Human Services Planning Board's Terms of Reference would need to be changed to reflect the new mandate to act as the Advisory Committee

The Human Services Planning Board is currently in the final year of its term. Subject to approval of recommendation three, staff will report back to Council in June 2018, with a revised Terms of Reference for approval.

Community Safety and Well-being Plans align with existing Regional priorities and plans

One of the objectives of York Region's Official Plan is to promote human health and well-being in York Region; a place where people can live, work, play and learn in accessible and safe communities. Community Safety and Well-being Plans have a major focus on identifying risks and proactive solutions.

The Region has a number of well-established boards/committees, programs and plans based on the same or similar outcomes which the Community Well-Being and Safety Plans would be based on, such as:

- The Human Services Planning Board
- York Region Mental Health Hub Steering Committee
- The Crisis Intervention Working Group
- The Region's 10-year Housing Plan

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario does not support mandating municipalities to develop Community Well-Being and Safety Plans, and will be making a submission to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario does not support the mandated development of a Community Safety and Well-being Plan or the requirement to establish an Advisory Committee. It believes the Province has not fully considered what the new requirements set out in Bill 175 would mean for municipal governments in terms of capacity to deliver, costs and ability to implement, or what the risk of non-compliance would mean to communities.

Regional staff have identified further areas of concern including a lack of clarity on the timelines for review, municipal implementation expectations and associated costs as well as the requirements of the Advisory Committee, such as approval of members.

In addition, the Bill does not include a specific role for the police services to take part in the Advisory Committee, outside of having a person who represents the police services board on the Committee. This is somewhat of a shortcoming given the positive and productive experiences we have had with York Regional Police on a number of joint initiatives (such as Mental Health Matters and the Rapid Response table) and shared activities (such as participation on the Human Services Planning Board and the York Region Seniors Strategy).

5. Financial Considerations

Mandating municipal Community Safety and Well-being Plans and Advisory Committees would have financial implications to the Region

Development of the Plan, implementation and monitoring represent a new work load for the Region, as well as all local municipalities. The extended consultation requirements and amount of work required to develop, monitor and evaluate the Plan could become significant and may not be absorbed within existing resources.

Depending on the Advisory Committee design, the Region may need to provide additional secretariat support which could have resource implications such as: staffing, administrative support, public engagement costs, research and publication of a Plan.

Bill 175, Safer Ontario Act, 2017 Community Safety and Well-being Plans

To date, the province has not committed any funding for this additional work. Staff will assess the required resources and potential costs once the Bill is enacted. This will be brought forward as part of future budget submissions. Provincial funding in the amounts granted for municipal pilots (\$80,000-\$185,000) would help offset cost implications. It is recommended that the province be requested to fund its legislated direction.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Creating safe, complete and healthy communities represents a common goal for local municipalities and Community Safety and Well-being Plans. These Plans will help to ensure that risks to community safety in areas such as mental health, addiction, homelessness and housing concerns are addressed without the use of emergency resources.

7. Conclusion

The expectation is that implementation and monitoring details will be finalized once regulations are added before the Bill receives Royal Assent. The development of a Plan along with an Advisory Committee is a positive step towards a framework that is community-focused, accountable, sustainable and culturally responsive, but the need for provincial financial assistance is evident.

This provincial direction is more prescriptive than the work currently being carried out by a number of cross-functional, inter-governmental and agency groups. Recommendations coming from an "Advisory Committee" will have financial implications for the province (e.g. healthcare and community services) and municipalities, and will likely need to be prioritized for consideration in budgets.

Staff will continue to monitor the Bill and assess potential impacts on the Region as it progresses through the legislative process. A full overview of the legislation will be communicated to Council once the Bill has been finalized.

For more information on this report, please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships Branch at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

February 16, 2018

#8201617

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding “Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review”:

1. The Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review (Attachment 1) be posted on the york.ca and yorklink.ca websites and circulated by the Regional Clerk to local municipalities, local chambers of commerce and boards of trade, ventureLAB, York Region Arts Council and Toronto Global.

A copy of Clause 6 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 5 is enclosed for your information. The 2017 Year in Review (Attachment 1) can be found on york.ca.

Please contact Doug Lindeblom, Director, Economic Strategy at 1-877-464-9675 ext.71503 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,



Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S. Dumont
Attachments

Clause 6 in Report No. 5 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

6

Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 2, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Acting Chief Planner:

1. The Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review (Attachment 1) be posted on the york.ca and yorklink.ca websites and circulated by the Regional Clerk to local municipalities, local chambers of commerce and boards of trade, ventureLAB, York Region Arts Council and Toronto Global.

Report dated March 2, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Acting Chief Planner now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review (Attachment 1) be posted on the york.ca and yorklink.ca websites and circulated by the Regional Clerk to local municipalities, local chambers of commerce and boards of trade, ventureLAB, York Region Arts Council and Toronto Global.

2. Purpose

This report provides a summary of the Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review which highlights economic activity in the Region and the impact of York Region programs on business and job growth.

3. Background

Business and job growth are fundamental to the Region's success

Economic vitality remains a strategic priority and cornerstone for building a prosperous Region. The importance of a strong economy is identified in strategic guiding documents of Council, including Vision 2051, the York Region Official Plan, 2010 and the Strategic Plan.

Business and job growth are fundamental to the Region's economic vitality and quality of life. Attracting and retaining a variety of high quality jobs across a broad range of sectors promotes economic resilience and helps ensure those living in York Region have the opportunity to work and thrive where they live.

The Council-approved Economic Development Action Plan guides business-support programs and activities

Council approved the Economic Development Action Plan 2016 to 2019 on January 21, 2016. [The Plan](#) guides the economic development activities of the Region and outlines programs that explore the Region's economy and business needs, connects businesses into a network that promotes innovation and growth, and shares success stories with audiences to generate interest and excitement both within and outside York Region. The Plan calls for Council to receive an annual update on business activity in the Region and the impact and results generated by Regional programs.

4. Analysis and Implications

York Region job growth outpaced national, provincial and GTA labour force employment growth

The Region continues to grow and add businesses and jobs at a rate faster than many Canadian jurisdictions, as identified in the [Employment and Industry Report](#) presented to Council in February, 2017. (See Table 1)

Table 1
Comparison of Annual Employment Growth Rates: Canada, Ontario, GTA and York Region 2012 - 2017

	Canada	Ontario	Greater Toronto Area	York Region
2012-2013	1.4%	2.0%	4.5%	4.0%
2013-2014	0.5%	0.5%	-1.5%	2.3%
2014-2015	1.0%	1.1%	4.3%	2.8%
2015-2016	0.4%	0.5%	0.9%	3.6%
2016-2017	2.1%	1.8%	1.4%	3.3%

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development Branch and Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey, 3-month moving average, unadjusted for seasonality

*Note: The Statistics Canada's labour force data provides a broad overview of labour force trends at the national, provincial and GTA levels. Direct comparisons should not be drawn when comparing the Statistics Canada's employed labour force data to York Region's employment survey data. Refer to Attachment 1 on page 3 for a more detailed explanation.

The Employment and Industry report identifies the Region's economy as diverse, made up of numerous 'traded clusters', or groupings of like-companies that generate wealth through export of goods and services outside the Region. Foreign investment and exporting of goods and services continue to be hallmarks of the Region's economy.

York Region is a top business destination

York Region is located in one of the most attractive and vibrant economic areas in North America and is well positioned to address challenges and capitalize on opportunities in the economy. The Region's economy is supported by core attributes of strong population and employment growth, a skilled labour force, a high quality of life that attracts talent, established and diversified industry clusters, major infrastructure and transportation investments, and locational and accessibility factors, amongst others.

York Region's first new subway and major infrastructure investments are a catalyst for economic growth

The Region's commitment to infrastructure investments and transportation expansion is enabling business growth. Transportation infrastructure such as the Viva bus rapid transit and Spadina Subway extension into Vaughan support tremendous office and residential construction and business attraction. Regional Council continues to place a priority on future infrastructure improvements such as the Yonge North Subway Extension that will support new business opportunities.

As the Region's urban structure continues to evolve and the Regional Centres and Corridors mature, these core attributes combined with the Region's office real estate, digital broadband infrastructure and innovation, help maintain and promote York Region's continued competitiveness as a top business location in the Greater Toronto Area.

Many factors impact businesses' ability to grow and prosper

York Region is not an isolated economy, and local business and employment growth are closely tied with external economic conditions, trends, and government policies. Examples of external and macro-level factors that have a direct impact on York Region's economic growth prospects include exchange and interest rates, costs of doing business (e.g. hydro rates, corporate taxes, labour force costs, etc.), business regulations, the labour force pool (e.g. educational institutions, immigration etc.), business incentives, U.S. and global trade agreements, and capital markets. York Region's continued shift toward a knowledge-and-services-based economy is an example of the significant impact such external factors have on the local economy.

Regional programs support growth of local businesses and jobs

York Region's Economic Development Action Plan addresses key economic challenges and opportunities facing York Region, and translates them into economic action areas for programs.

In collaboration with local municipalities and a network of business partners, York Region's Economic Strategy division provides services in the areas of business advisory, economic research, innovation, and investment attraction marketing and sales. Innovation and business expansion/attraction are supported region-wide via the Region's Investment and Marketing (York Link) and the Strategic Economic Initiatives programs. Entrepreneurship services are delivered in York Region's northern six municipalities by the York Small Business Enterprise Centre (YSBEC).

Since 2010, Regional business advisory programs facilitated the creation of over 3,000 new and expansion jobs across York Region

Job growth is a key priority of Council as identified in the 2016 to 2019 Strategic Plan. Since 2010, business advisory services and associated initiatives delivered by York Region's Economic Strategy team facilitated the creation of about 3,300 new and expansion jobs across York Region by private sector employers. In collaboration with local municipalities Regional staff also facilitated the retention of thousands of local jobs over that period as companies continue to assess location options related to operational and talent attraction needs.

In 2017 York Region's Economic Strategy team engaged over 800 businesses and entrepreneurs within and outside York Region to facilitate Business Retention,

Expansion and Attraction (BRE&A) in collaboration with local municipalities. The attached ‘2017 - Year in Review’ features some of the Region’s businesses and key initiatives undertaken across program areas. Highlights include:

- Over 800 businesses engaged by Regional staff, of which 45% resulted in BRE&A in York Region
- Collaborating with the Town of Newmarket to facilitate the attraction of Canadian electronics manufacturing giant Celestica, creating 500 jobs in Northern York Region
- Collaborating with local municipalities to facilitate expansion of key employers in York Region including GM Canadian Technical Centre in the City of Markham (from 300 initial jobs to 700) and automotive components manufacturer Martinrea International in the City of Vaughan
- Providing investment after care support to key new businesses in York Region such as GM Canada, KPMG Canada and Citrix Systems Canada
- Winning the 2017 International Economic Development Council (IEDC) ‘Silver’ Award in the Business Retention and Expansion program category
- Providing operational and marketing support to Toronto Global in its efforts to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
- Supporting office developers in the Region’s growth centres and rapid transit corridors
- Facilitating involvement of York Region’s local municipalities in the Ontario Auto Mayors roundtable to promote awareness, advocacy and government policy initiatives related to the local automotive and auto parts manufacturing sector
- Developing an extensive network of business advisory services partners and multipliers in the private and public sector, in York Region and beyond
- Launching a new adult business entrepreneurship program named Starter Company Plus through the YSBEC and supporting 16 new young entrepreneurs through the Summer Company program

Marketing through ‘York Link’ continues to facilitate expansion and attraction of office employers in York Region

Launched in 2016, York Region’s York Link economic development marketing strategy promotes the Region as the place “Where Talent and Opportunity Intersect.” It complements and reinforces direct-to-business sales and advisory services with dedicated digital media platforms and awareness initiatives.

‘York Link’ is focused on building awareness of York Region as a destination of choice for knowledge-based office employers, particularly in its urban growth centres and transit corridors. It showcases the Region as a place where businesses

thrive in a fast-growing and urbanizing region by having access to the right resources.

The strategy targets office employers, business decision makers and professionals in key knowledge based growth sectors such as Information & Communications Technology (ICT), Financial Services, Business and Professional Services, Corporate Head Offices, Healthcare Technology and Engineering.

Within a short period of time York Link has delivered meaningful, on the ground results and has become a recognized brand within the business community. Marketing highlights in 2017 include:

- Digital and Social Media
 - 40,000 annual visits to the York Link website in 2017, representing an 85% increase from year end 2015
 - 18,600 followers across York Link social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn) representing a 200% increase from year end 2015
 - 1.7 million content Impressions (views) in 2017 and 15,180 user content engagements (clicks, likes, shares, comments, replies, mentions)
 - Several successful social media cross-promotional campaigns in partnership with numerous office and technology employers in York Region
 - Message amplification via other economic development agencies to their social media followers including the Provincial and Federal governments
 - Launching a micro site to promote York Region and its proposed sites as part of Toronto Global's Greater Toronto Area bid for Amazon's 2nd headquarters
 - New video content with several local employers such as KPMG, Citrix, Everlink and Laipac to enhance audience experience and promote York Region's office and technology sectors
- Awareness initiatives on York Region's technology sector and urban growth:
 - Facilitated media content in the Financial Post, IT Business Canada, Toronto Star and The Globe & Mail
 - Showcased York Region at key industry events such as the Toronto Real Estate Board (TREB) Realtor Quest expo, Computer Dealer News Top IT service providers awards, International Economic Development Council 2017 Toronto conference and Mobile World Congress Americas
- Marketing and Economic Development awards:
 - 2017 International Economic Development Council (IEDC) 'Silver' Award for the 'York Link' strategy
 - 2017 Economic Development Association of Canada's (EDAC) Award for 'York Link' social media (Twitter)
 - 2016-17 'York Link' brand awards: GDUSA American Graphic Design Award, and The Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design 'Good Design' award

Research and innovation continues to be an important aspect of supporting business and job growth

The Economic Strategy program continues to include research and innovation initiatives that support the development of a strong economy. These include:

- Collaborating with the local municipalities to provide research materials to support their business attraction initiatives
- Delivering the 3rd Annual Broadband and Innovation Summit which attracted over 184 attendees from 106 companies. The Summit facilitated connections between various levels of government and the private sector to discuss the conditions that influence innovation in communities
- Securing the Region's designation as a Smart 21 Community through the Intelligent Community Forum. York Region was selected from a pool of nearly 380 applicants worldwide
- Delivering the business case for the development of the Region owned fibre asset into a wholly owned corporation and spearheading the incorporation of YTN Telecom Network Inc. This organization will improve connectivity by working with the private sector and continue to support economic development across the Region
- Supporting the integration of York University into the community as they open the YSpace Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hub and connect with businesses
- Delivery of the first Agriculture and Agri-Food Strategy for York Region and celebrating the farming families that have been active in York Region for 150 years since confederation
- Through collaboration with the Province, York Region continues to fund ventureLAB, the Regional Innovation Centre that serves the entrepreneurial community. In 2017, ventureLAB opened up its new facility at the IBM Innovation Space in the Markham head office. Throughout the year, a total of 130 York Region companies took advantage of ventureLAB services including; events, workshops, clinics and mentoring. In addition, 9 York Region companies were able to raise \$4.3M in public and private funding.

These initiatives assist in understanding and addressing the business challenges highlighted earlier in this report.

5. Financial Considerations

All costs associated with the Economic Strategy program and the Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review publication are included in the approved Planning and Economic Development Branch budget.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Local municipalities are key delivery partners of the Region's Economic Strategy program. The goals and actions developed in the Economic Development Action Plan 2016 to 2019 are designed to complement local strategies, initiatives and messaging.

Regional staff work directly with local economic development offices on program development, delivery of events and joint client servicing when appropriate. The Region and local economic development offices meet three to four times a year along with other key program delivery partners to coordinate activities and share best practice.

7. Conclusion

York Region continues to be an attractive place for residents and businesses to locate and invest. The Region, in partnership with local municipalities and other economic delivery partners, has made an impact on this success through its business supportive programs. The attached Economic Development – 2017 Year in Review document highlights economic activity in the Region and the impact of York Region programs on business and job growth.

For more information on this report, please contact Doug Lindeblom, Director, Economic Strategy at 1-877-464-9675 ext.71503.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 2, 2017

Attachment (1)

#8248516

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Canada's National Housing Strategy: A Place to Call Home

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "Canada's National Housing Strategy: A Place to Call Home":

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities for information.

A copy of Clause 15 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 4 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,



Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 15 in Report No. 4 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

15

Canada's National Housing Strategy: A Place to Call Home

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities for information.
-

Report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities for information.

2. Purpose

This report provides information about [Canada's National Housing Strategy: A Place to Call Home](#), released on November 22, 2017. In addition, high level potential implications for York are identified; however, information is limited as allocations to provinces and territories are not yet announced.

3. Background

Canada's first National Housing Strategy is a 10-year, \$42 billion plan that is cost shared with provinces and territories

Canada's National Housing Strategy: A Place to Call Home (the Strategy) (Attachment 1) is a ten-year, \$42 billion plan intended to "strengthen the middle

class, fuel our economy and give more Canadians across the country a place to call home". The Strategy was developed with vulnerable populations (such as seniors, survivors of family violence, people with disabilities, newcomers and Indigenous peoples) in mind and informed by public consultations.

The Strategy's priorities include stabilizing funding for the social housing system, repairs and renewal of existing housing units and providing monthly rent benefits to renter households. Although specific timelines were not provided, it is anticipated that initiatives included in the Strategy will be launched over the next few years. Table 1 lists the Strategy's initiatives and their respective funding envelopes. Descriptions for each initiative that may be applicable to York Region, and potential implications, are provided in Attachment 2.

**Table 1
National Housing Strategy's Initiatives and Funding Envelopes**

Initiative	Funding Envelope (\$ Billion)
Existing social housing agreements	8.4
Canada Community Housing Initiative	8.6*
Federal Community Housing Initiative	0.5
Canada Housing Benefit	4.0*
Federal-Provincial/Territorial Housing Partnership	2.2*
National Housing Co-Investment Fund	15.9
Federal homelessness program	2.2
Housing need in the North	0.3
National Housing Strategy Research Agenda	0.241
Total	42.3

Notes:

* Includes provincial/territorial cost-matching

In addition to these funded initiatives, the Strategy includes establishment of a:

- Federal Housing Advocate
- National Housing Council to advise Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- Community Based Tenant initiative to foster participation by people with lived experience

- Public engagement campaign with an anti-stigma focus

4. Analysis and Implications

The National Housing Strategy's investments are a positive step, although its impact on York Region's housing affordability and rental supply issues is uncertain

The allocations for Ontario, and for its 47 Municipal Service System Managers (including York Region), are unknown. The province has engaged in bi-lateral discussions with the federal government. These discussions are more complicated in Ontario because, unlike in other provinces, Ontario uses Municipal Service Managers as its vehicle for delivering social and affordable housing. Municipalities provide social and affordable housing directly or by administering provincial funding to other agencies.

To ensure Ontario's unique model is considered in the bi-lateral negotiations, the Province has established a reference group with some Municipal Service Managers. These discussions will help clarify implementation details needed to fully determine the impact on Regional program delivery.

Staff anticipate the Strategy's investments will benefit York Region communities and community housing providers, however, the extent will depend on allocation decisions. Benefits could include construction of new rental housing (community housing and private sector), capital repairs, rent assistance, and retention of existing social housing supply.

The Strategy envisions a different relationship between the federal government and community housing providers

Some of the Strategy's initiatives will be directly delivered through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to housing providers, while others will be through the provinces and territories. Given the unique housing governance framework in Ontario, clarification is needed on the Region's role as Service Manager in delivering funding and programs under these initiatives. It is unclear at this time whether Service Managers will be required to make financial contributions for initiatives that are cost-shared with the province and what the Region's role will be in program delivery and monitoring.

The National Housing Strategy aligns with York Region's Strategies

The Strategy's outcomes align with many of the Region's strategies including [Vision 2051](#), the [2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan](#), the Region's [Official Plan 2010](#), the [10-Year Housing Plan](#), the [Human Services Planning Board of York Region 2016-2018 Action Plan](#) and the [Seniors Strategy](#). The Strategy supports goals and activities in these strategies such as:

- Housing choices that support affordable and sustainable living
- Promoting housing affordability options
- Promoting housing stability and preventing homelessness
- Increasing and sustaining the rental housing supply
- Strengthening services for those at risk of being homeless to find and keep housing

5. Financial Considerations

The National Housing Strategy requires provincial investment and does not include details on municipal contributions

The \$42.3B is for all provinces and territories, and will be distributed over the next 10 years. Access to three of the initiatives requires provincial and territorial cost-matching (Canada Community Housing Initiative, Canada Housing Benefit, and the Federal-Provincial/Territorial Housing Partnership). To date, Ontario has not committed to cost matching; this is likely to be decided through the bi-lateral negotiations. Some of the federal investments will be through loans, which may not be as competitive as other options that may be available to the Region but may be an opportunity for other community housing providers.

The Strategy does not say whether municipalities will need to make any financial contributions, however, it includes examples of municipal contributions such as land, inclusionary zoning provisions, accelerated planning approval processes, waiving of development charges and fees, tax rebates and loans

Work is currently underway to develop a joint Region and local municipal Housing Incentives Framework that would include potential financial incentives available to municipalities to stimulate the construction of purpose built rental

units affordable to middle-income households in York Region. On [February 15, 2018](#), Council endorsed a set of principles for the development of a mid-range affordable housing incentives framework.

6. Local Municipal Impact

The Strategy indicates that there are opportunities for municipalities to participate in development of initiatives and suggests that supplemental contributions from municipalities will be expected to receive funding.

7. Conclusion

The release of the first ever National Housing Strategy is a welcome and a positive step to ensuring Canadians have housing that meets their needs and they can afford. It is expected that the federal government will release implementation details starting in the first half of 2018. Once this occurs and the outcomes of the bi-lateral negotiations are known, a further assessment on impacts to York Region will be made.

For more information on this report, please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

February 16, 2018

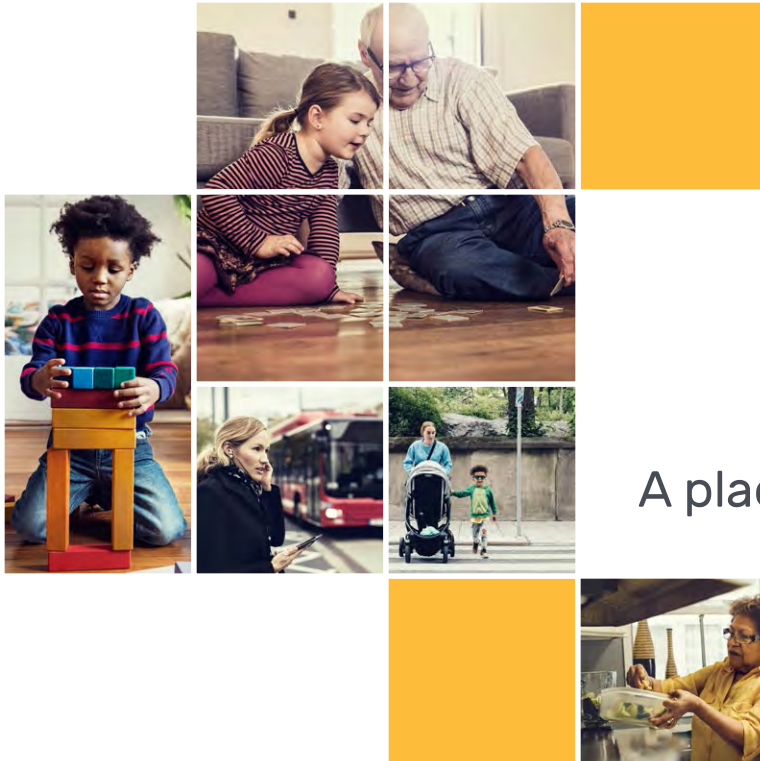
Attachments (2)

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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request



Canada's National Housing Strategy



A place to call home



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Housing Progress Report

Message from the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development

It is my great honour and pleasure to present Canada's first ever National Housing Strategy (NHS), an ambitious \$40-billion plan to help ensure that Canadians have access to housing that meets their needs and that they can afford.

Bringing this Strategy to life has been a priority for the Government of Canada for the past 18 months. We are making historic investments in housing – and planning for transformational change – because we understand the value of home. Safe, affordable housing is a launch-pad for better socio-economic outcomes for our citizens, a more inclusive society where everyone has the opportunity to be well and to succeed, a stronger economy and a cleaner environment.

But for too many Canadian families, a decent home is simply not affordable. Across Canada, 1.7 million people are in housing need, living in homes that are inadequate or unaffordable. Another 25,000 Canadians are chronically homeless. This needs to change.

Building on investments announced in Budgets 2016 and 2017, the NHS signals a meaningful re-engagement by the federal government in housing. It is a key element of our Government's plan to help strengthen the middle class, promote growth for everyone, and lift more Canadians out of poverty.

Important learnings emerged from last year's Let's Talk Housing consultations, and our Strategy is stronger for it. Now the work of implementing these ideas begins.

To be successful, the NHS requires the collaboration and commitment of more partners than ever before, in a coherent, integrated and whole-of-government approach. The provinces and territories will, of course, be primary partners in the Strategy, but we will also work more closely with municipalities, the private and non-profit sectors, and others who share our goal of creating a new generation of housing in Canada.

We have set clear goals for the NHS, including removing 530,000 Canadian families from housing need and reducing chronic homelessness by half over the next decade. We will track and report on our success, and adapt our approach as needed as the Strategy unfolds. Our primary focus will be on meeting the needs of vulnerable populations, such as women and children fleeing family violence, seniors, Indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, those dealing with mental health and addiction issues, veterans and young adults.

The release of the NHS marks the beginning of a new era for housing in Canada. We have a Strategy that all Canadians can be proud of and support. I encourage you to become part of this nation-wide effort to ensure that all Canadians have the safe and affordable housing they need and deserve.



The Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos



Canada's First Ever National Housing Strategy

The Government of Canada believes every Canadian deserves a safe and affordable home. Affordable housing is a cornerstone of inclusive communities. It helps to strengthen the middle class and grow the economy. Canada's first ever National Housing Strategy is a 10-year, \$40-billion plan that will give more Canadians a place to call home.

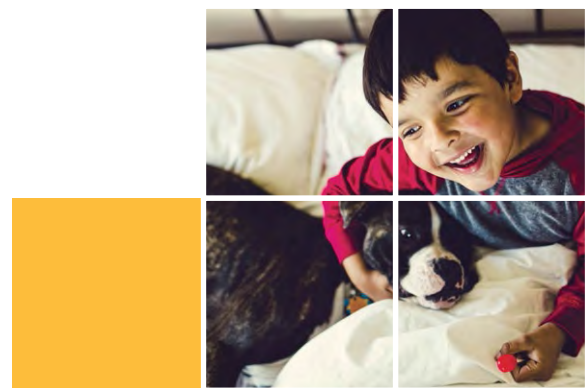
Canada's National Housing Strategy sets ambitious targets to ensure that unprecedented investments and new programming deliver results. This will include a 50% reduction in chronic homelessness, and as many as 530,000 households being taken out of housing need.¹ The National Housing Strategy will result in up to 100,000 new housing units and 300,000 repaired or renewed housing units.

Through new initiatives like the National Housing Co-Investment Fund and the Canada Community Housing Initiative, the National Housing Strategy will create a new generation of housing in Canada. Our plan will promote diverse communities. It will build housing that is sustainable, accessible, mixed-income, and mixed-use. We will build housing that is fully integrated into the community—close to transit, close to work, and close to public services.

Expanded and reformed federal homelessness programming, a new Canada Housing Benefit, and a rights-based approach to housing will ensure that the National Housing Strategy prioritizes the most vulnerable Canadians including women and children fleeing family violence, Indigenous peoples, seniors, people with disabilities, those dealing with mental health and addiction issues, veterans and young adults. All programs in the National Housing Strategy will be based on best evidence and ongoing input from people with lived experience of housing need.

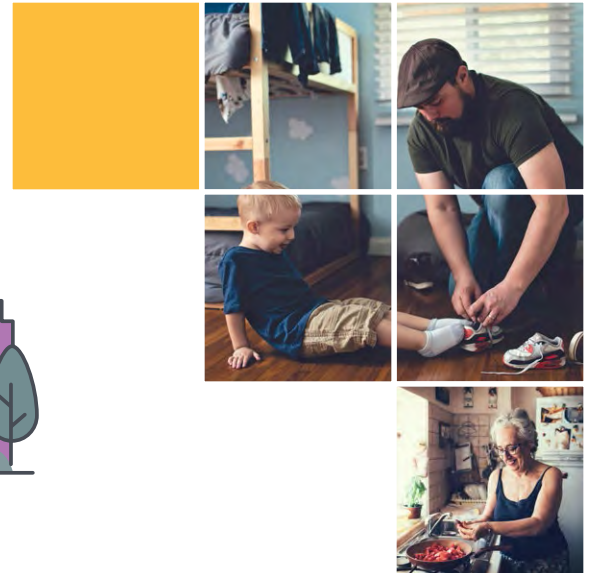
The National Housing Strategy is truly a national project, built by and for Canadians. The success of our plan requires collaboration from many partners. The National Housing Strategy invests in the provinces and territories, so all regions can achieve better and more affordable housing. It invests in municipalities, to empower communities to lead the fight against homelessness. It also creates new opportunities for the federal government to innovate through partnerships with the community housing sector, co-operative movement, private sector, and research community.

The National Housing Strategy also respects the Government of Canada's commitment to a nation-to-nation, Inuit-to-Crown, government-to-government relationship with Indigenous peoples. That is why the National Housing Strategy commits the Government of Canada to fund and continue the significant work currently underway to co-develop distinctions-based housing strategies for First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation partners.



¹ Households whose housing need is significantly reduced or eliminated.

A vision for housing in Canada:
Canadians have housing that meets their needs and they can afford. Affordable housing is a cornerstone of sustainable, inclusive communities and a Canadian economy where we can prosper and thrive.



Principles of the National Housing Strategy

Housing is more than just a roof over our heads

People

- Every Canadian deserves a safe and affordable home
- Housing investments must prioritize those most in need, including: women and children fleeing family violence; seniors; Indigenous peoples; people with disabilities; those dealing with mental health and addiction issues; veterans; and young adults
- Housing policy should be grounded in the principles of inclusion, participation, accountability, and non-discrimination

Communities

- Housing programs should align with public investments in job creation, skills training, transit, early learning, healthcare, and cultural and recreational infrastructure
- Housing investments should support Canada's climate change agenda and commitment to accessible communities
- Communities should be empowered to develop and implement local solutions to housing challenges

Partnerships

- First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation housing strategies must be co-developed and founded in the values of self-determination, reconciliation, respect, and cooperation
- Good housing policy requires transparent and accountable partnership between the federal government, provinces, territories, municipalities, the social and private sectors, and people with lived experience of housing need
- The community housing sector must be prioritized, protected and grown

National Housing Strategy Targets

530,000
households removed from housing need

100,000
new housing units created representing **4X** as many units built under federal programs from 2005 to 2015*

300,000
existing housing units repaired and renewed representing **3X** as many units repaired and renewed under federal programs from 2005 to 2015*

385,000
households protected from losing an affordable home and another **50,000** benefiting from an expansion of community housing

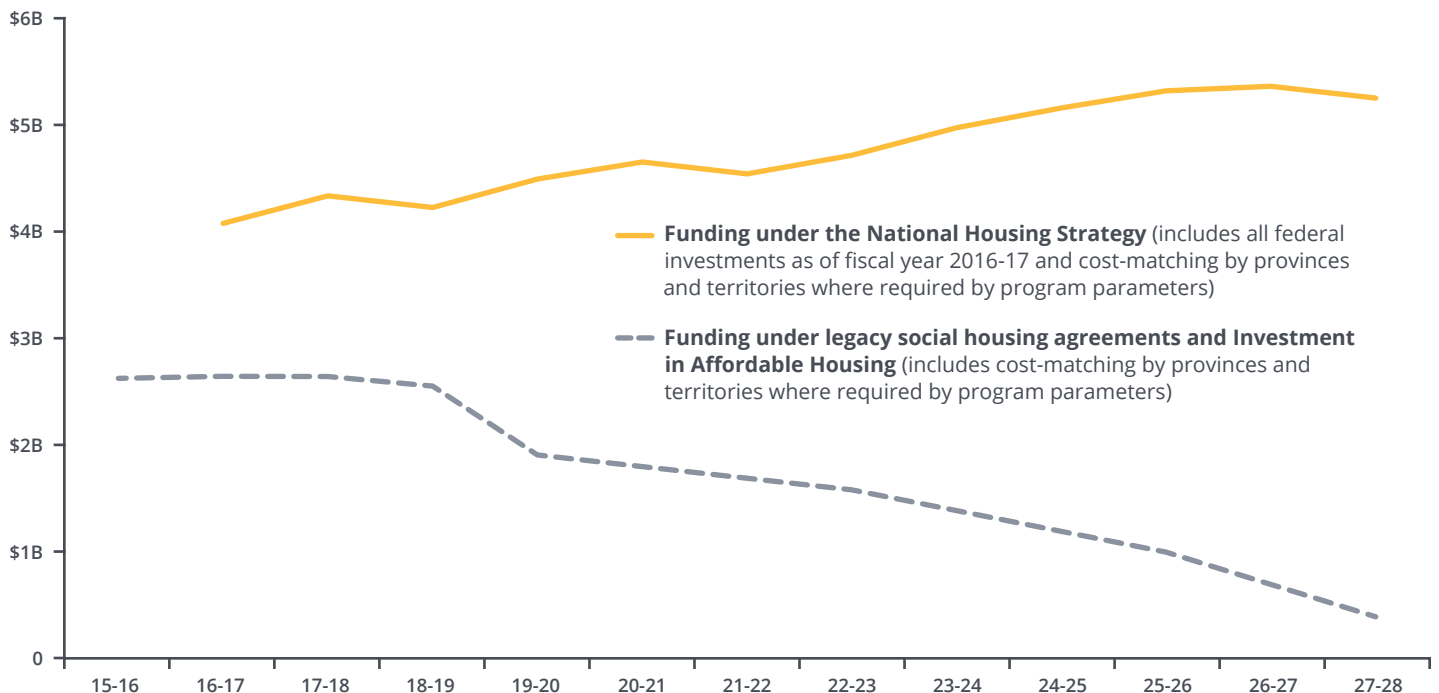
50%
reduction in estimated number of chronically homeless shelter users

300,000
households provided with affordability support through the Canada Housing Benefit

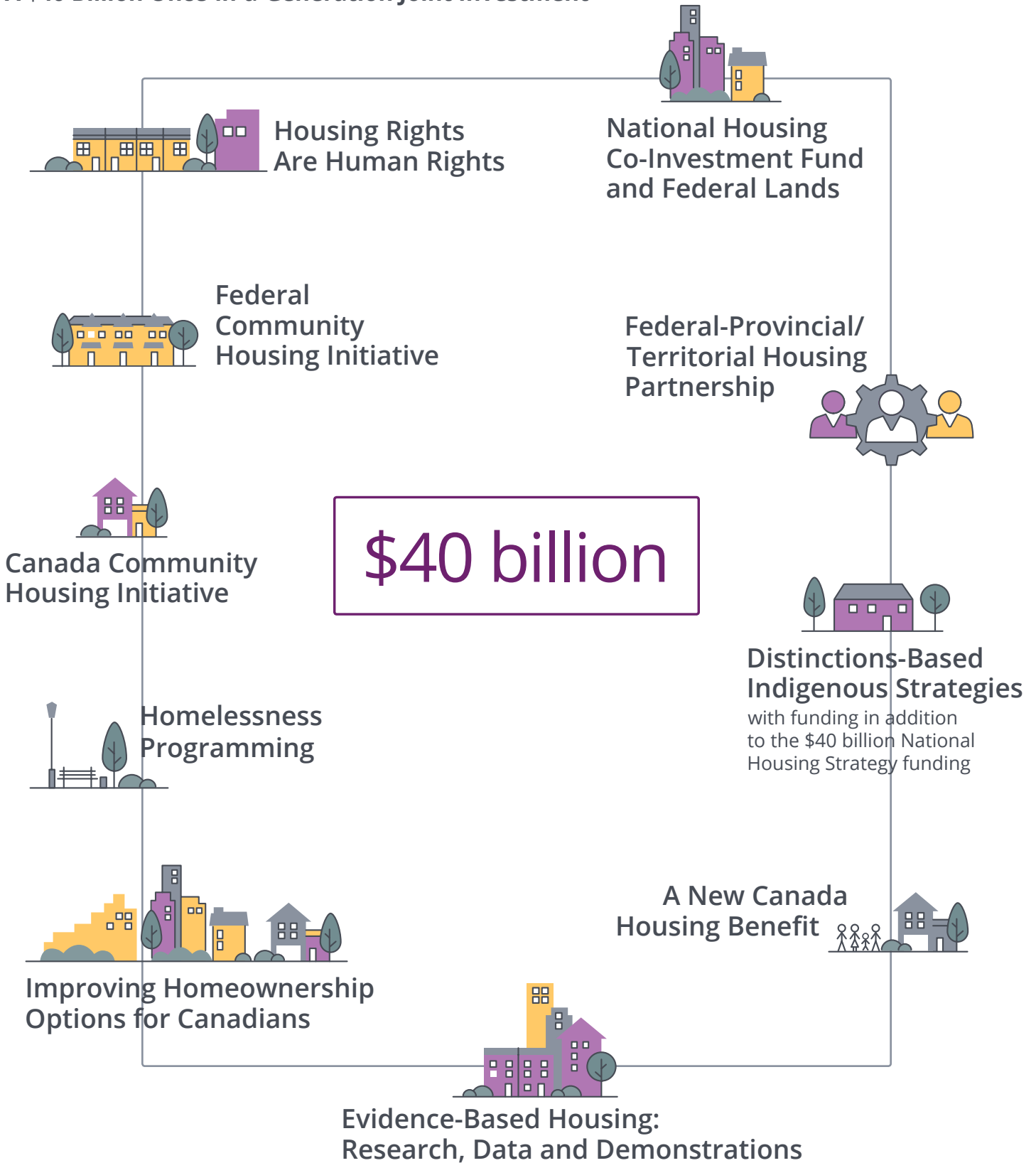


* Compared to units built and repaired through the Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI), Renovation Programs and the Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH).

Investments under the National Housing Strategy vs. Baseline Housing Investments

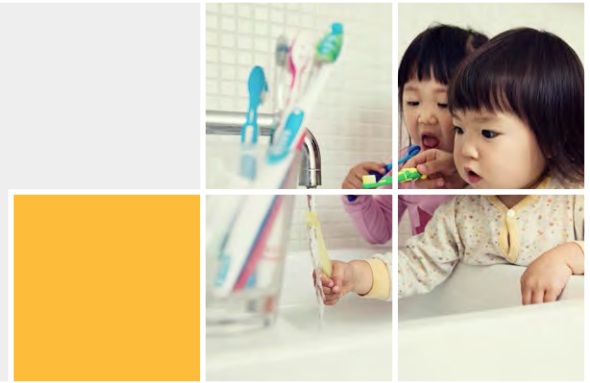


A \$40 Billion Once-in-a-Generation Joint Investment



Chapter 1

Housing Rights Are Human Rights



Canadians deserve safe and affordable housing. That is why the federal government is taking these additional steps to progressively implement the right of every Canadian to access adequate housing. Our plan is grounded in the principles of inclusion, accountability, participation and non-discrimination, and will contribute to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and affirm the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The National Housing Strategy will create...

Accountability and Participation

New legislation will require the federal government to maintain a National Housing Strategy and report to Parliament on housing targets and outcomes

A new Federal Housing Advocate will examine and recommend to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the responsible Minister, solutions to systemic barriers that Canadians face in accessing affordable housing

Non-discrimination and Inclusion

A new National Housing Council with diverse participation — including those with lived experience of housing need—will provide Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the responsible Minister with ongoing input on policy, programming and research related to the National Housing Strategy

A new Community-Based Tenant Initiative will provide funding to local organizations which assist people in housing need, so that they are better represented and able to participate in housing policy and housing project decision-making

A new public engagement campaign will seek to reduce stigma and discrimination and highlight the benefits of inclusive communities and inclusive housing

New Legislation

Following a period of consultation with housing partners, the federal government will introduce a bill to enable new legislation that promotes a human rights-based approach to housing. The new legislation will require the federal government to maintain a National Housing Strategy that prioritizes the housing needs of the most vulnerable. It will also require regular reporting to Parliament on progress toward the Strategy's targets and outcomes. A detailed National Housing Strategy report will be tabled every three years, starting in early 2020. The legislative approach will ensure that the National Housing Strategy is here to stay and grow.

A New Federal Housing Advocate

It is critical that those most affected by the National Housing Strategy are meaningfully involved in its ongoing development. Through the creation of a new Federal Housing Advocate, vulnerable groups, low-income Canadians, and people with lived experience of housing need will have the opportunity to raise systemic issues or barriers they face in accessing adequate housing. The Federal Housing Advocate will provide advice to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the responsible Minister, identifying potential corrective actions to these systemic barriers.

A New National Housing Council

A new National Housing Council will be established to promote participatory and evidence-based analysis to support the National Housing Strategy. The Council will bring together representatives from the federal government, provinces and territories, municipalities, the housing sector, the research community and people with lived experience of housing need to provide ongoing input on the National Housing Strategy. The National Housing Council will begin its work in 2018.

A New Community-Based Tenant Initiative

Achieving greater awareness of housing challenges faced by vulnerable people, including those living in community housing, is important for fostering inclusion. Equally important is ensuring that those in housing need have the ability to participate in decisions that affect them. A new, community-based program will provide funding to local organizations that assist people in housing need. As a result of the proposed initiative, those in housing need will be better represented and able to participate in housing policy and housing project decision making.

A New Public Engagement Campaign

Discrimination and stigmatization of low-income households are barriers to ensuring affordable housing is fully integrated into communities. Reducing discrimination and stigma are pillars of a human rights-based approach to housing. The Government of Canada will undertake a multi-year public engagement campaign focused on better informing public views on different housing types and tenures. The campaign will support the successful development of socially inclusive housing projects in vibrant neighbourhoods.

Chapter 2

Federal Re-Engagement Through the National Housing Co-Investment Fund



In part through Federal leadership in housing in the 1950's, 60's and 70's, Canada's community and affordable rental housing supply has been home to many Canadians for decades. Today, it is aging, often energy-inefficient, and lacking the features that contribute to inclusive communities. The incidence of severe core housing need, where households spend more than 50% of their income on housing, is increasing.

Through the National Housing Strategy, the federal government is re-engaging in affordable housing by investing in the growth of livable communities and the resilience of the community housing sector. To ensure existing rental housing is not lost to disrepair and to develop new, high-performing affordable housing integrated with supports and services, the federal government is creating a \$15.9-billion federally managed **National Housing Co-Investment Fund**. The National Housing Co-Investment Fund alone is expected to create up to 60,000 new units of housing and repair up to 240,000 units of existing affordable and community housing. The Fund will consist of nearly \$4.7 billion in financial contributions and \$11.2 billion in low interest loans. The Government's recently announced Rental Construction Financing Initiative will be integrated into the National Housing Co-Investment Fund, as will the Government's recently created Affordable Rental Innovation Fund.

The National Housing Co-Investment Fund will attract partnerships with and investments from the provinces and territories, municipalities, non-profits and co-operatives, and the private sector, to focus on new construction and the preservation and renewal of the existing affordable housing supply. The Fund will support more shelter spaces for survivors of family violence, transitional and supportive housing, new and renewed affordable and community housing, and ways of making homeownership more affordable. It will also support Canada's climate change goals, as well as improve accessibility of housing for people with disabilities by promoting universal design and visitability.

The Fund will align with public investment in job creation, skills training, transit, early learning, health care, and cultural and recreational infrastructure.

\$15.9 billion

National Housing Co-Investment Fund

\$4.7 billion
financial contributions

+

\$11.2 billion
low interest loans



Partnerships are a central feature of the Fund to maximize investments, ensure coordination of efforts, and remove barriers to the development process. To ensure coordination of investments, federal funding provided under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund must be supplemented by investments from another order of government. Contributions from other partners could include provincial, territorial and municipal lands, inclusionary zoning provisions, accelerated municipal approval processes, waiving of development charges and fees, tax rebates, and other government loans. As the National Housing Co-Investment Fund is established the federal government will work closely with provinces and territories to ensure housing investments are well coordinated and aligned.

You Spoke. We Listened.

55% of Canadian households in core housing need are female-led, as are 63% of households living in subsidized housing. Leaders in the housing community have asked that at least 25% of National Housing Strategy investments go to projects for women, girls, and their families. The Government of Canada supports this commitment and will work toward its realization, alongside our investment partners, including provinces, territories, municipalities, and the community housing sector. The Government is proud that the National Housing Strategy is grounded in a Gender-Based Analysis Plus. The National Housing Strategy aims to ensure that

no federally enabled housing program will negatively impact Canadians on the basis of gender or gender expression. The National Housing Strategy recognizes that women and girls are disproportionately impacted by housing need, and that the types of housing barriers faced by women and girls are unique. We also recognize that intersections of identities such as race, sexual orientation, age, and socio-economic status create distinct experiences among women and girls. While Canada's vulnerable populations include subgroups of men and women, many National Housing Strategy programs will have a particular positive impact on women.



National Housing Co-Investment Fund Outcomes

60,000
New Units

240,000
Repaired Units

At least
7,000
shelter spaces created or repaired
for survivors of family violence
4,000 (NHS) + 3,000 (Budget 2016)

At least
12,000
new affordable units
created for seniors
7,000 (NHS) + 5,000 (Budget 2016)

At least
2,400
new affordable units
created for people with
developmental disabilities



Applications for the National Housing Co-Investment Fund will be accepted starting April 1, 2018.

Making Federal Lands Available for Affordable Housing

To maximize the impact of the National Housing Co-Investment Fund, the Government will combine contributions and loans with the transfer of federal lands to community and affordable housing providers. Over the next 10 years, up to \$200 million in federal lands will be transferred to housing providers to encourage the development of sustainable, accessible, mixed-income, mixed-use developments and communities. Starting in 2018-19, this initiative will also provide funding for renovations or retrofits and environmental remediation and to ensure surplus federal buildings are suitable for use as housing.

Prioritization and Mandatory Requirements

The National Housing Co-Investment Fund will prioritize projects that exceed mandatory requirements, bring more partners and additional investment to the table, and address the needs of vulnerable populations.

Affordable	
NEW	RENEWAL AND REPAIR
30% of units must have rents at less than 80% of median market rents, for a minimum of 20 years	30% of units must have rents at less than 80% of median market rents, for a minimum of 20 years
Green	
NEW	RENEWAL AND REPAIR
At least 25% reduction in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions over national building and energy codes must be achieved	At least 25% reduction in energy use and greenhouse gas emissions relative to past performance must be achieved
Accessible	
NEW	RENEWAL AND REPAIR
20% of units must meet accessibility standards and projects must be barrier-free or have full universal design	20% of units must meet accessibility standards and projects must be barrier-free in common areas

Creative Housing and Student Opportunities

Greg Bechard is the affordable housing entrepreneur behind Field of Dreams, an innovative approach to community living that combines student opportunities, community development and new technology. Located in Elmira, Ontario, Field of Dreams offers supportive yet independent living for people with intellectual challenges. Greg's business model is based on 43 years of affordable supportive housing experience. A key feature of the model is the Good Neighbours concept. A social work scholarship program with Renison University College and Wilfred Laurier University provides a supportive relationship with other tenants. In exchange, student rent and tuition are covered. The model has been expanded to include community members. Greg's business model has sparked intergenerational friendships and allowed the buildings to run entirely through rent revenues without additional government subsidies. Thanks to federal investments in affordable housing, Phase 3 of Field of Dreams will open in January 2018.



Chapter 3

Maintaining a Resilient Community Housing Sector



Community housing has been the backbone of Canada’s response to housing challenges for more than 60 years and provides an affordable place to live for thousands of Canadians. Federal investments have supported the creation of community housing for low- and modest-income families and individuals. The federal government is deeply committed to ensuring that Canada’s existing community housing stock remains affordable and in good repair well into the future.

A New Canada Community Housing Initiative

Provinces and territories play an important role in achieving the outcomes of the National Housing Strategy and meeting the housing needs of the most vulnerable Canadians. About 80% of all community housing is administered by the provinces and territories. As long-term social housing operating agreements expire, the federal government will renew our investments in provinces and territories to protect low-income households and stabilize the operations of housing providers.

Through a \$4.3-billion **Canada Community Housing Initiative**, the federal government will support the provinces and territories as they protect and build a sustainable community-based housing sector. In order to participate in the program, provinces and territories will be required to cost-match this funding. This level of funding will enable provinces and territories to protect affordability for the total number of households currently living in community housing administered by provinces and territories and supported by former federal programs. It will also support repair and renewal of the existing supply, and expansion of the supply of community-based housing.

As part of the Canada Community Housing Initiative, provinces and territories must guarantee that the overall number of households currently supported by community housing in their province or territory

will not be reduced. As a result, the Canada Community Housing Initiative is expected to maintain affordability for approximately 330,000 households in community housing nationally.

385,000 households
protected from losing an affordable home

330,000 units
from the Canada Community
Housing Initiative

+

55,000 units
from the Federal Community
Housing Initiative

Plus another

50,000 units

benefiting from an expansion
of community housing



A New Federal Community Housing Initiative

To protect tenants living in federally administered community housing as operating agreements expire and to stabilize the operations of housing providers, the federal government will implement a new 10-year,

\$500-million Federal Community Housing Initiative.

This initiative will put in place new operating agreements as old social housing operating agreements expire. Under these new agreements, community housing providers will continue to receive funding to subsidize rents for tenants in need.

\$500-million

Federal Community Housing Initiative

- ✓ **Stabilize the operations of federally administered community housing providers**
- ✓ **Maintain the current federally administered community housing stock and its 55,000 households**

Starting April 1, 2020, federally administered community housing providers with operating agreements expiring between April 1, 2016, and March 31, 2027, including those that receive continued subsidies through Budget 2016, will be eligible for a new rental assistance program under the Federal Community Housing Initiative. The objective of this program is to maintain the current federally administered community housing stock and its 55,000 households. The federal government will consult on the development of this new program with the non-profit and co-operative housing providers that own federally administered community housing. To receive the funding, providers will need to meet minimum requirements for affordability, social inclusion, asset management, and governance.

Before April 1, 2020, federally administered community housing providers with long-term operating agreements ending between April 1, 2018, and April 1, 2020, will continue to receive the same level of subsidy currently provided under existing operating agreements. This will give them time to transition to the new rental assistance program. A Technical Resource Centre will also support housing providers through this transition.

More Flexibility for Provinces, Territories, Municipalities and the Community Housing Sector²

Starting in 1996, the federal government offered provinces and territories the opportunity to take responsibility for community housing through bilateral Social Housing Agreements. At the time, the Social Housing Agreements gave provinces and territories greater control over their community housing stock. Today, the Social Housing Agreements that were signed over the last 20 years do not fully align with the new vision for housing under the National Housing Strategy. For this reason, the federal government is taking steps to make Social Housing Agreements more flexible and ensure they are coordinated with the National Housing Strategy and its intended outcomes.

Among other benefits, this new flexibility will give the provinces and territories the ability to reinvest funds from disposed properties back into the community-housing sector, support capital repair or improve the affordability of existing community housing.

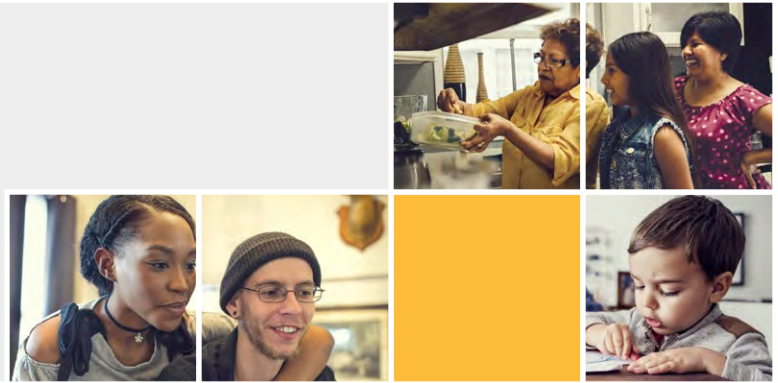
Housing providers will now be able to access loans before their long-term operating agreements end, including new loans under the National Housing Strategy to help them repair their housing stock and support increased financial, environmental and social sustainability. Housing projects that are still under long-term operating agreements will also be eligible for funding through the Investment in Affordable Housing for its remaining term until March 31, 2019.

In addition, the 2016 Prepayment Initiative, which was introduced to allow community housing providers with long-term, closed Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation mortgages to prepay their high-interest loans without penalty, will be modified. Under the original initiative, existing rent supplements were only provided for up to five years. Providers will now be eligible to maintain rent supplements until their operating agreements end. This will help providers maintain affordability and take advantage of improved interest rates.

² All provinces and territories, except Quebec and Prince Edward Island, have signed Social Housing Agreements. Quebec and Prince Edward Island administer their housing through separate federal-provincial agreements.

Chapter 4

A New Canada Housing Benefit



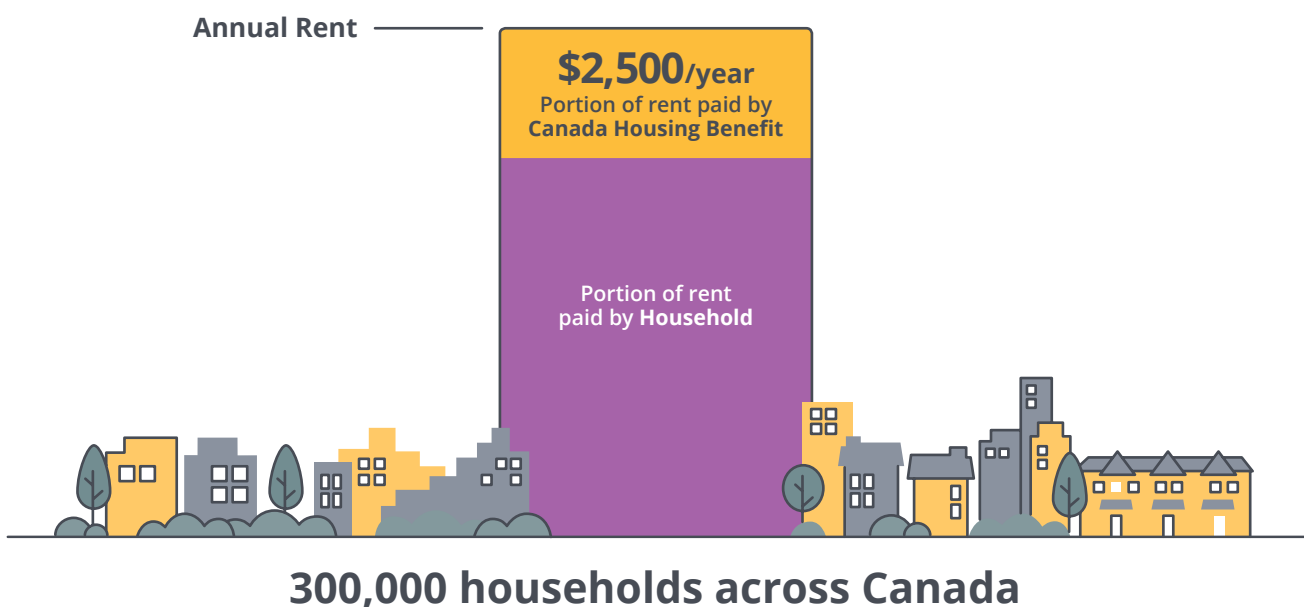
As part of the National Housing Strategy, the federal government will partner with provinces and territories to develop a **\$4-billion Canada Housing Benefit**. Designed to meet local needs and delivered by provinces and territories, the Canada Housing Benefit will be a new tool to fight the challenge of housing affordability. Launching in 2020, the Canada Housing Benefit will provide affordability support directly to families and individuals in housing need, including potentially those living in social housing, those on a social housing wait-list, or those housed in the private market but struggling to make ends meet. The Government estimates that the Canada Housing Benefit will deliver an average of **\$2,500 per year** to each recipient household. Over time, the Canada Housing Benefit will grow to support at least **300,000 households** across the country.

The Canada Housing Benefit will be co-developed with the federal government and delivered by the provinces and territories, and coordinated with municipalities and other partners. This will better allow the Canada Housing Benefit to provide rapid and responsive relief from rising housing costs, and respond to evolving local housing needs and priorities.

Provinces and territories will report regularly on their program outcomes. Programs designs will align with the principles of the National Housing Strategy and

mitigate the potential for inflationary impacts, in part through prioritization of the community housing sector, as well as progressive portability.

Between now and 2020, the federal government will work jointly with the provinces and territories to design the Canada Housing Benefit in a way that reflects local priorities, including those of rural communities, and aligns with federal principles.



Note: For illustration only and not an indication of program design, benefit amount and eligibility.

Chapter 5

Progress Through Partnership: Enhanced Support to Provinces and Territories



Following the Government's Budget 2016 commitment to increase federal investments in provincial and territorial housing programs to \$4.4 billion in 2016 and 2017, the National Housing Strategy will deliver an additional \$16.1 billion in federal housing investment to provinces and territories. As a result, over a 12-year period, the federal investment in provincial and territorial housing programs will reach approximately \$20.5 billion. Provinces and territories will be required to cost-match roughly half of this total investment.

\$20.5 billion in federal support to provinces and territories + close to \$9 billion in expected provincial and territorial cost-matching

\$8.4 billion

delivered through existing federal-provincial/territorial agreements in place from 2018-19 to 2027-28

\$4.4 billion

in federal investments in provincial and territorial housing programs in 2016 and 2017, including new investments announced in Budget 2016

\$4.3 billion

for a new Canada Community Housing Initiative that will protect, regenerate and expand community housing (totalling **\$8.6 billion** with expected provincial/territorial cost-matching)

\$2 billion

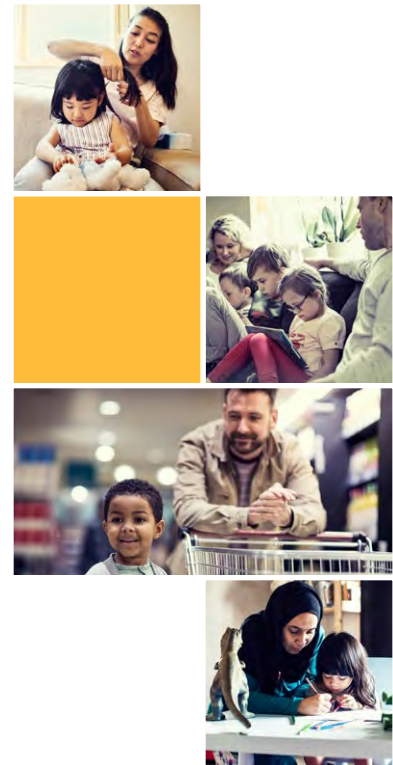
for a new Canada Housing Benefit (totalling **\$4 billion** with expected provincial/territorial cost-matching)

\$1.1 billion

for provinces and territories to address distinct housing priorities, including affordability, repair and construction (totalling **\$2.2 billion** with expected provincial/territorial cost-matching)

\$300 million

in additional federal funding to address housing needs in Canada's North



The federal government's investment in provinces and territories recognizes that housing needs vary across the country. Funding will support regional needs and priorities related to community and affordable housing repair, construction and rental assistance. Federal investments will be committed through bilateral agreements.

Expected Results Through Federal Investment in Provinces and Territories

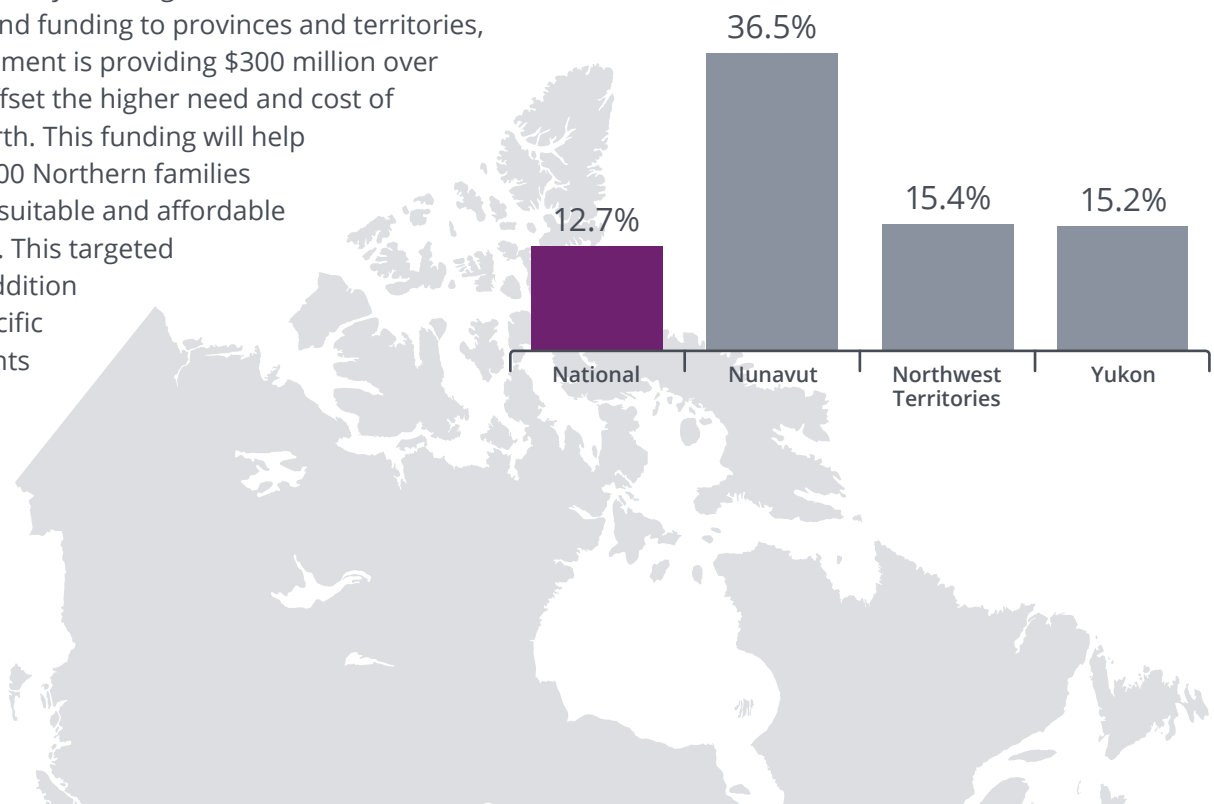
- ✓ **330,000 units**
continue to be offered in existing community housing
- At least
✓ **20% units repaired**
from existing community housing stock
- At least
✓ **15% expansion**
of rent-assisted units
- At least
✓ **300,000 households**
supported through a Canada Housing Benefit



Focus on Northern Housing

In addition to the federal government’s investment in the territories through Social Housing Agreements, the Canada Community Housing Initiative, the Canada Housing Benefit, and funding to provinces and territories, the federal government is providing \$300 million over 10 years to help offset the higher need and cost of housing in the North. This funding will help approximately 3,000 Northern families find an adequate, suitable and affordable place to call home. This targeted investment is in addition to Indigenous-specific housing investments that will be made as part of funding to improve infrastructure in Indigenous communities.

Incidence of Core Housing Need in the North, 2016



Chapter 6

Letting Communities Lead: A Plan to Make Homelessness History



A home is more than just an address. Having a home makes it possible to access employment, enroll in school, and open a bank account. A home provides shelter, security, and a place to raise our families. All Canadians deserve a dignified place to call home.

The National Housing Strategy will reduce chronic homelessness by 50% by empowering local communities to deliver a combination of housing measures. Developed and delivered alongside persons with lived experience of homelessness, federal programming will include support for responsive interventions as well as preventative strategies aimed at stemming the flow of people into homelessness. Programming will recognize the distinct housing barriers faced by vulnerable populations, including the LGBTQ2 community, homeless women, women and children fleeing family violence, seniors, Indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, those dealing with mental health and addiction issues, veterans and young adults.

The Government of Canada will invest \$2.2 billion over 10 years to tackle homelessness through an expanded federal homelessness program. The program, along with complementary initiatives under the National Housing Strategy such as the National Housing Co-Investment Fund and the Canada Housing Benefit, will provide an opportunity to reaffirm and redesign the federal response to homelessness.

The Government's redesigned homelessness program will launch April 1, 2019, following the conclusion of the existing Homelessness Partnering Strategy. The direction of this redesigned program will be based on the work, consultation and advice of the Advisory Committee on Homelessness.

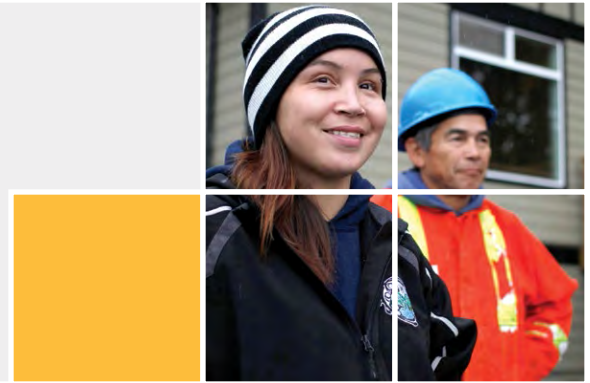
Addressing Homelessness Among Veterans

Veteran homelessness is unacceptable. That is why the government is expanding veterans' access to affordable housing and continuing to work with all orders of government to ensure veteran homelessness becomes rare and doesn't reoccur. We will also partner with non-governmental organizations who provide support to homeless veterans. Our work to tackle veteran homelessness is further supported by Budget 2017's investment of \$4 million in a Veterans Emergency Fund that provides veterans in crisis with immediate and flexible financial support and is aligned with the Veterans Affairs Canada belief that Veteran homelessness is unacceptable in Canada and that one homeless Veteran is one too many.



Chapter 7

“Nothing About Us, Without Us”



No relationship is more important to the Government than the one with Indigenous peoples. Indigenous leaders have told us that there is a pressing need to co-develop federally supported distinctions-based First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation housing strategies that are founded in principles of self-determination, reconciliation, respect, and co-operation. We agree, because the status quo is unacceptable. Over the past year, the Government of Canada has engaged with Indigenous people in co-developing distinctions-based housing strategies and approaches to addressing the Indigenous housing crisis in Canada.

First Nations are leading the development of a First Nations National Housing and Infrastructure Strategy to ensure the future of housing and infrastructure reform is envisioned from a First Nations perspective. Moving forward, First Nations and the Government of Canada will continue to work together to co-develop a new policy framework for housing and infrastructure reform that moves toward a long-term approach that will support First Nations care, control and management of housing and infrastructure and address the needs of First Nations people living both on and off reserve.

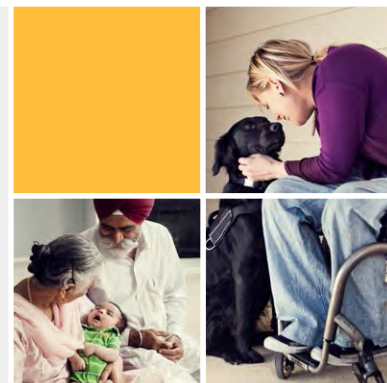
The Government is also working closely with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Inuit land claim governments and organizations through the recently established Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee. This collaborative work respects and strengthens the Inuit-Crown relationship and will help achieve the common goal of reducing the housing needs in Inuit Nunangat and developing long-term solutions that reflect Inuit lifestyles, traditions and culture. The approach being taken emphasizes the direct role of Inuit organizations and governments in addressing housing needs in their communities.

The signing of a Canada-Métis Nation Accord on April 13, 2017, marked a significant step toward a renewed relationship based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership. The Accord outlines the ways in which the Government and the Métis Nation will work together to set priorities and develop policy in areas of shared interest, including housing. Key goals are to facilitate greater Métis Nation control of housing delivery and improve access to more housing options, such as affordable homeownership.

The respectful process established to collaboratively develop each of the Indigenous housing strategies will take time but will lay the foundation for the achievement of better housing outcomes over the long term.

Chapter 8

Evidence-Based Housing: Research, Data and Demonstrations



New, more and better housing information is key to overcoming housing challenges. Research and evidence-based approaches will inform our policies and lead to better housing outcomes for all Canadians. Through the National Housing Strategy, the federal government is committing \$241 million over 10 years to enhance housing research, data and demonstrations. This investment will identify barriers to accessing housing, measure and assess the impact of existing housing policies, identify future research opportunities, and shape the National Housing Strategy.

\$241-Million National Housing Strategy Research Agenda

- ✓ **Develop tools within government** to address data gaps and measure National Housing Strategy outcomes
- ✓ **Build capacity for greater partnership and housing research** outside government
- ✓ **Support researchers and research communities** outside government
- ✓ **Develop a network of housing experts** to analyze housing challenges
- ✓ **Introduce Solution Labs** to solve housing problems
- ✓ **Support demonstrations** put forward by researchers and housing partners outside of government

Open Data

Canada is lagging behind other countries in the development and collection of housing data. The timely collection and analysis of a complete set of housing data, in collaboration with stakeholders, will increase Canada's ability to develop housing policy in anticipation of changing housing needs, conditions and market forces.

Through the National Housing Strategy, the federal government will ensure that more and better data are available to serve as the basis for housing decisions. In particular, the government will look into data gaps related to the housing needs of Canada's most vulnerable populations, including women and children fleeing family violence, seniors, Indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, those with mental health and addiction issues, veterans, young adults, recent immigrants and those experiencing homelessness.

Two new surveys will be designed to obtain a more comprehensive picture of households residing in community and affordable housing and the condition of the community housing stock. This information will help develop a more complete understanding of how the community and affordable housing sector is affected by changes in supply, demand, affordability and other conditions.

As announced in Budget 2017, Statistics Canada will develop a comprehensive housing database that integrates social, economic and financial information to produce official housing statistics.



Research

The federal government will increase funding and capacity for housing research both inside and outside government and enhance the channels available to communicate research results. New investments will recognize excellence in housing-related research and ensure research is supported across the career continuum—from emerging researchers to established experts.

Enhanced research collaborations exploring priority areas of interest will be supported through targeted funding to partners and stakeholders. The housing community will convene regularly for discussions and knowledge-sharing on housing research. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation will also explore opportunities to support larger in-depth research in co-operation with funding organizations like the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Demonstrations

The federal government will support demonstrations of forward-looking technologies, practices, programs, policies and strategies that show what is possible for the future of housing in Canada. Demonstrations that support sustainable, energy-efficient, accessible, age-friendly and socially inclusive affordable housing will be prioritized, such as pilots testing innovative housing responses to situations of family violence.

Solution Labs

Solution Labs will be funded to bring experts and a range of housing stakeholders together to rapidly incubate and scale potential solutions to housing affordability pressures. Through open competitive processes, teams from the housing sector will be invited to identify housing challenges in key National Housing Strategy priority areas and propose strategies to develop new, world-leading solutions.



Chapter 9

Improving Homeownership Options for Canadians



While the primary goal of the National Housing Strategy is to make safe and affordable housing accessible for the most vulnerable Canadians and for those struggling to make ends meet—the Strategy also addresses housing needs across the entire housing continuum. This includes supporting affordable homeownership for Canadians in stable and competitive housing markets.

Improving Homeownership Options for Canadians

- ✓ **Maintain access to homeownership** for qualified borrowers through government-backed mortgage loan insurance
- ✓ **Conduct in-depth research** to inform policy on homeownership, urban planning, and infrastructure investments
- ✓ **Implement new measures** to counter mortgage fraud and protect the long-term financial security of borrowers and all Canadians

Mortgage Loan Insurance

Mortgage loan insurance helps Canadians access a range of mortgage financing options and contributes to the stability and resiliency of Canada’s housing finance system. Mortgage loan insurance is typically required by lenders when homebuyers make a down payment of less than 20% of the purchase price of a home. This helps protect lenders against mortgage default, and enables consumers to purchase homes with down payments starting at 5% and with interest rates comparable to consumers purchasing homes with a higher down payment. In 2016, government-backed mortgage loan insurance covered over half a million mortgages across Canada.

The federal government has implemented several rounds of mortgage loan insurance regulatory changes to reinforce our housing finance system and protect the long-term financial security of borrowers and all Canadians. Notable changes have included tightening

the underwriting of mortgages and prohibiting access to mortgage loan insurance for mortgage refinancing and for properties over one million dollars. These regulatory changes reduce the likelihood that Canadians will take on more mortgage debt than they can afford, and create conditions where the middle class can enter into homeownership with less risk. Furthermore, financial stability supports healthy housing finance and housing markets, creating a climate conducive to accessing home ownership.

The federal government also supports the funding of mortgage lending through its securitization programs: *National Housing Act* Mortgage-Backed Securities and Canada Mortgage Bonds. Together, these securitization programs facilitate the supply of reliable funds for mortgage lending in Canada and foster competitiveness within the mortgage industry by allowing smaller lenders across Canada to provide mortgage financing at rates comparable to those offered by large banks.

Maintain Access to Homeownership

Beyond the existing support for homeowners, the Government of Canada is exploring ways to facilitate access to mortgage loan insurance for borrowers who are more challenging to qualify, such as self-employed individuals. Today's job market requires many Canadians to adopt alternative means of generating income, including by running their own businesses. Approximately 15% of Canadians are self-employed and may have difficulty accessing financing to buy a home, since their income sources may vary or be less predictable than those of employed borrowers. To address this issue, the federal government is examining if there are barriers to housing finance for self-employed borrowers and options to expand access to mortgage loan insurance.

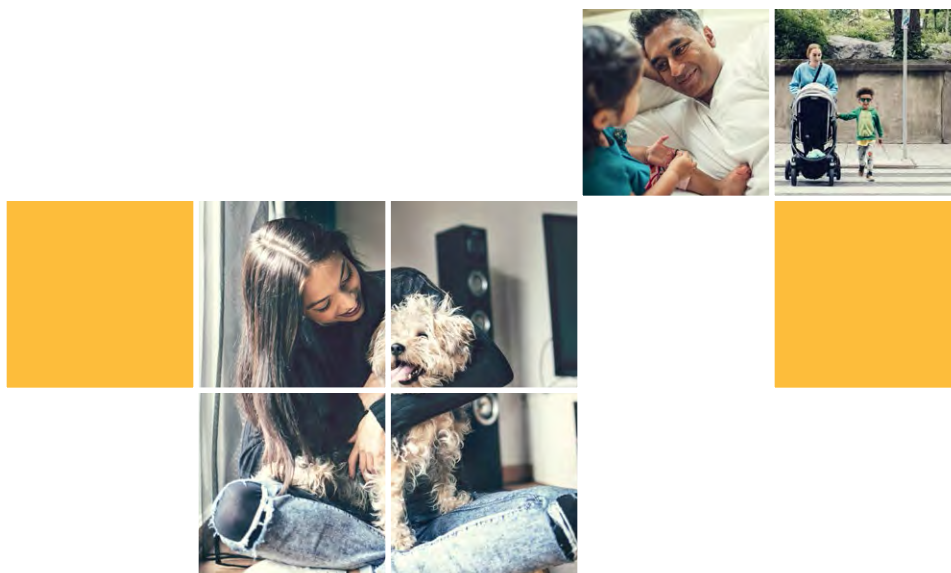
The Government of Canada is also taking steps to improve affordability in high-priced housing markets. Canada's highest-priced economic regions of Toronto and Vancouver represent particular housing challenges for young families, those migrating from lower-cost cities, low- to modest-income families and single-member households. One form of investor speculation, "house flipping," is a unique problem in heated markets that puts upward pressure on already elevated house prices. Speculation in condominium markets in particular, where units are bought pre-construction and sold prior to completion, has helped drive prices to record highs in recent years. The Government has made

changes to tax laws to improve compliance in the real estate sector, particularly to ensure that the principal residence exemption is claimed as intended, and continues to examine ways to further enhance compliance procedures in the sector.

Promoting balanced housing markets serves both access and financial stability objectives by moderating house price growth. The Government seeks to work collaboratively with all orders of government to improve housing market data and modelling, and to support the complex challenges of urban land use choices. This includes strengthening relationships with provinces, territories and municipalities to further expand, obtain and exchange information on real estate transactions.

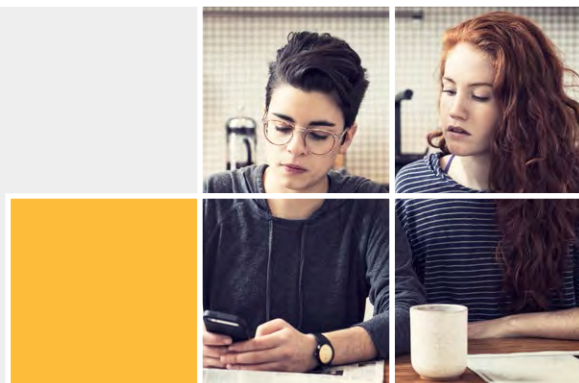
Mortgage Fraud

The Government of Canada has conducted extensive background research and analysis to better understand and address mortgage fraud. Mortgage fraud is still rare in Canada, but when it occurs, it increases the cost of housing for all Canadians. Over the next two years, the federal government will implement new measures in consultation with industry stakeholders and government partners to improve income verification processes, and enhance information sharing to better detect and prevent mortgage fraud.



Chapter 10

Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+)



55% of Canadian households in core housing need are female-led, as are 63% of households living in subsidized housing. While Canada’s vulnerable populations include subgroups of men and women, many National Housing Strategy programs will have a particularly positive impact on women. Across the country, women face unique barriers to housing because they are more likely to have low incomes, engage in part-time and precarious work, take on more caregiving responsibilities, and may be dependent on a partner for income. Intersections of identities such as race, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, and socio-economic status create unique experiences among women, including unique experiences of housing instability and homelessness.

The National Housing Strategy is grounded in, and supportive of, the Government’s commitment to GBA+ to ensure that programs will not negatively impact Canadians on the basis of gender and other identity factors.

The GBA+ of the National Housing Strategy was based on feedback from consultations, including focus groups with people with lived experience of housing need and homelessness. This feedback was supplemented by input from provinces and territories, reviews of literature on women, identity and housing, as well as data analysis and evaluations of current programs.

The federal government held the first Pan-Canadian Voice for Women’s Housing Symposium in September 2017. The Symposium brought together women from diverse backgrounds, including those with lived experience of housing need, shelter workers, and representatives of non-governmental organizations to talk about women’s housing. The voices and perspectives heard during this event have helped inform the National Housing Strategy.



The federal government has and will continue to take a proactive approach to integrating GBA+ throughout the program cycle of the National Housing Strategy. The adoption of a GBA+ approach to the National Housing Strategy will support the Government of Canada’s commitment to gender equality as presented in *The Federal Plan for Gender Equality*. The Government anticipates that the adoption of a GBA+ approach to the National Housing Strategy will also align with commitments made under UN Habitat III.

Vulnerable Populations Supported by the National Housing Strategy

Certain subgroups of the population are more likely to experience housing needs than others, and women within these subgroups are especially vulnerable. The National Housing Strategy aims to support these Canadians through a number of housing programs that work in distinct but complementary ways. Targeted groups include, but are not limited to, the following:

Survivors fleeing family violence: Gender-based family violence is a key factor contributing to women’s housing instability and homelessness in Canada. Many women

experiencing family violence or elder abuse are unable to afford housing without their partner's financial support and, as a result, either continue living in an abusive household or become homeless. On any given night in Canada, 3,491 women and their 2,724 children sleep in shelters because it is not safe to sleep at home; an additional 300 women and children are turned away each night because shelters are full. Youth may also experience homelessness due to family violence; they may be considered too old for child welfare services and often face a lack of appropriate shelters.

The proposed National Housing Strategy approach prioritizes survivors fleeing family violence who face limited suitable shelter space. The National Housing Co-Investment Fund aims to build and renew shelter spaces for survivors fleeing family violence. It is expected that this will help reduce the wait-list for shelter spaces and lower the number of women who might otherwise return to violent relationships or turn to the street. The Fund will also encourage partnerships between housing projects and support services, such as for mental health issues or addictions. In addition, new investments in homelessness programs will allow communities to tailor interventions to vulnerable populations most in need, including youth, LGBTQ2 individuals, veterans and Indigenous peoples.

Northern and remote residents: A history of poor planning, a lack of understanding of the North and declining federal funding for community housing have contributed to housing issues in the North. In 2011, 60% of female-led Indigenous households in Nunavut lived below housing standards. It is not uncommon for the scarce emergency shelters in Northern communities to serve as permanent housing for many women because of the lack of transitional and second-stage housing in these communities.

Housing in the North has been identified as a key priority area under the National Housing Strategy, and initiatives are expected to have positive effects on Northern women and Indigenous households. Funding provided through enhanced support to

provinces and territories, along with additional funding for the North, will offset higher costs of building, operating and maintaining housing in Northern and remote communities. It is expected that this approach, in addition to the Federal Community Housing Initiative, will provide predictable and stable funding for housing in the North, help reduce housing need, and permit the construction and operation of additional housing options based on community needs.

Newcomers: Immigrant women are at an increased risk of experiencing housing insecurity. In 2011, recent immigrant female lone parents were more likely to be in core housing need (50%) than their male counterparts (33%). Immigrant women often have no choice, or may perceive that they have no choice, but to continue living with their sponsor, who is often a partner or family member, in order to maintain their immigration status. This may serve as a barrier to leaving the household, whether it is abusive or otherwise. Studies also report that landlords are more likely to take advantage of immigrant and refugee women, many of whom experience cultural and racial discrimination from landlords and service providers.

The National Housing Strategy initiatives will positively impact low-income households, including immigrant women and refugee households. Through the community housing initiatives and the Canada Housing Benefit, the severity of housing need is expected to be reduced through the preservation of affordability. By implementing a human rights-based approach, housing access will be facilitated for populations identifying systemic barriers and discrimination. The Community-Based Tenant Initiative is expected to aid immigrant and refugee women in the search for suitable housing and provide them with more information to negotiate tenancy agreements.

Aging population: Low-income seniors and senior women living alone are populations with high incidences of core housing need. About a third of households that live in community housing are seniors. Senior women living alone are more likely than senior

men to live in core housing need (27% compared to 21%). Many senior women face economic insecurity, stemming from limited pensions, minimal retirement savings, or widowhood.

As the Canadian population ages, the need for affordable housing is expected to grow for seniors. The proposed National Housing Strategy approach will reduce housing need for seniors by providing rental support through the Canada Housing Benefit. Affordability for low-income seniors living in community housing will be protected through the community housing initiatives and funding to provinces and territories. The National Housing Co-Investment Fund will also support the construction, repair and renewal of housing units for seniors, which is expected to relieve affordable housing demand among low-income seniors. In addition, the Fund will invest in affordable housing and will support partnerships with services to allow for seniors to age in place.

People with disabilities: People with disabilities face unique challenges in accessing affordable and appropriate housing. Inadequate social supports, insufficient financial assistance and inaccessibility of housing units all contribute to the difficulties they may face in their quest to live independently. People with disabilities are more than twice as likely to live on low incomes as those without a disability. Women with disabilities face higher rates of core housing need (19%) than the overall population.

The National Housing Strategy is expected to have a positive impact on people with disabilities, especially women by improving social inclusion, including accessibility of housing units as well as other accessibility measures, such as proximity to transit, services and supports, and employment opportunities. The National Housing Co-Investment Fund sets accessibility requirements for new and renewed projects and targets the construction, repair and renewal of housing for people with developmental disabilities.

GBA+ Process

A GBA+ lens was applied throughout the development of the National Housing Strategy by following Status of Women Canada's step-by-step process:

1. Identify the issue

The National Housing Strategy will address the issue of housing need, specifically for vulnerable populations. As discussed in the previous section, women face numerous barriers to accessing safe, affordable housing. In particular, certain subgroups of the female population are more vulnerable and experience higher rates of core housing need than the overall population and compared to their male counterparts, including survivors fleeing family violence, women living in Northern and remote areas, immigrant women, senior women and women with disabilities.

2. Challenge the assumptions

In order to challenge the underlying assumptions of the proposed programs, an internal GBA+ team provided a guidance tool to make sure that each housing program was developed with a GBA+ lens. The tool consists of a list of questions challenging potential assumptions that might inadvertently affect the desired outcome of the program in terms of targeted populations. This exercise was done interactively between the GBA+ team and each group that was tasked to develop a housing program or initiative.

3. Gather the facts

Where available, the GBA+ team collected gender-disaggregated housing data for various identity factors, including age, geography, household type, Indigenous status, immigration status and disabilities, from the Census and the National Household Survey, and made requests to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation data specialists to provide cross tables to account for intersectionality. The data gathering was done simultaneously with a scan of the literature to ensure no emerging population trends were ignored.

Consultations also contributed to the development of the National Housing Strategy with a GBA+ lens. Prior to the development of the National Housing Strategy, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation conducted consultations with Canadians with diverse backgrounds, including those with lived experience, to identify housing issues and help shape a National Housing Strategy that will strive to improve the lives of those in greatest need. Other forms of consultations were also conducted through Pan-Canadian Voice for Women's Housing: a Symposium, as well as discussions with provinces and territories and with housing providers and stakeholders.

4. Develop options and make recommendations

The GBA+ information collected through research and consultation led to recommendations and guided the development of the National Housing Strategy programs. The programs were developed with populations in mind who were more likely to be in housing need. The recommendations included filling key housing data gaps that were identified.

5. Monitor and evaluate

The National Housing Strategy will include GBA+ monitoring and evaluation activities. This will be done through continuous consultations with diverse populations for the duration of the National Housing Strategy. These activities will allow for adjustments to the programs to ensure that the National Housing Strategy continues to have positive impacts on those most in need.

6. Document

The data and analysis that guided our approach and recommendations provide meaningful background information that could be used for future proposals. The internal GBA+ team developed an open repository where the information collected and tools created can be accessed by anyone involved in GBA+ within Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

7. Communicate

Finally, GBA+ work and results are shared and discussed regularly within the organization and with other key departments, such as Status of

Women Canada. This approach also aims to grow buy-in within the organization by communicating the importance of GBA+ for everyone.

Knowledge Gaps

Current gaps in our knowledge and data make it difficult to assess the impact housing programs and initiatives may have on certain groups. Significant gaps in housing data and research mainly concern the needs of seniors, refugees, LGBTQ2, LGBTQ2 youth and Indigenous youth and the construction of sustainable and suitable housing in the North. There are also knowledge gaps relating to discrimination and housing security of racialized women. In addition, a key theme from the women's housing symposium pointed to a lack of data on women who are homeless, as neither those who are in shelters for survivors fleeing family violence nor those who are hidden homeless are represented in homelessness statistics.

Another significant gap in knowledge concerns the state of community housing in Canada. We know that nearly three times as many female-led households live in subsidized housing compared to male-led households, so enhancing our information on the community housing stock is critical in order to understand women's housing needs. A comprehensive assessment of the community housing stock would help to determine the level of repairs and new construction required to fulfil current and future needs.

The National Housing Strategy will fill some of these knowledge and data gaps by collecting new housing data, fostering housing research and showcasing innovative approaches to housing. New housing surveys will gather information to better respond to the housing needs of vulnerable populations. The research program will launch a platform to connect housing researchers and provide opportunities for targeted research on diverse groups of women and men. It will also show the extent to which the National Housing Strategy is meeting the needs of these diverse groups and whether adjustments are necessary.

The Way Forward

Over the next 10 years, the federal government is committed to ensuring that the National Housing Strategy maximizes housing outcomes for Canadians most in need. There are several ways the federal government plans to advance an integrated approach to gender equality in the National Housing Strategy.

Ongoing consultations with vulnerable groups and stakeholders: The Government of Canada is committed to involving vulnerable and under-represented people with lived experience in decision-making processes regarding housing. Their experience, knowledge and contribution are key to improving housing, strengthening communities and enhancing quality of life.

Pan-Canadian Voice for Women’s Housing: a Symposium participants clearly expressed that policies that affect women should not be developed without the input of women. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has committed to convening a group of women annually to discuss housing issues and solutions from a gender perspective. Focus groups with other vulnerable groups with lived experience and consultations with key stakeholders and service providers will also be held regularly to inform the evolution of the National Housing Strategy.

In addition, a National Housing Council will bring together people with lived experience as well as representatives from governments, the housing sector and the research community to provide advice on how the federal government can achieve greater progress on key social, environmental and economic outcomes through the National Housing Strategy.

A specialized Federal Housing Advocate will be tasked with assessing systemic barriers to housing that people from various backgrounds and circumstances may experience. The Advocate will be tasked with drafting recommendations that the Government of Canada can implement to alleviate these barriers and improve housing outcomes.

Creating a GBA+ framework to build capacity and knowledge: As part of the Government’s commitment to GBA+, the development of a GBA+ framework will provide tools, information, networking opportunities and capacity-building activities and ensure that GBA+ is a consistent priority for the National Housing Strategy so that inequality is not perpetuated. Ongoing horizontal consultations with other federal departments and agencies on GBA+ will take place regularly to facilitate a common understanding of GBA+ and promote co-operation in order to support sustainable GBA+ implementation across the federal government.

From school to shelter to transformed lives

The Centre Mechtilde is a shelter in Gatineau, Quebec, that has provided shelter and safety for women and their children since 1979. Thanks to federal investments in affordable housing of over \$1 million, the Centre is breaking ground on a new project that will create 31 long-awaited transitional housing units within the existing structure of the former Saint-Paul Elementary School. These units will be in addition to Centre Mechtilde’s existing 14 shelter spaces and will provide safe housing for women facing homelessness and single mothers experiencing family violence. By helping women regain autonomy and self-confidence, the new transitional housing will help bridge the gap between people finding basic shelter and rebuilding their lives. Located at the heart of the neighbourhood, the new building will open in the spring of 2018.



National Housing Strategy measures that will benefit women

**At least 25% of
National Housing Strategy Investments**

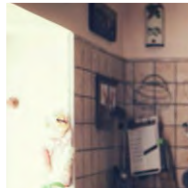
will support projects that specifically target
the unique needs of women and girls

Ongoing consultations with women including an annual Women’s Housing Symposium



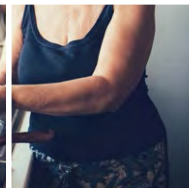
Ongoing community housing subsidies

New and repaired shelter spaces



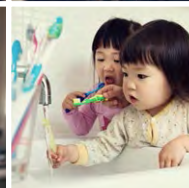
Targeted research on women’s housing needs

Financial support through the Canada Housing Benefit



Affordable housing for senior women

Improved affordable housing options and increased shelter space through the National Housing Co-Investment Fund



Improved housing affordability and safety through a human rights-based approach to housing

Chapter 11

The Journey to a National Housing Strategy



The development of the National Housing Strategy has been a collaborative process, involving extensive consultations with multiple partners. In 2016, the federal government launched national consultations with Canadians, provincial, territorial and municipal governments, Indigenous peoples, housing organizations, stakeholders and experts on the vision, themes, principles and outcomes of the National Housing Strategy.

Multiple forms of consultation were made available for Canadians to share their ideas. On the Let's Talk Housing website, Canadians were invited to share their opinions and suggestions by completing a survey, uploading written submissions or posting on an idea board.

Housing experts and organizations participated in 22 round tables across the country, where they provided feedback on the submissions that had been received through the consultations. Round tables in Ottawa examined topics ranging from homelessness and shelters to community housing, affordable rental housing, homeownership and housing finance. Other round tables in Thunder Bay, Winnipeg and Whitehorse focused on

the housing needs of First Nations communities, rural and remote Indigenous households, Northern communities and urban Indigenous households.

In addition to the round tables, the Government held 15 bilateral meetings and forums with national Indigenous organizations, including the Assembly of First Nations, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, the Métis National Council, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the Native Women's Association of Canada and the National Association of Friendship Centres. Many of these organizations worked with their local and regional chapters to canvas their members and ensure the views of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation were shared.



Survey Responses

6,351



Document Uploads

478



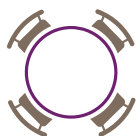
Ideas Submitted on Website

132



Ideas on Social Media

1,905



Let's Talk Housing Round Tables

22



Focus Groups with Vulnerable Peoples

21



MP Town Halls

10



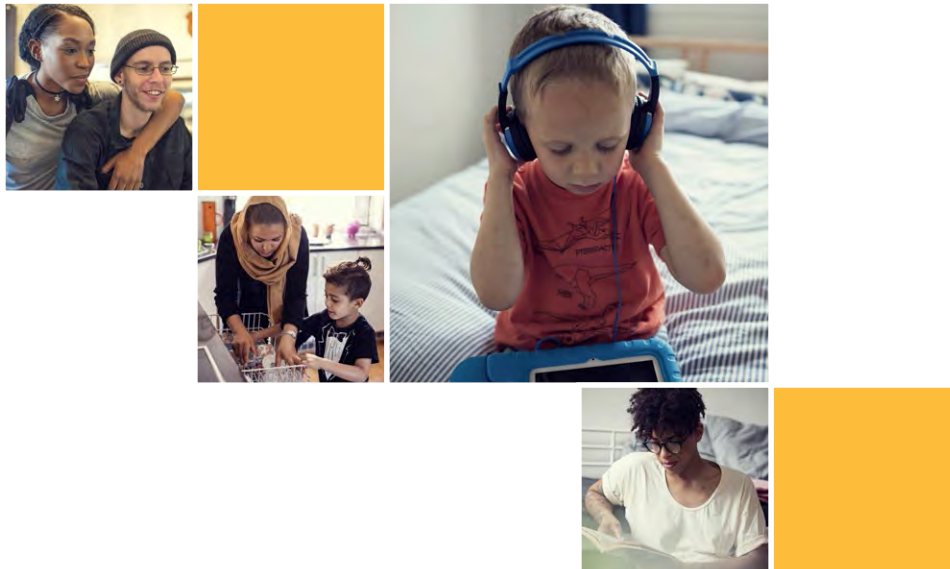
Bilateral Meetings and Forums with Indigenous Organizations

15

A total of 21 focus groups were also held to gather feedback from Canadians who have lived experience of housing need, including people with disabilities, low-income individuals, people who are or have been homeless, survivors fleeing family violence and seniors. Across all groups, affordability and the availability of housing that meets essential needs were unanimously identified as being the most common housing challenges.

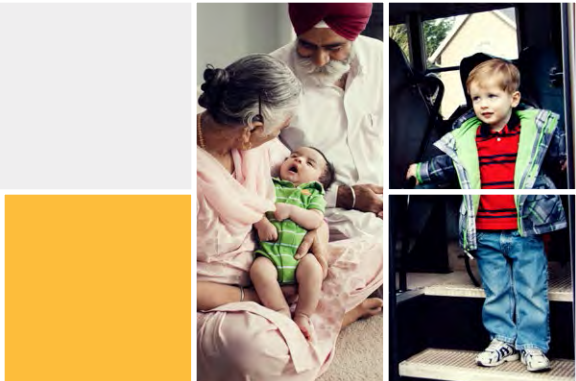
On National Housing Day on November 22, 2016, the results of these consultations were released in a report entitled **What We Heard**. The message was clear: Canadians want better housing outcomes, not just for themselves, but also for all those individuals and families who are in greatest housing need, including low-income Canadians, homeless people and other vulnerable groups with distinct needs.

The National Housing Council will build on the success of the National Housing Strategy consultations. The Council, which will bring together representatives from the federal government, the provinces and territories, municipalities, the housing sector, the research community, and people with lived experience of housing need, is designed to increasingly democratize the development of housing policy in Canada. Council members will bring a diversity of experience and expertise to the table to advise on the federal government's research and inform its policy planning. The Council will also provide input into regular assessments of the National Housing Strategy, as part of an annual report on the progress of the Strategy.



Chapter 12

Housing Progress Report



Budget 2016 increased the federal investment in affordable housing by \$2.3 billion over two years. This funding is in addition to annual federal investments of \$1.7 billion to support existing community housing under long-term operating agreements.

Expanding Affordable Housing: Provincial and Territorial Delivery

Budget 2016 increased the federal government's total housing investment through the provinces and territories by \$1.4 billion over two years. Information about how provinces and territories use these investments becomes available to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation when provinces and territories provide claims related to funding commitments and their claims-based indicators. The following offers an overview of some of the progress and impacts that have resulted from these increased investments so far:

Investments / Initiatives	Progress to Date
<p>Doubling the Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH)</p> <p>\$504.4 million</p> <p>in funding to double current federal funding under the provincial/territorial cost-matched portion of the IAH (delivered by provinces and territories).</p>	<p>As of September 30, 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3,192 projects to assist 11,153 households• \$303.5 million claimed by the provinces and territories
<p>Increasing Affordable Housing for Seniors (IAH)</p> <p>\$200.7 million</p> <p>to increase affordable housing for seniors and improve their housing conditions (provided through the IAH, delivered by provinces and territories).</p>	<p>As of September 30, 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 949 projects to assist 3,553 households• \$105.5 million claimed by the provinces and territories
<p>Increasing Affordable Housing for Victims of Family Violence (IAH)</p> <p>\$89.9 million</p> <p>for the construction and renovation of off-reserve shelter spaces for victims of family violence (provided through the IAH, delivered by provinces and territories).</p>	<p>As of September 30, 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3,118 projects to assist 4,520 households• \$63.1 million claimed by the provinces and territories

Investments / Initiatives	Progress to Date
<p>Supporting Energy- and Water-Efficiency Retrofits to Existing Community Housing (IAH)</p> <p>\$490.4 million</p> <p>for retrofits and renovations to existing community housing administered by the provinces and territories to address the increasing demand for repairs, improve efficiency and reduce energy use (provided through the IAH, delivered by provinces and territories).</p>	<p>As of September 30, 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,317 projects to retrofit or renovate 95,403 units • \$490.5 million claimed by the provinces and territories
<p>Supporting Northern Housing (IAH)</p> <p>\$97.7 million</p> <p>to address urgent housing needs in Northern communities (provided through the IAH, delivered by territories).</p>	<p>As of September 30, 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41 projects to assist 183 households • \$40 million claimed by territories

Expanding Affordable Housing: Federal Programs

Budget 2016 also committed \$870 million in new funding over two years to support federally administered housing and homelessness programs, including programs for First Nation people living on- and off-reserve. This funding is in addition to the \$403.3 million in annual funding that is currently invested for pre-existing federally administered housing program commitments. Many of these new investments are already being implemented across the country, including the following:

Investments / Initiatives	Progress to Date
<p>Renovation and Retrofit of Existing Federally Administered Community Housing</p> <p>\$83.5 million</p> <p>Investment is being provided over two years, starting in 2016-17, for retrofits and renovations to existing federally administered community housing to address the increasing demand for repairs, improve efficiency and reduce energy use.</p>	<p>As of September 30, 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 248 projects to retrofit or renovate 7,739 units • \$19.4 million expended • \$74.3 million committed

Investments / Initiatives

Rent Subsidies for Federally Administered Community Housing Providers

\$30 million

Budget 2016 reallocated up to \$30 million over two years, starting in 2016-17, to renew subsidies for eligible federally administered community housing projects that have operating agreements expiring in the next two years, until the end of March 2018.

Progress to Date

Transitional funding to the first projects started flowing in November 2016 to help support affordability for low-income households in federally administered community housing projects (including those owned by co-operatives) with operating agreements expiring until the end of March 2018.

As of September 30, 2017:

- 7,057 community housing households are benefiting from continued subsidies

Tackling Homelessness

\$111.8 million

Provided by Budget 2016 over two years (\$57.9 million in 2016-17 and \$53.9 million in 2017-18), which builds on existing funding of nearly \$600 million over five years (2014-19).

Budget 2016 funding was primarily allocated to regionally delivered streams enabling:

- funding for the Designated Communities stream to be increased by \$27 million in both 2016-17 and 2017-18, to a total of \$110.8 million each year;
- a doubling of investments in the Aboriginal Homelessness stream. This represents an increase of \$14.3 million in both 2016-17 and 2017-18, to a total of \$28.7 million each year; and
- a doubling of investments in the Rural and Remote Homelessness stream. This represents an increase of \$5.6 million in both 2016-17 and 2017-18, to a total of \$11.2 million each year.

Budget 2016 invested an incremental \$12.5 million over two years in the Innovative Solutions to Homelessness stream.

Outside Quebec, all contribution agreements with community entities have been amended to enable additional regionally delivered funding to flow.

An enhanced Canada-Quebec Agreement was concluded in July 2016 to enable the additional funding to flow, with all recommended projects in Quebec having been approved.

Investments / Initiatives

Improving Housing in
First Nations Communities**\$554.3 million**

To address urgent housing needs on-reserve, Budget 2016 proposed to provide \$554.3 million over two years, including \$416.6 million over two years to address immediate housing needs on-reserve.

The remaining \$137.7 million will be provided over two years to support the renovation and retrofit of existing housing on-reserve, including \$10 million over two years for skills and capacity development for the design, construction, inspection and overall management of housing on-reserve.

In addition to these targeted investments, an average of \$143 million per year has been provided by Indigenous Services Canada and approximately \$150 million per year has been provided by Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation to First Nations to support a range of housing needs, including construction, renovation, maintenance, insurance, capacity building, debt servicing, and the planning and management of their housing portfolios.

\$10.4 million

Budget 2016 also provided an additional \$10.4 million over three years to support the construction of new shelters for victims of family violence and the renovation of existing shelters in First Nations communities on-reserve.

Progress to Date

Budget 2016 investments are being delivered through existing programs on reserve to ensure that funds reach communities as quickly as possible and that they continue to have the flexibility to allocate funds based on their most pressing local needs. First Nations partners report on projects completed at year end.

Delivered by Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation:

Construction, renovation and service of homes in First Nations on-reserve communities:

To address urgent housing needs on reserve, Budget 2016 provides additional \$554.3 million over two years beginning in 2016-17 (\$416.6 million for Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada and \$137.7 million for Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation). These important levels of investments are resulting, over the 2 years commitment, and as of June 30 2017, in the construction, renovation/retrofit and or servicing of 8,808 units. Of that number, more than 50% have been completed, representing 4,460 new homes for First Nations people across the country.

Renovation and Retrofit On-Reserve:

As of September 30, 2017:

- 4,332 units to be renovated or retrofitted
- \$69.1 million being invested
- \$95.4 million committed

Skills and Capacity Development:

As of September 30, 2017:

- 443 First Nations communities assisted
- \$7.0 million invested
- \$8.9 million committed

Shelter Enhancement Program:

As of September 30, 2017:

- To date, all 5 shelters have been committed.

Investments / Initiatives

Progress to Date

Supporting Inuit Housing
\$80 million

In addition to the \$97.7 million provided to the territories through the IAH to address urgent housing needs in Northern communities, Budget 2016 also earmarked another investment of \$80 million to address housing needs in three Inuit regions.

Through Budget 2016, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada is flowing funding for housing directly to three of the four organizations managing Inuit issues: the Makivik Corporation in northern Quebec, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation in the Northwest Territories, and the Nunatsiavut Government in Newfoundland and Labrador. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation continues to manage housing requirements in Nunavut with funds flowing through the territorial government.

Budget 2016 investments are being directly delivered by Inuit governments and organizations in Nunavik, Inuvialuit and Nunatsiavut to ensure that funds reach communities as quickly as possible, and that they have the flexibility to plan for the construction season, purchase materials and consider innovative and new ideas. Inuit partners report on projects completed per the requirements in existing funding arrangements and land claim agreements.

Housing Internship Initiative for
 First Nations and Inuit Youth (HIIFNIY)
\$5 million

A further \$5 million in 2016-17 to support internships for Indigenous youth under HIIFNIY, which provides work experience and on-the-job training in the housing sector. The funding was provided in Budget 2016 under the renewed Youth Employment Strategy.

\$5 million was expended towards 537 youth internships in 2016-17. This Budget 2016 initiative ended on March 31, 2017.

Investments / Initiatives

Supporting the Construction of Affordable Rental Housing – Affordable Rental Innovation Fund

\$208.3 million

An investment of \$208.3 million over five years starting in 2016-17 for the creation of an Affordable Rental Innovation Fund.

Funding will be used to test innovative business approaches such as unique housing designs and financial models, in order to lower the cost and risks of financing affordable rental housing projects.

Progress to Date

The Affordable Rental Innovation Fund was launched September 30, 2016, to encourage new funding models and innovative building techniques in the rental housing market. The Fund is looking for unique ideas that will revolutionize the affordable housing sector. All proposals are being reviewed and assessed on an ongoing basis, and funding announcements will be made when projects have been approved.

As of September 30, 2017:

- 1 project for the creation of 40 households
- \$1.5 million has been expended
- A significant number of applications have been received from across the country

Supporting the Rental Construction Financing Initiative

\$2.5 billion

A total of \$2.5 billion will be invested over four years for a Rental Construction Financing Initiative to encourage the construction of affordable rental housing projects by making low-cost loans available to municipalities and housing developers during the most at-risk phases of development.

The Rental Construction Financing Initiative was launched April 20, 2017, to provide low-cost loans to encourage the construction of rental housing across Canada, where the need for rental homes is clearly demonstrated. Over 30% of Canadians rely on rental housing as an alternative to homeownership. Continued access to both affordable and market rental housing is critical.

As of September 30, 2017:

- A significant number of applications have been received from across the country

Investments / Initiatives

Assisting Homeowners Affected by Pyrrhotite

\$30 million

Up to \$30 million over three years, starting in 2016-17, will be invested to help homeowners deal with costly structural problems in their homes as a result of the presence of the mineral pyrrhotite in their foundations. This funding will be provided by the Government of Canada and the Province of Quebec.

Progress to Date

On July 11, 2016, the governments of Canada and Quebec signed an agreement to provide assistance for homeowners dealing with pyrrhotite. Federal funds will be committed through the existing Quebec program to indemnify homeowners whose homes are impacted by pyrrhotite.

As of September 30, 2017:

- The Province of Quebec claimed \$10 million to benefit 162 homeowners

Prepayment Flexibilities for Co-operative and Non-Profit Housing

\$150 million

In Budget 2015, the Government announced \$150 million over four years, starting in 2016-17, to allow co-operative housing and non-profit community housing providers to prepay long-term, non-renewable mortgages held with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, without any penalty.

Upon prepayment, housing providers will be able to access financing from the private market at current interest rates, which will lower mortgage expenses and help keep rents affordable. In addition to waiving prepayment penalties, housing providers who received an upfront capital contribution that is earned over the life of the loan will also be forgiven for the unearned portion of the contribution at the time of payout.

As of September 30, 2017:

- 144 long-term, non-renewable mortgages paid out
- \$74.4 million in waived penalties

Investments / Initiatives

Addressing Gaps in Housing Market Information and Data

Canadian households and industry rely on housing market data to make informed decisions. Governments also depend on data to design effective housing policies. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation is working to address gaps in both data and information that may be acting as a barrier to informed decision making or the creation of evidence-based housing policy.

Progress to Date

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation is working closely with Statistics Canada and the Department of Finance to support access to improved data on foreign investment in housing. To date, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has released information on foreign ownership in Canada's condominium markets by age of structure and local geography and conducted industry round tables on foreign investment in Vancouver, Toronto and Montréal.

In 2016, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation broadened its Housing Market Assessment (HMA) framework report to include local-level reports for 15 census metropolitan areas. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation also began reporting on prices and square footage for condominium units in December 2016.

In its October Rental Market Survey, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation added rental turnover rates and broadened coverage of the centres covered in secondary rental markets. Findings were released on November 28, 2016.

In September 2016, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation published a **Housing Market Insight** report on rents at the lower end of the market for purpose-built rental apartment units across Canada. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation is currently conducting research concerning municipal government charges on new housing.



#NationalHousingStrategy
placetocalhome.ca

Summary of National Housing Strategy Initiatives and
Potential Implications for York Region

Initiative	Funding Envelope (\$ Billion)
<p>Existing federal-provincial/territorial social housing agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreements to be made more flexible. For example, funds from disposed properties may be reinvested back into the community housing sector for capital repairs or improve housing affordability of existing social housing. • Housing providers will be permitted to access loans to help them repair housing and be eligible to maintain rent supplements until their operating agreements end. • Funding to be delivered through existing social housing agreements, in place from 2018 to 2028 • York Region has more than 2,800 units under federal-provincial social housing agreements 	8.4
<p>Canada Community Housing Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on preserving existing social housing by assisting with repairs, helping to keep rents affordable, and providing mortgage assistance to the housing providers. • Canada's approximately 500,000 social housing units administered by provincial or territorial authorities, and have rent-geared-to-income subsidies, will be eligible for this initiative. In Ontario, these social housing units are administered by Service Managers, including York Region. • York Region has more than 2,800 units which may be eligible. 	8.6*
<p>Federal Community Housing Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to the Canada Community Housing Initiative, except that it will target funding to federally administered community housing providers • Not applicable to York Region administered social housing 	0.5

<p>Canada Housing Benefit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial assistance to low-income households to afford the rent in both social and private sector housing, to launch 2020 • To be co-developed with all levels of government and other partners • Anticipate that with our high housing costs, York Region tenants may benefit 	4.0*
<p>Federal-Provincial/Territorial Housing Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intended to help address housing priorities such as continuation of existing community housing, repairs for existing community housing stock, and expansion of rent-assisted units. • This initiative is expected to be the successor to the Investment in Affordable Housing program and the new funding is in addition to previous commitments. • Between 2011 and 2020, the Region will receive approximately \$96.1 million in funding from the federal/provincial Investment in Affordable Housing program. • York Region is likely to receive additional funding for housing priorities under the successor program. 	2.2*
<p>National Housing Co-Investment Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A federally-managed fund consisting of loans and grants to repair existing rental housing and to develop new affordable housing that is integrated with supports and services. • Will assist both social housing and private rental housing, as well as shelter spaces for survivors of family violence, units for seniors, and units for persons with developmental disabilities. • The existing federal Rental Construction Financing Initiative and Affordable Rental Innovation Fund will be integrated into the National Housing Co-Investment Fund. • Projected to start accepting applications on April 1, 2020. • The fund may provide an opportunity to repair and expand the social and affordable housing stock in York Region, with options for partnering with non-profit housing providers and private development proponents. 	15.9

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$200 million in federal lands will also be transferred to community and affordable housing providers over the next 10 years. • None of the federally-owned land in York Region was for sale when the Strategy was released; however, staff are working on identifying sites that the Region may wish to advocate for. 	
Federal homelessness program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy aims to reduce chronic homelessness by 50% over 10 years. • Expected to launch on April 1, 2019. • Currently, United Way Toronto and York Region (United Way) administers the federal homelessness program • The Region will continue to work in partnership with United Way to align priorities to jointly address homelessness in York Region. 	2.2
Housing need in the North <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable to York Region 	0.3
National Housing Strategy Research Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not applicable to York Region; funding for Statistics Canada and CMHC 	0.241
Total	42.3

Notes:

- * Includes provincial/territorial cost-matching

April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

**Re: Update on Moving Towards Full Producer Responsibility under the
Waste-Free Ontario Act**

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "Update on Moving Towards Full Producer Responsibility under the Waste-Free Ontario Act":

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 11 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 4 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Laura McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75077 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,



Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 11 in Report No. 4 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

11

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.
-

Report dated February 16, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

2. Purpose

This report provides an update on the *Waste-Free Ontario Act, 2016* regarding early transition of the blue box program from the municipal sector to full producer responsibility, in an effort to reduce the financial burden on taxpayers.

3. Background and Previous Council Direction

**Municipalities and other stakeholders in the waste sector
continue to advocate for improvements to Blue Box Program**

Municipalities and other stakeholders have been advocating for full producer responsibility as it relates to the Blue Box Program for a number of years. Table

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

1 summarizes communications to Council over the last five years on the evolving waste management legislation.

**Table 1
Communications to Council on Provincial Waste Management Legislation**

Date	Communication
September 2013 Report	<u>Review of Bill 91, Proposed <i>Waste Reduction Act, 2013</i></u>
June 2015 Report & Presentation	<u>Pending Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery Framework Legislation Update</u>
February 2016 Report & Presentation	<u><i>Waste-Free Ontario Act</i> – Update on Proposed Waste Management Legislation</u>
June 2016 Memorandum	Update on <u><i>Waste-Free Ontario Act</i></u>
June 2017 Report & Presentation	<u>Update on moving toward full producer responsibility under the <i>Waste-Free Ontario Act</i></u>
January 2018 Memorandum	<u>Update on Consultation Timelines for Amending the Blue Box Program Plan towards Full Producer Responsibility</u>
February 2018 Memorandum & Presentation	<u>Update on Proposed Amendment to Blue Box Program Plan</u>

***Waste-Free Ontario Act* will have major impact on municipal waste management, particularly the diversion programs**

In November 2016, the *Waste Diversion Act, 2002* was repealed and replaced by the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*. This new legislation will have a major impact on municipal waste management and waste diversion programs in Ontario, including the Blue Box Program, tires, electronics and household hazardous wastes.

As shown in Figure 1, the Act shifts the current system to one of full producer responsibility.

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

**Figure 1
Overview of the *Waste-Free Ontario Act, 2016***



Minister triggers process to shift used tire and electronic diversion programs to full producer responsibility

The Province's Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario identified a high level timeline for transitioning diversion programs for materials currently designated under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*. The timeline targets 2020 as the year that designated materials such as tires, waste electronics and household hazardous waste materials will complete transition to full producer responsibility under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*. The Province targeted completing transition of the Blue Box Program by 2023 due to the additional complexities associated with this program.

To initiate the process to transition a diversion program, the Minister must issue a direction letter to the organization representing producers (e.g. Ontario Tire Stewardship representing tire producers), requesting that the organization wind-up operations to move to full producer responsibility. In February 2017, the Minister issued a direction letter to wind-up the Used Tire program. The Used Tire program is the first diversion program to undergo transition to full producer responsibility. The Region currently collects used tires at our depots and will be impacted by future regulations accompanying transition of this program.

Over the past year, Region staff have been engaged throughout the wind-up process to ensure municipal interests are represented. To date, staff understand that the new tire regulations will require tire producers to be environmentally accountable and financially responsible for recovering used tires and reducing waste. During this wind-up process and discussions, producers have not signaled if they intend to include municipal depot programs for collection of tires

Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*

or elect to use point-of-sale locations for collection. In 2017, the Region collected approximately 170 tonnes of used tires and recovered \$14,000 from Ontario Tire Stewardship for this work.

On February 8, 2018, the Minister issued a direction letter for electronic waste however details on how this program will be transitioned including timing have not been released at this time. In 2017, the Region collected about 1,350 tonnes of electronic waste and recovered \$600,000 for delivering this service.

Ontario municipalities can save up to \$130 million per year by accelerating transition of the Blue Box Program to full producer responsibility

The cost to operate the Blue Box Program is currently supposed to be split 50/50 between municipal governments and the companies that produce the packaging and paper products placed in the blue box for recycling. The new legislation will make producers, such as Coca Cola, Unilever and Loblaws amongst the hundreds of registered stewards in Ontario, fully responsible for the end-of-life management of their products and packaging.

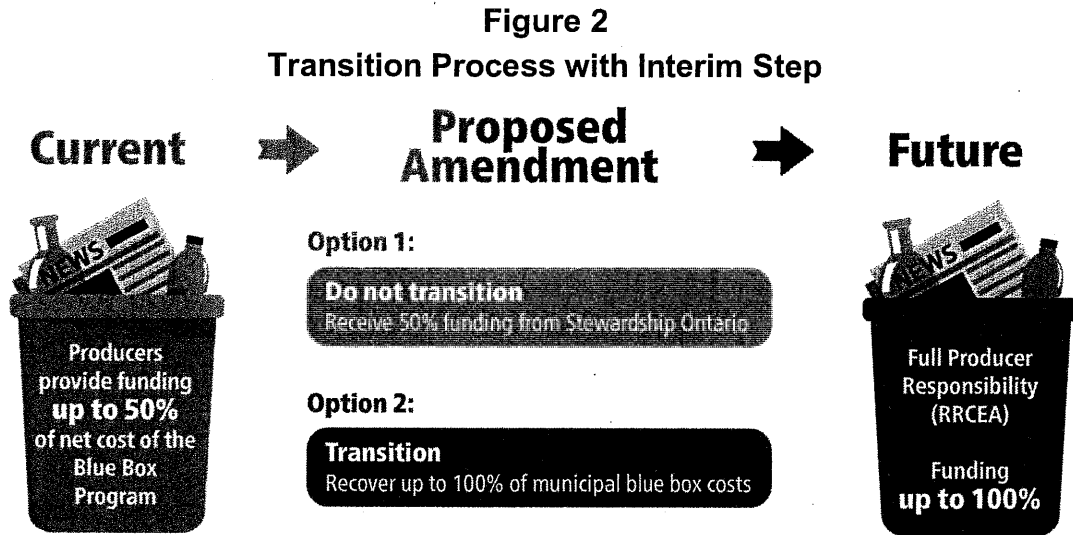
The Province has targeted 2023 to transition the blue box program to the new framework under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*. Municipalities advocated initiating transition prior to 2023 to realize cost savings sooner. Accelerating transition is in the best interest of municipal governments as the current model costs Ontario municipalities an estimated \$130 million a year to operate.

Municipalities formed a collaborative and worked with Stewardship Ontario to accelerate transition to full producer responsibility

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Municipal Waste Association, Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario and the City of Toronto formed the Municipal Resource Recovery and Research Collaborative (the Municipal 3Rs Collaborative) in 2017 to advocate for a smooth and timely transition to full producer responsibility before 2023. The Municipal 3Rs Collaborative began discussions with Stewardship Ontario and established some common ground to transition early. An amended Blue Box Program Plan approach was developed as an interim step to a full transition. Given the scale of the changes required, an amended plan offers an opportunity to enable an orderly transition from a municipally owned and operated system to a system whereby producers are fully responsible for the blue box program.

Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*

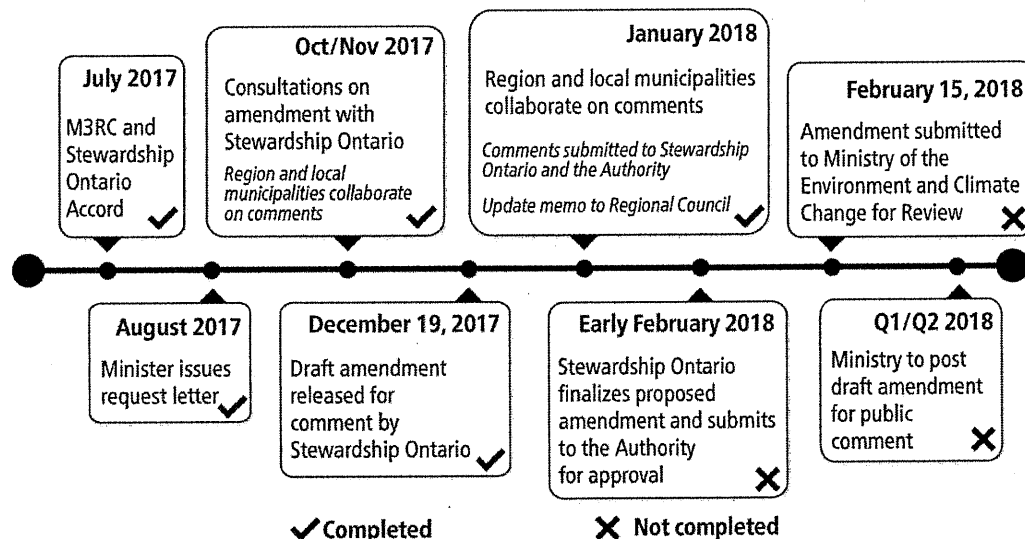
As shown in Figure 2, municipalities have two options under the proposed amendment. One option is that municipalities can choose not to transition in which case they would continue to receive about 50 per cent of their blue box funding from the Stewards. The other option is for the municipality to transition to full producer responsibility. In the latter case, municipalities would recover up to 100 per cent of their costs to operate the Blue Box Program.



In July 2017, a joint letter (the Accord) was issued by Municipal 3Rs Collaborative members along with Stewardship Ontario requesting that the Minister amend the current Blue Box Program Plan (herein referred to as the proposed amendment). The Minister subsequently directed the new Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (the Authority) to work with Stewardship Ontario to consult with affected stakeholders regarding changes to the Blue Box Program Plan based on the shared principles outlined in the Accord. Figure 3 demonstrates the consultation timelines forecasted and actions completed to amend the Blue Box Program Plan as per the Minister’s request.

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

**Figure 3
Consultation Timeline for Proposed Blue Box Program Plan Amendment**



**Proposed Blue Box Program Plan amendment fails to satisfy
Minister's direction and Municipal interests**

On January 15, 2018, staff submitted comments in response to Stewardship Ontario's proposed amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan (Attachment 1). Staff comments were coordinated with local municipal partners and align well with key issues that the Municipal 3Rs Collaborative and other stakeholders raised in their response (Attachment 2). Staff comments express disappointment in first iteration of the proposed amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan, which does not reflect the principles agreed upon in the Accord nor does it reflect the direction provided in the Minister's response letter (Attachment 3). The following summarizes key concerns raised by municipalities and included in staff comments provided to Stewardship Ontario.

- Timelines must reflect early transition of the Blue Box Program Plan prior to the provincial target of 2023
- Decision-making criteria must be clearly laid out, transparent and include mechanisms to incorporate stakeholder feedback and resolve disputes
- There must be no backsliding on the list of accepted blue box materials collected and mechanisms must be included to address problematic packaging (e.g. creation of end markets for recycling, disincentives for producing this type of packaging, etc.)

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

- Customer service standards must be included ensuring there is no disruption in service to residents

Stewardship Ontario plans to revisit consultation process and request extension

On February 15, staff advised Council that Stewardship Ontario did not submit a plan as scheduled. Stewardship Ontario has now indicated their intention in a letter to the Municipal 3R's Collaborative proposing a new engagement approach with municipalities. In response, the Municipal 3R's Collaborative supports the opportunity to continue working with Stewardship Ontario to define a collaborative process grounded in the principles outlined in the Minister's request letter. The Municipal 3R's Collaborative reiterated five main concerns with the proposed amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan. These remain fundamental issues for municipalities and need to be addressed early in order for meaningful progress to be made (Attachment 4).

Authority agrees more time required to develop a plan which meets the Minister's direction and addresses concerns of all stakeholders

On February 15, the Authority notified the public that in light of comments received on the proposed amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan, Stewardship Ontario and the Authority have determined that more time is needed to address comments received. Furthermore, the Authority stated that:

"As the Minister directed that the proposal for an amended Blue Box Program Plan be developed collaboratively with municipalities, stewards and affected stakeholders, the Authority is committed to engaging with all parties to support the development of a proposal for an amended Blue Box Program Plan that is consistent with the Minister's direction."

As of writing this report, staff have not heard if any decision has been made by the Minister to grant an extension. The following sections provide analysis on the potential future impacts to the Region's integrated waste management system, recognizing that the process for amending the Blue Box Program is changing and continues to evolve.

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

4. Analysis and Implications

Proposed amendment identified several transition options for municipalities

The proposed amendment offered municipalities the option to choose whether or not to transition their Blue Box Program early to Stewardship Ontario or wait until the Minister directs transition to full producer responsibility under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*. Furthermore, different options and roles for the Region and local municipalities were proposed for those who chose to transition. Table 2 outlines the options for local municipalities and the Region under the conditions proposed by Stewardship Ontario. However, at this time, it is difficult to determine if these options will be realized should Stewardship Ontario be granted an extension and a revised consultation process proceeds.

**Table 2
Transition Options Previously Proposed by Stewardship Ontario**

Option	Local municipal impacts (collection)	Region impacts (processing)
Do not transition under previously proposed amendment	Continue to operate collection system and receive 50% funding. Minister triggers transition to full producer responsibility under the <i>Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act</i> by 2023.	Continue to provide Blue Box processing and receive 50% funding. Minister triggers transition to full producer responsibility under the <i>Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act</i> by 2023.
Transition blue box program to Stewardship Ontario under previously proposed amendment	Option A: Amend/tender collection contract using Stewardship Ontario terms and conditions and act as a contract manager. Producers fund up to 100 per cent. Option B: Hand over delivery of the Blue Box to Stewardship Ontario. Municipality no longer pays for Blue Box Program.	Transfer and processing of Blue Box material become the responsibility of Stewardship Ontario. Region would no longer provide blue box processing and a decision would need to be made about future of the Region's Materials Recovery Facility.

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

After transition, it is likely that York Region would no longer have a role in the transfer and processing of blue box materials

As outlined above, the proposed amendment identified that once the Region transitions, it would no longer be involved in transfer or processing of blue box materials. Unlike collection, there is currently no option for first right of refusal for municipalities to act as a contract manager for processing.

Uncertainty around the future of blue box processing make it difficult to implement improvements to program and services

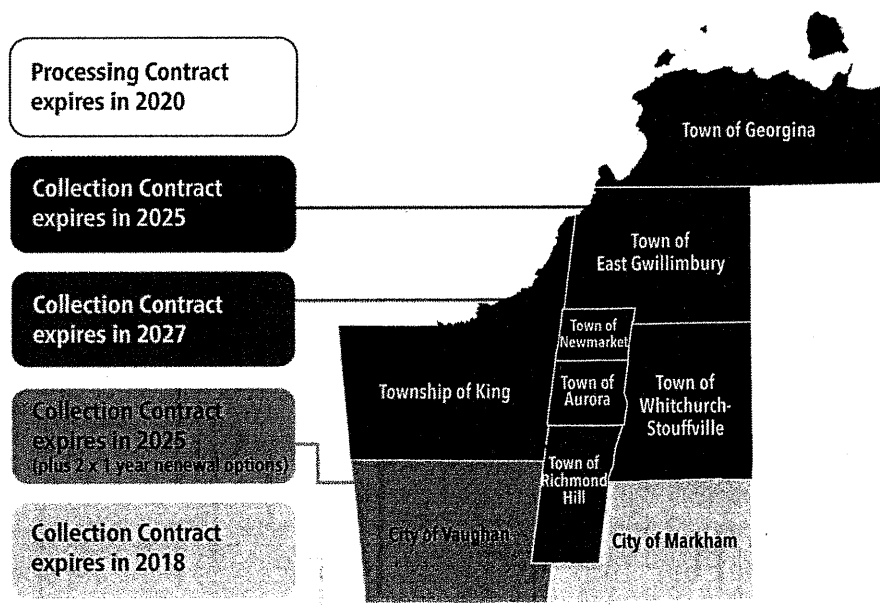
Uncertainty around the future of the Materials Recovery Facility makes it difficult to invest in upgrades such as installation of a bag breaker at this time. Similarly, staff recommend deferring consideration of a bylaw banning plastic bags until more certainty is known about transition of the Blue Box Program. Staff will continue to discuss with local municipal partners potential solutions for minimizing blue box litter on windy days and managing problematic materials such as plastic bags. Staff will also advocate for incorporating solutions to address blue box litter and diverting problematic materials in the proposed amendment and future regulation.

Obligations under the Municipal Act create complexities for two-tier municipalities to transition Blue Box Program

York Region and its local municipal partners jointly deliver the integrated waste management system as governed under the *Municipal Act, 2001*. As a result, waste management services are operated through multiple collection contracts with a common Regional processing arrangement. The proposed amendment transition process poses challenges that may result in higher costs through the transition period. One example of this complexity is that local municipal collection contracts and the Regional processing contract expire at different times as depicted in Figure 4.

Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*

Figure 4
Map of Waste Contract Expiry Dates in York Region



Due to varying contract expiration dates, the Region and several local municipalities could seek to transition at the earliest possible window, while others may choose to wait. If that is the case, under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, upper-tier municipalities have exclusive jurisdiction for all aspects of waste management, except collection. There is currently no provision in the Act to transfer these powers to the lower-tier municipality. Accordingly, the Region included comments to recommend that the *Municipal Act* be amended to provide autonomy to local municipalities to provide them with jurisdictional responsibility to manage post collection of materials if they choose not to transition.

5. Financial Considerations

The Region's 2018 operating budget for processing blue box materials is approximately \$6.6 million net of blue box revenue. As a comparison, 2018 source separated organics processing budget is \$17.8 million and residual waste is \$16.5 million. Regardless of any outcome of the blue box transition process, source separated organics and residual waste streams will continue to be funded through the tax levy.

Intent of Waste-Free Ontario Act is to shift responsibility and costs from municipalities to producers

The Waste-Free Ontario Act intends to shift the costs and responsibility associated with managing designated materials such as the Blue Box Program from municipalities to producers. The municipal sector will continue to work with

Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*

the Authority, Stewardship Ontario and the province to better understand how municipalities will transition, timing and associated costs with continuing to manage the program in the interim. Furthermore, indirect impacts to municipal costs of managing other streams would need to be considered if the transitioned Blue Box Program managed by producers results in materials leaking into municipal organics and garbage streams at a cost to taxpayers.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Region and local municipal staff collaborating during consultation process for the proposed amendment

The Region hosted a series of special meetings to discuss issues relevant to the whole system and ensure local feedback was captured in joint comment submissions. A number of local municipalities have also been making their own submissions to reiterate key messages and address any additional concerns outside the scope of joint submissions. Given the recent developments and request by Stewardship Ontario to initiate a revised extended consultation, Region staff will continue to engage local municipal staff to seek input and represent concerns as the process unfolds.

7. Conclusion

Region and local municipalities remain engaged as the process for transitioning the blue box continues to evolve

Staff will continue to engage our municipal partners and other stakeholders to advance the municipal perspective on issues related to the *Waste-Free Ontario Act*. Staff will ensure the Region's and local municipal interests are well represented through the Municipal 3Rs Collaborative. Although there has been no information provided to date as to whether the Minister will approve the extension, staff will remain close to the process to determine next steps. Next steps will be informed by the Minister's response to granting the extension requested by Stewardship Ontario, Staff will update Council regarding progress related to transitioning to full producer responsibility as new information becomes available.

**Update on moving towards Full Producer Responsibility
under the *Waste-Free Ontario Act***

For more information on this report, please contact Laura McDowell, Director,
Environmental Promotion and Protection at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75077.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

February 16, 2018

Attachments (4)

8206025

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Summary of proposed amendment and staff recommendations

Minister's direction	Stewardship Ontario proposal	Staff recommendations
Implement amendment prior to Provincial target date of 2023 for full producer responsibility.	7 year transition: 2 years of planning and 5 year phased transition. Completed in 2025 at the earliest.	Five-year timeline to transition all municipalities starting once the proposed amendment is approved.
Develop a protocol for managing issues in a fair, efficient and equitable way.	Stewardship Ontario has unilateral decision-making powers over key elements of transition (e.g. terms of service agreements, transition timing, benchmarking of costs).	Clearly lay out decision-making criteria, how stakeholder feedback will be transparently addressed and a process for dispute resolution.
Expand and harmonize list of materials to improve environmental outcomes.	Proposes some reductions in the scope of materials collected currently by York Region (e.g. empty aerosol and paint cans).	No backsliding on materials currently collected in municipal programs.
Develop approach to address waste reduction; include composting to produce nutrients as an end-market.	Some designated materials not targeted for collection (e.g. film, polystyrene); steward fees support research with no timeline to manage these materials. No funding mechanism for green bin program to manage branded organics (paper towels, compostable packaging).	Stewards fund management of problematic materials and include alternatives to curbside (e.g. depot collection, retail takeback); fund processing of paper, packaging and branded products managed in green bin programs.
Consider servicing parks, and public spaces currently serviced by municipalities	No firm commitment to expand to non-commercial IC&I sources in communities not currently offering this service; municipalities will have to pay for collection service to Business Improvement Areas.	Include sources already being serviced by municipalities. Expand services to communities not currently offering them to ensure equal access across the Province.
Avoid stranded assets; fair approach to newspaper contributions; 50% of net verified costs for non-transitioned municipalities	No clear commitment to address stranded assets; non-transitioned municipalities to be paid in-kind; backsliding on use of verified costs through data call process as basis for funding non-transitioned municipalities.	Eliminate in-kind compensation from newspapers; Avoid stranded assets by including incentives in procurement process; commit to using data call process to establish funding.
Meet material specific targets, reduce use of problem materials, provide effective education	No tracking of targets until full transition; contamination management process relies on curbside enforcement; no link to effectiveness of steward-led promotion and education or product design.	Material specific targets achieved within 5 years of amendment approval; 2 years for achieving the 75% target; address contamination through education, clear labelling and better. packaging design
Ensure no disruption in service through transition	Customer service standards missing from draft amendment	Robust customer service standards that ensure no disruption in service



Environmental Services

January 15, 2018

Frank Denton
Chief Executive Officer
Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
4711 Yonge Street, Suite 408
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 6K8

David Pearce
Managing Director
Stewardship Ontario
1 St. Clair Ave. West, 7th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 1K6

Dear Mr. Denton and Mr. Pearce:

Re: York Region response on the proposed draft amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan

This response letter comprises feedback from The Regional Municipality of York (York Region) and its local municipal partners on the draft amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan circulated by Stewardship Ontario on December 19, 2017 (herein referred to as the proposed amendment). Our recommendations also align with Regional council-endorsed positions on the transition of the Blue Box program to a system of full producer responsibility under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016*.

York Region has been actively involved in consultations on this process and as part of the Municipal 3R Collaborative (M3RC). The M3RC will be submitting comments under a separate cover and it should be noted that this submission aligns with the response being submitted by M3RC. We remain optimistic that a balanced, fair approach to transition that works for all stakeholders and improves environmental and economic outcomes can be achieved with further dialogue and revisions to some key elements of this proposal. Principles outlined in the Accord that initiated this process and the Minister's direction letter can guide us towards a more equitable solution.

Proposed amendment does not meet Minister's direction and fails to address key municipal and stakeholder concerns

The following recommendations address key concerns of York Region and its nine local municipalities. These concerns have not been adequately addressed in this first iteration of the amendment and include the following:

- Transition timelines are unacceptable
- Balanced approach for decision-making and dispute resolution needed
- Expanded and harmonized list of Blue Box materials falls short of improving environmental outcomes
- Waste reduction and diversion of problematic materials are not addressed
- More clarity and depth on eligible sources required
- Legacy issues on funding and minimizing stranded assets are not addressed
- Contamination management must be a shared responsibility
- Customer service standards are not addressed
- Lack of transparency on tracking and reporting on targets

Additional detail and recommendations on each of these areas of concern is provided below.

Lengthy timelines for transition are unacceptable

The timeline proposed in the amendment is seven years to transition municipal programs over to Stewardship Ontario and nine years until any targets are to be achieved. This is four years beyond the provincial timeline of 2023 set out in the *Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario, 2017*, and stretches over three provincial and municipal election cycles. This is not an acceptable timeline for a process intended to be an interim step to accelerate change. Instead, the proposed amendment and its associated timeline potentially entrench the existing structure and hinder the transition to the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*. There is no process identified within the proposed amendment for an ongoing assessment and no mechanism to prompt the Minister to move to transition to the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*. While the Minister cannot be forced to make a decision on developing a regulation, the proposed amendment should include a formal review or sunset clause to avoid a situation where the interim state continues indefinitely.

Recommendations:

The Region and local municipal partners agree with the M3RC's recommended five-year implementation timeline to transition all municipalities and to start once the proposed amendment is approved. Given that there is already sufficient processing/transfer capacity in Ontario today and a robust collection system in place, a five year transition period is a reasonable timeline.

Proposed amendment must define a balanced and transparent process for decision-making and dispute resolution for all stakeholders

Direction in the Minister's letter specifically states that the proposed amendment should "develop a protocol for managing issues raised in a fair, effective, efficient and equitable manner

York Region response on the proposed draft amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan

during the implementation of the amended plan..." In its current form, the proposed amendment gives unilateral decision-making powers over key elements of the transition to Stewardship Ontario that affect municipal and other business interests. Key elements of transition such as catchment timing, terms of master service agreements, benchmarking costs and contamination management protocols have significant impacts on municipal contracts, budgets and customer service standards. Until the current municipally-operated Blue Box program can be successfully transitioned to individual producer responsibility, more balanced controls are necessary to protect all stakeholders. These controls must protect the interests of not only individual stewards and service providers, but also the interests of the Province, taxpayers and municipal governments.

Recommendations:

Staff appreciate that timing for this proposed amendment does not allow for full development of all components of the transition process; however the proposed amendment must clearly lay out key elements to provide future consultation and key deliverables to help inform municipal decision-making taking into account municipal council elections. The proposed amendment should also include decision-making criteria, how stakeholder feedback will be transparently addressed and a process for resolving any disputes.

During the consultation process, M3RC provided a recommended protocol to be included. Staff support inclusion of that specific language into the proposed amendment to provide a clear commitment to work collaboratively and transparently with all stakeholders.

Expanded and harmonized list fails to improve environmental outcomes

Environmental outcomes of the proposed amendment and development of a circular economy for Paper Products and Packaging (PPP) will be largely determined by what materials are obligated, which of these are collected, how they are managed, and which generators of these materials will be serviced under the program. The Minister's Direction Letter and the Accord clearly articulated the need to improve environmental outcomes by expanding and harmonizing the list of materials and incenting waste reduction through measures such as increased recyclability/reusability of packaging and reducing/eliminating use of problematic materials. The proposed amendment as drafted does not progress the system beyond current Blue Box programs and actually proposes some reductions in the scope of materials collected currently by York Region (e.g. aerosol and paint cans). This runs contrary to the Minister's direction to expand the harmonized list and avoid service disruptions to Ontario residents.

Recommendations:

Staff strongly believe there must be no backsliding on materials currently collected in municipal programs. Stewardship Ontario must not promote harmonization by reducing the range of obligated PPP targeted for collection. Where transitioned municipalities are not currently accepting the widest range of materials today, they should expand their list of collected materials prior to transitioning to *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act*.

Amendment approach to obligated and targeted materials does not advance waste reduction or diversion of problematic materials

The proposed amendment expands the list of obligated materials for stewards' funding however this does not translate into an expansion in the list of materials managed through the collection program in transitioned communities. The proposed amendment identifies targeted materials (easily divertible with end-markets) and non-targeted materials for which stewards will pay fees but no diversion program will be offered. This results in increased revenue generated through Steward member fees but reduces costs to Stewards as a result of reducing the amount of materials targeted for collection and processing in the Blue Box program.

The proposed amendment does not contain a clear rationale for why some products currently collected through diversion programs (#3 & #7 plastics, and empty aerosol cans) are not included as targeted materials. Nor does it provide any channels for the capture and management of obligated, non-targeted materials either through return-to-retail programs by individual producers or through funding for municipal green bin programs. Municipalities are left to manage these materials at taxpayer expense while stewards fund research to identify end markets with no set timeframes to achieve viable diversion end-markets. Non-targeted PPP may also end up in the Blue Box as contamination, potentially resulting in additional penalties for municipalities or service providers.

Recommendations:

Obligated materials not targeted for collection are funded from the municipal tax base to manage in other streams. The following recommendations must be included in the proposed amendment to ensure the full life cycle cost of managing PPP is considered when stewards make packaging design choices.

- Rationale for excluding specific materials must be presented with clear criteria and transparent decision-making process. Consultation with affected stakeholders must be carried out and approval sought from Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority regarding any exclusion of materials.
- Timelines should be set for completion of research initiatives to ensure viable end-markets are achieved.
- Steward fees can be directed to research for a set period of time after which the specific material must be added to the targeted list or the Steward fees be directed to municipalities as compensation to offset costs of managing these materials outside of the Blue Box program.
- Where obligated PPP cannot be included in Blue Box collection programs alternative management options for these materials should be implemented and paid for by stewards.
- The amendment should also include an expanded definition of obligated PPP that encompasses paper and plastic products managed in organics ("green bin") programs with funding provided to municipalities to support capital investment, processing and data collection costs.

Provide list of eligible sources with consideration to including non-commercial facilities typically serviced by municipalities

Staff acknowledge that Stewardship Ontario has incorporated a timeframe of one year to expand servicing to multi-residential buildings in transitioned communities. It would be beneficial to see a more definitive explanation of how the process will be undertaken, particularly in privately serviced buildings.

Staff would also like to see more commitment to address the Minister's direction to consider public spaces, schools and other locations where PPP generated is consistent with residential but consumed while away from home. For example, a pop can is still a pop can regardless if it is consumed at home, at school or in the park. Consistent programming at these types of sites helps to reinforce promotion and education messaging about the importance of recycling and types of materials accepted as well as reduce contamination.

Recommendations:

Staff recommend inclusion of the list of the following eligible sources proposed:

- Permanent or seasonal single and multi-family households;
- Senior residences and long-term care facilities;
- Public space recycling containers in residential areas, elementary & secondary schools and parks;
- Municipally operated or contracted services to collect PPP similar to that generated by households (i.e. parades, sporting events, festivals and special events);
- Municipally owned and operated campgrounds with permanent and seasonal households;
- Publicly owned and operated buildings accessible to the public for community, recreational or educational purposes (i.e. libraries, arenas);
- Places of worship;
- Buildings that are currently being serviced by municipalities with mixed commercial and residential units.

Transition process must fairly address legacy concerns about funding, minimizing stranded assets, and the role of upper-tier municipalities

There are a number of issues specific to municipal governments that were addressed in the Accord to facilitate transition in a reasonable and fair manner, but have not been resolved in the proposed amendment. This includes agreement on the payment of eligible costs for non-transitioned municipalities, management of newspapers at no cost to municipalities, and collaborative efforts to minimize the potential for stranded assets. Establishing payments for non-transitioned municipalities was agreed to in the Accord. Establishing payments as 50% of the net costs going forward avoids the acrimonious and litigious process that led to arbitration in 2014 and continues to inhibit progress in the industry. In-kind funding for managing newspapers is not a satisfactory arrangement for municipalities; limitations on when and how in-kind advertising can be used as well as declining readership in many local papers continues to severely impact its value as a promotion tool. Stranded assets are of concern for both York Region and its local municipalities as we have invested significant capital in our materials recovery facility and collection bins for managing Blue Box material. York Region has continued to invest in its processing infrastructure to maintain our leadership in diversion in the Province.

York Region response on the proposed draft amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan

The proposed amendment does not fully address the respective jurisdictions of lower- and upper-tier municipalities in a two-tier system. Under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, upper-tier municipalities have exclusive jurisdiction for all aspects of waste management, except collection. There is no provision in the Act to transfer these powers to the lower-tier municipality. Accordingly, the Region would remain responsible for processing of waste generated by a non-transitioned municipality. This concern is shared by the Region's local municipal partners. Furthermore, Regional staff are concerned that the proposed amendment does not adequately address transition of waste processing contracts currently managed by the Region. There is no analysis in the proposed amendment that corresponds to the alternatives that are set out for the assignment of collection contracts at the local level.

Recommendations:

York Region staff align with solutions provided by M3RC during the consultation process, and recommend the following to address these considerations:

- Use of definitions of eligible costs based on the current RPRA Datacall User Guide, as previously agreed to in the Accord. An effort by Stewardship Ontario to modify those terms and introduce cost containment measures is not supported by Region staff;
- Compensation for management of newspaper be provided in cash rather than in-kind, for both transitioned and non-transitioned communities;
- Procurement processes for post collection services that incent the use of existing capital infrastructure to get full value out of assets; and
- Legislative amendments to empower non-transitioned municipalities to enter into contracts for processing of their PPP post-collection.

Contamination management should reflect shared accountability for promotion, education and packaging design not just curbside enforcement

Region and local municipal staff have concerns about the accountability proposed for contamination management. The proposed process places responsibility for eliminating contamination squarely on the collection service provider/contract manager without recognition that many factors influence what gets put out to the curb for collection. While promotion and education material is vital to inspiring participation and clarifying what can go in to the program, the greatest opportunity to reduce waste and contamination lies with the producers. Producers have the greatest opportunity to affect change in the design of their products and packaging that enter the market.

Recommendations:

The proposed amendment should:

- Link tracking of common contaminants across the Province with continuous improvement of communication materials.
- Ensure program design is effective and convenience for participation is maintained or improved.
- Provide an inclusive program that captures packaging types popular in the marketplace.
- Provide clear labelling on packaging rather than current "recyclable where facilities exist" terminology is another way stewards should be required to support reduction in contamination and shifting consumer purchasing habits.

York Region response on the proposed draft amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan

- Penalize stewards producing packaging that often ends up as a contaminant in the stream to incent reduction efforts, better packaging design as well as improve the contamination management process.

Customer service standards missing from draft amendment

Customer service is a crucial component of the Blue Box program. York Region municipalities field thousands of calls and curbside questions each year from residents in support of program delivery. As municipalities will now have the opportunity to opt out of delivering and managing the Blue Box program it is unclear what customer service standards will be maintained to not negatively affect Ontarians recycling experience.

Recommendations:

The proposed amendment must outline customer service standards for communities where stewards will deliver the service directly to communities. Standards should maintain or exceed current standards to ensure no disruption in service levels as a result of the transition.

Requirements for transparency and timely reporting on targets lacking in proposed amendment

The proposed amendment must clearly outline how targets are set, how progress towards recycling targets will be measured, how key terms are defined, when targets will be achieved, and how they will be independently verified. Timely tracking of targets in transitioned communities is key to continuous improvement of the process. Region staff align with M3RC's concerns about tracking and targets proposed in the amendment including:

- Proposed points of measuring recycling rates that differ from those presented in the Stewardship Ontario consultation sessions. During consultation, Stewardship Ontario originally proposed measuring the recycling rate at the point where recovered PPP is actually reincorporated into new products once residue is removed. This would have represented a significant step forward.
- The proposed target date of "two years following transition of all Communities" is unacceptable. On the basis of the proposed amendment, this date would fall at best 9 years after the assumed approval date for the amendment, which is well beyond the 2023 date set in the *Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario* established by the Ministry. It is also entirely possible that some communities may not have transitioned by this date and therefore these targets would not apply.
- Proposed material specific targets under the amendment are limited to just four broad categories of materials (paper, plastic, metal, glass) although stewards are required to report PPP supplied into Ontario for at least 34 categories and municipalities and service providers are required to report in much finer detail on the types of PPP they collect and process.
- No mechanism established to track or incent the reduction of PPP or discourage use of problematic materials. Waste reduction efforts outlined in Section 11 of the amendment focus exclusively on removing barriers to recycling existing obligated materials not on measurable reduction in amounts of packaging waste through product redesign.

York Region response on the proposed draft amendment to the Blue Box Program Plan

Setting targets is an integral part of the Minister's direction to achieving progress towards the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act* and improving environmental outcomes. Municipalities must see aggressive targets accompanied by the necessary oversight to ensure these targets are being met, to prevent leakage of designated materials into other municipally managed waste streams. Should stewards not achieve targets, consequences must be implemented effectively to ensure performance and continuous improvement of the program.

Recommendations:

The M3RC made a number of recommendations on calculating PPP recovery rates and supporting reduction in earlier submissions. These recommendations must be included in the proposed amendment. Key items include:

- Maintaining performance in non-transitioned communities
- Tracking recovery rates in transitioned communities beginning in the year following transition with a timeline for achieving the 75% target two years after each community transitions; material specific targets should be achieved within five years of approval of the amendment.
- Establishing a mechanism for the Authority to review data on an ongoing basis and set additional material-specific targets as warranted during the life of the amendment
- Process for tracking waste reduction efforts, not just increased recycling

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this first draft of the amended Blue Box Program plan. There has been a significant amount of consultation and progress amongst stakeholders and Stewardship Ontario including development of the Accord. Continued collaboration is critical to ongoing success of the blue box program in Ontario. Municipalities and service providers can share their expertise with Stewardship Ontario to collaboratively develop an amended plan that reflects the interests of communities in Ontario and achieve the Province's vision for a waste free Ontario. The Region and its local municipal partners look forward to continued discussions and progress towards our common goals. If you have any questions on this submission, please contact Laura McDowell, Director, Environmental Promotion and Protection at laura.mcdowell@york.ca.

Regards,



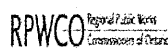
Erin Mahoney, M. Eng.
Commissioner, Environmental Services
The Regional Municipality of York

#8089994

Copy to: Usman Valiante
Dave Gordon, AMO
Jennifer James, Stewardship Ontario
Dianne Saxe, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario



Attachment 2



January 15, 2018

Ms. Glenda Gies, Chair
Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
4711 Yonge Street, Suite 408
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 6K8

Dear Ms. Gies,

RE: Draft Amended Blue Box Program Plan

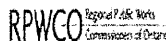
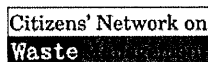
The Municipal Resource Recovery & Research Collaborative (comprised of representatives from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario (RPWCO), the Municipal Waste Association (MWA), and the City of Toronto), the Ontario Waste Management Association, the Recycling Council of Ontario, the Toronto Environmental Alliance; Citizens' Network on Waste Management, Environmental Defence, Canadian Environmental Law Association, and Waste Watch Ottawa wish to bring to the attention of the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) our shared views on the draft a-BBPP prepared by Stewardship Ontario (SO).

Our organizations have fully participated in the SO led consultation process and we have reviewed the proposed a-BBPP in detail. The proposed a-BBPP does not reflect or incorporate the many recommendations that we have submitted to SO throughout this process. Nor does it meet the requirements of the Minister's Direction Letter. We have collectively identified key elements of the proposed a-BBPP that must be revised or added to ensure a smooth, fair and timely transition of the Blue Box program to full producer responsibility that will improve environmental outcomes, while ensuring that Ontarians continue to experience a high standard of Blue Box services.

Our organizations support the *Waste-Free Ontario Act, 2016* and the Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario. These policy advancements are bold and courageous steps forward for the Province of Ontario and reflect leading edge thinking on how to build upon the success of Producer Responsibility. Together they seek to focus on outcomes and provide a pathway to move past the problems of the current framework and to improve environmental and economic outcomes.

With comprehensive legislation and a sound policy framework in place Ontario is well-placed to become a successful example for other jurisdictions to follow. This has helped, after years of dispute, to bring key stakeholders together with government to agree on a path forward to begin building a circular economy for paper products and packaging (PPP).

The joint letter from SO and municipalities to the Minister of Environment & Climate Change on July 7, 2017 (the Accord), which initiated this process, addressed the main concerns for these two stakeholder groups on how best to support the transition of the existing shared responsibility program



to individual producer responsibility under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016* (RRCEA).

Producers and municipalities recognized the need to work together and in collaboration with other key stakeholders, to ease the transition of over 200 separate municipal programs, each potentially with their own infrastructure and/or contracts. Amending the Blue Box Program Plan would allow this transition to occur in a more orderly, smooth and predictable manner.

The Minister's stated expectation in his letter (Minister's Direction Letter) was that this proposal would outline the first phase for the transition for the Blue Box under the *Waste Diversion Transition Act, 2016* (WDTA), and **would set the stage for a second phase of transition that will result in individual producer responsibility under the RRCEA in a timely manner** (emphasis added). The Minister's Direction Letter provided guidelines for developing the proposal and set out specific requirements to be included.

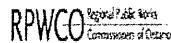
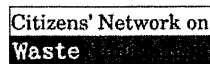
We believe that a successful transition to the RRCEA can be accomplished only through transparent and collaborative decision-making involving all key stakeholders, clear timelines to ensure a timely and predictable transition, progressive measures to support Program expansion, mechanisms to improve environmental outcomes and a platform to facilitate a competitive market place. Instead, the proposed a-BBPP offers an extremely slow and uncertain transition timeline, little in the way of mechanisms to drive program improvement in environmental outcomes and program expansion, and insufficient details from which to judge its ability to be fair and transparent through a governance and decision-making structure that allows SO to make unilateral decision-making. In our assessment the a-BBPP does not conform with the Minister's Direction Letter and should not be approved in its current form.

Our concerns can be grouped into five core areas:

- **Move to Individual Producer Responsibility** – The objective of the a-BBPP as set out in the Minister's Direction Letter was to set the stage for a second phase of transition that will result in individual producer responsibility under the RRCEA in a timely manner. The key stakeholders understood the current system was not progressing and a move to the new legislative framework could resolve key problems. One significant improvement the RRCEA affords is allowing individual stewards the opportunity to choose how best to meet their obligations under the new Act. Under this Minister's Directive we expected the a-BBPP would provide an interim step to ease transition from a municipally-operated Blue Box system to direct steward management. This was not meant to be the end point of this process.

The proposed a-BBPP and associated timeline potentially entrench and further invest in the existing structure, potentially hindering the transition to the RRCEA. The timeline proposed is seven years to transition municipal programs fully over to SO and nine years until any targets are to be achieved. This is four years beyond the target of 2023 set out in the Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario. This is not an acceptable timeline.

- **Need for good governance and balanced decision-making** – The a-BBPP would give unilateral decision-making powers over key elements of the transition and operations of the Program before the move to individual producer responsibility. In effect, the proposed a-BBPP



would grant unilateral control to SO well before full producer responsibility is achieved. Until the current municipally-operated Blue Box system can be successfully transitioned to individual producer responsibility, more balanced controls are necessary for the protection of all stakeholders. This resulting decision-making structure is unacceptable and should be revised to ensure the decision structure includes a strong role for the Authority in the transition framework.

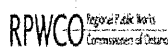
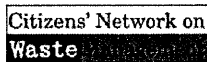
- **Ensuring Transparency** – Transparency and fairness is the cornerstone of the transition. Details regarding scope, material and performance definitions, measurement methodologies and verification protocols are essential for all stakeholders to judge its merit. As drafted the a-BBPP delays the development of critical contractual templates including Statements of Work, Master Service Agreements, collection service requirements and contamination protocols only after approved. The lack of details and transparency around these key items undermine the legitimacy of the Program.
- **Environmental outcomes** – Advancing environmental gains achieved through the a-BBPP and the development of a circular economy for PPP is its purpose. The proposed a-BBPP does not offer clearly defined preferred management options or show how they will be measured, reported and verified. It also does not address the Minister's Direction Letter to establish methods to facilitate the reduction of PPP and to discourage the use of non-recyclable and problematic materials. It appears the a-BBPP is purposely vague and noncommittal on these issues even dropping details provided during consultations from the final draft Program. The ability of Stewardship Ontario to unilaterally choose what materials are collected based on market conditions runs counter to the very purpose of EPR. Market conditions should act as levers and incentives to prompt different packaging and material choices. Without oversight, this simply offloads the financial and environmental consequences of poor material choices back to municipalities.

The proposed a-BBPP is deficient on the issue of problematic and non-targeted material, and the necessary incentives to promote innovation and redesign. Difficult to recycle materials, those that cause contamination for other materials, and materials with toxic ingredients cause significant environmental harm, however the draft a-BBPP only outlines possible actions without clear timelines or assurance that problematic materials will be addressed.

- **Legacy Concerns** – There are a number of issues specific to municipal governments that were addressed in the Accord to facilitate transition in a reasonable and fair manner, but have not been resolved in the proposed a-BBPP or the Program Agreement. These include agreement on the payment of eligible costs for non-transitioned municipalities, management of newspapers at no cost to municipalities, and collaborative efforts to minimize the potential for stranded assets.

Together, we have identified specific measures that can be incorporated into the a-BBPP to address each of the above core areas. Our comments are listed in detail in the following sections. We note that these comments have evolved throughout this process given some concepts and proposals presented by SO during the stakeholder consultations are not reflected in the proposed a-BBPP.

These proposed changes do not affect SO's ability to manage the program effectively and efficiently and we recognize the need for operational decisions to be made over time by SO as the program manager. However, a successful a-BBPP must reflect the interests of all affected stakeholders. We



believe that we are offering solutions that support the original objectives of the RRCEA, the Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario and the Minister's Direction Letter, and are consistent with the spirit in which key stakeholders began this process. It is our view that these gaps can be bridged if all stakeholders work together in good faith.

Together we are asking that RPRA not approve the proposed a-BBPP in its current form and furthermore that RPRA lead a collaborative process to make the needed amendments to the proposed plan. We request to meet with the RPRA Board at their earliest convenience to discuss these issues further.

Further, submissions from each of the signatories has been appended with more detail on our specific recommendations.

Dave Gordon
Senior Advisor, Waste
Association of Municipalities of
Ontario

Richard Lindgren
Counsel
Canadian Environmental Law
Association

John Jackson
Co-ordinator
Citizens' Network on Waste
Management

Jim McKay
General Manager, Solid Waste
Management Services
City of Toronto

Tim Gray
Executive Director
Environmental Defence

Karyn Hogan, BA, MLIS, MA
Chair
Municipal Waste Association

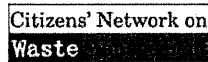
Robert Cook
Chief Executive Officer
Ontario Waste Management
Association

Jo-Anne St. Goddard
Executive Director
Recycling Council of Ontario

Fred W. Jahn, P.Eng
Chair
Regional Public Works
Commissioners of Ontario

Emily Alfred
Senior Campaigner
Toronto Environmental
Alliance

Duncan Bury
Spokesperson
Waste Watch Ottawa



Over-Arching Comments on Draft Amended Blue Box Program Plan

1. Move to Individual Producer Responsibility

Background

The Minister's Direction Letter to Stewardship Ontario and the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) asked for a revised plan that outlines the first phase of transition for the Blue Box and will set the stage for a second phase of transition that will result in individual producer responsibility under the RRCEA.

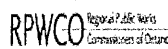
Stakeholders understood that moving to the new legislative framework could improve environmental and economic outcomes, would help resolve persistent problems for key stakeholders, and would allow individual stewards the opportunity to self-determine how best to meet their obligations under the Act.

While an interim step of revising the existing BBPP would allow all stakeholders to ease the transition from a municipally-operated Blue Box system to direct steward management, a revised-BBPP under the WDTA was not meant to be the end point to this process.

It was also not about driving short-term efficiencies or outcomes, especially if they came at the expense of longer-term benefits that the RRCEA will afford (e.g. steward choice, improved and clearer environmental outcomes, market growth and innovation, improved oversight and accountability).

Solutions

- In mapping out timeframes to complete the transition from Phase 1 (WDTA) to Phase 2 (RRCEA) we suggest the a-BBPP include;
 - Timelines should be reduced to five-years to allow for all municipalities to have the opportunity to transition. This helps to prevent entrenchment of a system that might hinder the transition to the RRCEA. It also puts it in line with the Waste-Free Ontario Strategy.
 - Require annual reporting against the Minister's Direction Letter.
- Require RPRA to complete a review and evaluate the transition under the a-BBPP and make recommendations on full transition to the RRCEA in the fourth year of an approved a-BBPP to be delivered in the beginning of the fifth year. This would help facilitate the transition to the RRCEA.
- An independent body should be established as a clearinghouse for individual producers and collective management organizations to ensure fair access to obligated PPP under existing collection and processing contracts through the transition to individual producer responsibility.
- Section 7.4 and Section 7.7 of the a-BBPP should be consistent with the principle to avoid barriers to competition in the second phase of transition that will result in individual producer responsibility under the RRCEA and uphold a healthy competitive marketplace.



- A specific reference should be included that any intellectual property, capital and other assets resulting from research and development investment should be vested with the operators, technology providers and companies who are developing and/or implementing the improvements. Neither Stewardship Ontario nor Canadian Stewardship Services Alliance (CSSA) should have control and ownership of any property, operation, or technology, and that could ultimately provide any competitive advantage in a future individual producer responsibility market.

2. Good Governance and Balanced Decision-Making

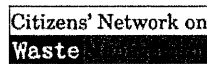
Background

The Minister's Direction Letter specifically states that the proposal shall *"develop a protocol for managing issues raised in a fair, effective, efficient and equitable manner during the implementation of the amended plan..."*

It is in all stakeholders' interests to ensure that good governance and balanced decision-making occurs during the transition and beyond. The proposed a-BBPP gives unilateral decision-making powers over many key elements of the transition and implementation to Stewardship Ontario. Clearer and more inclusive decision making and balanced controls are necessary for the protection of all stakeholders.

Solutions

- Description, budget estimations and implementation details to acquire internal capacity and resources required by SO to implement the a-BBPP. A budget should be part of the approved plan and considered a material part of the Plan, reviewed by RPRA.
- Clear processes on decision-making that include how and when stakeholders will be involved. In particular section 7.5 to 7.10 are areas that could affect business or organizational interests, and as a result, could impact the principles of the Waste-Free Ontario Act and potentially the ability to transition to the RRCEA. This includes issues such as the management of incentives that could impact the stability of the market including contracts and investments.
- A detailed process on how criteria will be set to develop a standardized list of materials and how stakeholders will be involved in that process should be included.
- The Plan should include a governance structure and contemplate independent directors.
- As is referenced in the Program Agreement, clarity on the roles and relationships between Stewardship Ontario and CSSA as it relates to the a-BBPP. The ability for Stewardship Ontario to unilaterally change the standardized list of materials is not in keeping with the Program Agreement and not in the interests of any of the stakeholders. References in Section 7.10 and in Appendix B should be removed.
- Section 9 should be re-written based on Municipal 3Rs Collaborative's Service Compensation and Dispute Resolution Mechanism paper that was submitted.



- A collaborative approach should be initiated wherever decisions could impact the market that could hinder future outcomes under the RRCEA, including the development of catchments, terms and conditions for collection services, how incentives will be set or changed and associated timelines related to service transition (i.e. processing and collection).

Additional comments will be provided on the Program Agreement from our organizations but clear ties should be made between the a-BBPP and the Program Agreement.

3. Improving Environmental Outcomes

Background

The Minister's Direction Letter and the Accord both clearly articulated the need to improve environmental outcomes. The Minister's Direction Letter specifically included the following:

- *“Ensuring a seamless transition of the Blue Box program, specifically not negatively affecting Ontarians experience with and access to Blue Box services;*
- *Provide for continuous improvement of environmental outcomes by expanding and harmonizing the list of materials in the existing Blue Box program accepted from Ontario residents;*
- *... an expanded definition of Blue Box materials to identify the PPP that will be covered under the BBPP;*
- *Maintain convenience and accessibility standards, including:*
 - *Curbside collection for households where currently provided by these municipalities and indigenous communities;*
 - *Collection services to multi-residential buildings where currently provided by these municipalities and indigenous communities...*
- *Provide effective economic methods to incent behavior changes leading to waste reduction of PPP ...which may include:*
 - *Increase of the product's or packaging's reusability and recyclability,*
 - *Reduction or elimination of any impact the material may have on the recyclability of other materials;*
 - *Reduction of the amount of waste generated at the end of the product's or packaging's life;*
 - *Reduction or elimination of the use of any substance in the material that compromises the materials reusability or recyclability, and/or increase of the use of recovered resources in the making of the material;*
 - *Use means to discourage the use of materials that are difficult to recycle and have low recovery rates...; and,*
 - *Establish mechanisms to identify and address issues associated with problematic materials, such as packaging that is difficult to recycle.”*

The primary purpose of the a-BBPP is to advance environmental gains and develop a circular economy. The environmental gains will be largely determined by what materials are obligated, which of these are collected and how they are managed, and which generators of these materials will be serviced under the program.



The proposed a-BBPP does not offer clearly defined preferred management options or show how they will be measured, reported and verified. It also does not address the Minister's Direction Letter to establish methods to facilitate the reduction of PPP and to discourage the use of non-recyclable and problematic materials. It appears the a-BBPP is purposely vague and noncommittal on these issues even dropping details provided during consultations from the final draft.

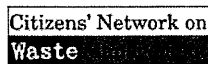
Despite having a broader list of obligated materials, the a-BBPP proposed to scope down the standardized list of targeted materials for collection. No details of the obligated or standardized list of materials collected or rationale for the delta between the two is provided.

Stewardship Ontario should not have unilateral decision-making authority to make changes to the list of materials targeted for collection as outlined in Appendix C on page 46 of the a-BBPP. This undermines Section 3.1 (i) of the draft Program Agreement requiring Stewardship Ontario to submit documents and information for RPRA's approval in regards to proposed changes to the BBPP.

Obligated Materials

Solutions

- The a-BBPP should include an expanded definition of obligated PPP which encompasses paper and plastic products managed in organics ("green bin") programs.
- Clarity should be provided as to whether some products highlighted in the consultation process (such as coffee pods, plastic coated drink cups, etc.) are obligated under the program.
- Rationale should be provided in the document for any of the proposed exclusions (from obligation and collection). They seem arbitrary and counter to the Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario (e.g. Food and Organic Waste Framework).
- Obligated PPP should be based on the RRCEA definitions for products, primary, convenience and transport packaging in a manner which does not strictly limit the obligation to "household" materials to allow for payment for an appropriate share of PPP that are indistinguishable from "household" materials but are consumed and generated away from home. This would be consistent with the Minister's Direction Letter *"to consider accommodating associated public spaces, parks and other related services provided by these municipalities"*.
- There must be a clear nexus established between the obligated PPP and the services provided under the proposal a-BBPP to ensure that it will pass legal review. This includes the proposal to continue to charge steward fees under the existing Stewardship Ontario fee setting methodology for PPP (such as aerosol containers; disposal fibre dishware but not disposable plastic dishware; etc.) that Stewardship Ontario states in Appendix B would be dropped from the initial list of PPP targeted for collection.



Standardized List of Targeted Materials for Collection:

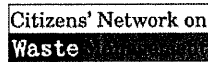
Solutions

- Stewardship Ontario should provide documents to RPRA for *approval* on:
 - “Quantity recycled in relation to quantity supplied for all categories reported by stewards under the Rules for stewards”;
 - “Collected tonnes”;
 - “Processed tonnes”.
- There should be no backsliding on materials currently collected in municipal programs. Stewardship Ontario should not be promoting harmonization by reducing the range of obligated PPP targeted for collection. This will only increase contamination rates.
- Transitioned communities not currently accepting widest range of PPP today (i.e. in the GTA communities) should expand collection to this standardized list over the life of the program.
- Criteria should be provided that informs the standardized list. How is marketed and stabilized defined? What processes will be undertaken to put on and take off PPP, how will stakeholders be involved and how will this information be made public. Clarity should be provided to ensure one can determine from initial list of targeted materials what is and is not included (e.g. coffee pods, poly-coated cups, etc. not specifically addressed in the a-BBPP although referenced during consultation). SO should provide information on which of the obligated PPP has a ‘stable’ market and this should be part of regular reporting. Some of the fastest growing packaging types (i.e. films, squeeze tubes, multi-laminated pouches, etc.) are excluded from the initial targeted collection list. There should be some provision in the a-BBPP for the collection and management for all obligated materials paying fees to Stewardship Ontario.
- Where obligated PPP cannot be included in Blue Box collection programs alternative management options for these materials should be implemented and paid for by stewards.
- Stewardship Ontario should not have the unilateral authority to determine the list of materials to be collected through supply chain procurement documents.
- More detailed recommendations on how to Expand and Harmonize the List of Materials Collected were submitted by the Municipal 3Rs Collaborative during Stewardship Ontario’s consultation.

Eligible Sources

Solutions

- Collection in transitioned communities should include all privately serviced residential buildings and other sources that generate PPP similar to that generated in households.
- Amend the eligible sources to include privately serviced residential buildings and other sources that generate PPP “supplied to consumers” which is similar to that generated in residences including:
 - Permanent or seasonal single and multi-family households;



- Senior residences and long-term care facilities;
- Public space recycling containers in residential areas, elementary & secondary schools (especially as these municipal and school spaces play a key role in promotion & education), and parks;
- Municipally-operated or contracted services to collect PPP similar to that generated by households (i.e. parades, sporting events, festivals and special events)
- Municipally owned and operated campgrounds with permanent and seasonal households;
- Publicly owned and operated buildings accessible to the public for community, recreational or educational purposes (i.e. libraries, arenas); and,
- Places of worship.
- Over the life of the program expand Blue Box collection across the Province to allow households to receive Blue Box collection to at least the same level as garbage collection (e.g. depot, curbside).
- More detailed recommendations on Eligible Sources were submitted by the Municipal 3Rs Collaborative during Stewardship Ontario's consultation.
- Include in the a-BBPP an intent to recognize and reward stewards that self-managed obligated materials, as long as it is in keeping with required performance standards and provide a mechanism for credit toward their producer pay-in fees.
- Appendix C – Sample terms and Conditions states that: "Pick-up in Scope PPP placed by Customers at the Curb along the Collection vehicle route which may be a Public Street or Private Road where service vehicles can navigate the Private Road and the owners have agreed to allow service vehicle access" may significantly limit the number of multi-family households receiving Blue Box collection services. This should be clarified.

4. Ensuring Transparency

Background

Transparency and fairness is the cornerstone of the transition. Details regarding scope, material and performance definitions, measurement methodologies and verification protocols are essential for all stakeholders to judge its merit. As drafted the a-BBPP delays the development of critical contractual templates including Statements of Work, Master Service Agreements, collection service requirements and contamination protocols only after approved. The lack of details and transparency around these details undermines the legitimacy of the Program.

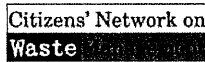
- Issue regarding transparency are experienced in PR programs around the world. A recent study undertaken by the European Union DG Environment concludes:

It is difficult to conceive an EPR scheme where there is no incentive to mis-report. So for all organisations, such as PROs, and the producers who may report to them, there is a need for random checks on those that may have an incentive (financial, or reputational) to

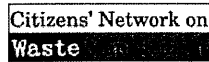
mis-report. The oversight of industry practices ought to be carried out by independent bodies. Those carrying out audits should not be funded directly by those who are being audited, to ensure there is no incentive for the auditors themselves to turn a blind eye to mis-reporting. However, audits should, ultimately, be funded by the industry. This should be managed through contributions from producer fees, where data relates to EPR, or from those operating municipal waste management services. The funds and audits would be managed by the national competent authorities.” (Reference: Study on Waste Statistics – A comprehensive review of gaps and weaknesses and key priority areas for improvement in the EU waste statistics. Final Report for DG Environment 2013)

Solutions

- Detailed recommendations on Calculating PPP Recovery Rates and Supporting Reduction: Reuse, Recycling and Reintegration of PPP into the Economy were submitted by the Municipal 3Rs Collaborative during Stewardship Ontario’s consultation. These recommendations should be reflected in the proposed a-BBPP.
- In order to ensure that the a-BBPP:
 - is compliant with the WDTA and its regulations;
 - is consistent with the Minister’s direction;
 - having regard for the provincial interests set out in the RRCEA; and
 - takes into consideration the views of stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples.
- The following amendments should be made:
 - Transparent calculation and definition of collection, diversion, recycling rates and all other applicable performance metrics must be included in the a-BBPP and referenced in the Program Agreement. This includes defining “recycling” and a number of other terms associated with measurements in Section 10.2 “Managed”, Section 10.3.1 “other activities in Diversion End Markets”, Section 10.4 “directed to” and “households”;
 - “Recycling efficiency rates” referenced in 3.1 (c) of the Program Agreement should be defined in a-BBPP;
 - Stewardship Ontario should provide ongoing performance reports to RPRA on:
 - “Quantity recycled in relation to quantity supplied for all categories reported by stewards under the Rules for stewards”;
 - “Collected tonnes”; and
 - “Processed tonnes”.
 - The timeline for achieving the 75% PPP “basket of goods” target for transitioned communities should be two years after the transition of that community to full producer responsibility;
 - The timeline for achieving the (expanded) material specific targets should be five years after a-BBPP approval;



- The proposed plastics target of 50%, while an improvement, is not sufficient considering the environmental impact of unrecovered plastics and the fact that the most problematic plastics are not even targeted. Further, the proposed improvement in paper, metal and glass is insufficient considering the time period. For example, very modest improvements are proposed for the diversion performance for paper (+1.1%), metals (12.1%) and glass (2.7%) over the proposed for 2027 (as listed for Figure 9 Section 10.3.1.1). These should be improved.
- Targets for printed papers and paper packaging should not be combined into a single target for “paper” when detailed information on quantities supplied and quantities collected will be available to Stewardship Ontario and RPRA.
- For transitioned communities, Stewardship Ontario should be required to report on collection and recycling rate performance for all obligated materials after the first year of transition in categories which closely match the categories in which stewards’ report obligated PPP and the list of PPP that Stewardship Ontario has targeted for collection.
- At a minimum, these categories should include:
 - ONP and magazines
 - Other printed papers
 - OCC and boxboard
 - Aseptic and Gable Top cartons, polycoat containers and cups
 - Other paper products
 - Plastic 1 (PET bottles, jars and packaging)
 - Plastic # 2 (HDPE bottles, jars and films)
 - Plastic #4 (LDPE bottles, jars, packaging and film)
 - Plastic #5 (PP bottles, jars and packaging)
 - Plastic #6 (Rigid PS and expanded polystyrene)
 - Steel food and beverage containers
 - Steel paint containers
 - Other steel packaging
 - Aluminum food and beverage containers
 - Other aluminum packaging (aluminum foils, trays and plates)
 - Glass packaging
- PPP diversion targets for non-transitioned communities should, at a minimum, maintain current material recycling rates;
- Performance indicators to measure progress towards all Stewardship Ontario targets should be included in the a-BBPP and reported annually beginning one year after plan approval;



- Clear methods to promote waste reduction as defined in the Minister's Direction Letter should be set out in the a-BBPP with a regular public reporting requirement;
- Development of RPRA's Program Performance Protocol should be multi-stakeholder process including municipalities, service providers and public interest groups;
- The methodology presented by Stewardship Ontario in consultation on measuring recycling at point of material used in making new products should be included in the draft a-BBPP; and,
- Audit protocols and processes need to be clearly defined. A requirement for independent third-party audits should be included in a-BBPP and in the Program Agreement with regular frequency.

5. Legacy Concerns

Background:

There are a number of issues specific to municipal governments that were addressed in the Accord to facilitate transition in a reasonable and fair manner, but have not been resolved in the a-BBPP or the Program Agreement. This includes agreement on the payment of eligible costs for non-transitioned municipalities, management of newspapers at no cost to municipalities, and collaborative efforts to minimize the potential for stranded assets.

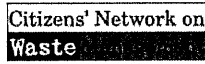
Stranded Assets

Solutions

- A submission was made by Municipal 3Rs Collaborative titled Avoiding Stranded Assets during Stewardship Ontario's consultation which discussed how the parties could work to avoid stranded assets by incenting proponents to include use of existing assets in their proposals for post-collection services.
- Further, in order to minimize impacts on smaller capital components, municipal governments recommend that Stewardship Ontario should commit to keep collection systems intact until all capital costs (including carts, bins trucks etc.) are fully amortized to avoid creation of further stranded assets.

Determining Eligible Costs for Non-Transitioned Municipalities

- Establishing payments for non-transitioned municipalities was a key component of the parties being able to reach the Accord. Setting these annual payments drives an increasingly escalating and toxic dispute between municipal governments and stewards that went to arbitration in 2014 and continues to inhibit progress in the industry.
- During the discussions on the Accord the parties agreed to end this dispute by agreeing that Stewardship Ontario would pay the applicable percentage of stewards' contribution on the basis

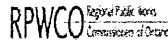
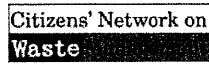


of their verified net costs as determined through the Datacall without contentious deductions for cost containment. The parties agreed to “ring fence” the payments so that costs associated with transition would not be eligible and stewards would have assurances from exponential cost increases due to municipal decision making around excessive service enhancements. The parties agreed to use the definitions of eligible costs based on the current RPRAs Datacall User Guide.

- The proposed a-BBPP includes numerous items that were not agreed to and municipalities cannot support. Some examples include, but are not limited to:
 - We do not accept Stewardship Ontario’s proposal that costs related to “penalties or fees incurred by Communities as levied by service providers resulting from service level failures (e.g. contamination in materials in-bound to processors) or other deficiencies in Community performance as in terms of their agreements with service provider” are ineligible costs. In non-transitioned municipalities the program remains a shared responsibility between the parties and with it comes shared risks.
 - Calculated Administration Costs is defined as the lesser of reported Administration Costs or 5% for programs who provide service directly and 3% for programs who contract out service delivery. This would enable Stewardship Ontario to pay nothing if a program does not break out actual administration costs in the Datacall. Many municipalities do not do this given the relatively small size of the program. The 3% and 5% estimates were set for this reason.
 - Section 6.1 of the draft a-BBPP requires non-transitioned municipalities to provide access to data and facilities to Stewardship Ontario. This has not been agreed with municipalities and service providers. Furthermore, RPRAs has proposed in 2.2 (g) to use reasonable efforts to facilitate the collection of relevant information in its oversight role of the Datacall. It is recommended that municipalities provide aggregate data on municipal facilities to RPRAs but not individual facility data.
 - The two-year lag between municipal costs being incurred and Stewardship Ontario’s payment of the Steward Obligation is problematic. There needs to be reconciliation of municipal costs incurred in the two years prior to transition. This will be particularly important if a municipality has to alter their contracting and incur premiums to line up expiry of their contracts with the timing of their catchment. These premiums cannot solely be a municipal responsibility.

Solution:

- Use the 2016 RPRAs Datacall User Guide methodology to calculate payments to non-transitioned municipalities.



Funding for Management of Newspapers

- The Accord states that *“the plan should establish the arrangement with Stewardship Ontario by which the Canadian Newspaper Association and Ontario Community Newspapers Association will meet their member’ EPR obligations for old newsprint in such a manner that is without cost to transitioned municipalities.”*
- There is no specific mention of this in Stewardship Ontario’s proposed a-BBPP.

Solutions

- The amended BBPP need to clearly reflect this agreement as follows:
 1. Newspapers will continue to be collected throughout the life of the a-BBPP
 2. Municipalities and service providers will be compensated in cash for any services provided to recover newspapers.



Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change

Ministère de l'Environnement
et de l'Action en matière de
changement climatique



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August 14, 2017

Ms. Glenda Gies
Chair
Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
4711 Yonge Street, Suite 408
Toronto ON M2N 6K8

And

Mr. John Coyne
Chair
Stewardship Ontario
1 St. Clair Ave. West, 7th Floor
Toronto ON M4V 1K6

Re: First Phase Transition – Direction for Proposal for an Amended Blue Box Program Plan

Dear Ms. Gies and Mr. Coyne:

Ontario's Blue Box Program is well-recognized as a North American leader that provides services for residential paper products and packaging (PPP).

Pursuant to Section 13 of the *Waste Diversion Transition Act, 2016* (WDTA), I am writing to direct the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (the Authority) and Stewardship Ontario (SO) to develop a proposal for an amended Blue Box Program Plan (BBPP). This proposal is to be developed collaboratively with municipalities, stewards and affected stakeholders as required by subsection 13(2) of the WDTA.

My expectation is that this proposal will outline the first phase of transition for the Blue Box Program under the WDTA, and will set the stage for a second phase of transition that will result in individual producer responsibility under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act, 2016* (RRCEA).

It is also my expectation that the proposal for an amended BBPP will build on the accord outlined in the joint letter sent to my predecessor, Glen Murray, on July 7, 2017 from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, City of Toronto, Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario, Municipal Waste Association and SO.

It is in the public interest that the proposal for an amended BBPP is consistent with the following principles:

- Ensuring a seamless transition of the Blue Box Program, specifically:
 - Not negatively affecting Ontarians' experience with and access to Blue Box services,
 - Incorporating clear rules to support residents' participation including standardized materials and services, and
 - Improving program performance;
- Working towards the circular economy by supporting reduction, reuse, recycling and reintegration of PPP materials into the economy;
- Providing for continuous improvement of environmental outcomes by:
 - Expanding and harmonizing the list of materials in the existing Blue Box program that are accepted from Ontario residents,
 - Establishing clear and measurable collection and management standards with a high level of environmental protection, and
 - Developing methods to support waste reduction;
- Providing effective economic methods to incent behavior changes leading to waste reduction of PPP;
- Driving innovation through collaborative and competitive efforts by:
 - Supporting cooperation among parties, including stewards, municipalities, waste management industry, and other affected parties, to bring complementary abilities to deliver better results, and
 - Promoting competition by ensuring a fair and open marketplace for Blue Box services under the WDTA and not creating barriers to competition when the program transitions to individual producer responsibility under the RRCEA;
- Avoiding stranded assets to the extent possible in a collaborative manner;
- Providing choices for municipalities where SO is to provide Blue Box services (i.e. transitioned municipalities):
 - These municipalities will decide whether they wish to act on behalf of SO for the procurement and contract oversight of PPP collection services, and
 - These municipalities should also have an opportunity to participate in the post-collection management of PPP collected; and,
- Addressing issues related to the in-kind contribution from the newspaper industry in a manner that is without cost to the transitioned municipalities.

Ms. Glenda Gies
Mr. John Coyne
Page 3.

The Authority and SO shall have regard to the provincial interest described in Section 2 of the RRCEA when developing the proposal for an amended plan.

As producers assume the 50 per cent of costs currently borne by municipal taxpayers, it is my expectation there will be a clear and transparent process by which municipalities demonstrate the benefit their taxpayers will receive.

The Authority and SO shall develop a communication and issues management plan. The plan shall identify issues that may arise during the development of the proposal for the amended BBPP, outline the steps to manage these potential issues and set out the process by which the Authority and SO will provide information to affected stakeholders and the public on a regular basis.

During the development of the proposal for an amended plan, the Authority and SO shall ensure meaningful consultation and communication with representatives of municipalities, stewards and other affected stakeholders.

Together with the submission of the proposal for an amended BBPP, the Authority and SO shall submit a report to the Ministry outlining how the Authority and SO have met the consultation requirements under the WDTA, including:

- A list of the stewards, municipalities, service providers and other affected stakeholders that were consulted during the development of the proposal;
- A summary of the comments received by the Authority and SO from affected stakeholders; and,
- A report of how the comments were considered by the Authority and SO.

The Authority and SO shall report to the Ministry each month on their progress in developing the proposal for an amended BBPP.

An addendum to this letter has been attached which provides additional direction for amending the BBPP.

The proposal for an amended BBPP shall be developed in accordance with this letter and the enclosed addendum and the WDTA.

If approved by the Authority, the proposal for an amended BBPP shall be submitted to me for approval by February 15, 2018, or on such later date that I provide in writing. The submission shall include particulars of any matters that are unresolved at the time of the submission.

It is my expectation that, upon my approval, and subject to any necessary amendments to relevant regulations being approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, this amended plan will replace the current plan in its entirety.

Ms. Glenda Gies
Mr. John Coyne
Page 4.

If it is in the public interest to do so, I will provide further direction at a later date related to the matters set out in this requirement, or to provide clarification related to amending the BBPP.

Sincerely,



Chris Ballard
Minister

Cc: Paul Evans, Deputy Minister
Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

ADDENDUM TO THE MINISTER'S DIRECTION LETTER FOR AN AMENDED BLUE BOX PROGRAM PLAN

Pursuant to an agreement being reached between SO and each transitioned municipality (see definition below) and subject to necessary amendments to relevant regulations being made by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, SO would provide services for residential paper products and packaging (PPP) supplied by stewards to Ontario residents and covered under the Blue Box Program.

NON-TRANSITIONED MUNICIPALITIES:

Non-transitioned municipalities are those that have not entered into an agreement with SO and SO is not delivering Blue Box collection and management services for these municipalities.

The proposal for an amended BBPP shall address payments to the non-transitioned municipalities under Section 11 of the WDTA based on the municipality's verified net cost of operating its existing Blue Box program:

- The plan shall define the eligible costs to be included in calculating the net cost; and,
- The plan shall also describe any agreements among the Authority, SO, and recipient municipalities for the reporting and verification of costs by municipalities.

TRANSITIONED MUNICIPALITIES:

Subject to necessary amendments to relevant regulations being approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, transitioned municipalities are those that have entered into an agreement with SO and SO is delivering Blue Box collection and management services.

The proposal shall outline when and how the responsibility for the collection and management of PPP will be transferred smoothly from these municipalities to SO.

The proposal for an amended BBPP shall include the following:

Defined Materials Covered in BBPP:

- Include an expanded definition of Blue Box materials to identify the PPP that will be covered under the BBPP;
- The materials shall include:
 - paper products,
 - primary packaging,
 - convenience packaging, and
 - transport packaging;
- For purposes of primary, convenience and transport packaging, refer to the RRCEA for definitions; and,

- When defining the materials, SO and the Authority will also consult with stewards of packaging who are regulated under deposit-return programs (e.g., stewards of milk containers).

Defined Stewards:

- Define obligated stewards.

Defined Responsibility for Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery:

Waste Reduction

The proposal for an amended BBPP shall:

- Establish methods to facilitate the reduction of waste generated related to defined PPP materials. The methods may include activities to support:
 - increase of the product's or packaging's reusability and recyclability,
 - reduction or elimination of any impact the material may have on the recyclability of other materials,
 - reduction of the amount of waste generated at the end of the product's or packaging's life,
 - reduction or elimination of the use of any substance in the material that compromises the material's reusability or recyclability, and/or
 - increase of the use of recovered resources in the making of the material;
- Use means to discourage the use of materials that are difficult to recycle and have low recovery rates. The means include, but are not limited to, rules for stewards, fee setting methodology, and compiling information to measure stewards' initiatives to reduce waste; and,
- Establish mechanisms to identify and address issues associated with problematic materials, such as packaging that is difficult to recycle.

Collection and Management of Materials

The proposal shall set clear standards for SO's collection and management, including:

- Support clear service standards to enable resident participation;
- Increase the diversion target for the Blue Box Program to 75 per cent of the PPP supplied by stewards to transitioned municipalities' households;
- Establish material-specific management targets for PPP supplied by stewards to transitioned municipalities' households;
- Identify geographically-based collection and management standards, including rural, northern, and remote areas;
- Maintain convenience and accessibility standards, including:
 - curbside collection for households where currently provided by these municipalities and indigenous communities,
 - collection services to multi-residential buildings where currently provided by these municipalities and indigenous communities, and
 - depot collection services currently provided by these municipalities and indigenous communities;
- Improve convenience and accessibility by offering collection services to multi-residential buildings that are not being serviced by these municipalities, within an identified timeframe;

- Consider accommodating associated public spaces, parks and other related services provided by these municipalities;
- Consider expanding Blue Box collection services over time; and,
- The methods for managing the materials shall allow for the material or part of the material to be, in accordance with Ontario standards and regulations:
 - reused,
 - used in the making of new products, packaging or other activities in end-markets, or
 - used as a nutrient for improving the quality of soil, agriculture or landscaping.

Promotion and Education

For the purpose of increasing resource recovery and reducing Blue Box waste materials, the proposal shall establish an effective promotion and education program, including promoting awareness of the program activities to residents and other targeted audiences and engaging audiences to elicit feedback.

Registration, Reporting, Record Keeping and Auditing

The proposal will include an appropriate approach for registration, reporting, record keeping and a third-party audit to ensure an effective and efficient system.

ESTABLISH ISSUE MANAGEMENT APPROACHES:

The proposal shall:

- Develop a protocol for managing issues raised in a fair, effective, efficient and equitable manner during the implementation of the amended plan, if approved;
- Develop a plan to avoid stranded assets to the extent possible in a collaborative manner; and,
- Establish an arrangement between SO and the newspaper industry (i.e., the Canadian Newspapers Association and Ontario Community Newspapers Association) in order to meet members' obligation for old newsprint in such a manner that is without cost to transitioned municipalities.

PROMOTE COMPETITION:

The proposal shall:

- Establish a mechanism to support a fair and open marketplace for Blue Box services under the WDTA;
- Not create barriers to competition in the second phase of transition that will result in individual producer responsibility under the RRCEA; and,
- Describe how contracts held by SO for the collection and management of PPP will be managed upon wind up of the Blue Box Program to enable competition once materials are regulated under the RRCEA.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND REPORTING:

- The proposal shall include performance indicators to measure whether SO has fulfilled the resource recovery obligations and established waste reduction methods as set out in the amended plan; and,
- In addition to the requirements set out in Section 30 of the WDTA, SO's Annual Report shall include:
 - a description of whether and how SO has fulfilled resource recovery obligations set in the amended plan,
 - a description of how SO has supported waste reduction methods set in the amended plan, and
 - a third-party audit of SO's collection and management services and outcomes.



Stewardship Ontario

February 13, 2018

Mr. Dave Gordon
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Avenue, Suite 801
Toronto, ON M5H 3C6

Via email DGordon@amo.on.ca

Dear Dave:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with us to discuss how Stewardship Ontario and municipalities can move forward to complete the work initiated by the Accord partners last Spring and under the terms set in the Minister's Program Request letter of August 14th, 2017.

As we indicated in our meeting, Stewardship Ontario and the stewards are committed to completing an amended Plan as a means to transition to the RRCEA. As our partners, you will play an integral role in the transition to full producer responsibility. We are grateful for all of the efforts of the municipal sector in contributing to Plan development so far.

However, as we all know, our joint work is not finished and key elements require more discussion and alignment.

With all of this in mind, the Stewardship Ontario Board meeting on January 25 considered three options for action:

1. Abandon this process entirely and immediately and signal that Stewardship Ontario will not be able to fulfil the Minister's instruction.
2. Approve the draft plan with changes considered over the period of consultation and submit the draft to RPRA.
3. Seek out a new process and a potentially more agreeable outcome directly with the municipal sector.

In its deliberations, the Board considered that:

- First, Stewardship Ontario and the stewards have signaled support for producer responsibility and the RRCEA so an abandonment of the draft plan would be inconsistent with the position taken to date.

- Second, merely approving a plan in the face of serious municipal concerns and the need of that community for more information would be both disrespectful to the municipal sector and would reflect poorly on the consultative process attempted in these intervening months, and
- Third, success for all parties can only be assured by a greater degree by patience, clarity of intent and strategic candour and a vigorous yet disciplined exchange of meaningful operational ideas between the two principle parties structured so as to better address their respective concerns.

The Board has elected not to abandon the process nor to submit a plan that does not have sufficient municipal support. Rather, the Board determined that the most prudent and respectful course of action would be to propose a new, different engagement with the municipal sector consistent with the support for producer responsibility signaled by the steward community and Stewardship Ontario with a view to completing the transition under the WDTA in accordance with the requirements of the Minister's August letter and the Act.

We recognize the problems inherent in the consultation process followed to this point. That approach, similar to what is used in government policy development, has Stewardship Ontario propose initiatives or ideas while requiring stakeholders to either agree or oppose. It is not sufficiently iterative to work through matters of more complex operational detail nor does it allow for the more fulsome discussions around policy issues that are often intertwined. In effect, given the history between the parties, the current process hinders Stewardship Ontario and the Accord participants' ability to complete the work necessary to agree on critical operational details in support of the plan. Our joint work is not finished and regrettably, the process utilized may be contributing to discord and suspicion.

As a result, we would very much like to engage the municipal sector in a joint process that will allow us to work out our transition blueprint with the detail necessary to establish clarity about how the transition will proceed.

We will need to work together to develop these details through a collaborative decision-making process that enables us to resolve any issues and concerns in real time. That process starts first and most importantly with a different governance model on how the Blue Box transition implementation will take place. That model



Stewardship Ontario

should last for so long as there continues to be the need to balance the needs of the people who resolve issues and those who design solutions throughout the effort, and is one which provides for joint, iterative working groups of municipal and steward representatives supported as appropriate by other relevant, affected stakeholders.

We certainly welcome your views and the views of others on how most effectively to resource the various task areas and should you agree to join us on this journey, we would need to engage in a more practical discussion about process, people, the work that will be undertaken, the level of commitment required and the estimated time to finish the work.

We would like to enlist your support to allow this process to unfold in ways that will allow both Stewardship Ontario and the municipal sector to put their best work forward so we can move on with the transition to full producer responsibility in the province of Ontario.

As we indicated, the draft Plan is not yet complete and continues to be a work in progress. Our intention is to share this draft with stakeholders in the next few weeks. We will work with RPRA to develop the stakeholder engagement plan that will flow from that draft. We will want to work with the municipal sector to ensure that the stakeholder engagement plan coincides with our efforts in this new emerging process in order to properly deal with policy issues and operational issues, all with a view to moving us all to an approvable plan.

We look forward to continuing our dialogue on the proposal for moving forward. We would like to discuss this framework with the Accord participants as a logical next step to our conversation of this morning. Let us know if that would be acceptable to your constituency.

Yours sincerely,

John D. Coyne
Chair,
Stewardship Ontario

February 16, 2018

Mr. John Coyne
Chair, Stewardship Ontario
1 St. Clair Ave. West, 7th Floor
Toronto, ON M4V 1K6

Via Email: john.coyne@unilever.com

Dear John:

Re: Process to Amend the Blue Box Program Plan

Thank you very much for your presentation of Stewardship Ontario's proposal and your letter of February 13, 2017 to establish a collaborative process to amend the Blue Box Program Plan (a-BBPP). Specifically we appreciate your commitment included in your letter that states, *"We will need to work together to develop these details through a collaborative decision-making process that enables us to resolve any issues and concerns in real time."*

We welcome the opportunity to work closely with you to define a process by which the policy and operational issues we have raised with the existing draft of the a-BBPP can be addressed.

As you know, the five main concerns municipal governments have with the current draft of the a-BBPP are:

1. **Move to Individual Producer Responsibility** – The objective of the a-BBPP as set out in the Minister's Program Request Letter was to set the stage for a second phase of transition that will result in individual producer responsibility under the *Resource Recovery and Circular Economy Act (RRCEA)* in a timely manner. Under the Minister's Directive we expected the a-BBPP would provide an interim step to ease transition from a municipally-operated Blue Box system to direct steward management, provide mechanisms to assess transition, and determine readiness for moving to the RRCEA.
2. **Need for good governance and balanced decision-making** – The a-BBPP as currently drafted would give unilateral decision-making powers over key elements of the transition and operation of the Program to Stewardship Ontario before the move to individual producer responsibility. In effect, the proposed a-BBPP would grant unilateral control to Stewardship Ontario well before full producer responsibility is achieved. Until the current municipally-operated Blue Box system can be successfully transitioned to individual producer responsibility, more balanced controls are necessary for the protection of all stakeholders.
3. **Ensuring Transparency** – Transparency and fairness are the keys to successful transition. Details regarding scope, material and performance definitions, measurement methodologies and verification protocols are essential for all stakeholders to judge its merits as these key elements are not clearly described in the a-BBPP.

4. **Environmental outcomes**– Advancing environmental gains and promoting the development of a circular economy for paper products and packaging (PPP) is the purpose of the a-BBPP. As currently drafted the a-BBPP does not clearly define preferred management options, or show how they will be measured, reported and verified. It also does not address the Minister’s Program Request Letter to establish methods to facilitate the reduction of PPP and to discourage the use of non-recyclable and problematic materials.
5. **Legacy Concerns** – There are a number of issues specific to municipal governments that were addressed in the Accord to facilitate transition in a reasonable and fair manner, but have not been resolved in the proposed a-BBPP or the Program Agreement. These include agreement on the payment of eligible costs for non-transitioned municipalities, management of newspapers at no cost to municipalities, and collaborative efforts to minimize the potential for stranded assets.

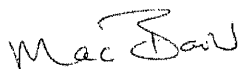
It needs to be emphasized that there are fundamental policy issues that need to be addressed early in this collaborative process in order for real progress to be made. As the first step in this collaborative process, we should meet again to review the challenges before us and to work together to define how we move forward. It would be useful to have the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority attend as well.

The Accord signed by Stewardship Ontario and municipal governments started this process. The Accord has been superseded by the Minister’s Program Request Letter of August 14, 2017 and that is now the measure by which the amended Plan must be evaluated.

It will be to our mutual benefit to ensure that the amendment process accommodates the interests of all affected parties. Engaging all key stakeholders will also be critical to ensure we emerge from this process with a successful Plan with broad support.

Municipal governments would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you in more detail how a collaborative process to amend the Blue Box Program Plan can address the policy and operational issues that we have identified.

Best regards,



Mr. Mac Bain, Chair
AMO Waste Task Force



Mr. Jim McKay, General Manager
Solid Waste Management Services
City of Toronto



Mr. Fred Jahn, P.Eng, Chair
Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario



Ms. Karyn Hogan, Chair
Municipal Waste Association

A16 1.005



Corporate Services
Regional Clerk's Office

April 3, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 09 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Lands Inventory

Regional Council, at its meeting held on March 29, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory":

1. This report be circulated by the Regional Clerk to the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 4 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 5 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Paul Bottomley, Manager, Policy, Research and Forecasting, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71530 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S. Dumont
Attachments

Clause 4 in Report No. 5 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on March 29, 2018.

4

York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 2, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Acting Chief Planner:

1. This report be circulated by the Regional Clerk to the local municipalities.
-

Report dated March 2, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Acting Chief Planner now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. This report be circulated by the Regional Clerk to the local municipalities.

2. Purpose

This report provides Council with an overview of the supply and characteristics of vacant employment lands in York Region as of mid-year 2017. Data contained in this report will serve as input to the Region's Employment Strategy as part of the Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) and update of the York Region Official Plan.

3. Background and Previous Council Direction

A diverse supply of employment lands supports the Region's economy by providing opportunities for development

Employment lands are key drivers of economic development. Ensuring an adequate supply of vacant employment lands supports the Region's economic

vitality, helping to create a competitive and flexible economic environment that encourages investment and a diversity of employment opportunities. Policies in the Region's Official Plan protect employment land from being converted to non-employment uses, limit ancillary uses to only those that primarily service businesses within employment areas, and encourage redevelopment and intensification of employment lands for employment uses.

Provincial policy changes have strengthened the need to protect employment lands

The *Planning Act* identifies the adequate provision of employment opportunities as a provincial interest. The 2014 Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) and the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017 (Growth Plan) direct municipalities to protect employment areas and ensure the availability of sufficient land, in appropriate locations, for a variety of employment types.

New policy direction in the Growth Plan, 2017 requires municipalities to:

- Delineate employment areas in the Regional Official Plan
- Consider designation of employment areas located near major goods movement corridors as prime employment areas
- Establish a minimum density target for employment areas
- Identify opportunities for intensification of employment areas

Updates to the Growth Plan only allow for the conversion of employment lands to non-employment uses at the time of a Regional MCR based on a set of criteria. Additionally, provincial policies prevent appeals of conversions and conversion policies in the Regional Official Plan once approved by the Province.

The York Region Employment Land Inventory provides updates to mid-year 2017

This report provides an update to the Region's vacant employment land inventory to mid-year 2017. The last update to the inventory was completed for mid-year 2013 and was endorsed by Council in [June 2014](#). Staff will continue to update the employment land inventory on a regular basis.

The inventory is important for monitoring and tracking a number of key employment trends in the Region and will serve as a critical input to the Region's MCR and Employment Strategy. The primary objectives of the vacant employment land inventory are to:

- Provide an inventory of the supply and characteristics of vacant employment land
- Monitor the rate of employment land absorption
- Provide a basis for supply/demand analysis
- Track opportunities for intensification in employment areas
- Provide the basis for the review of Regional Official Plan policies
- Provide information to continue to attract investment from prospective employers and business owners

The employment area boundaries presented in this report will serve as the basis for discussions with local municipalities in determining the delineation of employment areas through the MCR.

Employment areas are designated in official plans to accommodate clusters of business and economic activity

Employment areas are defined in the PPS as “areas designated in an official plan for clusters of business and economic activities including, but not limited to, manufacturing, warehousing, offices and associated retail and ancillary facilities”. The Employment Land Inventory (the “inventory”) is a parcel based inventory of employment lands within employment areas throughout the Region, as shown on the maps in Attachment 1.

For forecasting and monitoring purposes, the Region divides employment into three main employment categories:

1. Major office: Employment occurring in free standing office buildings of 1,860 square metres (20,000 square feet) or larger (excluding city or town halls, hospitals or school board offices and other local serving office uses).
2. Population-related: Employment serving the local population such as retail, services, education, municipal government, institutions and community services. This type of employment tends to increase with population growth.
3. Employment land: Refers to employment within the Region’s employment areas.

The focus of this report is on employment land employment and includes only employment land parcels in employment areas. Isolated rural employment parcels are excluded from the inventory. Traditionally, employment areas

referred strictly to districts dedicated primarily to industrial land uses. Changes in the economy have altered the function of employment areas to include a broader range of uses. These areas now accommodate more commercial and knowledge based industries including personal service, business and other activities.

While the inventory includes all lands within employment areas, the analysis in this report focuses on the vacant land portion of the inventory. Additional work focusing on the built portion of the inventory will inform an employment trends analysis to be completed later in the MCR process as part of the Employment Strategy.

4. Analysis and Implications

The supply of vacant employment lands remains healthy and needs to be protected

The following summarizes key messages from the mid-2017 vacant employment land inventory:

1. There are 2,588 net hectares of vacant employment lands within designated employment areas.
2. Approximately 283 net hectares of vacant employment lands were absorbed in York Region between 2013 and 2017, representing an average annual absorption rate of 71 net hectares.
3. 41% of vacant employment lands contain an active plan of subdivision or site plan.
4. 47% or 1,228 net hectares of the total vacant supply have full regional and local servicing infrastructure in place to support development. However, half of these lands (616 of 1,228 net ha) require additional servicing capacity to support full buildout.
5. A further 39%(1,003 net ha) of the vacant inventory have regional servicing infrastructure in place but require extension of local systems. 59% (596 of 1,003 net ha) require additional servicing capacity to support full buildout.
6. Approximately 22% of vacant employment parcels, amounting to 1,897 net hectares, are greater than 5 hectares.
7. Nearly 84% of vacant employment land, amounting to over 2,183 net hectares of land, is within 5 km of a 400-series highway.

York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

8. 60% of vacant employment parcels amounting to approximately 928 net hectares of vacant employment land are within 500 metres of a transit stop.
9. There are approximately 249 net hectares of employment land with intensification potential for additional employment uses.

Unless otherwise stated, all area calculations are reported in net hectares. A definition of net hectares can be found in Attachment 2.

33% of York Region employment lands are vacant

As of 2017, a third of the Region's employment land area was vacant, accounting for 2,588 net hectares (Table 1).

The City of Vaughan has 1,042 net hectares of vacant employment land (or 40% of the total vacant net inventory), and continues to have the largest supply of vacant employment lands in the Region. The employment land inventory includes three main vacant/built status categories: vacant, built, and other. The other land use status includes uses such as infrastructure, stormwater management ponds, and environmental land. Table 1 displays 2017 employment lands by vacant/built status and local municipality. A description of each category is provided in Attachment 2.

Table 1
Employment land area by vacant/built status and local municipality, 2017

Local Municipality	Vacant (ha)	Built (ha)	Other (ha)	Total (ha)
Aurora	156	228	24	408
East Gwillimbury	322	109	18	449
Georgina	209	5	7	221
King	61	41	4	106
Markham	506	1,201	69	1,776
Newmarket	43	210	7	260
Richmond Hill	130	413	39	582
Vaughan	1,042	2,416	178	3,636
Whitchurch-Stouffville	119	190	12	321
York Region	2,588 (33%)	4,813 (62%)	358 (5%)	7,759 (100%)

Employment area boundaries have been adjusted since 2013

The supply of vacant employment land has decreased by approximately 384

net hectares since 2013. As shown in Table 2 there are a number of factors that have contributed to the reduction in vacant land. Changes include:

- The addition of the ROPA 3 employment area in Markham
- Employment land conversions in Aurora, Georgina, Markham, Richmond Hill, and Vaughan
- Absorption of vacant parcels through development
- Minor employment area boundary adjustments
- Changes in the methodology used to calculate developable and net area

Table 2
Changes to vacant employment land area (net ha) since 2013

2013 Vacant Area	Additions	Employment Land Conversions	Developed/Absorbed	Boundary and Methodology Changes	2017 Vacant Area
2,972	+314	-108	-283	-307	2,588

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, 2017

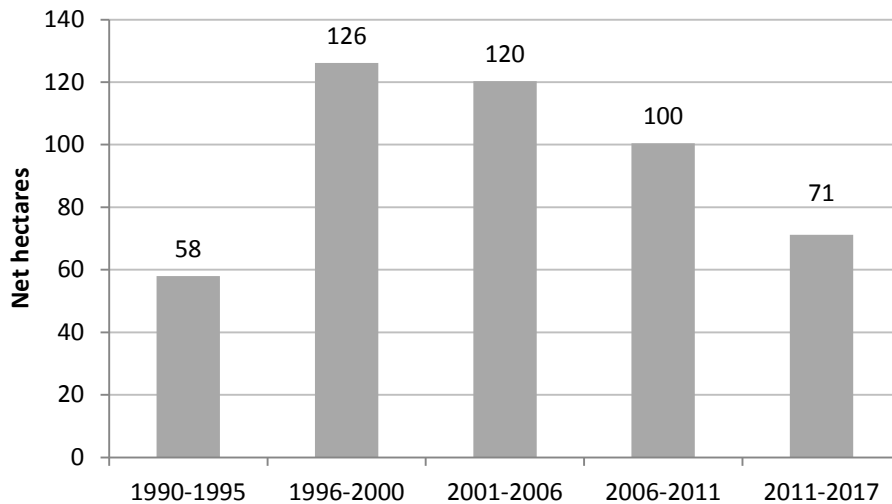
Employment land absorption in recent years has been lower than the historical average

Employment land absorption refers to any lands that were built for employment uses and discounts any lands that were re-designated for non-employment land related uses. Approximately 283 net hectares of vacant employment lands were absorbed in York Region between 2013 and 2017. This equates to an average absorption rate of 71 hectares per year which is consistent with the trend reported in the 2013 inventory update towards lower absorption in recent years (Figure 1). Employment land absorption has been experiencing a downward trend since the 1980s when average annual absorption reached approximately 200 hectares per year.

The slower absorption of employment lands in the Region's employment areas can be partially attributed to the shift from a manufacturing and goods-producing to a service and knowledge based economy. The economic recession of 2008-2009 also resulted in some buildings on sites becoming vacant, many of which have since been re-occupied. This has led to job growth without significant uptake of land. Although absorption rates have declined, York Region continues to experience job growth as noted in the York Region 2017 Employment and Industry Report, presented to Council in [February 2018](#). Between 2006 and 2017, the Region added approximately 60,000 jobs on employment lands. This would suggest that some jobs are locating in existing buildings rather than

through new construction on vacant lands. In addition to these two factors, lower absorption may be explained by other factors, such as increased employment densities in existing employment facilities and increased land costs.

Figure 1
York Region average annual employment land absorption, 1990-2017



Note: 1990-2000 is calendar year data whereas 2001-2017 is mid-year to mid-year
Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, 2017

1,228 hectares (47%) of vacant employment lands have full regional and local municipal servicing in place

Employment parcels with water and wastewater connections facilitate construction of new employment uses. As shown in Attachment 3, all nine local municipalities have vacant employment land supply with water and wastewater servicing in place. Table 3 summarizes the Region’s vacant employment lands by servicing status. A portion of the vacant employment lands in East Gwillimbury, Markham, and Vaughan have infrastructure in place to support some growth but additional capacity is required before the full buildout can be realized. Employment areas that require servicing capacity are provided in Attachment 3.

Table 3
York Region vacant employment lands by servicing status

Servicing Status	Vacant Land (net ha)	Share of vacant land	Capacity required for full buildout (net ha)
Regional and Local Servicing	1,228	47%	616

York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

Servicing Status	Vacant Land (net ha)	Share of vacant land	Capacity required for full buildout (net ha)
Local Servicing Required (Regional not required)	1,003	39%	596
Regional and Local Servicing Required	261	10%	
Private Services	96	4%	
York Region	2,588	100%	

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, 2017

Region-wide, approximately 47% (1,228 net ha) of vacant lands have full regional and local municipal servicing however 50% (616 net ha) of these lands require servicing capacity. A further 39% (1,003 net ha) have regional servicing in place to support the provision of municipal services. These lands would require extensions to the local water and/or wastewater systems, which typically occurs when development applications are proposed on these lands. 59% (596 net ha) of these lands require servicing capacity.

Regional water and wastewater services are provided to all vacant parcels in the Towns of Richmond Hill, Aurora, Newmarket, and the Township of King. Attachment 3 provides more detail on the regional servicing status of vacant employment lands by local municipality as of mid-2017.

Flexibility in the location and size of vacant employment parcels is important in attracting high quality employers

Providing a range and choice in site sizes allows municipalities to accommodate the potential needs of a variety of employers and provides opportunities for a diversified employment base. Findings indicate that the Region has a large variety of vacant parcels with different sizes, ranging from large parcels greater than 5 hectares to smaller parcels less than a hectare. Vacant parcels that are greater than 5 hectares are important for attracting large, land intensive development types like distribution centres, warehouses, and campus developments.

In 2017, vacant parcels of 5 hectares or greater account for 22% of all vacant parcels and approximately 73% of the vacant employment land supply. Approximately 41% of the vacant parcels in the inventory are less than 1 net hectare, accounting for 5% of the total vacant land area.

Attachment 4 breaks down the supply of vacant land by parcel size and local municipality as of 2017.

84% of the Region's vacant employment lands are within five kilometres of a 400-series highway

There is a high demand for employment lands that are strategically located within urban areas near major transportation corridors to facilitate the flow of goods and employees. The 400-series highways are extremely important for employment lands from a strategic location and market accessibility standpoint as they facilitate goods movement and are highly visible locations for major employers. There are 544 vacant parcels totalling 2,183 net hectares (84% of vacant employment land) of land within five kilometres of a 400-series highway.

Attachment 5 provides additional detail on vacant parcel sizes and their proximity to 400-series highways.

Nearly two-thirds of the Region's vacant employment lands are within 500 metres of a transit stop

Providing public transportation helps to manage congestion and travel times in the Region and improves the Region's economy by facilitating more efficient movement of residents, workers, goods, and services alike. Providing future employees of vacant parcels with easy access to transit stops provides opportunities for accessible live-work situations and attracts labour force talent, including millennial employees. As stated in the Regional Official Plan, the Region will plan to provide transit service so that the distance to a transit stop in the Urban Area is within 500 metres of 90 per cent of residents. Having a resident labour force with easy access to transit at both the origin and destination provides access to more employment opportunities in the Region.

Approximately 60% of vacant parcels (or 928 net hectares of vacant employment land) in the Region are located within 500 metres of either a York Region Transit (YRT) or VIVA transit stop. Given the desirability of land near major transportation corridors and transit stops, it is important to ensure that these strategically located lands are preserved for employment uses over the long term and are not subject to conversion to non-employment uses.

Attachment 6 provides detail on the distribution of vacant employment land parcels by distance to YRT and VIVA transit stops.

41% (1,061 net ha) of the Region's vacant employment lands have development applications

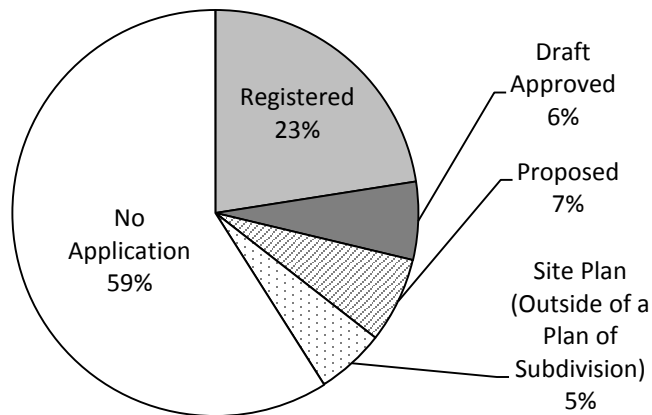
The development status of each parcel is recorded on the basis of its plan of subdivision status.

Lands with no plan of subdivision but that contain an active site plan were also included. The following five categories were used to identify the status:

- Registered – lots in a registered plan of subdivision that are unbuilt
- Draft approved – potential lots in a plan of subdivision that has received draft approval but not final approval
- Proposed – potential lots in a proposed plan of subdivision which is under application but has not received draft approval
- Site Plan (outside of Plan of Subdivision) – lots with a site plan application that is either proposed or approved
- No application – lands that do not yet have a plan of subdivision application but have an official plan designation for employment uses

While vacant parcels that are registered are either under construction or expected to be developed shortly, vacant parcels that are either draft approved or proposed are a good indicator for development in the short to medium term. As shown in Figure 2, 41%, or 1,061 net hectares, of the Region's vacant employment lands contain active development applications. The remaining 59% currently have no active applications and are therefore likely to accommodate growth in the medium to long term.

Figure 2
York Region vacant employment land by development status, 2017



The rate of intensification on employment lands has increased since 2013

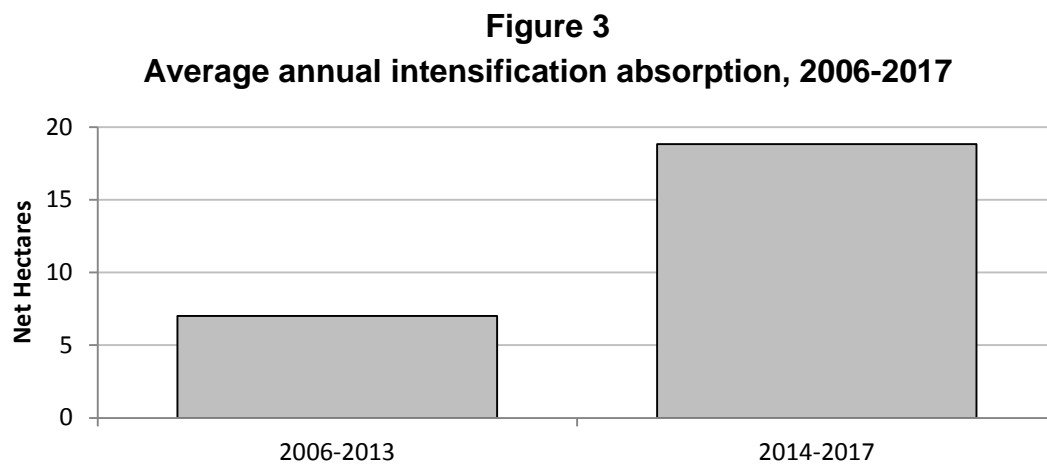
While there are no employment-specific intensification targets, the Growth Plan encourages intensification of employment lands to better utilize existing infrastructure.

The Growth Plan also requires sites with intensification potential to be identified as potential locations to support new growth. Tracking intensification of

employment lands will also contribute to determining the land required to support employment growth to 2041.

A preliminary analysis of built parcels with intensification potential was first undertaken in 2006 and used orthophotography to identify built parcels that were over half vacant or had a vacant portion that was at least 0.5 hectares. This analysis was also completed in 2013 and 2017 and includes any new parcels added to the inventory in that time period.

Between 2013 and 2017, an average of 19 hectares per year (or 75 total hectares) of land identified as having intensification potential in 2013 were absorbed compared to 7 net hectares per year between 2006 and 2013 (Figure 3).



An estimated 249 net hectares of employment land have intensification potential

There are 113 parcels that have 249 net hectares of intensification potential across the Region in 2017, which increases the total vacant land supply by 10%. The intensification potential in 2017 is an increase in area from 2013, when 118 parcels with 225 net hectares of employment land were identified as having intensification potential.

Attachment 7 provides further details regarding intensification potential on employment lands by local municipality.

The vacant employment land inventory will provide input to the Region's Employment Strategy

Through the MCR, the Region will be completing research and analysis on the regional economy and employment. This includes development of an Employment Strategy which will assess the current and future anticipated

structure and composition of employment in the Region. In addition to the employment land inventory update, a number of recently completed reports, studies and initiatives will inform the MCR:

- The annual Employment Survey of all businesses in the Region
- Annual Employment and Industry Reports that provide an in-depth analysis of employment growth by sector
- A major office inventory tracking employment in buildings greater than 20,000 square feet
- A retail trends study completed in 2014
- An employment trends study completed in 2014
- Economic Development - 2017 Year in Review
- The Economic Development Action Plan 2016-2019, including a Broadband Strategy and an office attraction marketing program

The employment land inventory will provide the basis for discussions concerning the delineation of employment areas in the Regional Official Plan

Staff will be updating employment policies in the Regional Official Plan and the employment forecast by type to accommodate an additional 280,000 jobs to 2041. Establishing policy direction to ensure an adequate supply of employment land in employment areas and protecting these areas for a range of employment uses will be critical to attracting economic development and achieving the employment forecast. In coordination with the local municipalities, the Region will undertake the following work as part of its MCR and Employment Strategy:

- Analysis of historical and future trends, including detailed profiles by employment area
- Establish a density target for employment areas
- Develop an updated employment forecast by employment type for the Region and the nine local municipalities
- Assess future demand for employment land through a land needs assessment
- Update employment policies in the Regional Official Plan

- Delineate employment areas in the Regional Official Plan, including identifying prime employment areas
- Consider identifying future potential employment lands outside the existing urban boundary for protection for employment uses beyond the 2041 planning horizon, using criteria in the Growth Plan

The employment area boundaries presented in this report will provide the basis for discussions with local municipalities concerning the mapping of employment areas in the Regional Official Plan. The vacant employment land inventory will also be an important input to the Employment Strategy and the land needs assessment by providing the basis for determining existing employment land employment capacity.

Requests for conversion of any land within the employment area boundaries will be assessed through the MCR.

Monitoring the Region's vacant employment land supply supports the employment related goals of Vision 2051, the Regional Official Plan, and the 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan

The vacant land portion of the employment land inventory informs a number of goals in the 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan priority area of Economic Vitality, one of which is the protection and securement of employment lands along 400 series highways. The vacant employment land inventory also has links to the Protecting employment lands protection policies of the Regional Official Plan, and Vision 2051's goal area of An Innovative Economy.

5. Financial Considerations

Employment lands play a central role in the Region's economy. The availability of a wide range of vacant employment lands is integral to the fiscal health of a community and can directly affect economic development and diversification of the assessment base.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Vacant employment lands in each of the nine local municipalities of York Region are identified and analyzed in this report. Staff from the local municipalities provided input in the delineation of the areas examined. Local municipalities are key partners in the ongoing preservation, enhancement and planning of employment areas.

7. Conclusion

Maintaining a robust and diverse supply of vacant employment lands supports the economic vitality of the Region. As of 2017, there were 2,588 net hectares of vacant employment lands within designated employment areas.

Forty-seven percent (1,228 net ha) have full regional and local municipal servicing infrastructure in place. However, 50% of these lands (616 of 1,228 net ha) can support some growth but additional capacity is required to support full buildout. An additional 39% (1,003 net ha) have regional servicing in place but require the extension of local municipal services. 59% of these lands (596 of 1,003 net ha) require additional capacity to support full buildout.

Data within this report will be used in undertaking the Region's MCR and Employment Strategy. The review will include an evaluation of employment trends and land required to support growth to 2041. Regional staff will assess the characteristics of the employment land supply in context of the short, medium, and long-term as a component of the review. Employment area boundaries presented in this report will also serve as the basis for discussions with local municipalities in determining the delineation of employment areas in the Regional Official Plan.

For more information on this report, please contact Paul Bottomley, Manager, Policy, Research and Forecasting, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71530.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

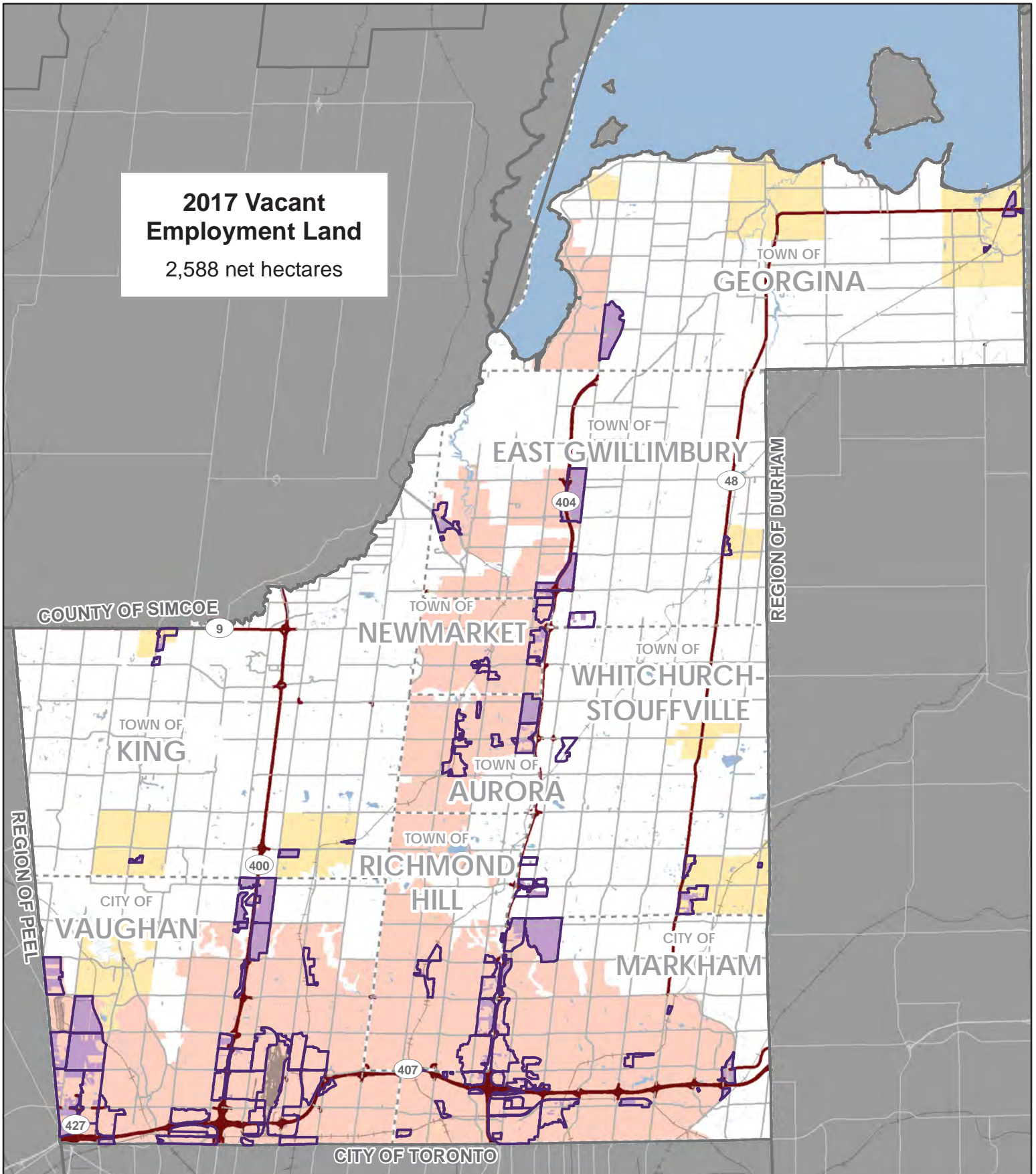
March 2, 2018

Attachments (7)

8248379

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

**2017 Vacant
Employment Land**
2,588 net hectares



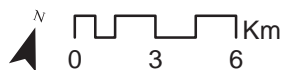
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment
Land Inventory

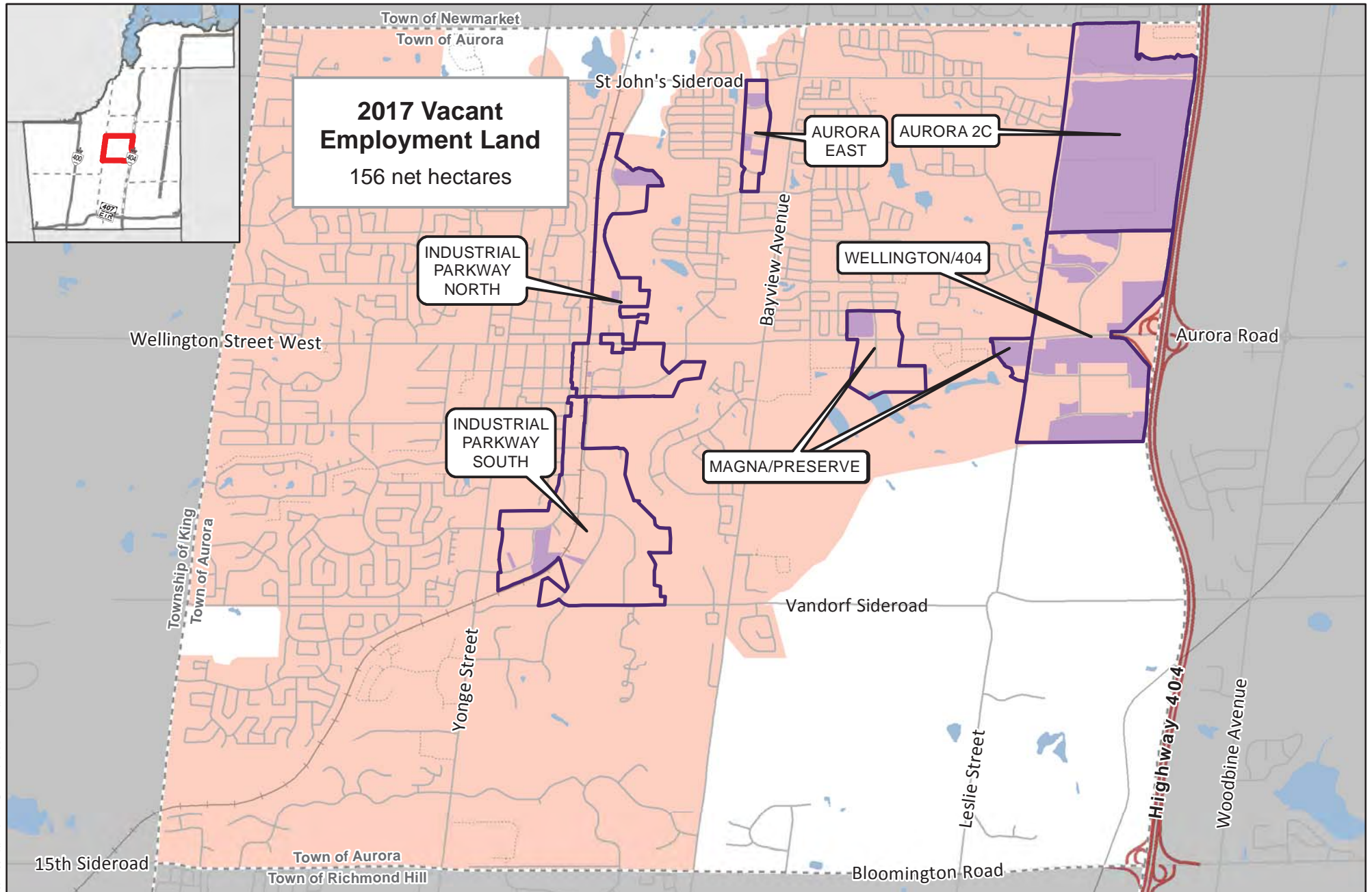
Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Planning and Economic
Development, Corporate Services
March 2018

Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

Legend

	Employment Area Boundary		Highway
	Vacant Parcels		Road
	Towns and Villages		Railway
	Urban Area		Municipal Boundary
	Lake/River		Regional Boundary





TOWN OF AURORA
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

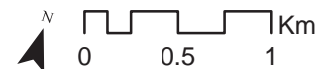


Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
March 2018

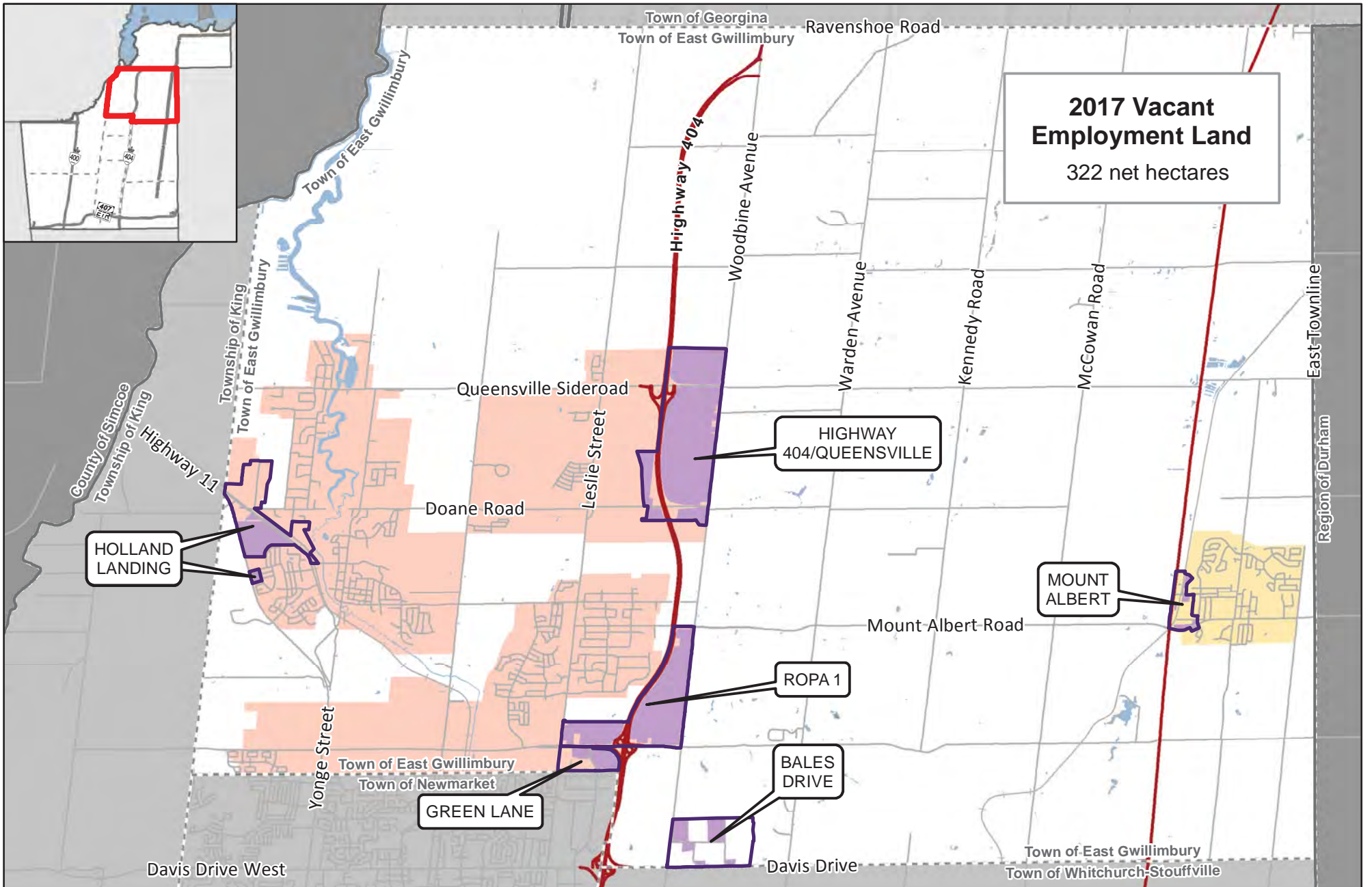
Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

Legend

- Employment Area Boundary
- Vacant Parcels
- Towns and Villages
- Urban Area
- Lake/River
- Highway
- Road
- Proposed Road
- Railway
- Municipal Boundary
- Regional Boundary



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2017 Vacant Employment Land
322 net hectares

HIGHWAY 404/QUEENSVILLE

HOLLAND LANDING

MOUNT ALBERT

ROPA 1

GREEN LANE

BALES DRIVE

TOWN OF EAST GWILLIMBURY
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

Legend

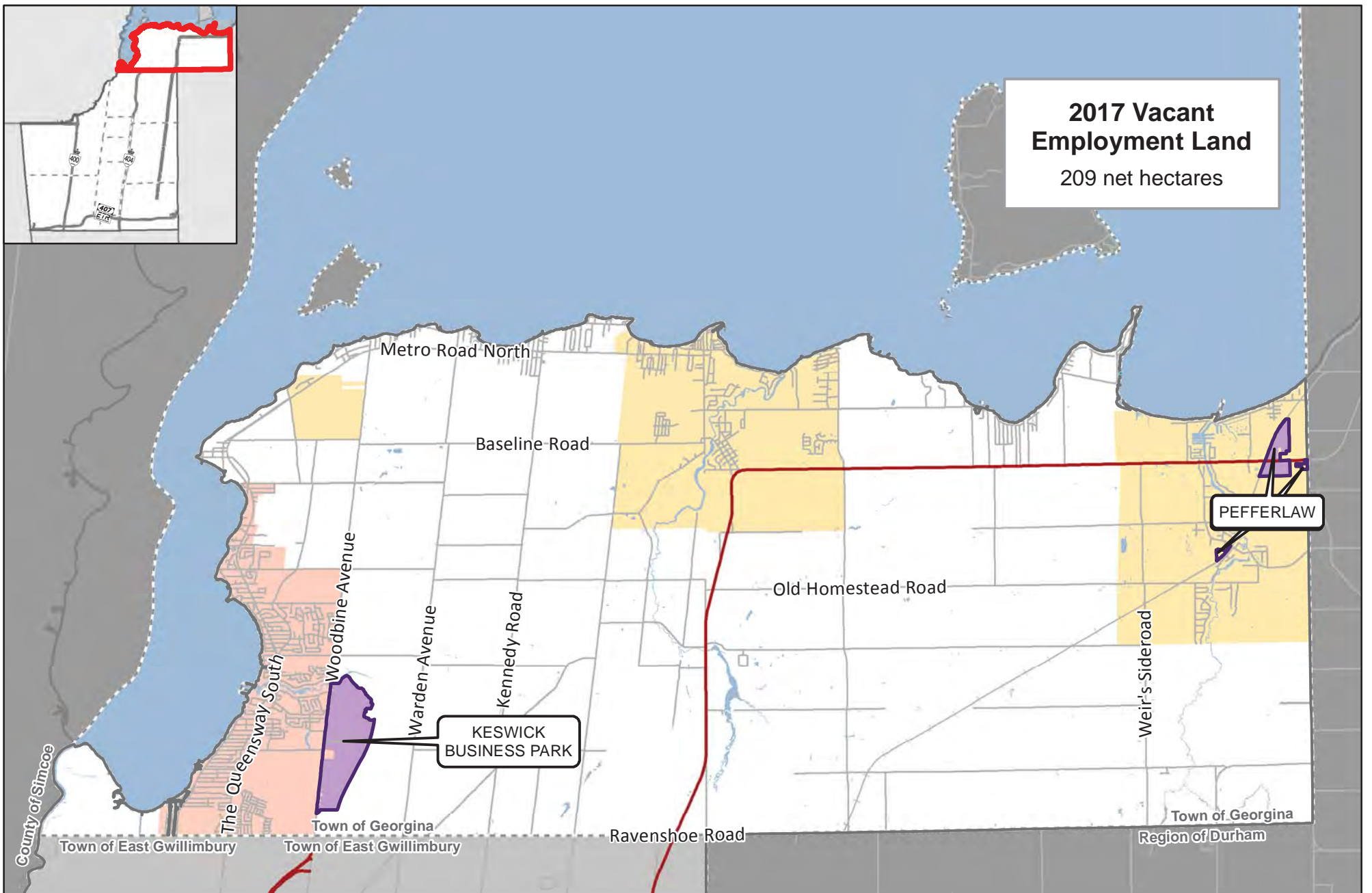
- Employment Area Boundary
- Vacant Parcels
- Towns and Villages
- Urban Area
- Lake/River
- Highway
- Road
- Railway
- Municipal Boundary
- Regional Boundary



Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
March 2018

Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

E:\Projects\2017\2017 January\2017 8 - Lauren Saive - Land Use Maps\Map\East Gwillimbury\Employment\Vacant Land\index

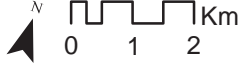


**2017 Vacant
Employment Land**
209 net hectares

TOWN OF GEORGINA
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

Legend

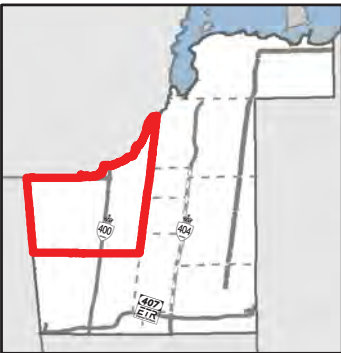
	Employment Area Boundary		Highway
	Vacant Parcels		Road
	Towns and Villages		Railway
	Urban Area		Municipal Boundary
	Lake/River		Regional Boundary



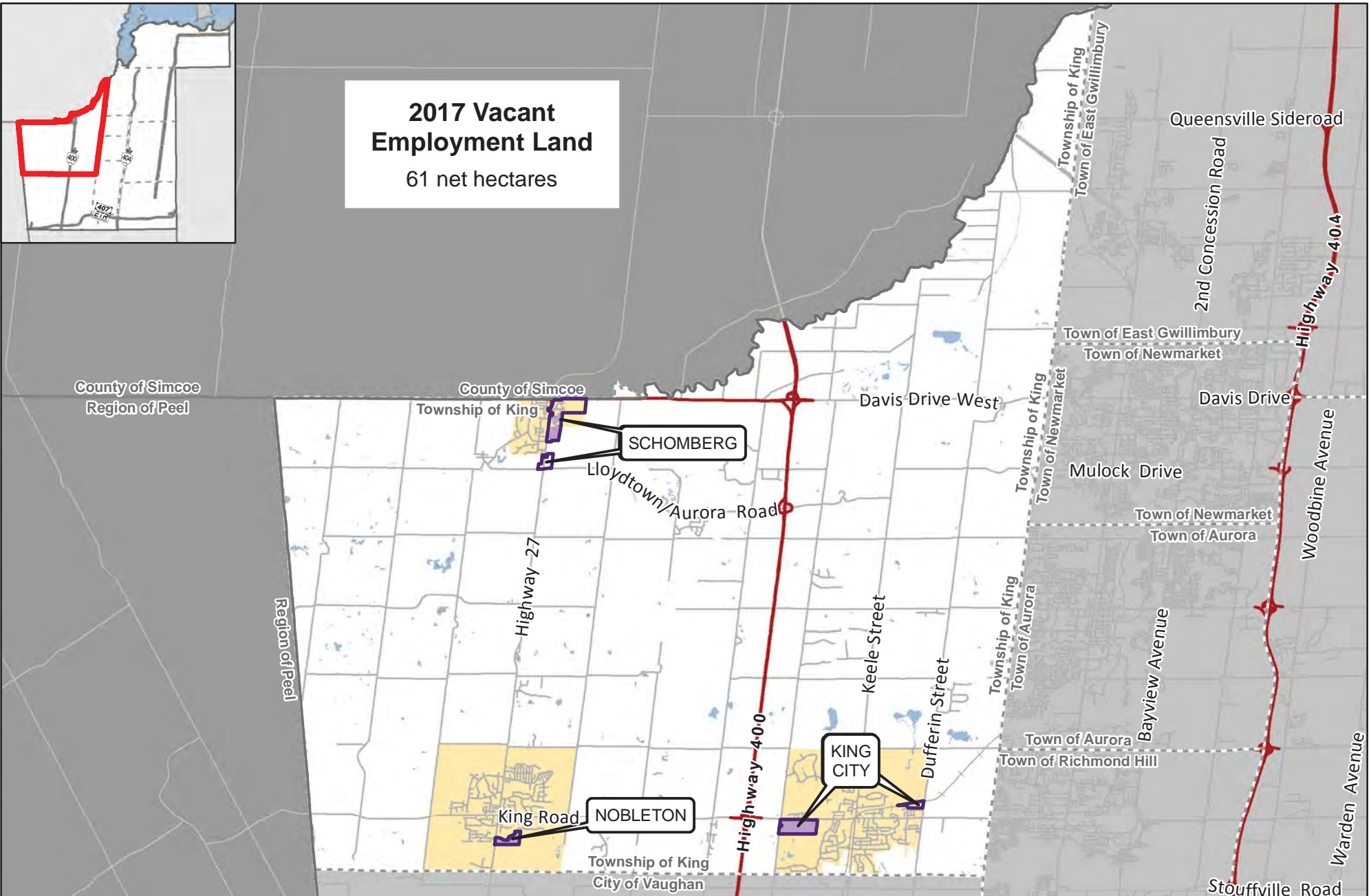
Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
March 2018

Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

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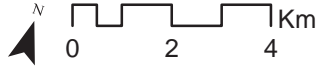


**2017 Vacant
Employment Land**
61 net hectares



TOWNSHIP OF KING
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

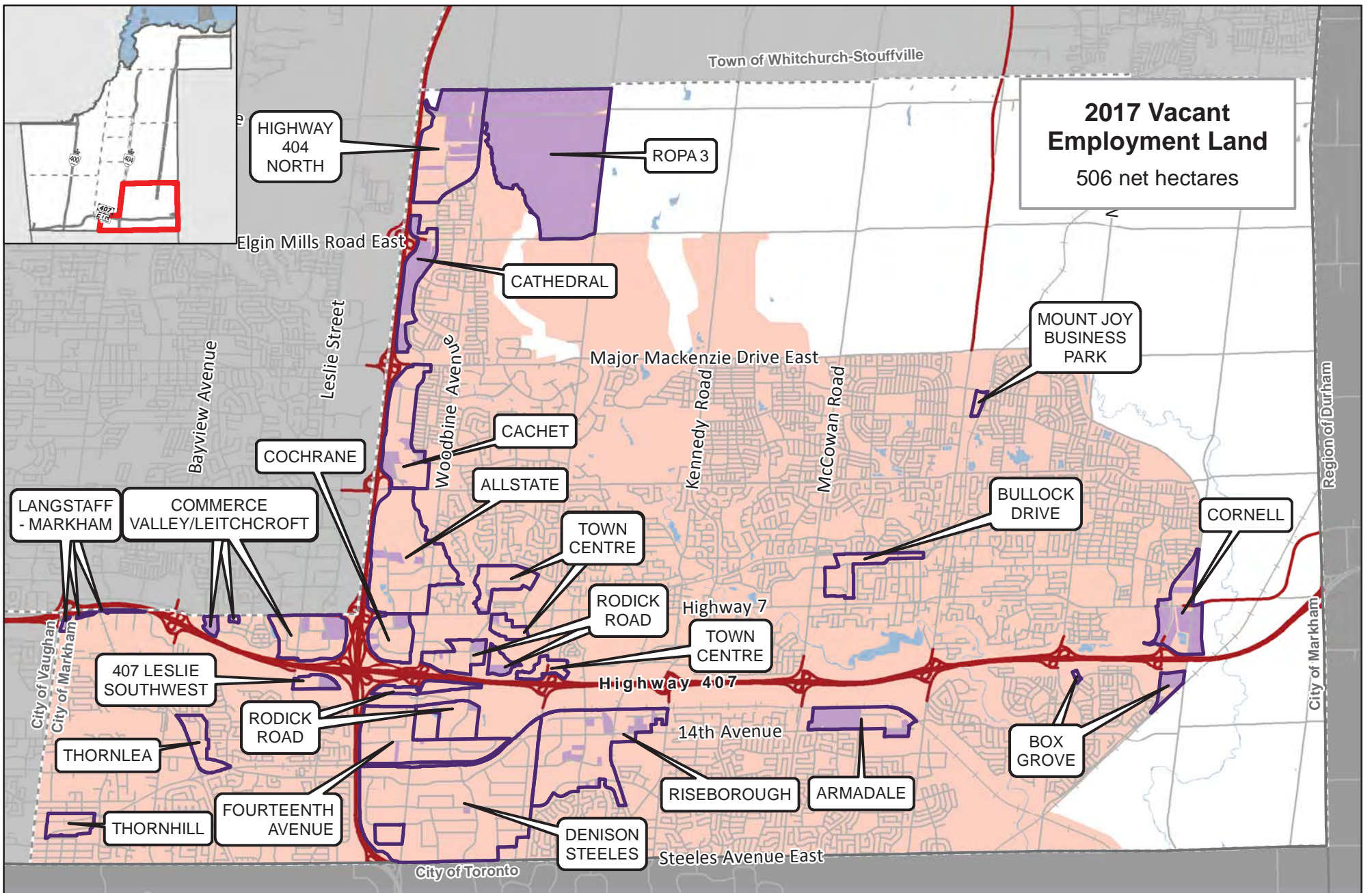
Legend	
	Employment Area Boundary
	Vacant Parcels
	Towns and Villages
	Urban Area
	Lake/River
	Highway
	Road
	Railway
	Municipal Boundary
	Regional Boundary



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Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
March 2018

Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

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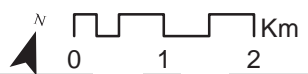
CITY OF MARKHAM
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
March 2018

Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

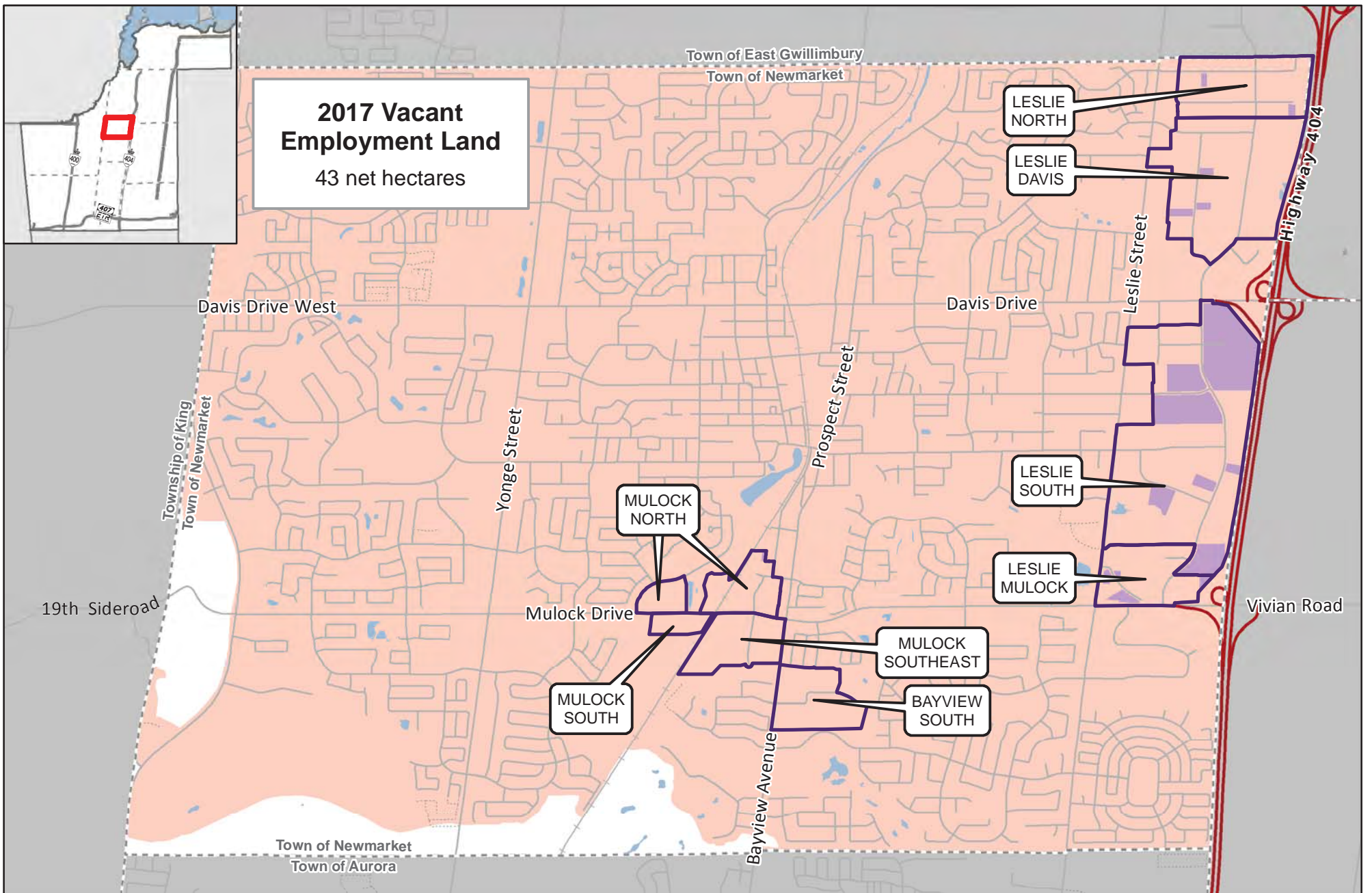
Legend

- Employment Area Boundary
- Vacant Parcels
- Towns and Villages
- Urban Area
- Lake/River
- Highway
- Road
- Railway
- Municipal Boundary
- Regional Boundary



F:\Projects\2017\January\2018_Lauren\Save_Land\Map\Map\City of Markham\Employment\Vacant\Inventory\2017.mxd
 Produced by: The Regional Municipality of York Planning and Economic Development, Corporate Services March 2018
 Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario 2003-2018

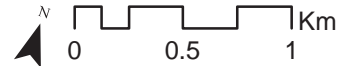
**2017 Vacant
Employment Land**
43 net hectares



TOWN OF NEWMARKET
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

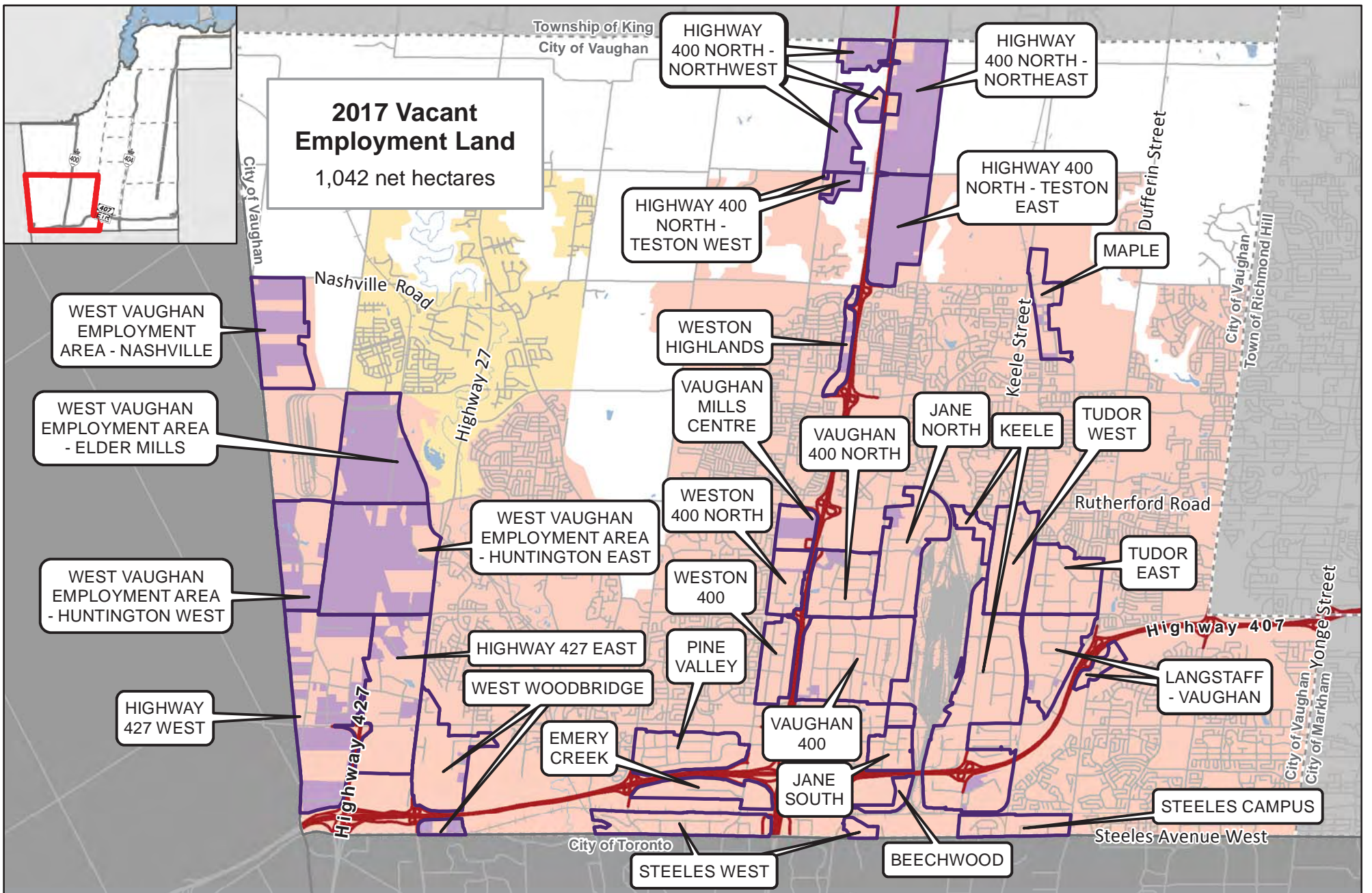
Legend

	Employment Area Boundary		Highway
	Vacant Parcels		Road
	Towns and Villages		Proposed Road
	Urban Area		Railway
	Lake/River		Municipal Boundary
			Regional Boundary



Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
March 2018
Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

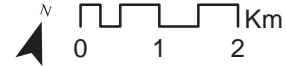
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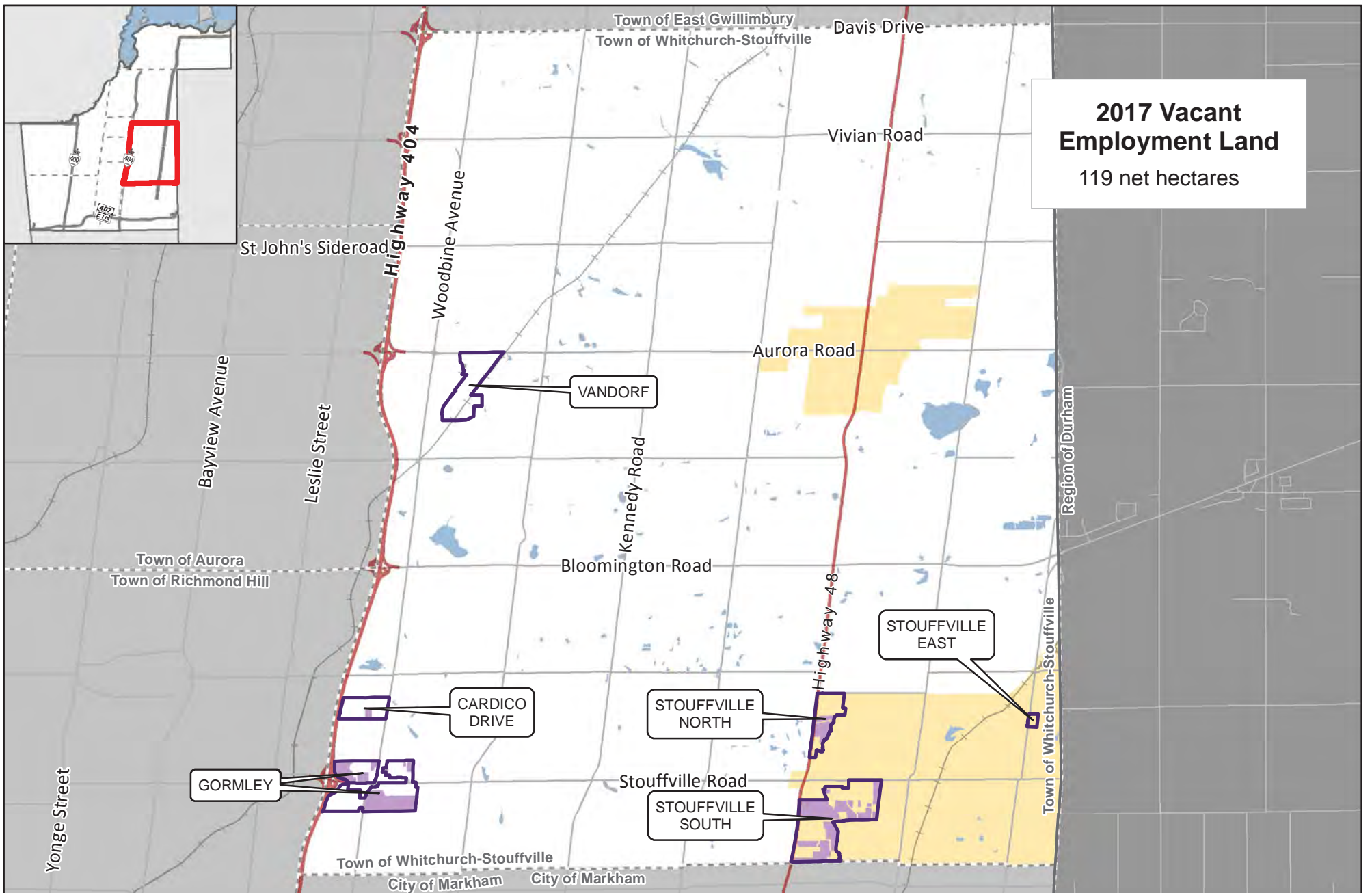


CITY OF VAUGHAN
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

Legend

- Employment Area Boundary
- Vacant Parcels
- Towns and Villages
- Urban Area
- Lake/River
- Highway
- Road
- Railway
- Municipal Boundary
- Regional Boundary



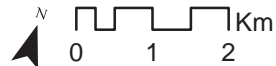


2017 Vacant Employment Land
119 net hectares

TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE
York Region 2017 Vacant Employment Land Inventory

Legend

- Employment Area Boundary
- Vacant Parcels
- Towns and Villages
- Urban Area
- Lake/River
- Highway
- Road
- Railway
- Municipal Boundary
- Regional Boundary



Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
March 2018

Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario
2003-2018

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Definition of area calculations in the Employment Land Inventory

Three types of area calculations are included within the employment land inventory:

- **Gross area** – the total area of each parcel within employment areas;
- **Developable area** – gross area less environmental features and areas, natural heritage systems, major infrastructure and existing uses; and
- **Net area** – developable area, with a 20% reduction to parcels greater than or equal to 25 developable hectares to account for future local roads and stormwater management facilities. For parcels less than 25 developable hectares, there is no reduction in developable area, with the assumption that local roads and stormwater management facilities already exist in the area. If an employment area was 60% vacant or greater, the 20% reduction was applied to all vacant parcels in the employment area.

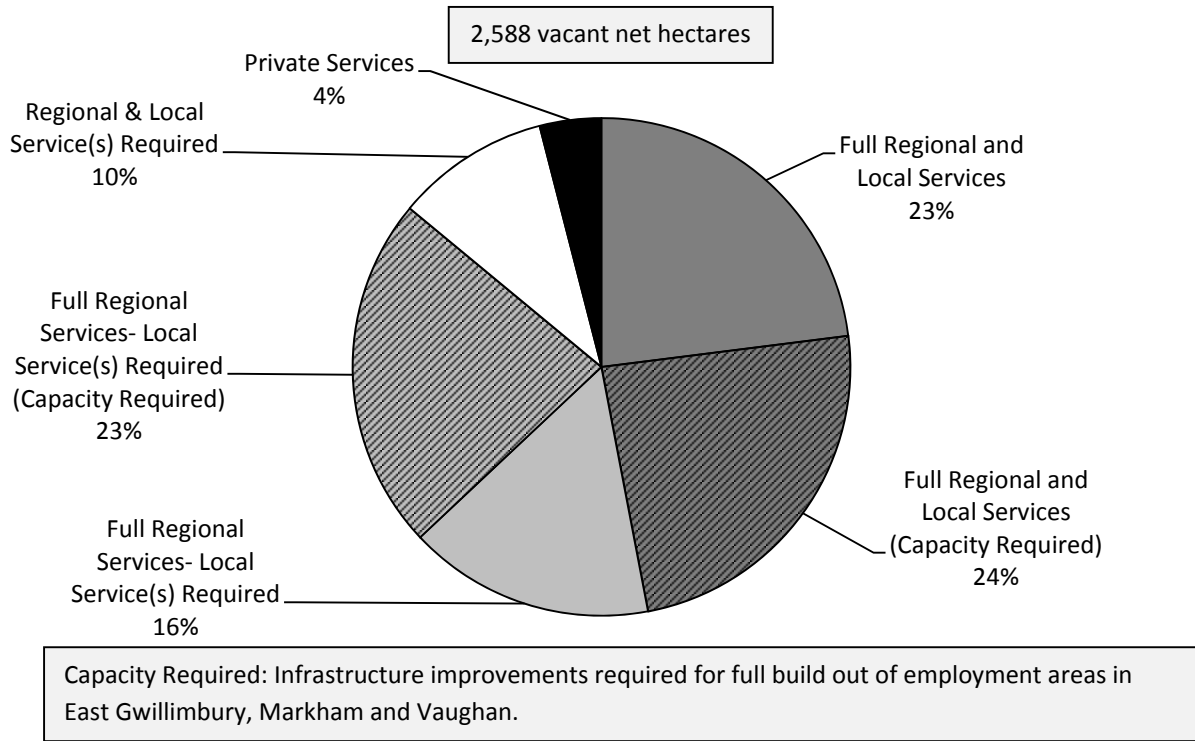
Unless otherwise stated throughout the report, all area calculations are reported in net hectares.

Description of vacant/built status categories in the Employment Land Inventory

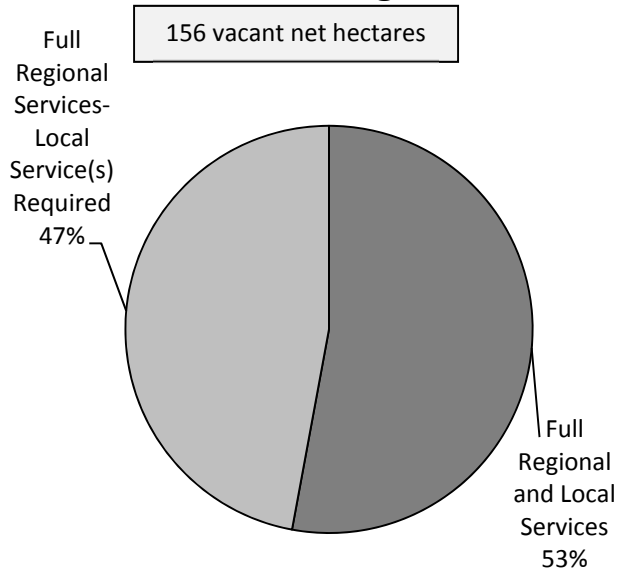
The total employment land inventory includes three vacant/built status categories:

- **Vacant** – parcels that are currently vacant. This includes parcels that are not in use as well as parcels currently under construction or being used for agricultural purposes.
- **Built** – parcels that are currently in use. This includes parcels that support industrial, major office, parking, and storage uses. Although parking and storage uses may have some redevelopment potential, they have not been included in the vacant analysis.
- **Other** – parcels that are being used for non-employment uses such as road right-of-ways, stormwater management ponds, natural heritage features, legal non-conforming residential, and other infrastructure such as water towers and hydro corridors.

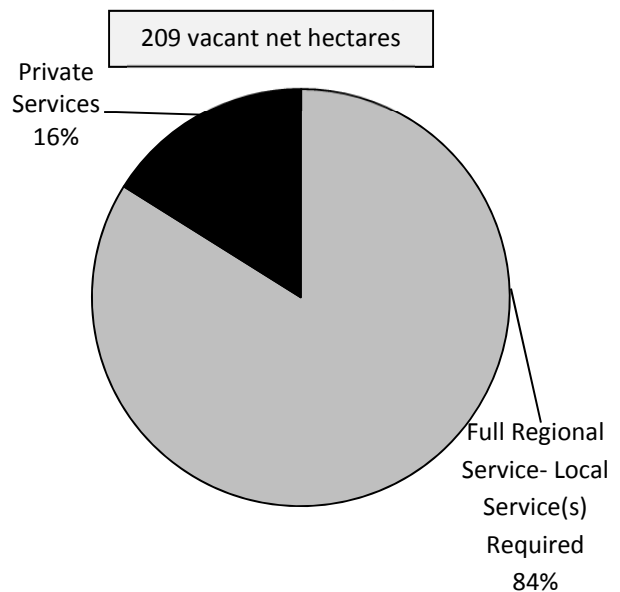
York Region Vacant Employment Land Supply by Water and Wastewater Servicing Status (Percent of Net Vacant Hectares)



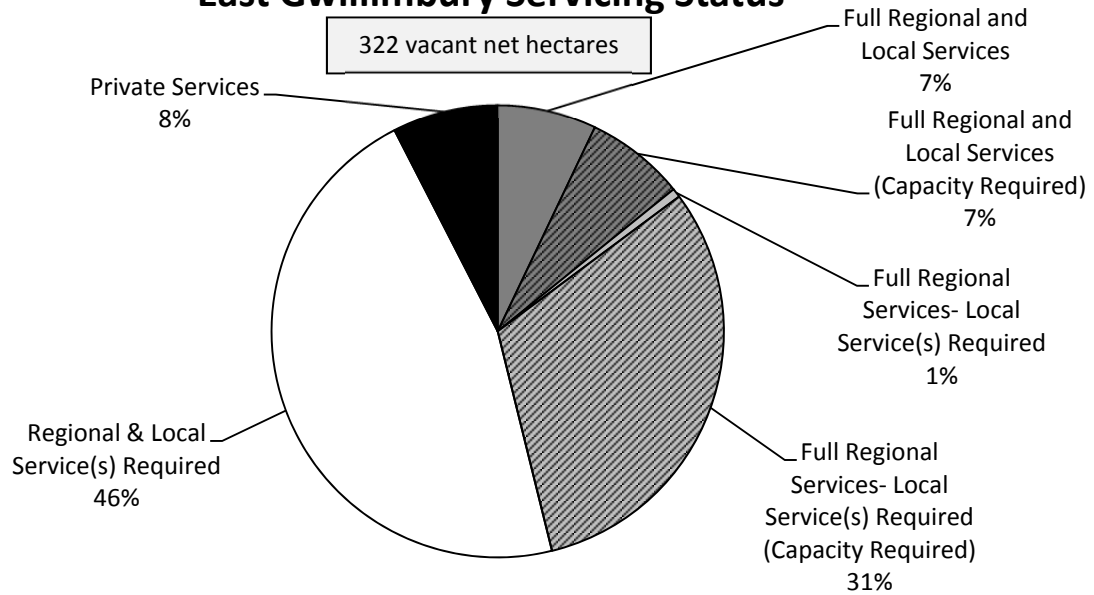
Aurora Servicing Status



Georgina Servicing Status

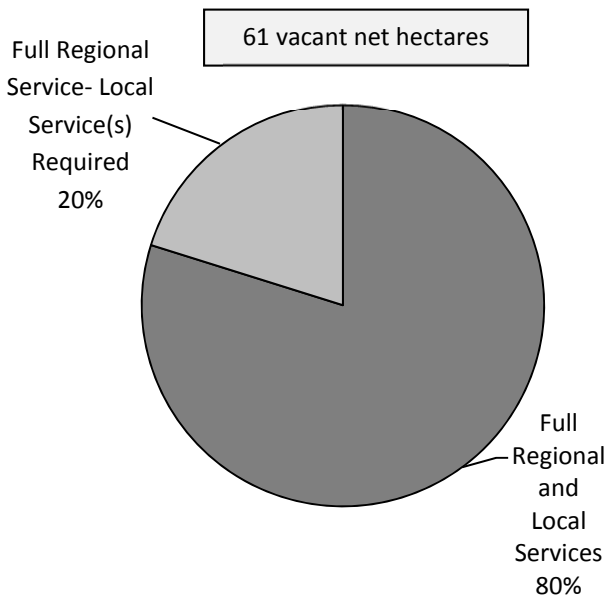


East Gwillimbury Servicing Status

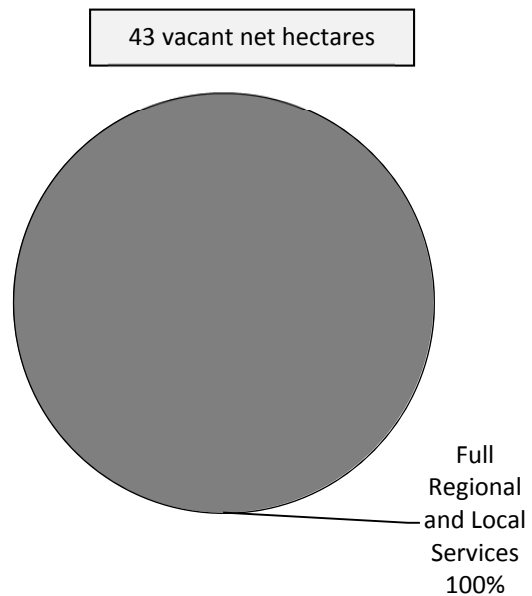


Capacity Required: Infrastructure improvements required for full build out in ROPA 1 and Holland Landing.

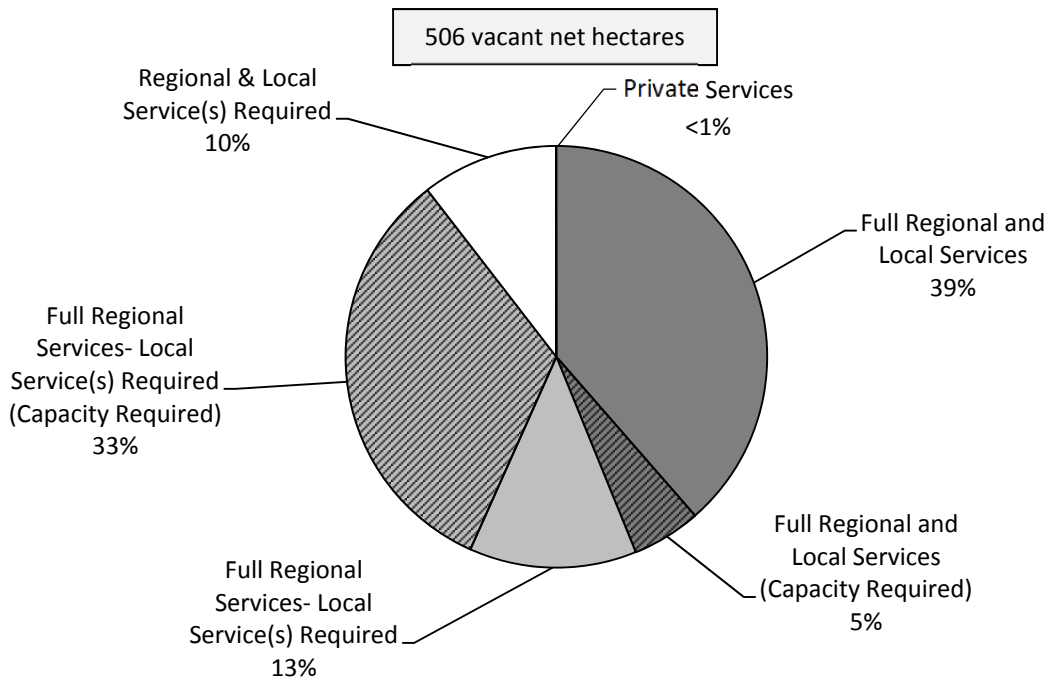
King Servicing Status



Newmarket Servicing Status

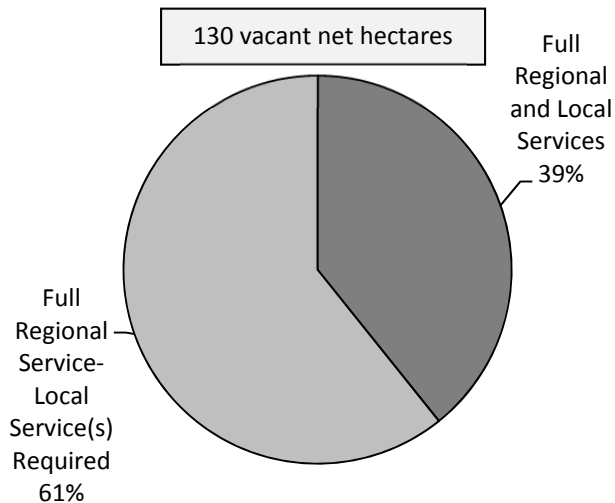


Markham Servicing Status

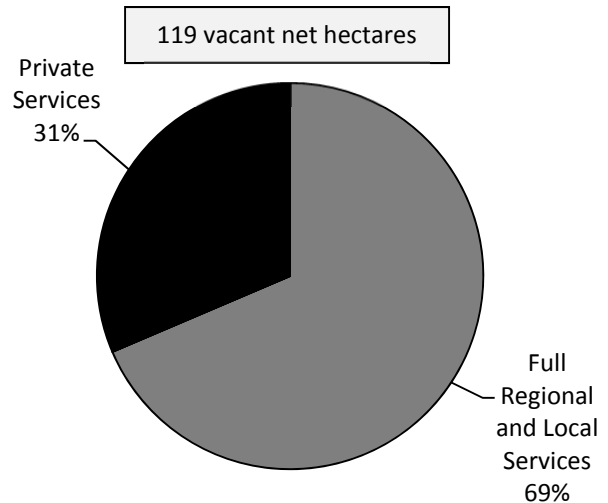


Capacity Required: Infrastructure improvements required for full build out in ROPA 3.

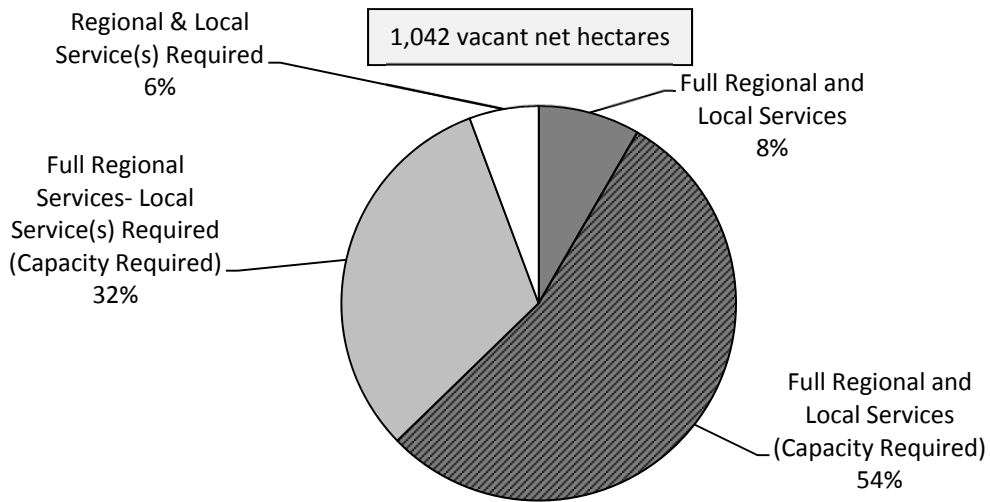
Richmond Hill Servicing Status



Whitchurch-Stouffville Servicing Status



Vaughan Servicing Status



Capacity Required: Infrastructure improvements required for full build out in West Vaughan and Highway 400 North

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

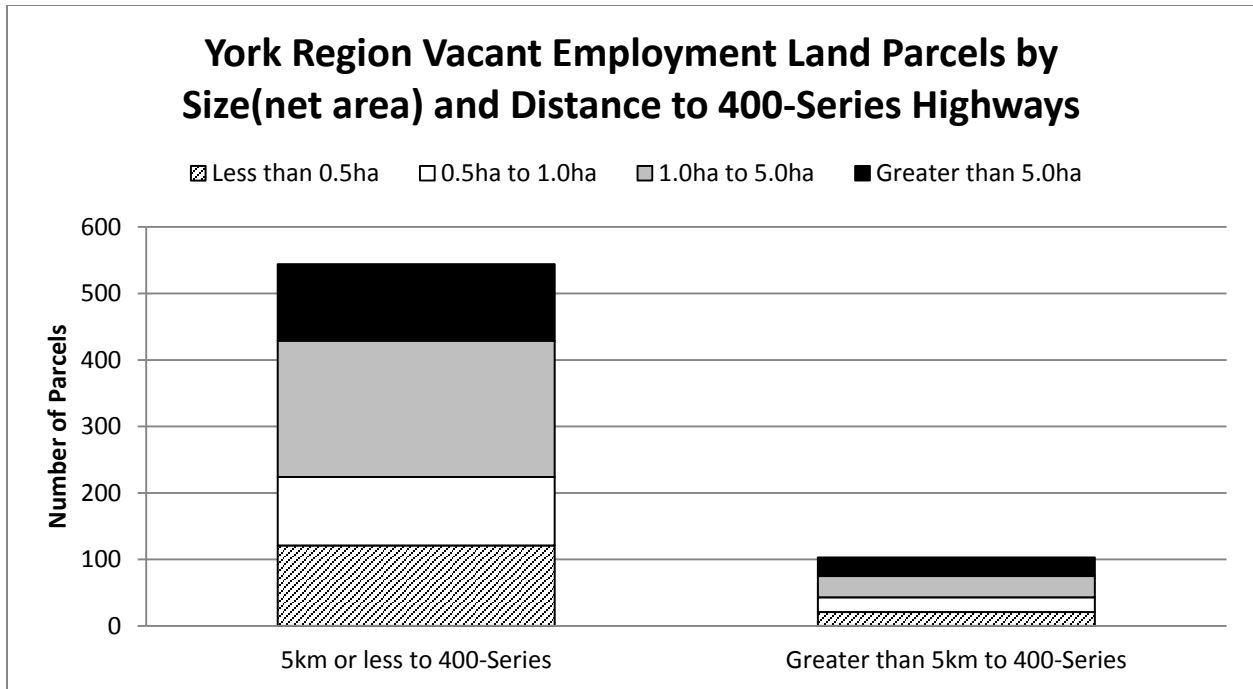
Attachment 4

York Region Vacant Employment Land Supply by Site Size and Local Municipality, 2017

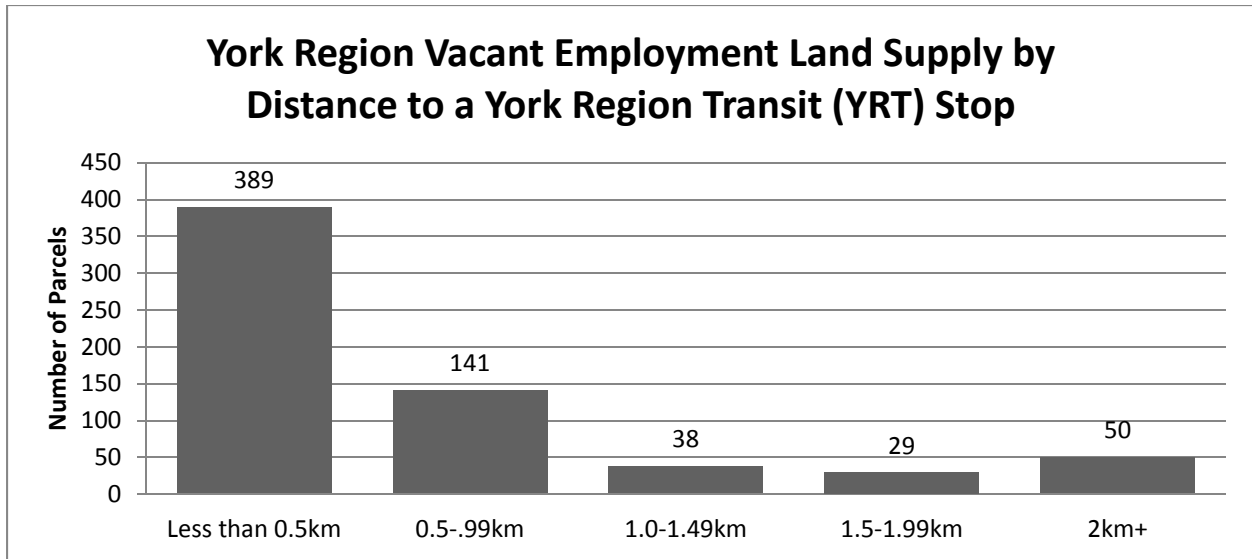
	Less than 0.5ha		0.5ha to 1.0ha		1.0ha to 5.0ha		Greater than 5.0ha		Total	
	<i>Parcels</i>	<i>Net Hectares</i>	<i>Parcels</i>	<i>Net Hectares</i>	<i>Parcels</i>	<i>Net Hectares</i>	<i>Parcels</i>	<i>Net Hectares</i>	<i>Parcels</i>	<i>Net Hectares</i>
Aurora	7	1	14	11	15	35	7	109	43	156
East Gwillimbury	14	4	7	5	22	50	21	264	64	322
Georgina	2	0	1	1	8	23	14	185	25	209
King	7	2	3	2	2	3	3	54	15	61
Markham	29	6	31	23	53	125	23	352	136	506
Newmarket	11	3	6	4	7	16	2	20	26	43
Richmond Hill	9	2	11	10	21	51	6	68	47	130
Vaughan	48	14	38	29	93	222	61	777	240	1,042
Whitchurch-Stouffville	15	3	14	9	16	38	6	68	51	119
York Region	142	36	125	94	237	561	143	1,897	647	2,588

Totals may not add due to rounding

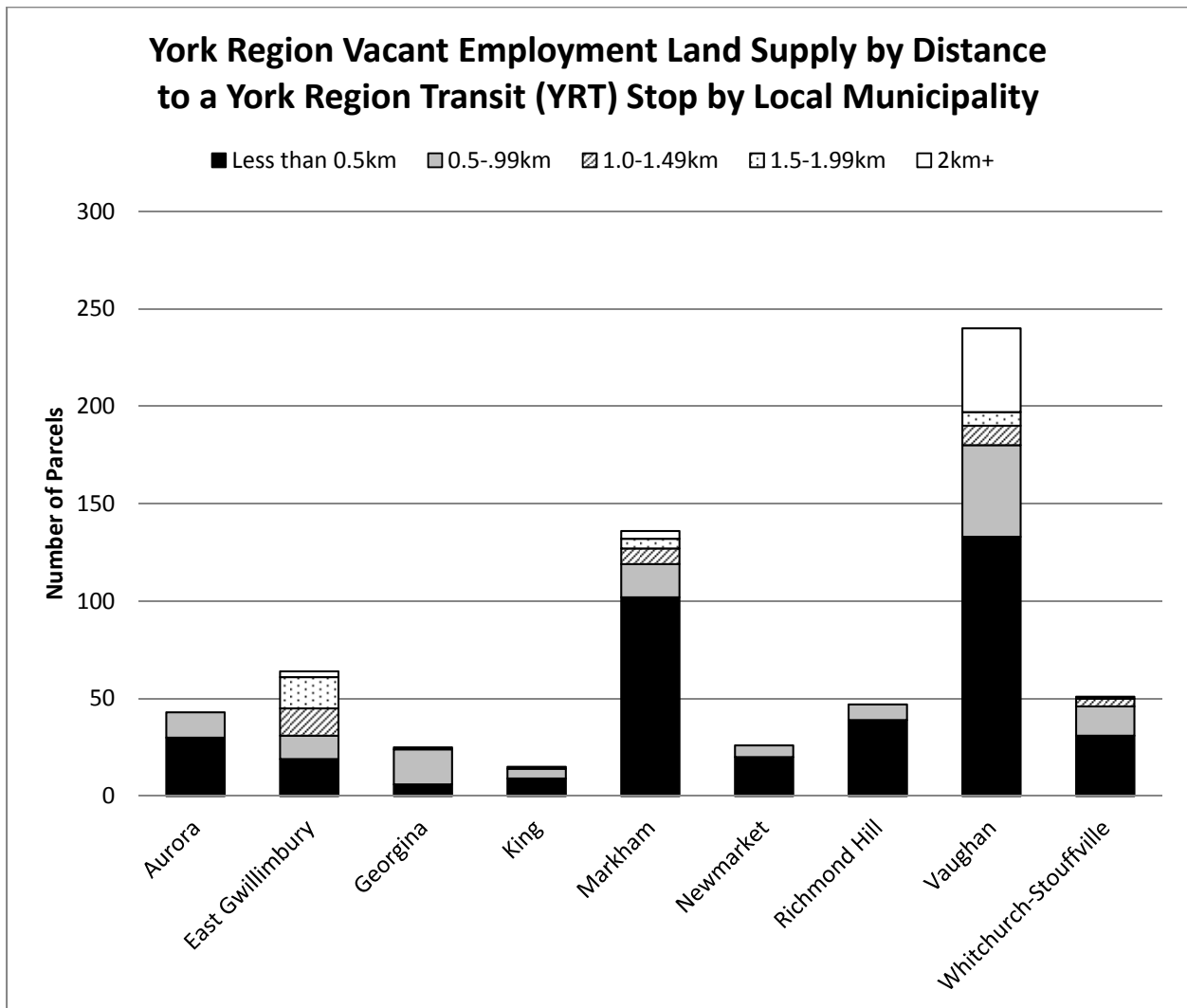
Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

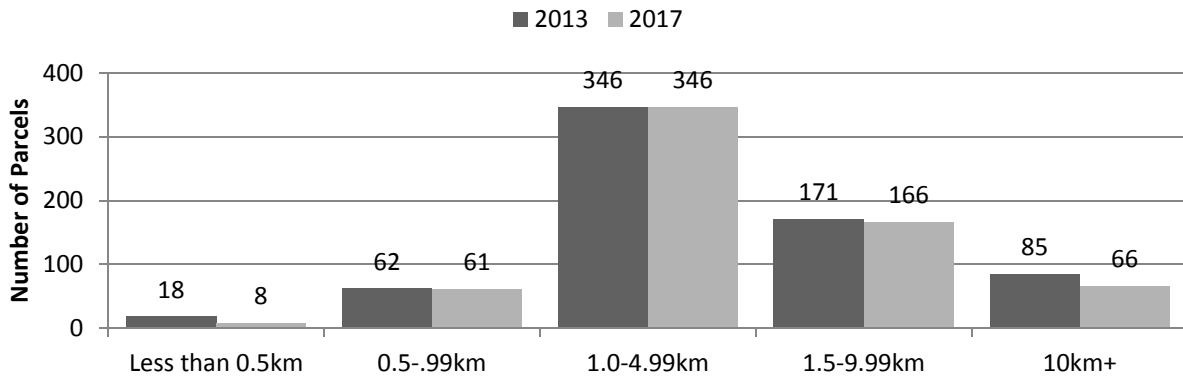


Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018



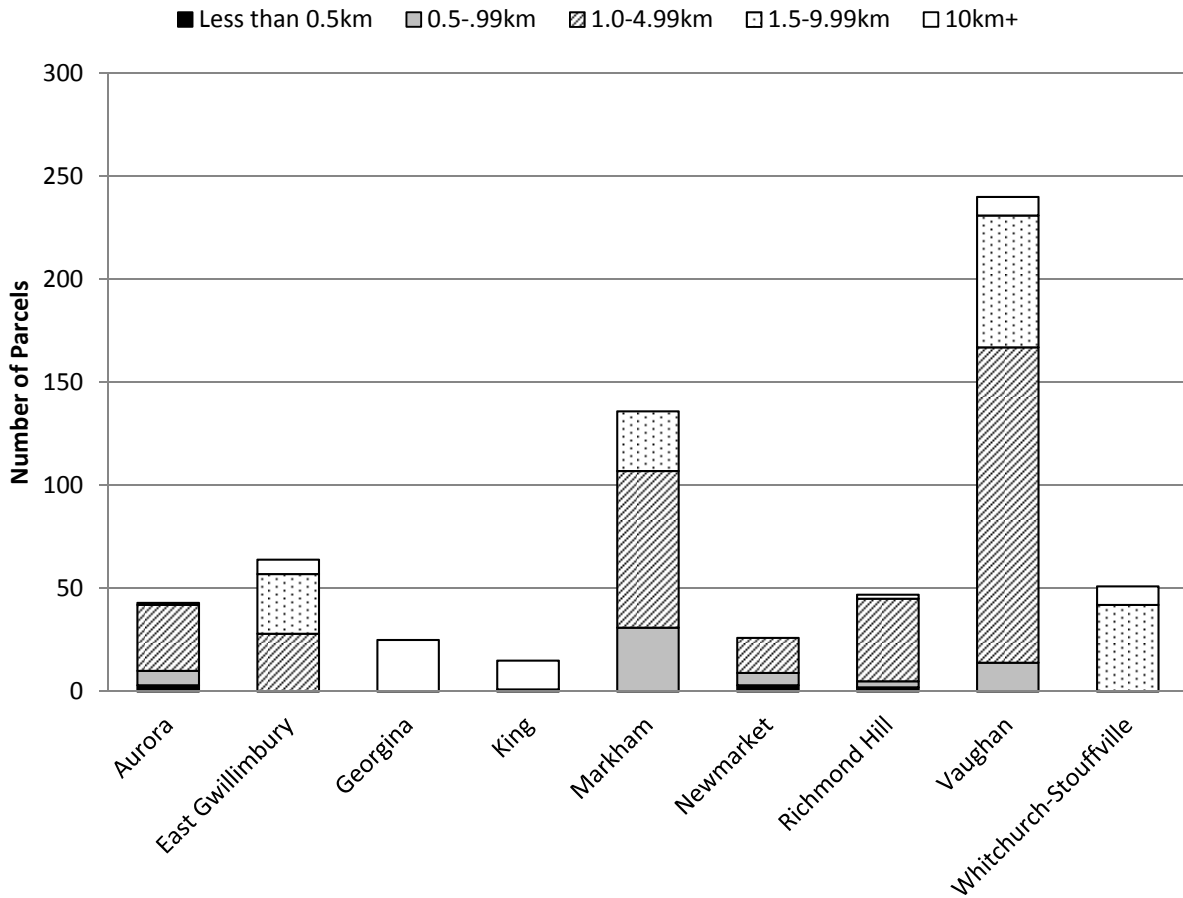
Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

York Region Vacant Employment Land Supply by Distance to a VIVA Stop



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

York Region Vacant Employment Land Supply by Distance to a VIVA Stop by Local Municipality



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

Intensification Potential on Employment Lands

Intensification potential was identified as portions of developed parcels that are either:

1. 50% of the parcel or greater
2. 0.5 developable hectares or greater

Intensification potential includes two types:

- **New Development Potential** – Vacant portion of the parcel has direct road access
- **Expansion Potential** – Vacant portion of the parcel only has road access through the built portion of the parcel

Example of Intensification Potential Type

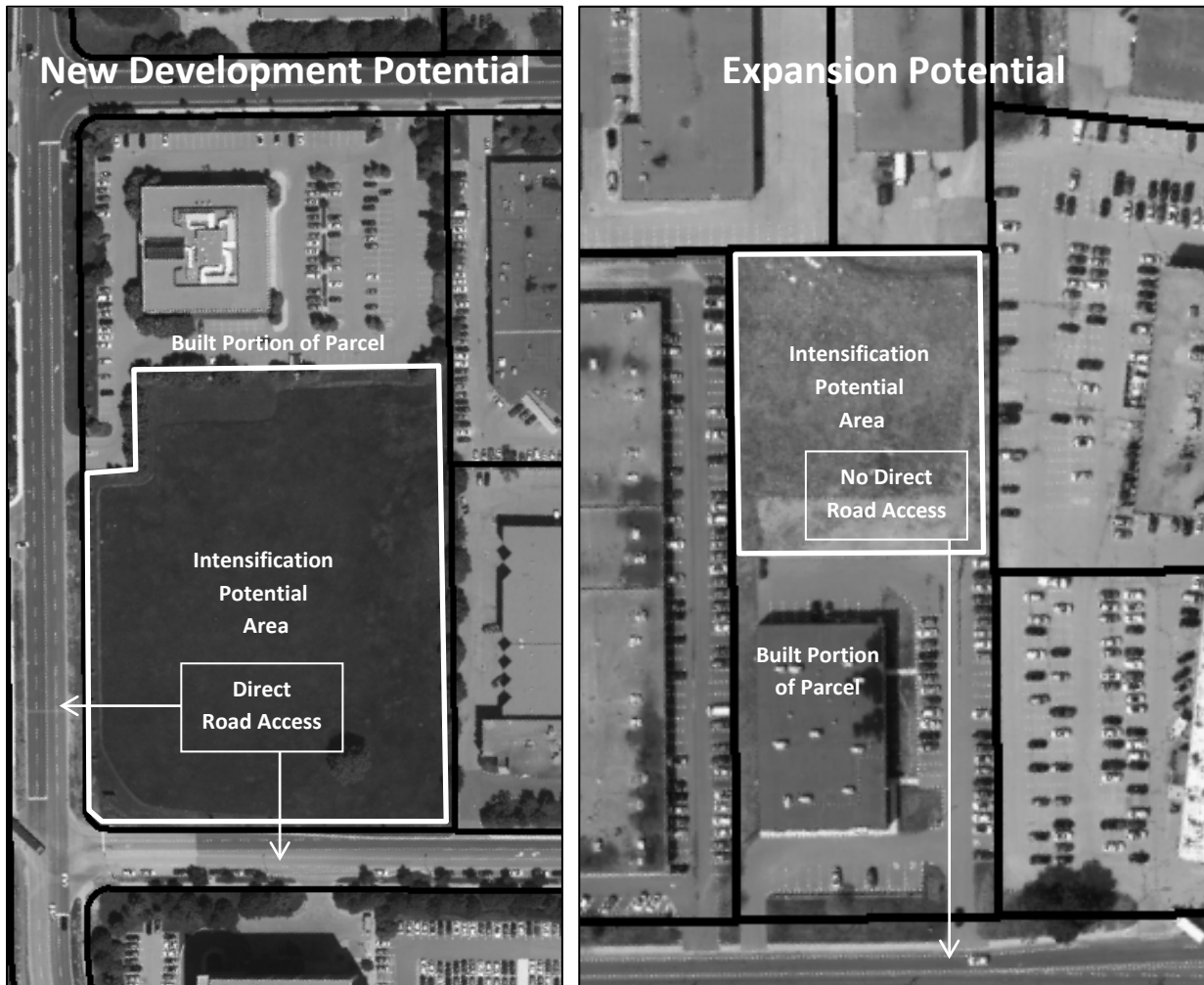


Image Location: 65 Allstate Parkway, Markham

Image Location: 8 Steelcase Road West, Markham

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

The figure below displays an example of an employment land parcel with intensification potential in 2013, which was partially developed in 2016 and further intensified in 2017.

Historical Example of 2014 Parcel York Region Employment Land with Intensification Potential Developed in 2016 and 2017



Image Location: 2190 Teston Road, Maple Employment Area, Vaughan
Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

There are a number of considerations that impact the intensification potential of employment areas parcels, such as:

- Road access
- Site specific requirements, such as space required to meet parking requirements, space required for loading docks, landscaping requirements, etc.
- Land use compatibility with neighbouring uses (i.e. sensitive uses nearby)
- Parcel and building configurations that may limit the development potential of a site
- Landowner preference

Predicting job growth on parcels with intensification potential is difficult to determine as a result of these factors.

York Region Employment Land Intensification Potential by Local Municipality, 2017

	Parcels	New Development Potential Net Hectares	Expansion Potential Net Hectares	Total Intensification Net Hectares
Aurora	13	6	13	19
East Gwillimbury	9	1	12	13
Georgina	5	6	1	7
King	6	2	8	10
Markham	23	4	50	53
Newmarket	6	2	11	13
Richmond Hill	5	3	9	12
Vaughan	41	33	64	97
Whitchurch-Stouffville	5	7	19	26
York Region	113	62 (25%)	187 (75%)	249 (100%)

*Totals may not add up due to rounding

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

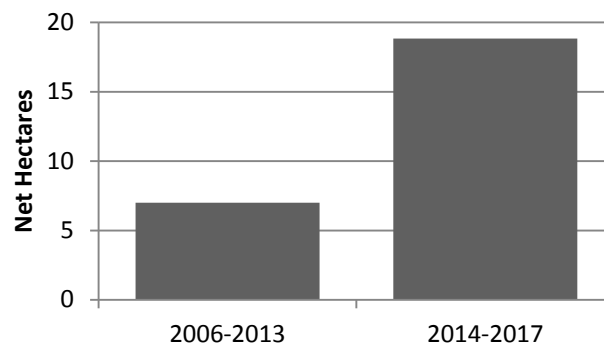
York Region Employment Land Intensification by Local Municipality, 2013 – 2017

	Parcels	New Development Net Hectares	Expansion Net Hectares	Total Intensification Net Hectares
Aurora	6	6	3	9
East Gwillimbury	3	0	7	7
Georgina	0	0	0	0
King	0	0	0	0
Markham	3	2	0	3
Newmarket	3	0	13	13
Richmond Hill	4	1	4	4
Vaughan	15	5	26	32
Whitchurch-Stouffville	6	1	7	8
York Region	40	15 (20%)	60 (80%)	75 (100%)

*Totals may not add up due to rounding

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018

Average Annual Intensification of York Region Employment Parcels, 2006-2017



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development, March 2018



April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		
R. Nicholson		
R. Prud'homme		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Development Activity Summary 2017

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "Development Activity Summary 2017":

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities for information.

A copy of Clause 3 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 7 is enclosed for your information. The 2017 Development Activity Summary (Attachment 1) can be found on york.ca.

Please contact Justin Wong, Planner at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71577 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S. Dumont
Attachments

Clause 3 in Report No. 7 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

3

Development Activity Summary 2017

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 29, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Planner:

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities for information.
-

Report dated March 29, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Planner now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities for information.

2. Purpose

This report provides information to Council on planning and development application activity in 2017 and trends over the past five years.

3. Background

The authority to approve a variety of routine development applications is delegated to the Director of Community Planning and Development Services

Council has delegated approval authority to the Director of Community Planning and Development Services to issue approvals for development applications subject to such approvals being reported to Council semi-annually. This report

Development Activity Summary 2017

outlines development review and approval activities, including delegated approvals for 2017 and a comparison to the previous five years. It includes a summary of the following delegated approvals:

- Approved local 'routine' Official Plan Amendments (OPA)
- Minor local OPAs that are exempt from Regional approval
- Issuance of conditions for approval for plans of subdivision and condominium
- Clearance of Regional conditions of plans of subdivision and condominium to permit registration

The Commissioner of Transportation Services has delegated authority to enter into Site Plan Agreements. Staff has delegated authority to issue engineering approvals associated with the site plan and subdivision process. Attachment 1 outlines the approval authority Regional Council has delegated to Regional staff. In addition to reporting on the delegated authority, this report provides an indicator of the Region's economic condition.

4. Analysis and Implications

Development activity remained strong in 2017 with the Region responding to 283 development applications

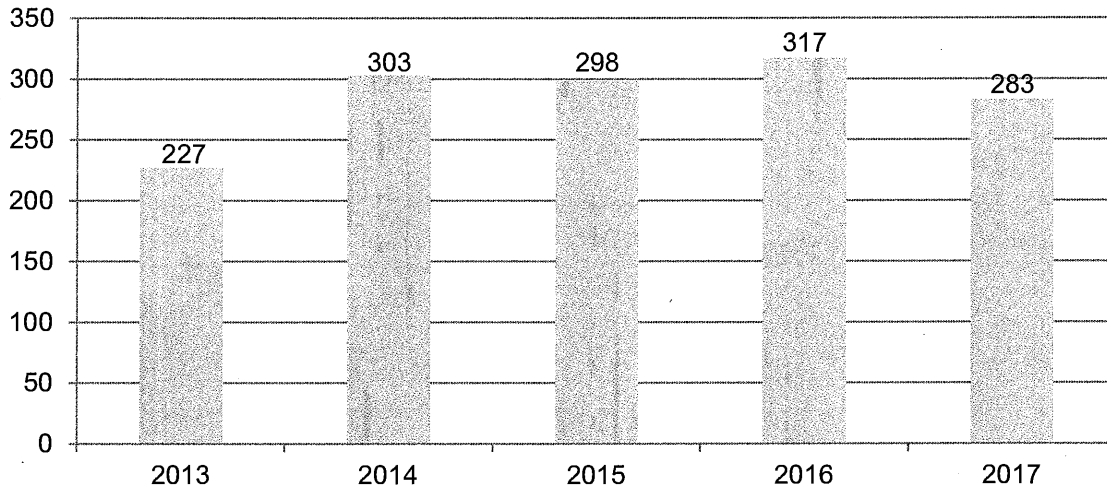
In 2017, Regional staff reviewed and responded to 283 development applications, which included:

- 40 Official Plan Amendment (OPA) application approvals
- 67 plans of subdivision and condominium applications – conditions of approval
- 60 plans of subdivision and condominium applications – clearance of residential units for registration
- 70 site plan application approvals
- 46 engineering approvals

As shown in Figure 1 and Table 1, development application approvals have remained consistent over the past four years. OPA approvals have steadily increased over the past five years from 27 approvals in 2013 to 40 approvals in 2017, which is a 48% increase. Site plan approvals have also increased from 44 approvals in 2016 to 70 approvals in 2017, which is a 59% increase. The increase of OPA and site plan approvals, and number of residential units receiving clearance for registration, as shown in Figure 2, is a key indicator of strong development activity.

Development Activity Summary 2017

**Figure 1
Number of Regional Approvals Issued Per Year**

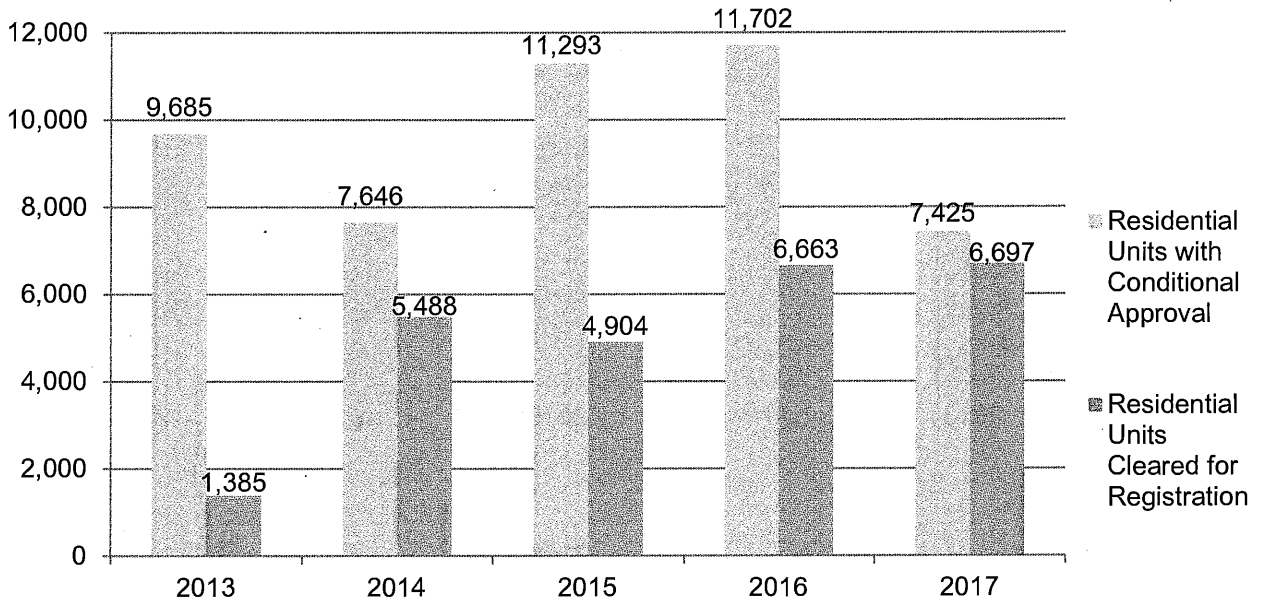


**Table 1
Number of Regional Approvals Issued Per Year by Application Type
2013 to 2017**

Application Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Official Plan Amendment Applications Approved	27	28	32	35	40
Subdivision/Condominium Applications – Conditional Approval	49	89	91	101	67
Subdivision/Condominium Applications – Clearance for Registration	26	43	49	70	60
Regional Approvals for Site Plan Applications	64	95	66	44	70
Regional Engineering Approvals	61	48	60	67	46
Total	227	303	298	317	283

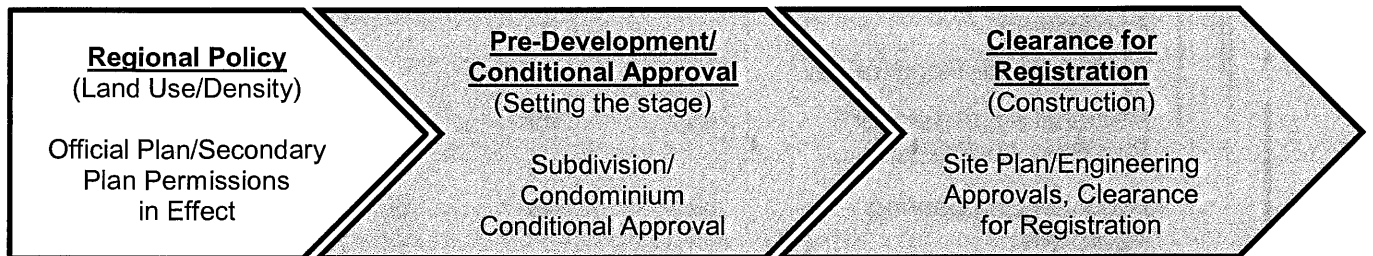
Development Activity Summary 2017

**Figure 2
Residential Units with Conditional Approval and Clearance for Registration
from 2013 to 2017**



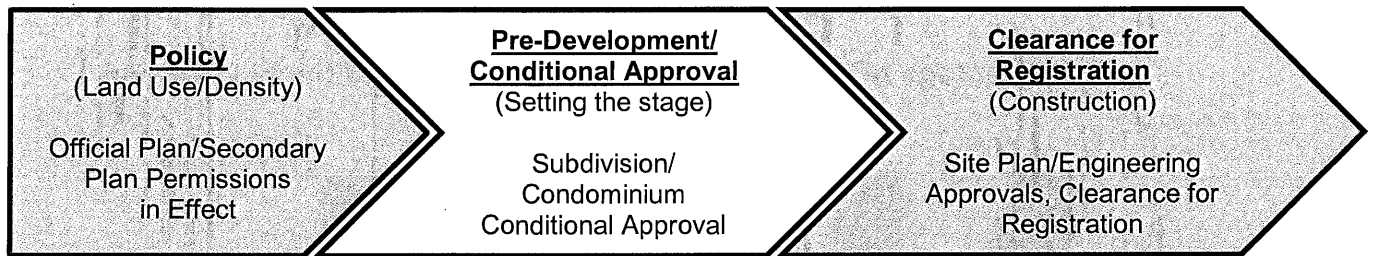
It is anticipated that development will continue to remain strong in 2018

Key stages in the planning process identified below allow staff to recognize development trends. Regional policy implementation, conditional approval and construction are three stages that provide an outlook for development within the Region. Comparing the number of development applications from 2013 to 2017 that fall within these three stages provides an indicator of development trends.



Official Plan and Secondary Plan approvals ensure the planning policy framework is in place for continued implementation through development approvals with the goal of implementing city building objectives. In the 2017, the Region approved 40 Official Plan Amendment (OPA) applications. The majority of these approvals relate to changes in height, density and urban design. The steady increase from 2013 indicates that development continues to remain strong.

Development Activity Summary 2017



Conditional approval enables development applications to proceed to the next stage of development subject to a number of technical requirements that protect Regional interests. In 2017, Regional staff provided conditional approval to 67 subdivision and condominium applications that include a total of 7,425 residential units. As shown in Figure 2 above, the number of residential units receiving conditional approval decreased in 2017. This was a result of the industry's focus to register existing draft approved applications prior to a Regional Development Charges increase in June 2017. In order for development applications to proceed from conditional approval to clearance for construction, site plan and engineering approvals are a lengthy and complex process.

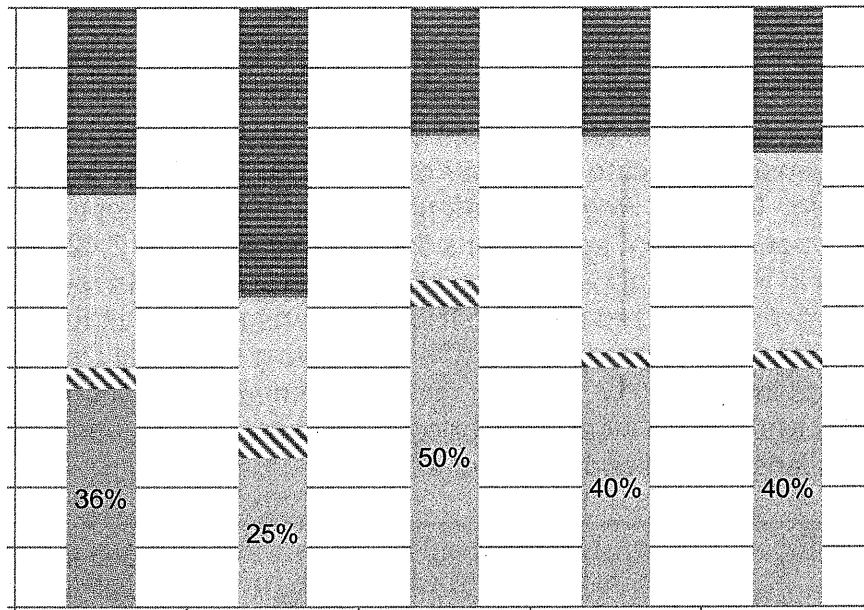


Site plan/engineering approvals and clearance of subdivision and condominium applications for registration enables development applications to proceed with construction. Regional site plan and engineering approvals have remained consistent over the past five years. In 2017, 6,697 residential units were registered compared with 6,663 residential units registered in 2016, which were higher than 2013 to 2015. Given the number of conditional approvals for residential units over the last five years is generally twice the number of units cleared for construction, the higher clearance trend may continue in 2018 with a high number of residential units proceeding to registration.

Residential housing mix is shifting towards higher densities

As shown in Figure 3 below, the Region's housing mix is shifting towards higher densities of built form. In 2015, single detached units represented 50% of the total number of units that received conditional approval. Single detached units dropped to 40% of the total in 2016. This trend has remained consistent in 2017 with 60% of the housing mix being semi-detached, townhouse and apartment units. Intensification in the Regional Centres and Corridors has contributed to the increase of apartment units.

**Figure 3
Percentage of Total Residential Units with Conditional Approval
from 2013 to 2017**



Development review moved to an enhanced electronic tracking system in November 2017 with the launch of YorkTrax

YorkTrax is a new Regional development tracking system that streamlines the application review process and facilitates coordination of comments within the organization. YorkTrax is intended to capture the full lifecycle of an application from pre-consultation meetings to approval, payment of fees and development charges, and build-out which includes registration and building permits. YorkTrax went live in November 2017 and will provide a basis for improving application review and information exchange with local municipalities. The long-term vision of the Region is to link with local municipal development tracking and related systems with a single, web-based, integrated development tracking solution. YorkTrax incorporates workflow capabilities for process streamlining and will improve customer and client service. It also provides for collaborative electronic document sharing across the corporation.

The Version 1 release of YorkTrax focuses on application data capture, application mapping, comment circulation, basic reports and data exports. Currently, YorkTrax tracks applications from pre-consultation to plan registration. Future versions will enhance the capability of the system through added features and modules.

Regional staff actively participate in Local Municipal Technical Advisory Committees and Project Working Groups to provide early input regarding planning and development

Planning and Economic Development staff actively participate in a number of Regional and Local Technical Advisory Committees and Working Groups. Input into these committees and working groups is important to ensure Regional interests are identified and protected early, and throughout the planning process. In addition to building solid working relationships with our local municipal partners, Regional staff involvement also helps to facilitate timely and effective co-ordination of future planning approvals. The quick facts section of each respective municipality in Attachment 1 provides a list of committees and working groups staff were engaged in 2017.

Regional staff continue to defend Regional interests at the Ontario Municipal Board

Regional staff have been extensively involved in Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearings associated with local Official Plan conformity and related appeals of site-specific development applications. Staff are also involved in hearings associated with Official Plan Amendments and development applications for subdivisions, condominiums and site plans.

Regional interests in these local hearings include the planned urban structure, transportation capacity and required infrastructure improvements, as well as road-related policy matters in development applications. The shift toward more complex policy matters and development projects associated with intensification in the urban area (i.e. Secondary Plans and Key Development Areas) continues.

Over the past few years, the OMB has increasingly encouraged parties to participate in mediation to resolve issues rather than by way of a contested hearing with unpredictable outcomes. The outcome of successful mediation is a settlement, but the process is often long and requires significant staff resources.

In 2017, the Province outlined proposed changes to the *Planning Act* and the OMB. On December 12, 2017, Bill 139 received Royal Assent and come into force as the *Better Building Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017*. The changes came into effect on April 3, 2018 and the new Local Planning Appeals Tribunal (LPAT) will replace the OMB. Due to the uncertainty of the new rules governing LPAT, there has been a significant increase in the number of appeals to the OMB prior to the new system coming into effect. This will increase demands on staff resources in the coming years.

Development Activity Summary 2017

5. Financial Considerations

Revenue from planning and engineering application fees increased

Fees are collected in accordance with Regional Bylaw No. 2010-15, as amended for land use planning approvals and the plan review function. As shown in Table 2 below, Regional planning and engineering application fees collected increased slightly in 2017. Revenue from combined planning and engineering application fees have been trending upwards over the past four years. The increased fee revenue is a result of the greater number of complex site plan and engineering submissions being reviewed by Development Engineering staff.

Table 2
Fee Revenue for Development Planning and Engineering
2013 to 2017

Section	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Development Planning	\$352,540	\$371,915	\$310,611	\$730,910	\$607,623
Development Engineering	\$1,317,032	\$978,272	\$1,306,330	\$2,039,194	\$3,425,846
Total	\$1,669,572	\$1,350,187	\$1,618,941	\$2,770,104	\$4,033,469

Renewal of Development Charges by-law resulted in revenue of \$376,736,640

Development Charges (DCs), are collected through the approval of development. In 2017, \$376,736,640 in development charges were collected. This is an increase of 11% compared to the \$338,547,685 collected in 2016. The increase is attributed to units registered prior to the residential development charges increase in June 2017. Figure 3 below outlines Development Charges collected from 2013 to 2017.

Development Activity Summary 2017

Table 3
Development Charges Collected from 2013 to 2017

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
\$186,439,583	\$264,197,066	\$258,274,065	\$338,547,685	\$376,736,640

Development Charge collections have been tracking below expectations. From mid-2012 to mid-2017, the Region collected approximately 57 per cent of the revenues projected by the 2012 development charge background study.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Regional and local Official Plans establish the over-arching policy directions that support further development approvals at the local level. Conditional approval and clearances for registration provided by the Region on local plans of subdivision, condominiums and site plans, facilitate related approvals to be issued by lower-tier municipalities. Engineering submissions reviewed and approved by Regional staff also support further development at the local level. Regional staff continues to work closely with local municipal partners on development applications and appeals to ensure Regional and local policy objectives are met.

7. Conclusion

This report provides a summary of planning and engineering development approvals that Regional staff were involved in 2017 and highlight trends over the past five years. Applications include local Official Plan Amendments, plans of subdivision and condominium, including clearances of Regional conditions, and site plan and engineering approvals. The complexity of local planning matters is increasing, given the shift towards infill development and intensification projects within the urban area.

The Region continued to experience strong growth in 2017 and development has remained consistent over the past four years. Residential housing mix is shifting towards higher densities which assist in achieving a greater diversification of households within the Region.

With the launch of YorkTrax in November 2017, the development review process has been streamlined. The new electronic development tracking system is intended to capture the full lifecycle of a development application from pre-

Development Activity Summary 2017

consultation meetings to full build-out. YorkTrax incorporates workflow capabilities for process streamlining and will improve customer and client service. The Version 1 release focuses on application data capture, application mapping, comment circulation, basic reports and basic data exports. Currently, YorkTrax tracks applications from pre-consultation to plan registration. Future versions will enhance the capability of this system through added features and new modules.

Regional staff will continue to work closely with local municipal partners to achieve Regional and local policy objectives.

For more information on this report, please contact Justin Wong, Planner at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71577.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 29, 2018

Attachment (1)

#8293103

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request



April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		
R. Nelson		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: 2017 Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "2017 Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement":

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities and the Building Industry and Land Development Association, York Region Chapter.

A copy of Clause 9 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 7 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Joseph Silva, Director, Strategy and Transformation, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77201 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S. Dumont
Attachments

Clause 9 in Report No. 7 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

9

2017 Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 28, 2018 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities and the Building Industry and Land Development Association, York Region Chapter.
-

Report dated March 28, 2018 from the Commissioner of Finance now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities and the Building Industry and Land Development Association, York Region Chapter.

2. Purpose

This report provides a year-end summary of development charge activity and reserve balances for 2017, as required under the *Development Charges Act, 1997, as amended*.

3. Background

Development charges are a key funding source for the Region's capital plan

Development charges are imposed by York Region to recover growth-related capital costs from residential and non-residential developments. The majority of

Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement Report

York Region's capital expenditures are due to growth, so development charges are a major source of funding for the Region's capital plan.

Development charge reserve reporting is required by the Development Charges Act

The *Development Charges Act, 1997, as amended*, outlines specific reporting requirements for development charge reserves. Sections 33 and 43 of the Act require that:

- A municipality that has passed a development charge bylaw shall establish a separate reserve fund for each service to which the development charge relates and fund only eligible capital costs from the reserve fund
- The Treasurer of the municipality shall provide Council a financial statement relating to development charge bylaws and reserve funds established.

The required financial statement must identify all assets where capital costs were funded under a development charge bylaw. Municipalities are also required to identify all other sources of funding applied to each project funded with development charges and provide details on activities for each development charge reserve for the year.

4. Analysis and Implications

As of December 31, 2017, the development charge reserve balance was \$372.3 million

The development charge reserve balance, as well as collections and capital project expenditures, by service category is shown in Table 1.

Table 1
York Region Development Charge Collections, Expenditures and Reserve Balance as at December 31, 2017 (in \$ millions)

Service	Collections ³	Expenditures	Reserve Balance ¹
Regional Roads	123.7	60.0	356.8
Water Supply	94.1	80.6	(16.6)
Wastewater Services	129.4	106.7	(103.3)
General Services ²	29.5	30.8	135.4
Total	376.7	278.1	372.3

Note 1: Reserve balance includes opening balance plus collections, expenditures and interest accrual.

Note 2: General Services includes transit, subway, waste diversion, police, paramedic services, public health, senior services, social housing, public works, growth studies, court services and GO Transit.

Note 3: Development charge collections are reported net of development charge credits.

Attached to this report are five schedules (see Attachment 1):

- Schedule 1 summarizes the development charge reserves established under the authority of the *Development Charges Act* and the Development Charge Bylaw:
 - Schedule 1 (A) provides a breakdown of the General Services column on Schedule 1.
 - Schedule 1 (B) provides details of the development charge credits shown on Schedule 1.
- Schedule 2 details 2017 capital project expenditures and development charge funding applied to each project.
- Schedule 3 details roads-related development charge expenditures for 2017.
- Schedule 4 details water supply-related development charge expenditures for 2017.
- Schedule 5 details wastewater servicing-related development charge expenditures for 2017.

The Treasurer's Reserve Fund Statement is in compliance with the Development Charges Act

As of December 31, 2017, this reserve fund statement is in compliance with the *Development Charges Act, 1997, as amended*. The Region has not imposed any voluntary payments or required construction of a service not authorized under the Act.

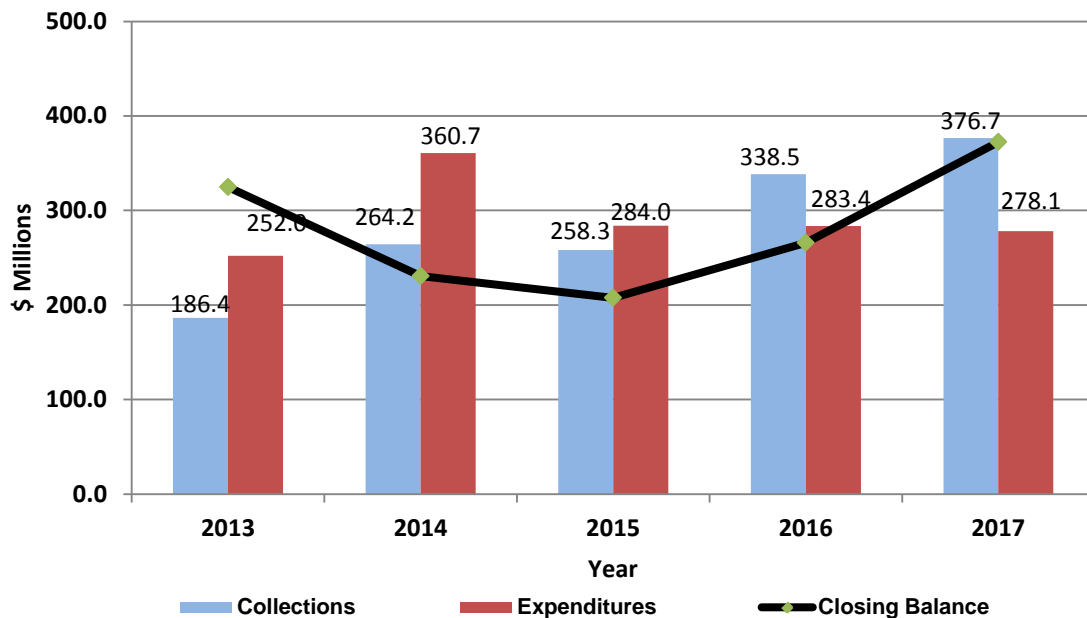
5. Financial Considerations

Development charge collections exceeded expenditures by \$98.6 million and trailed the forecast by \$20.5 million in 2017

Development charge collections in 2017 were \$376.7 million, which was \$98.6 million more than 2017 capital expenditures and \$20.5 million less than the 2017 forecast of \$397.2 million. Development charge-funded capital expenditures in 2017 totalled \$278.1 million, of which \$235.5 million (84.7 per cent) was used to fund debenture repayments.

Chart 1 compares development charge collections and expenditures during the past five years. For three of the five years, York Region drew more from the development charge reserves than it collected.

Chart 1
York Region 2013 - 2017 Development Charge
Collections and Expenditures Comparison (in \$M)



Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement Report

Development charge reserve fund balances must be carefully managed

The Region has a policy of maintaining a balance in the development charge reserves that is at least equal to the cost of annual debt servicing. Currently, development charge-related principal and interest payments are approximately \$238 million per year. After drawing for capital expenditure, the balances in the development charge reserves declined between 2013 and 2015. The balance recovered as a result of strong collections in 2016 and 2017. Any development charge reserve balances above the amounts needed for debt servicing can be allocated to growth projects, thereby reducing the need for development charge-funded debt.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Development charges are an important revenue source for funding growth-related infrastructure, which benefits all municipalities in York Region.

7. Conclusion

The 2017 Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement presented in this report satisfies the Region's reporting obligations pursuant to the *Development Charges Act, 1997, as amended*.

For more information on this report, please contact Joseph Silva, Director, Strategy and Transformation, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77201.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 28, 2018

Attachments (1)

eDocs #8294288

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

**Regional Municipality of York
Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

	Regional Roads	Water Supply	Wastewater Servicing	General Services ¹	2017 Total
Opening Balance at January 1, 2017	\$285,774,954	(\$29,706,006)	(\$123,828,452)	\$133,463,212	\$265,703,708
Development Charges Collected (Gross) ²	123,653,578	94,052,514	168,056,227	29,583,861	415,346,179
Development Charge Credits Issued ³			(38,609,539)		(38,609,539)
Development Charges Collected (Net)	\$123,653,578	\$94,052,514	\$129,446,688	\$29,583,861	\$376,736,640
Interest ⁴	7,402,732	(271,911)	(2,284,449)	3,082,697	7,929,069
Revenue Sub -Total	\$131,056,311	\$93,780,603	\$127,162,239	\$32,666,557	\$384,665,709
Expenditures	\$60,009,223	\$80,640,360	\$106,681,611	\$30,726,644	\$278,057,838
Closing Balance at December 31, 2017	\$356,822,041	(\$16,565,763)	(\$103,347,825)	\$135,403,126	\$372,311,579

NOTES :

1. See Schedule 1(A) for breakdown.
2. Adjusted to reflect gross DC collections before the deduction of DC credits.
3. See Schedule 1(B) for breakdown.
4. Interest earned or internal borrowing cost.

**Regional Municipality of York
General Services Details
Development Charge Reserve Fund Statement
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

	Opening Balance January 1, 2017	Development Charges Collected (Gross)	Development Charges Collected (Net)	Interest	Revenue Sub-Total	Expenditures	Closing Balance December 31, 2017
Growth Studies	\$10,087,740	\$112,889	\$112,889	\$227,404	\$340,293	\$721,262	\$9,706,771
Police	13,052,198	4,706,876	4,706,876	295,783	5,002,659	5,132,139	12,922,718
Paramedic Services	2,955,910	1,111,435	1,111,435	72,317	1,183,751	425,500	3,714,161
Public Health	8,204,165	520,273	520,273	188,766	709,038		8,913,203
Senior Services	18,698,649	73,770	73,770	419,778	493,547		19,192,196
Social Housing	6,524,772	1,863,694	1,863,694	166,517	2,030,211	316,101	8,238,882
Public Works	16,136,297	1,650,240	1,650,240	378,029	2,028,269	251,662	17,912,904
Subway	21,323,427	10,564,057	10,564,057	563,749	11,127,806	262,060	32,189,173
Transit Infrastructure	35,984,578	6,861,946	6,861,946	685,773	7,547,720	21,292,877	22,239,421
GO Transit	495,476	1,917,851	1,917,851	83,759	2,001,610	2,325,041	172,045
Court Services	0	94,882	94,882	385	95,267		95,267
Waste Diversion	0	105,949	105,949	437	106,385		106,385
2017 Total	\$133,463,212	\$29,583,861	\$29,583,861	\$3,082,697	\$32,666,557	\$30,726,644	\$135,403,126

NOTES :

**Regional Municipality of York
Development Charge Credits Issued
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

Municipality	Subdivision	Developer	Hard Services			
			Regional Roads	Water Supply	Wastewater Servicing	Total
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-89112, 19T-90E15 & 19T-09E01 (Phase 1)	731011 Ontario Limited			\$3,676,683	\$3,676,683
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-08E04 (Phase 2)	Sharonvit Estates Incorporated			792,166	792,166
City of Vaughan	19T-12V05	Block 33 West Properties Incorporated			493,752	493,752
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-89112, 19T-90E15 & 19T-09E01 (Phase 2)	Kerbel Developments (North, South and Mid) Incorporated			5,037,142	5,037,142
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-88055	Holland Green Developments Incorporated			4,468,849	4,468,849
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-94036	LRT Technologies Incorporated			2,720,918	2,720,918
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-03E01 (Phase 2)	Queensville Properties Development Corporation			10,137,389	10,137,389
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-07E02 (Phase 2)	Sundial Homes (Sharon) Limited			1,825,426	1,825,426
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-90019	Valley Brook Investments Incorporated			6,640,527	6,640,527
Town of East Gwillimbury	19T-95088 (Phase 2)	Winged Foot Development Incorporated			2,816,686	2,816,686
Total Development Charge Credits Issued ¹					\$38,609,539	\$38,609,539

NOTE :

1. To register for a plan of subdivision, developers are required to pay development charges for hard services (i.e., regional roads, water supply and wastewater servicing). Development charge credits issued are direct reductions against these applicable hard services. The remaining development charges are collected at the building permit stage. Net development charge collections consist of gross collections less credits.

**Regional Municipality of York Development Charge Reserve
Capital Program Expenditures
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

Service Category	Project Number	Project Description	Development Charge Reserve Funding	Other Project Funding			2017 Total Project Funding
				Tax Levy Funding	User Rate Funding	Other ¹	
Growth Studies	90000	Business Management	207,567	1,008,547		52,895	1,269,009
	35000	Development Tracking System	513,695	57,077			570,772
			721,262	1,065,624		52,895	1,839,781
Police	26160	Debenture Payments ²	4,236,831			14,228,645	18,465,476
	16540	Allocation of Financing Costs for 2017	4,189				4,189
	29017	Specialized Equipment	523,400				523,400
	29026	Squad Car Dashboard Video	131,000	11,205			142,205
	29010	Vehicles	236,720	3,842,917			4,079,637
		5,132,139	3,854,122		14,228,645	23,214,906	
Paramedic Services	54190	Debenture Payments ²	214,074			39,664,947	39,879,021
	16540	Allocation of Financing Costs for 2017	13,210				13,210
	54301	Fleet	198,215	22,024			220,239
		425,500	22,024		39,664,947	40,112,471	
Social Housing	67675	Richmond Hill Hub	316,101			1,051,264	1,367,365
Public Works	99900	Fleet	251,662	147,802			399,464
Subway	16540	Allocation of Financing Costs for 2017	262,060	0		0	262,060
Transit Infrastructure	90000/38001	Debenture Payments ²	15,997,865	12,637,643		48,928,111	77,563,619
	81582	Transit Garage North	262,074			1,609,884	1,871,958
	81583	Transit Garage South East	13,316	52,933			66,249
	82150	Bus Loops & Stops Expansion	408,534			4,287,275	4,695,809
	84599	Conventional Bus Expansion	356,306			5,210,974	5,567,280
	84799	VIVA Bus Expansion	3,459,749			586,741	4,046,490
	90992	Facilities and Terminals	795,034			15,631,055	16,426,089
		21,292,877	12,690,576		76,254,040	110,237,493	
GO Transit	15800	GO Transit (Metrolinx)	2,325,041				2,325,041
Regional Roads		See Schedule 3 for Details	60,009,223	7,164,562		2,527,443	69,701,228
Water Supply		See Schedule 4 for Details	80,640,360	44,868		2,100,666	82,785,894
Wastewater Servicing		See Schedule 5 for Details	106,681,611			125,016	106,806,627
Total Capital Programs			\$278,057,838	\$24,989,578		\$136,004,916	\$439,052,332

NOTES :

1. Other consists of proceeds from debenture issues, third party recoveries, other capital reserves, provincial/federal grants, fees and charges.
2. Debenture payments include both principal and interest.
3. The development charge reserve funding for Business Management was used to fund 2017 Development Charge Background Study-related work.

**Regional Municipality of York Development Charge Reserves
Regional Roads Capital Program Expenditures
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

Project Number	Project Description	Development Charge Reserve Funding	Tax Levy Funding	Other Project Funding ¹	2017 Total Project Funding
39950	Misc Capital Improvements ²	\$3,716,168	\$412,908		\$4,129,076
39970	Miscellaneous Development Charge Credit Payments to Developers ³	3,571,008			3,571,008
80430	Regional Streetscaping	2,219,423	554,856		2,774,279
39990	Miscellaneous Signal Electrical Improvements	1,634,526	181,614	136,801	1,952,941
99890	Intelligent Traffic System	1,259,965	139,996		1,399,961
39910	Miscellaneous Design & Survey for Future Projects	781,524	86,836		868,360
87320	Gibney Bridge Replacement at McCowan Road	710,515	1,657,868		2,368,383
81020	King Road and Highway 27	674,974	121,912		796,886
84044	Viva Next	640,891	71,210		712,101
86880	Pedestrian Cycling Municipal Partnership Program	581,172	64,575		645,747
85670	Major Mackenzie Road - Highway 400 To Jane Street	541,644	60,183		601,827
99550	McCowan Road - Steeles Avenue to 14th Avenue	481,457	53,495		534,952
81390	Bathurst Street - North of Highway 7 to Rutherford Road	463,528	66,928		530,456
99240	Kennedy Road - 14th Avenue to Denison Road	433,053	48,117		481,170
84940	Pedestrian Cycling Program	401,190	44,577		445,767
84160	Mid Block Crossing - Highway 404 North at Major Mackenzie Drive	360,349	40,039		400,388
98690	Bayview Avenue - Stouffville Road to Bloomington Road	325,684	36,187		361,871
84008	16th Avenue - McCowan Road to Ninth Line	321,670	35,741		357,411
81915	Leslie Street - Elgin Mills Road To 19th Avenue	288,453	432,680		721,133
39999	Viva Network 2017 Traffic Engineering and Intelligent Transportation Systems	281,072	31,230		312,302
81952	Dufferin Street - Langstaff Road to Major Mackenzie Drive	279,098	31,011		310,109
83910	Roads Asset Management ⁴	272,053	634,790		906,843
97000	Bayview Avenue - Highway 407 to 16th Avenue	264,071	29,341		293,412
99540	Langstaff Road - Dufferin Street to Keele Street	249,663	27,740		277,403
80104	Keele Street and Lloydtown Aurora Road	236,930	26,326		263,256
99816	Teston Road - Keele Street to Dufferin Street	228,547	25,394		253,941
85810	Arterial Corridor Transportation Studies	213,864	23,763		237,627
91000	Debenture Payments	34,644,815			34,644,815
16540	Allocation of Financing Costs for 2017	183,309			183,309
72600	Tree Funding	706,835	672,714		1,379,549
	Various Programs (83) ⁵	3,041,771	1,552,531	2,390,642	6,984,944
Total Regional Roads Capital Programs		\$60,009,223	\$7,164,562	\$2,527,443	\$69,701,228

NOTES :

1. Other project funding consists of proceeds from debenture issues, third party recoveries, other capital reserves, provincial/federal grants, fees and charges.
2. Miscellaneous Capital Improvements consists of funding for intersection improvement projects undertaken by the Region such as traffic signal installations, street lighting installations and minor geometric improvements.
3. Miscellaneous Development Charge Credit Payments to Developers consists of the payout of the development charge credit for work undertaken by developers such as intersection improvements.
4. Roads Asset Management uses technology and equipment to assess and improve the regional road network.
5. Consists of 83 minor road projects using development charge reserve funding.

**Regional Municipality of York Development Charge Reserves
Water Supply Capital Program Expenditures
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

Project Number	Project Description	Development Charge Reserve Funding	User Rate Funding	Other Project Funding ¹	2017 Total Project Funding
72390	Water for Tomorrow Program	\$1,447,399			\$1,447,399
72500	Georgina Water Service - Georgina Water Treatment Plant	813,000		\$255,181	1,068,181
75530	East Vaughan Water Servicing	577,127		(63,528)	513,599
78270	Ballantrae Water Servicing	527,845			527,845
75520	Stouffville Zone Elevated Tank Water Main	500,000		(264,254)	235,746
75690	South Maple Pumping Station Upgrade	434,907			434,907
75400	East Vaughan Pumping Station	406,000		795,663	1,201,663
75510	2nd Concession Water Main to Doane Road	365,000		322,029	687,029
70050	Wellington and Leslie Street Water Main	249,244		1,046,000	1,295,244
79670	Water System Capacity Assessment	123,181	44,868		168,049
75700	Water Servicing Richmond Hill - Langstaff Road	111,000		(75,067)	35,933
72450	Aurora Elevated Tank	56,823		87,742	144,565
73160	Nobleton - Additional Water Supply and Watermain	44,319			44,319
72520	Pressure District # 6 Nashville Road Watermain	26,594			26,594
75450	Glenway Reservoir Expansion	26,012			26,012
72490	East Gwillimbury Water Meter Chambers	18,595			18,595
70120	Orchard Heights Pumping Station Upgrade	17,294			17,294
73300	Water Master Plan Update	16,239			16,239
76300	North Richmond Hill Elevated Tank No. 2	14,388			14,388
71180	Queensville Elevated Tank Number 1	6,030			6,030
75860	South Maple Reservoir Upgrades	3,100		(3,100)	0
75600	Green Lane and Leslie Street Newmarket Central Water Main	1,097			1,097
75460	Yonge Green Lane Second Concession to Davis	246			246
73890	Source Water Protection	(306)	²		(306)
75430	Bathurst Water Main	(9,655)			(9,655)
78533	Wastewater Treatment	(16,225)	²		(16,225)
74260	Kennedy Watermain Milliken Pumping Station to Major Mackenzie Drive	(103,055)			(103,055)
46950	Debenture Payments	74,879,625			74,879,625
16540	Allocation of Financing Costs for 2017	104,536			104,536
Total Water Supply Capital Programs		\$80,640,360	\$44,868	\$2,100,666	\$82,785,894

NOTES :

1. Other project funding consists of proceeds from debenture issues, third party recoveries, other capital reserves, provincial/federal grants, fees and charges.
2. Negative amounts in Development Charge Funding represent adjustments from a prior period.

**Regional Municipality of York Development Charge Reserves
Wastewater Servicing Capital Program Expenditures
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017**

Project Number	Project Description	Development Charge Reserve Funding	User Rate Funding	Other Project Funding ¹	2017 Total Project Funding
75310	East Vaughan Wastewater Servicing	\$667,935		\$25,358	\$693,293
75640	Wastewater System Capacity Monitor Studies	572,036			572,036
75650	Wastewater Servicing Richmond Hill LangStaff	394,035			394,035
75330	Green Lane Sewer Diversion	318,647			318,647
75810	Humber Pumping Station Electrical Upgrade	78,355			78,355
79100	YDSS Wastewater Master Plan Update	21,923			21,923
75760	North Don Relief Sewer	8,635			8,635
72240	Keswick Water Pollution Control Plant Environmental Assessment Study	8,543			8,543
74030	16th Avenue - Stone Mason to Woodbine Avenue	4,699	²		4,699
72580	Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Implementation	(1,554)			(1,554)
75360	Newmarket Diversion Sewer	(23,066)			(23,066)
73060	Schomberg Water Pollution Control Plant Pumping Station Upgrade	(61,012)			(61,012)
73720	York Durham Sewer System - Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant Expansion	(1,025,120)		99,658	(925,462)
44950	Debenture Payments	105,554,645			105,554,645
16540	Allocation of Financing Costs for 2017	162,910			162,910
Total Wastewater Servicing Capital Programs		\$106,681,611		\$125,016	\$106,806,627

NOTES :

1. Other project funding consists of proceeds from debenture issues, third party recoveries, other capital reserves, provincial/federal grants, fees and charges.
2. Negative amounts in Development Charge Funding represent adjustments from a prior period.



April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: 2017 Greening Strategy Achievements

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "2017 Greening Strategy Achievements":

1. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the local municipalities in York Region, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

A copy of Clause 8 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Laura McDowell, Director of Environmental Promotion and Protection at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75077 or Ian Buchanan, Manager of Natural Heritage and Forestry at ext. 75204 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 8 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

8

2017 Greening Strategy Achievements

Committee of the Whole recommends:

1. Receipt of the presentation by Ian Buchanan, Manager, Natural Heritage and Forestry Services, Environmental Services.
2. Adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:
 1. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the local municipalities in York Region, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

Report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the local municipalities in York Region, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

2. Purpose

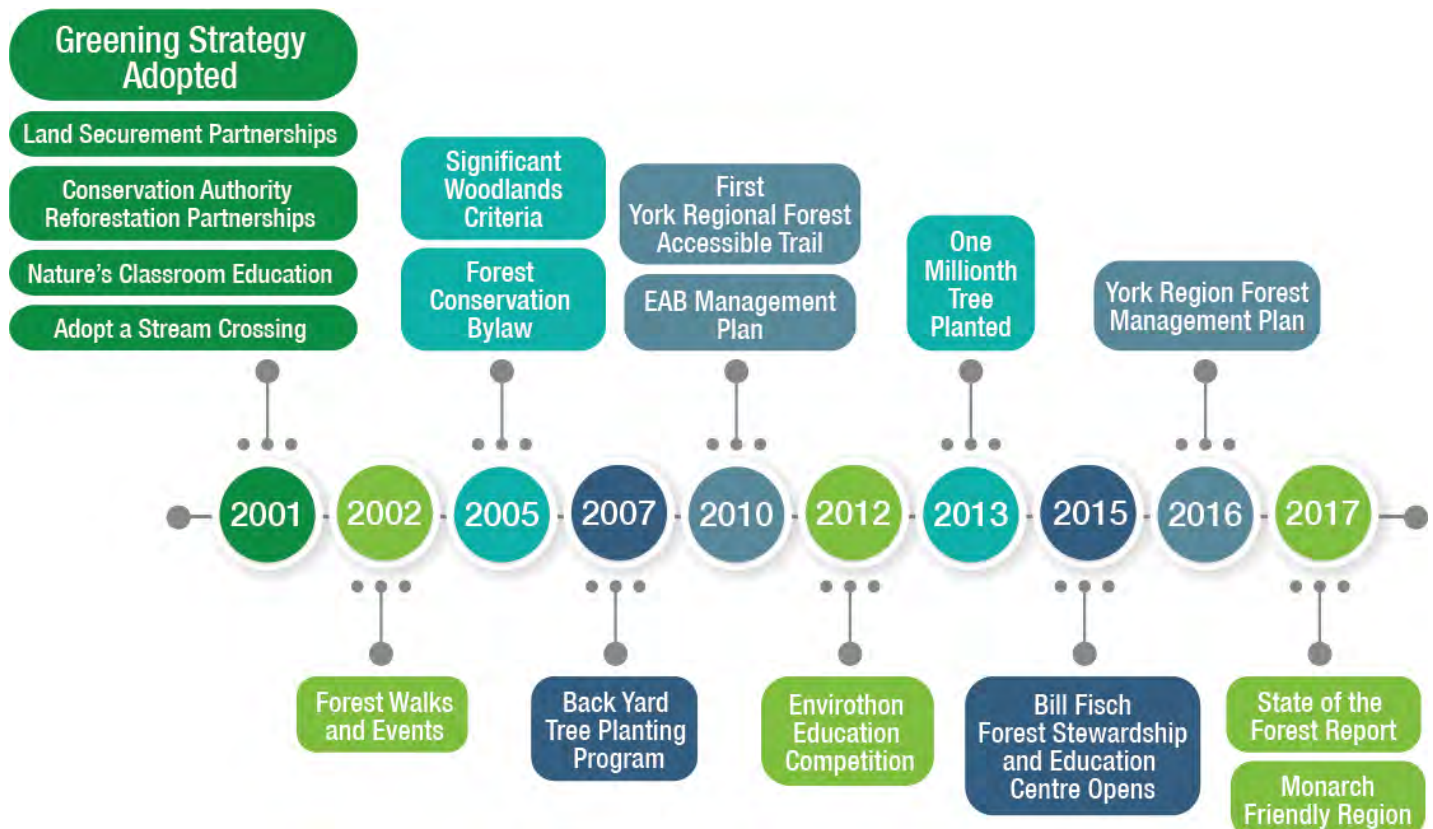
This report provides Council with an update on activities, partnerships and significant 2017 Greening Strategy achievements.

3. Background and Previous Council Direction

Working with residents and partners since 2001, Greening Strategy innovation protects, restores and enhances the natural environment

Since adoption of the Greening Strategy in 2001, achievements are reported to Council annually. Resident engagement, partnerships and focused implementation deliver hands-on action consistent with environmental policies in the Regional Official Plan. Greening Strategy accomplishments contribute to indicators tracking success towards the Regional Official Plan target of 25 per cent woodland cover including trees and shrubs planted and environmental lands protected. Significant achievements have been made over time since 2001 and are highlighted in Figure 1. Greening projects and other Forestry programs are aligned to protect, restore and enhance the natural environment. Investment in green infrastructure, including tree planting and forest management, has multiple benefits ranging from climate change mitigation to public health improvements.

**Figure 1
Greening Achievements Since 2001**



Greening Strategy achievements support York Region Forest Management Plan goals to increase tree canopy and woodland cover

Complimentary to each other, Regional Greening Strategy achievements contribute to the York Region Forest Management Plan's five goals and actions. Greening Strategy projects and programs provide a platform to both educate residents on the benefits of trees and deliver subsidized tree planting opportunities, which result in increased canopy and woodland cover. Woodlands are heavily treed areas that are at least 0.2 hectares in size. Canopy cover includes all woodlands, individual trees and small treed areas as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2
Canopy Cover Measures the Contribution of All Trees



Woodland cover was last reported to Council on [March 23, 2017](#) to be 23.2 per cent or 41,244 hectares. This is an increase of 725 hectares from the previous assessment in 2014 (based on 2012 data). Through Greening Strategy tree planting programs progress continues towards the 25 per cent woodland cover by 2031 Regional Official Plan target. Tree planting efforts also support work towards increasing the Region's canopy cover from current 31 per cent to 35 per cent by 2031. The York Region Forest Management Plan will achieve the Region's requirements under amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001* to adopt a policy with respect to the manner in which the municipality will protect and enhance tree canopy and natural vegetation in the municipality. This requirement will be in force effective March 1, 2019.

4. Analysis and Implications

2017 achievements delivered through Greening Strategy projects and programs continue to surpass all targets

Great progress continues to be made towards a greener York Region with targets exceeded in all Greening Strategy action areas (Table 1). As a key delivery mechanism, the Regional Greening Strategy continues to support the 2015-2019 Strategic plan objective to preserve green spaces.

Table 1
Greening Strategy Action Areas, Goals, Annual Targets and Achievements

Action Area	Goal	Target (minimum)	2017 Achievement
Stewardship and public education	Educate residents about the value of green infrastructure and provide opportunities to connect with nature and inspire action	100 outreach events	274 outreach events ¹
		Reach 50,000 residents ²	Over 50,000 residents reached ²
Enhancement and rehabilitation	Enhance and rehabilitate the natural environment on both public and private lands	Plant 70,000 trees and shrubs	85,464 trees and shrubs planted
Environmental land protection and preservation	Protect core natural areas and restore linkages	Protect a five year annual rolling average of 65 hectares of land	69.2 hectare five year annual rolling average ³
Leadership, innovation and knowledge	Share knowledge, demonstrate leadership and be innovative in the protection of the natural environment	Host four technical regional forums	14 forums hosted ⁴
		Present at two science and technology forums	11 presentations at science and technology forums

¹ 172 of these events are organized and hosted by partners.

² Includes 16,561 participants engaged in outreach events and residents reached through media (social, print, television, etc.).

³ 69.2 ha reflects a five year rolling average with 346 hectares protected over the last five years (2013-2017). This metric reflects the fluctuating nature of opportunities based on donations and landowner goodwill.

⁴ Forums include different meetings with agency and municipal staff across a broad range of disciplines participating in biannual forums such as invasive species, street trees, local Environmental Advisory Committees (EAC's) etc.

2017 Greening Strategy Achievements

Investments in green infrastructure provide public health benefits and contribute to climate change mitigation

In response to receiving the 2016 Greening Strategy Achievements report, the Federal Minister of Natural Resources shared his appreciation for the Region's innovation and efforts towards green infrastructure improvements. Council's investment in the Greening Strategy, including tree planting and the protection of forests, contributes multiple benefits for residents. Scientific evidence demonstrates the link between human health and the presence of green infrastructure, including trees and shrubs. Increased canopy and woodland cover also contributes to climate change mitigation by reducing energy needed to cool and heat buildings, slowing storm water run-off, and sequestering carbon.

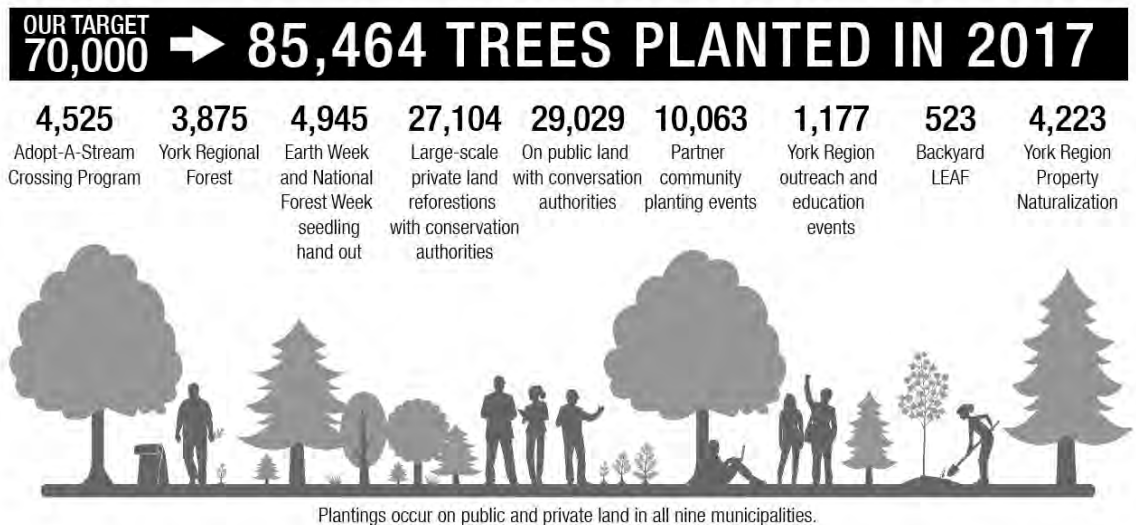
Greening Strategy programs are designed to increase awareness of the benefits of green infrastructure, inspire action, and provide opportunities that support community action. Attachment 1 showcases some of the 2017 Greening Strategy achievements, including funding that was leveraged across all action areas.

Through partnerships 85,464 trees and shrubs were planted, contributing to 40 hectares of new forest

Last year was another exceptional year with 85,464 trees and shrubs planted through a variety of Greening Strategy initiatives (Figure 3). Through collaboration and funding grants the Region's investment of \$213,000 leveraged an additional \$678,446 (up from \$588,956 in 2016 and \$306,065 in 2015) from partner contributions towards planting initiatives. Partners are able to use the Region's contributions to leverage additional funds through programs e.g. access to the provincial 50 Million Tree fund through Forests Ontario.

Planting efforts created 40 hectares of new woodlands, primarily located in the Regional Greenlands System. Sixty-six per cent of the trees were planted through our subsidized large scale planting program, Grow Your Legacy, delivered through Conservation Authorities. The largest individual program increases were realized through the Green Action Partnership Fund program with an 18 per cent increase in tree planting from the previous year.

Figure 3
2017 Tree Planting Accomplishments



Implementation on track with 32 of 34 York Region Forest Management Plan short term actions initiated, on-going or complete

The York Region Forest Management Plan identified 34 short term actions to be completed by the end of 2019. A significant number of short term actions were advanced in all five goal areas during 2017 (Figure 4). Completed actions include report on urban forest studies, updates to the Region’s Street Tree and Forest Preservation Guidelines, release of State of the Forests report, documented use of agricultural easements and shared benefits with Ontario Farmland Trust and development of a Green Infrastructure Asset Management Plan.

Figure 4
York Region Forest Management Plan Progress

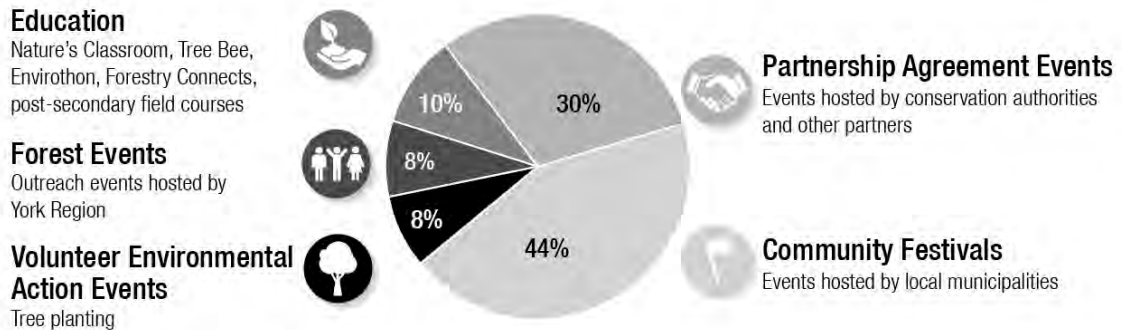


Delivery of 21 on-going short term actions is realized through continued success of the Regional Greening Strategy, Forest Conservation Bylaw, invasive species management programs and management of the York Regional Forest. Progress made in 2017 on 32 of 34 short term objectives puts the plan on target to complete all short term actions by the end of 2019. Work plans are underway for two planned actions, including innovative low-impact development practices using green infrastructure and promotion of the functions and services provided by trees and woodlands. Attachment 2 provides progress highlights related to each York Region Forest Management Plan goal area.

Environmental awareness increased through residents participating in over 274 education and outreach events

Education and outreach programs include interpretive forest walks and public events, presence at local festivals, and a variety of outreach and engagement activities delivered through partnerships. In 2017, more than 16,561 residents participated in 274 environmental outreach and education events (up from 221 in 2016). Registration for all programs continues to be at or near capacity. Figure 5 summarizes the activities and public participation.

**Figure 5
2017 Event Participation**



To meet the Region’s commitments through the Monarch Pledge to promote the importance of the monarch butterfly and its habitat, key messaging was updated raising awareness of this sensitive species. Highlights include support for the Town of Richmond Hill’s native plant sale, inclusion of monarch butterfly images and wording in promotional items, along with updates to our Nature’s Classroom education programs.

Compared to 2016, nearly twice as many people are looking into our programs through social media with a focus on information about forest events and tree planting subsidies. In support of the Customer Experience Plan, Corporate Communications reached out to residents through focus groups to determine interest and priorities. Feedback clearly indicated a strong interest in information about trees and forests, and planting alternatives to invasive plants. In response to this feedback, our communication efforts were refined to focus on these areas, including articles in York Region Matters.

Forest Stewardship and Education Centre received two international awards and certification for six Living Building Challenge petals

Recognizing excellence in sustainable design and construction the American Public Works Association presented the Region with the Project of the Year Award for Structures. Additionally, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Leadership Award was received for use of FSC certified wood in the Forestry Centre.

Of the seven Living Building Challenge certification petals (performance areas), six were awarded in 2017, including beauty, site, materials, equity, water and health. Work is progressing toward achieving the final petal, net zero energy use.

2017 Greening Strategy Achievements

Twenty-three hectares of environmental land protected on four sites in the Regional Greenlands System with a total value of \$2.4 million

Permanent protection of 1,335 hectares of natural landscapes and features through ownership or conservation easements has been secured through the Environmental Land Protection and Preservation program since 2001. In the last five years 346 hectares have been protected including the addition of 64 hectares to the York Regional Forest. Projects are brought forward through partnership agreements, negotiations with private landowners and collaboration with conservation and municipal partners.

In 2017, four sites (Attachment 3) including lands within King Township and the Town of East Gwillimbury totalling 23 hectares (\$2.4M appraised value), were protected through donation and acquisition projects with our partners (Table 2).

Strategic partnerships with local municipalities, Conservation Authorities, Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), and Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (ORMLT) continue to leverage resources and deliver results. The following describes characteristics of each property:

- Rose property is a 10.5 hectare site located within the Happy Valley Forest Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) and was acquired by NCC. This property provides an important connection between existing forests owned and managed by NCC in King Township.
- King Township surplus land was a 2.4 hectare project within the Happy Valley Forest. Protection through acquisition by NCC secured a natural area adjacent to lands already owned and managed by NCC. In addition to the annual agreement funding the Region provided \$30,000 from the Greenlands Property Securement Reserve in support of this project.
- Private donation of 6.1 hectares of the provincially significant Black River Wetland Complex was received by the ORMLT and is now protected. ORMLT collaborated with the land owner using Environment Canada's Ecological Gifts program to attain ownership of these environmentally sensitive lands in the Town of East Gwillimbury.
- A conservation easement for a 4.1 hectare property identified as Natural Core Area in the Oak Ridges Moraine Plan was attained by the ORMLT in King Township.

Table 2
Properties Protected in 2017

Property	Municipality	Size (ha)	Partner and Project Cost*	York Region Contribution***	Property Value
Rose purchase	King	10.5	\$790,000** (NCC)	Agreement funds	\$600,000
King Township purchase	King	2.4	\$136,000** (NCC)	Agreement Funds plus \$30,000	\$90,000
Private donation (ORMLT)	East Gwillimbury	6.1	\$41,000 (ORMLT)	Agreement funds	\$75,000
Conservation Easement (ORMLT)	King	4.1	\$51,000 (ORMLT, NCC)	Agreement funds	\$1,650,000
Total		23.1	\$1,018,000	\$30,000	\$2,415,000

*Project cost can include property purchase, legal, survey and NCC stewardship.

**Project cost appears high due to federal funding requirement to establish a stewardship endowment fund of 15 per cent of the property value. Regional funds are not used towards the endowment fund.

***Region has agreements with NCC and ORMLT with annual contributions of \$120,000 and \$50,000 respectively in accordance with Council approved partnership agreements.

York Region recognized leader in asset management with an innovative approach to Green Infrastructure Asset Management

In 2017 the Region prepared its first Green Infrastructure Asset Management Plan. The plan is one of the first asset management plans in Canada to include both green assets (street trees and York Regional Forest) and supporting built infrastructure (irrigation systems, trails, etc.). The Region's green infrastructure assets have been valued at \$488 million, which is expected to increase in the future as trees and forests grow in size. The asset value is determined using the depreciated replacement cost for built infrastructure and valuation of trees and forests that accounts for the increasing value as they grow in size.

Applying the principles of asset management to green infrastructure ensures that the right investments are being made to optimize environmental and health benefits to residents over the long term, and that the assets are managed sustainably over their life cycle.

5. Financial Considerations

\$1.7 million invested to deliver Greening Strategy actions in 2017

Through partnerships, the Greening Strategy leverages significant resources and funds for projects in each program area. For example, Environmental Land Protection and Preservation projects target a minimum of 2:1 of leveraged dollars to the Region's contributions. Funding contributions leveraged through partnerships vary with each project, and often exceed the 2:1 ratio. Greening Strategy programs are reviewed annually to ensure alignment with Regional objectives.

In 2017, \$1.7 million was allocated to Greening Strategy delivery. \$790,000 was contributed to the Environmental Land Protection and Preservation reserve account for future land protection initiatives, and \$910,000 supported projects and programs such as Back Yard Tree Planting, outdoor education, land protection partnership agreements and tree planting. From partner fundraising an additional \$1.8 million were leveraged in 2017 meeting the expected ratio of leveraged funding to Regional contribution of 2:1.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Local municipalities are important partners for Greening Strategy implementation

Local municipalities are consulted or involved in many of the programs and projects, including outreach, tree planting projects and environmental land protection and preservation initiatives. Local municipal staff are active on many Greening Strategy working groups including the Land Securement Working Group, Invasive Species Working Group and Urban Forestry Forum. Collaborative forums provide an opportunity for communication, engagement and alignment.

Greening Strategy programs provide local municipalities and residents with opportunities to enhance the natural environment. Greening initiatives support protection of Regional and local natural heritage systems, which in turn support sustainable communities. All nine local municipalities have a strong history of involvement in environmental projects and programs, and have benefited directly from the Greening Strategy.

7. Conclusion

Greening Strategy programs continue to be an effective mechanism to support the Region's environmental policies and combat climate change

The Region continues to be recognized for its innovative leadership through delivery of the Greening Strategy. Residents are provided with opportunities to engage in environmental education and action. Achievements contribute to the health and well-being of the Region's residents, help mitigate the impacts of climate change, and represent a sound investment in green infrastructure. Programs with measurable results continue to help realize the Region's environmental policies and objectives as articulated in the 2010 Regional Official Plan, 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan and Vision 2051.

For more information on this report, please contact Laura McDowell, Director of Environmental Promotion and Protection at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75077 or Ian Buchanan, Manager of Natural Heritage and Forestry at ext. 75204.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 23, 2018

Attachments (3)

#8324622

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request



2017 GREENING STRATEGY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Greening Strategy promotes on the ground action that supports healthy natural environments. It plants the seeds of inspiration for people of all ages to cultivate sustainable communities, now and for the future.

FORESTRY
1-877-464-9675
TTY 1-888-512-6228
accessyork@york.ca

york.ca/forestry

edocs #8222026



YORK REGION FORESTRY
Healthy Trees, Healthy Communities



ENHANCEMENT AND REHABILITATION

Enhance and rehabilitate the natural environment on both public and private lands.

STEWARDSHIP AND EDUCATION

Educate residents about the value of green infrastructure and provide opportunities to connect with nature and inspire action.

PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION

Protect core natural areas and restore linkages.

LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION

Share knowledge, demonstrate leadership and be innovative in the protection of the natural environment.

Protected a five year rolling average of **69.2 HECTARES** of Greenlands System including **23 HECTARES** in 2017

16,561 residents engaged through **274 EVENTS**

Planted **85,464 TREES AND SHRUBS**

YORK REGIONAL FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN update underway

1,943 TREES planted on urban streetscapes

Take A Walk new user participation **UP 13%**

32 School Ground Greening Projects in partnership with Evergreen Foundation and school boards including planting **236 TREES**

12,000 Forests of York Region calendars to residents and community centres

More than **50,000** residents reached through a variety of media

Forest Stewardship Centre is **PETAL CERTIFIED** with **6 of 7** Living Building Challenge petals achieved.

Partnerships across all action areas leveraged **\$1.8M**

Continue to meet pledge commitments as the first **MONARCH BUTTERFLY FRIENDLY REGION**



YORK REGION FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

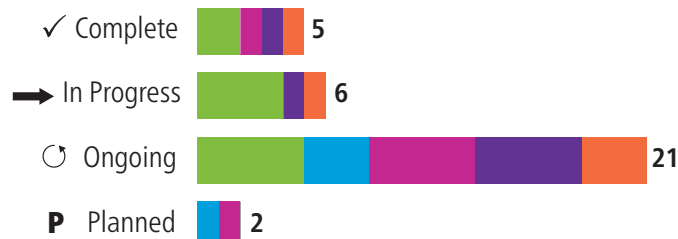
Short Term Actions (2017 to 2019) | 2017 STATUS



ACTION STATUS



ACTION STATUS BY GOAL



GOAL 1 | Canopy Cover and Woodland Cover

STATUS

Develop a prioritized planting plan by analyzing current planting opportunities.	→
Continue to assess tree planting opportunities on Regional-owned properties.	↻
Prepare a summary report of urban forest studies, including results of integrated monitoring.	✓
Continue to optimize existing tree planting partnerships (e.g. school boards).	↻
Implement 'Grow Your Legacy' large-scale private land tree planting campaign.	→
Continue to actively support others in the development of urban Forest Management Plans.	↻
Continue to collaborate with York Region departments, local municipalities, agencies and partners to share information and exchange ideas.	↻
Monitor to ensure that the York Region Forest Management Plan is followed, reports on results are prepared and activities achieve desired results.	↻
Complete the update of York Region's Street Tree and Forest Preservation and Compensation Guidelines.	✓
Update York Region's Street Tree Planting Design Guidelines and share with local municipalities.	→
Assess the alignment of the Forest Management Plan with Provincial Plans and York Region's Official Plan.	→

GOAL 2 | Climate Change and Sustainability

STATUS

Continue to undertake assisted migration trial plantings to adapt to climate change.	↻
Continue to collaborate with organizations including the Invasive Species Council, Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the Canadian Forest Service to quickly detect and respond to threats.	↻
Continue to collaborate with partners to explore science-based biological control opportunities.	↻
Look into innovative low-impact development practices that emphasize conservation and use of green infrastructure to manage storm water quantity and quality.	P



GOAL 3 | Awareness and Education **STATUS**

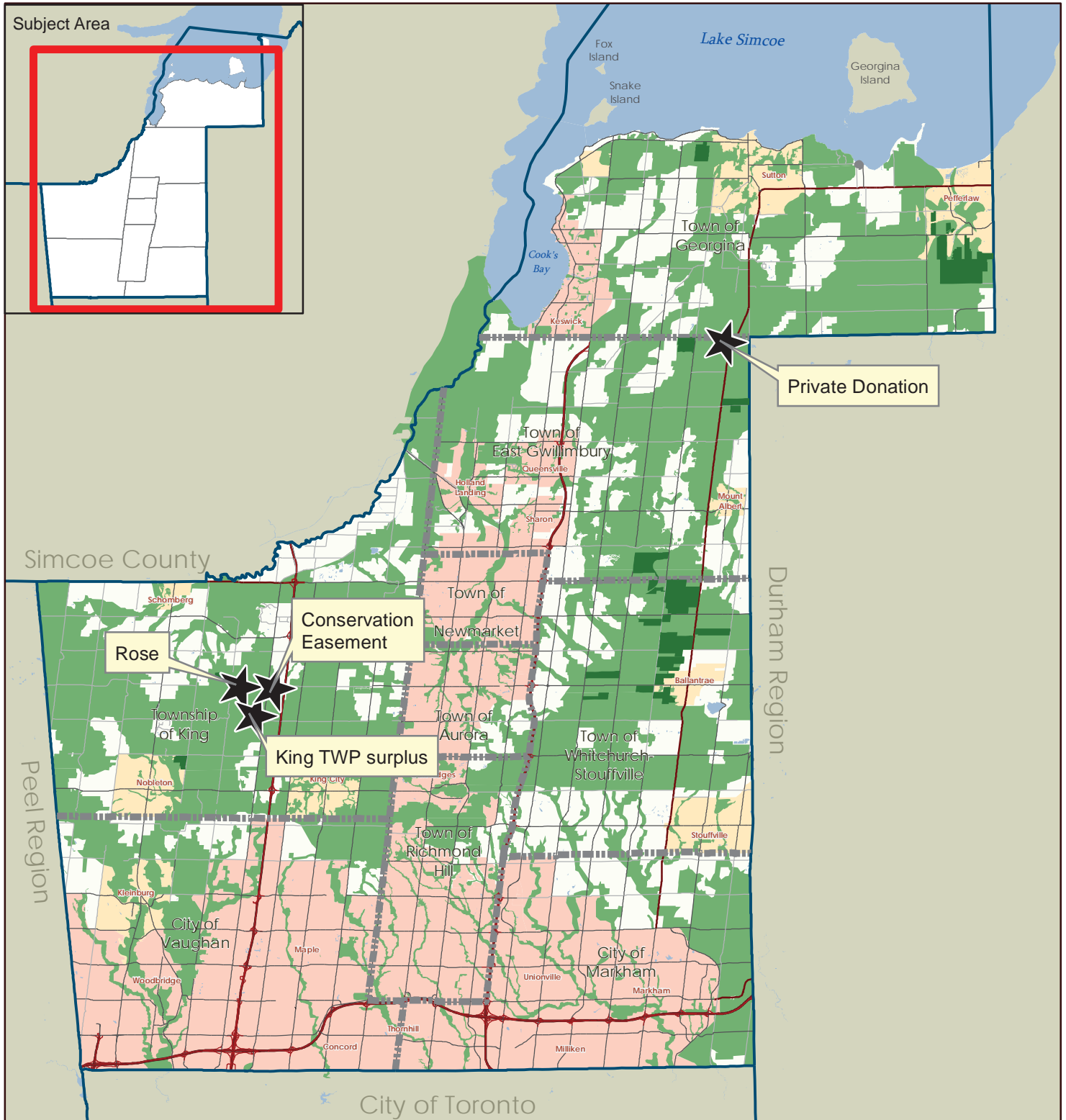
Produce and distribute a 'State of the Forest' report summarizing the results of urban forest studies.	✓
Educate York Region residents about the ecosystem functions and services provided by trees and woodlands.	P
Continue to deliver York Region forest festivals and events and education programs.	↻
Continue to expand partnerships with York Region Public Health.	↻
Participate in and contribute to legislation and policy reviews that recognize connections of trees and public health.	↻
Support and participate in local community events that promote the benefits of trees.	↻
Update website to post educational materials; promote events and solicit public feedback.	↻

GOAL 4 | Stewardship and Taking Action **STATUS**

Continue to explore environmental partnerships with the agricultural community to protect farmland and improve canopy cover.	↻
Document use of agricultural easements and shared benefits, practices in collaboration with the Ontario Farmland Trust.	✓
Continue to coordinate the Emerald Ash Borer Technical Working Group.	↻
Continue to manage the York Regional Forest to meet the Forest Stewardship Council certification requirements.	↻
NEW! Prepare York Regional Forest 20 Year Forest Management Plan for 2019-2038 period.	➡
Share best practices on urban tree planting and maintenance through forums and events.	↻
Strengthen relationships among the Region, local municipalities, Ontario Woodlot Association, Forests Ontario and others to encourage good forestry practices on private land.	↻

GOAL 5 | Governance, Innovation, Research and Development **STATUS**

Continue to review emerging science-based arboriculture practices and integrate into tree planting and maintenance specifications.	↻
Continue to review science-based silvicultural practices to inform management of the York Regional Forest and implementation of the Forest Conservation Bylaw.	↻
Complete a green infrastructure asset management plan for Regional assets, including street trees.	✓
Promote green infrastructure asset management as a best practice to the province, municipalities and other organizations.	➡
Continue to provide input to provincial and federal legislation through coordinated reviews within and between departments.	↻



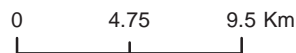
Environmental Lands Protected in 2017

2017 Greening Strategy Achievements
April 5, 2018

Produced by: Barbara Davies
The Regional Municipality of York
Environmental Promotion and Protection, Environmental Services
February 2018

Data © Queen's Printer for Ontario 2003-2014

Doc #8162084



Legend

- Urban Area
- Greenlands System
- York Regional Forest
- Lands Protected



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Greening Achievements 2017

Ian Buchanan
April 5, 2018

Presentation Outline

- Context
- Benefits of *Green Infrastructure*
- 2017 Greening Strategy achievements
 - stewardship and education
 - enhancement and rehabilitation
 - environmental land protection
 - leadership, innovation and knowledge
- Working with our municipal partners
- Next steps...



Greening Strategy Context

- Adopted in 2001 to deliver environmental action
- 4 Action Areas
 - Stewardship and education
 - Enhancement and rehabilitation
 - Environmental land protection
 - Leadership, innovation and knowledge
- Links to
 - York Region Official Plan
 - Vision 2051
 - 2015 - 2019 Strategic Plan
 - York Region Forest Management Plan



Multiple Benefits of Green Infrastructure Including ...



MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE

Forests in York Region remove and store 77,000 tonnes of carbon each year - that's equivalent to taking 60,000 cars off the roads annually.



IMPROVE HEALTH

Spending time near trees improves physical, emotional and mental health.



REDUCE FLOODING

Trees and woodlands intercept and absorb rainwater which helps reduce flooding.



IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

Trees and forests filter rainwater making it cleaner.



Healthy trees
Healthy communities

2017 Another Successful Year – making a difference

ENHANCEMENT AND REHABILITATION

STEWARDSHIP AND EDUCATION

PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION

LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION

Protected a five year rolling average of
69.2 HECTARES
of Greenlands System including
23 HECTARES
in 2017

Forest Stewardship Centre is
PETAL CERTIFIED
with **6 of 7**
Living Building Challenge
petals achieved.

Partnerships across
all action areas leveraged
\$1.8M

Continue to meet
pledge commitments as the first
MONARCH BUTTERFLY
FRIENDLY REGION

16,561
residents engaged through
274 EVENTS

Planted
85,464 TREES AND SHRUBS

**YORK REGIONAL FOREST
MANAGEMENT PLAN**
update underway

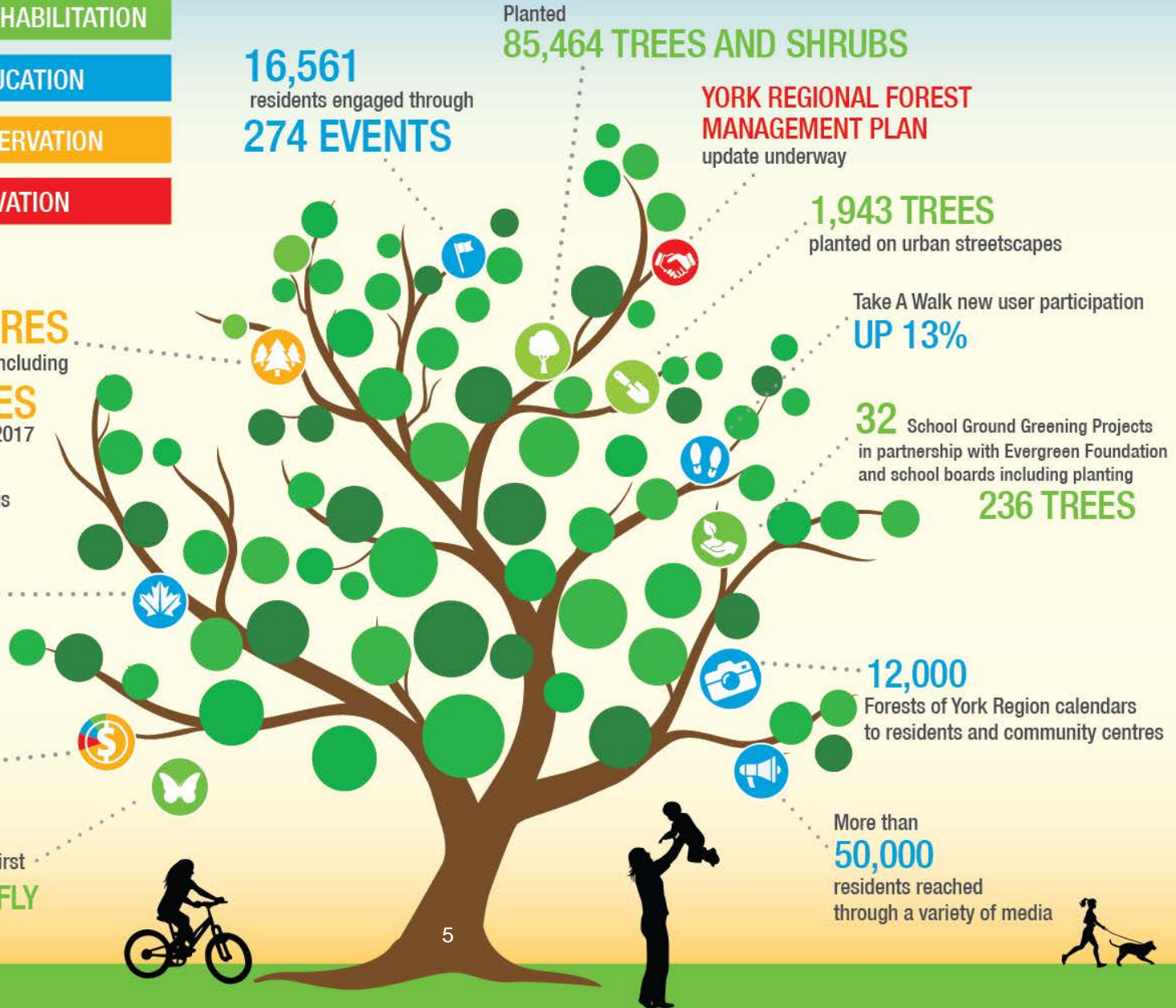
1,943 TREES
planted on urban streetscapes

Take A Walk new user participation
UP 13%

32 School Ground Greening Projects
in partnership with Evergreen Foundation
and school boards including planting
236 TREES

12,000
Forests of York Region calendars
to residents and community centres

More than
50,000
residents reached
through a variety of media



Stewardship and Education

- Festivals, nature's classroom education, community planting events, interpretive walks
- 16,561 residents engaged through 274 outreach events
- Monthly forest hikes attract 1,198 residents
- Special environmental events included:
 - Earth Week (April)
 - Children's Water Festival (May)
 - Envirothon (May)
 - TreeBee (Spring)
 - National Forest Week (September)



Engage and educate residents
inspiring action

Canada's 1st Monarch Butterfly Friendly Region

- Registered with National Wildlife Federation as a monarch butterfly friendly Region
- Met pledge commitments:
 - revised messaging and delivery to promote pollinators including monarch butterflies
 - support Richmond Hill native plant sale
 - assessed Regional properties for habitat works in 2018 – administration building and Harry Walker Parkway



Enhancement and Rehabilitation

OUR TARGET 70,000 → **85,464 TREES PLANTED IN 2017**

4,525	3,875	4,945	27,104	29,029	10,063	1,177	523	4,223
Adopt-A-Stream Crossing Program	York Regional Forest	Earth Week and National Forest Week seedling hand out	Large-scale private land reforestions with conservation authorities	On public land with conversation authorities	Partner community planting events	York Region outreach and education events	Backyard LEAF	York Region Property Naturalization



Plantings occur on public and private land in all nine municipalities.

Over 1.4M trees planted since 2001 ...

Environmental Land Protection and Preservation

- Nature Conservancy of Canada partnership protects 12.9 ha two acquisitions in Township of King
- Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust receives 6.1 ha donation and achieves 4.1 ha conservation easement
- 23 ha achieved with more projects on track for 2018
- Working with local municipalities, Conservation Authorities, non government organizations and residents



York Regional Forest
Bendor & Graves Tract

1,335 ha protected since 2001...

Leadership, Innovation & Knowledge

York Region Forest Management Plan

Progress made on 32 of 34 short term actions (2017-19) including completion of:

- ✓ State of the Forest report
- ✓ Street Tree and Forest Preservation Guideline
- ✓ Urban Forest Study summary
- ✓ Green Infrastructure Asset Management Plan



Leadership, Innovation & Knowledge

- Municipal information exchange forums
 - Invasive Species Management
 - Environmental Advisory Committees
 - Urban Forestry
- Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario - Chair Urban Forestry Subcommittee
- Ecohealth Ontario - collaborative public health benefits of trees e.g. Youtube video



Greening Strategy

Working with our local municipal partners

Projects and collaboration in all nine local municipalities including:

- Environmental land protection and preservation projects
- Urban Forest Studies and Urban Forest Management planning
- Community tree planting events
- Local Environmental Advisory Committee coordination and support
- Technical Working Groups and Forums



Together we achieve more...

Next Steps

- Continue with partnership implementation
- Advance 'benefits of trees' campaign
- Promote subsidized tree planting programs
- Implement priority actions towards increasing canopy and woodland cover
- Complete consultation on the York Regional Forest Management Plan (2019 – 2039)



May the forest be with you ...



April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: York Region Official Plan Monitoring Report

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "York Region Official Plan Monitoring Report":

1. The York Region 2018 Regional Official Plan Monitoring Report be circulated by the Regional Clerk the local municipalities for information.

A copy of Clause 2 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 7 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Sandra Malcic, Manager, Policy and the Environment at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75274 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S. Dumont
Attachments

Clause 2 in Report No. 7 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

2

York Region Official Plan Monitoring Report

Committee of the Whole recommends:

1. Receipt of the presentation by Sandra Malcic, Manager, Policy & Environment, Planning and Economic Development.
 2. Adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 29, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Planner:
 1. The York Region 2018 Regional Official Plan Monitoring Report be circulated by the Regional Clerk to the local municipalities for information.
-

Report dated March 29, 2018 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Planner now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The York Region 2018 Regional Official Plan Monitoring Report be circulated by the Regional Clerk the local municipalities for information.

2. Purpose

The Regional Official Plan Monitoring Report 2018 (Attachment 1) provides the results of an analysis of indicators that measure and track the progress of policy objectives in the Regional Official Plan. It provides evidence based input to further policy review and development.

3. Background

Regional Official Plan implementation requires regular monitoring to ensure progression towards policy targets and objectives

The York Region Official Plan was approved by the Province with modifications in September 2010. The plan is now in the implementation stage. A key part of implementation is monitoring progress towards meeting the Official Plan policy targets and objectives.

Council received the last monitoring report in 2014

Chapter 8 of the Official Plan addresses implementation and sets out requirements for monitoring and assessment of policies. Section 8.2 states that it is the policy of Council to:

- Develop indicators to measure the success of the Official Plan based on the three themes of the plan:
 - Sustainable Natural Environment
 - Healthy Communities
 - Economic Vitality
- Produce regular monitoring reports that measure the success of the plan
- Develop, in cooperation with local municipalities, common measuring and reporting tools to monitor progress towards targets established in the Official Plan

In [June 2014](#), the first Regional Official Plan Monitoring Report was presented to Council. This report presented 22 indicators to track progress in implementing a range of Official Plan policies. The results identified that the Region was on track to meet most of the policy objectives that were monitored.

Given the various data sources relied upon to track the progress of selected indicators, not all indicators have the same reference year (i.e. census year vs. annual). Where possible, annual indicators are reported on through York Region's annual Growth and Development Review report.

Monitoring Regional Official Plan implementation provides evidence based input to further policy review and development

The Official Plan provides growth management policies on city building, complete communities, agricultural and rural areas and on infrastructure and service

provision. Together with Vision 2051, the Official Plan is one of the Region's key long range plans that guide the Strategic Plan and individual departmental business plans and budgets. The indicators are intended to monitor the effectiveness of the Official Plan policies in achieving a Sustainable Natural Environment and Healthy Communities while protecting for and promoting Economic Vitality.

Monitoring also helps identify emerging trends and related issues that could affect Official Plan policies and will inform the Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR).

An analysis of Official Plan indicators provides an evidence based approach to policy development through the review of the Official Plan.

Monitoring the effectiveness of Official Plan policies complements other Regional monitoring initiatives and reporting

Other existing monitoring initiatives include:

- Implementation and Monitoring Plan for the 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan
- York Region Annual Report
- Greening Strategy Achievements Report
- Waste Diversion Report
- Growth and Development Review Report
- Employment and Industry Report

There are similarities with the data and indicators used in other current monitoring initiatives and those presented in this report. The Official Plan monitoring report is not intended to replace policy and program monitoring systems already in place at the Region, but rather complement other efforts.

4. Analysis and Implications

York Region continues to deliver on the objectives of the Regional Official Plan

The 2018 monitoring report uses the same indicators as developed for the 2014 monitoring report, and confirms that 17 of 22 (77%) of indicators are trending in the right direction. This shows that the Region is well on its way to meeting the objectives of the Official Plan. The table in Attachment 2 summarizes indicators and provides key highlights and trends.

Two indicators have not trended in the right direction to support the intent of the related policies, loss of agricultural land and employment lands converted. Loss of agricultural land was a result of lands converted for urban uses through amendments (ROPAs 1, 2 and 3) to the Official Plan. The loss of employment lands was a result of the conversion several sites to non-employment uses including residential and major retail.

York Region is well underway to achieving a healthy and connected Greenlands System

Environmental land protection and tree plantings are an important tool for maintaining a healthy and functional Greenlands system. Protection of environmental lands through a system of environmental features and linkages provided by the Regional Greenlands System is essential to preserve the Region's key natural heritage and hydrologic features and adjacent lands necessary to maintain these features in a linked system. Public components of the System also provide opportunities for passive recreation.

Securing environmental lands contributes to strengthening the Region's Greenlands System. A healthy and connected system of features is essential to preserve the Region's natural heritage and biodiversity. Planting trees increases forest cover, wildlife habitat and improves connectivity.

Since 2009, York Region has protected and enhanced over 600 hectares of environmental lands through various methods including donations, purchases, and conservation easements. During this time, the annual area of land secured has ranged from 16 to 120 hectares with an annual average of 71 hectares.

In total, over 770,000 trees and shrubs have been planted in the Region since 2009. Annual plantings have ranged from approximately 46,000 to over 110,000, with an average of approximately 86,000 per year for the same time period.

York Region is achieving diversity of housing mix and is shifting towards higher density forms of housing

To accommodate the increasing diversification of York Region's households, meet intensification targets, and help address housing affordability issues, the housing mix in the Region needs to shift to higher density forms of housing. New construction of appropriate high density housing forms in planned locations will contribute to diversifying the Region's existing housing stock.

There has been a clear shift in the development of new housing in York Region. Between 2008 and 2012, medium and high density housing accounted for a 35 per cent share of the total units completed in the Region. During the most recent period from 2013 to 2017, medium and high density housing forms have risen to

a 56 per cent share. As of 2017, 64 per cent of the Region's total housing stock were single detached units, a decrease of approximately 3 per cent since 2008.

York Region's live work ratio and activity rate have continued to increase

The live/work ratio measures the percent of York Region's labour force that both live and work in the Region. A strong live/work ratio has a number of positive advantages on transportation and the economy. Providing quality jobs in the Region strengthens the economy and makes the Region more attractive to existing and potential businesses and investors. Shorter commute times and less traffic congestion on roads will improve the quality of life increasing the ability to attract and retain the right workforce.

The Activity Rate measures the ratio of employment to population. A high activity rate has a number of positive results on quality of life for residents. Providing sufficient high quality employment opportunities in the Region contributes to reducing traffic congestion and shorter commute times. A strong activity rate can lead to increased live/work ratios in the future, provided the type of jobs being created match the skill sets of the Region's residents.

York Region's live/work ratio has increased from a 2011 estimate of 55.4 per cent to 57.6 per cent in 2016. However, in light of the activity rate, it is anticipated that this number will continue to increase over the coming years. This indicates that the jobs in the Region are continuing to provide a better match to the skills of its residents.

Since 2011 York Region's activity rate has been increasing steadily. In 2015, the Official Plan target of 50 per cent was reached. Subsequent years have progressively exceeded this target with 2017 showing an increase to 51.9 per cent. This indicates that the Region provides more than one job for every two residents in accordance with the Official Plan policy.

The Region's urban structure is continuously being strengthened through city building, intensification and infrastructure investment

Since 2006, the annual share of development within the Region's built-up area has averaged 48 per cent. The current Regional Official Plan intensification target is 40 per cent. The Growth Plan intensification targets changed in 2017 to 50 per cent from the time of the next Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review to 2031 and 60 per cent for growth between 2031 and 2041. The continuing development of the Regional Centres and Corridors and other intensification areas will contribute to achieving the intensification target.

To date, the majority of the development activity in the Regional Centres has been residential with major office and retail development occurring most notably in Markham Centre and Vaughan Metropolitan Centre.

Markham Centre is the most advanced of the Regional Centres, having had a local municipal planning framework in place since the mid-1990s. Active development applications in all four Regional Centres are anticipated to result in new population and employment in the next few years. The 2017 completion of the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre multi-modal hub, including the York/Spadina subway extension and VIVA rapidways has resulted in increased levels of development interest and activity in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre. In addition to the growth reported in Attachment 1 for Regional Centres, there is significant development activity in the Regional Corridors, further strengthening the Regional structure.

Water conservation efforts have had a considerable impact on reducing consumption

Water conservation contributes to creating more sustainable communities and leverages capacity available in existing infrastructure. The Long Term Water Conservation Strategy, endorsed by Regional Council in 2011, identifies programs to implement the Region's water conservation goals. The Official Plan makes reference to promoting water conservation and efficiency.

Residential water consumption per capita has declined from 220 litres per capita per day in 2010 to 190 litres per capita per day in 2016. Through York Region's Water for Tomorrow program, a number of initiatives are being undertaken to reduce water consumption. These include but are not limited to rebates and incentives, education and improved maintenance of water infrastructure systems.

On-going monitoring and the Municipal Comprehensive Review will inform updated policies that may require new monitoring indicators

The Municipal Comprehensive Review resumed in 2017 with a workplan presented to Council in [October 2017](#). Past monitoring will inform updated policies. Indicators may need to be updated to remain consistent with new Provincial plans. It is expected that an updated Official Plan will be adopted in 2020 with the first monitoring report to occur approximately four years after.

5. Financial Considerations

Monitoring of the York Region Official Plan policies was conducted within the current allocated budgets of various Regional departments that are involved in

developing, tracking and reporting on performance indicators. It is not anticipated that there will be additional costs associated with data or other information that support indicator reporting.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Effective monitoring of the York Region Official Plan allows the Region to track progress towards policy objectives and targets and helps ensure that the Official Plan policies are having the desired impact on the Region's natural environment, economy, development of healthy communities, city building and infrastructure and service provision. Local municipalities will in turn benefit from the successful implementation of the Official Plan policies.

7. Conclusion

This report concludes that York Region is well on its way to meeting the objectives of the Regional Official Plan. The full monitoring report is included as Attachment 1 providing the indicator results.

Ongoing monitoring of the Regional Official Plan is needed to: assess the effectiveness of policies in the Plan, identify emerging trends and issues, and inform future reviews of the Plan to provide the basis for adjustments and updates where required.

For more information on this report, please contact Sandra Malcic, Manager, Policy and the Environment at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75274.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

Recommended by:

Paul Freeman, MCIP, RPP
Acting Chief Planner

March 29, 2018

Attachments (2)

#8293086

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

2018 YORK REGION
OFFICIAL PLAN
MONITORING REPORT

APRIL 2018





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MONITORING the OFFICIAL PLAN



INTRODUCTION

The **York Region Official Plan** (the Official Plan) was approved by the Province with modifications in September 2010. The Official Plan provides policy guidance on land use planning matters and is structured under the three major themes of:

- Sustainable natural environment
- Healthy communities
- Economic vitality

The **Official Plan** provides growth management policies on city building, complete communities, agricultural, natural, and rural areas, and on infrastructure and service provision. Together with **Vision 2051**, the Official Plan is one of the Region's key long range plans that guide the **Strategic Plan** and individual departmental business plans and budgets.

The first monitoring report of the **2010 York Region Official Plan** was presented to Council in June 2014. This is the second Monitoring Report on Official Plan indicators.

TRACKING OUR PROGRESS

A key part of **Official Plan** implementation is monitoring progress towards meeting policy targets and objectives. Monitoring assists in measuring the success of the policies in the **Official Plan** and tracking progress towards meeting specific targets. Monitoring also helps identify emerging trends and related issues to inform the review of the **Official Plan**.



MONITORING the OFFICIAL PLAN

PRINCIPLES for DEVELOPING INDICATORS

The indicators in this report are consistent with those used in the initial monitoring report in 2014. The indicators are based on the following principles:

1. **Outcome-based**—the indicator measures whether the Official Plan policy is achieving the desired objective(s)
2. **Measurable**—the indicator can be measured and where possible, is quantifiable
3. **Can be measured on an ongoing basis**—data for the indicator is available at a reasonable cost and is expected to continue to be available
4. **Directly linked to the Official Plan policies**—the indicator relates to factors that Official Plan policies can affect; the focus is on areas where the Region is affecting change
5. **Simple**—the indicators are easily understood by a wide audience

TIMING of REPORTING OUT on INDICATORS

Given the various data sources relied upon to track the progress of selected indicators, it is difficult to establish a regular timeframe for future reporting for all indicators. Some of the indicator data is only available through the Census (which is conducted every five years), while other indicators can be monitored on an annual basis. Where possible, annual indicators are reported on through York Region's annual **Growth and Development Review** report. Other departments within the Region also report on their own specific targets at various times. The indicators in this report are organized by chapter in the Regional Official Plan.

SUSTAINABLE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



York Region is rich in natural features that provide habitat for a variety of species that play an important role in the Region's ecology and native biodiversity. The natural environment influences and shapes the Region's structure contributing to the Region's identity and a healthy sustainable community. The indicators below measure how the Region is achieving a linked greenlands system.

Sustainable Natural Environment Goal: To protect and enhance the natural environment for current and future generations so that it will sustain life, maintain health and provide an improved quality of life.

INDICATOR: TREE and SHRUB PLANTINGS

Description: Number of trees and shrubs planted per year through Greening Strategy initiatives

ROP Policy 2.1.8: That enhancements to greenlands systems shall be the responsibility of all stakeholders and may include: Regional and local greening initiatives, public and private sector partnerships, infrastructure projects and urban development to achieve ecological gains for the systems.

Source of Data: York Region, Environmental Services

Why this is important: Tree and shrub planting is a key part of the Region's **Greening Strategy** which contributes to strengthening the Region's Greenlands System. A connected system of environmental features and linkages provided by the Regional Greenlands System is essential in preserving the Region's key natural heritage and hydrologic features. In addition, the **Provincial Policy Statement, 2014** states that green infrastructure should be promoted to complement infrastructure.

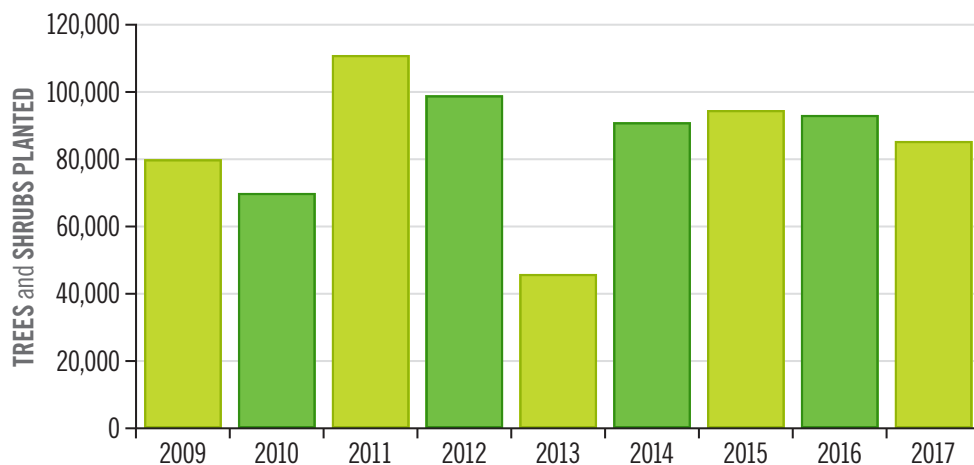


SUSTAINABLE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

INDICATOR: TREE and SHRUB PLANTINGS (continued)

Results: In total, over 770,000 trees and shrubs have been planted in the Region since 2009. Since 2009, annual plantings have ranged from approximately 46,000 to over 110,000. These totals do not include tree plantings associated with infrastructure projects.

NUMBER of TREES and SHRUBS PLANTED, YORK REGION



Source: York Region, Environmental Services

INDICATOR: ENVIRONMENTAL LAND PROTECTION and PRESERVATION

Description: Area (hectares) of environmental lands protected and preserved through the Regional Greening Strategy

ROP Policy 2.1.14: To undertake land securement, with partners, focused primarily within the Regional Greenlands System. Land securement can include conservation easements, donations, or land purchases, education and stewardship promotion.

Source of Data: York Region, Environmental Services

Why this is important: Environmental land protection is an important tool for maintaining a healthy and functional Greenlands system. Protection of environmental lands through a connected system of environmental features and linkages provided by the Regional Greenlands System is essential in preserving the Region’s key natural heritage and hydrologic features and the adjacent lands necessary to maintain these features in a linked system. The System also provides opportunities for passive recreation.

Securing additional environmental lands contributes to strengthening the Region’s Greenlands System.

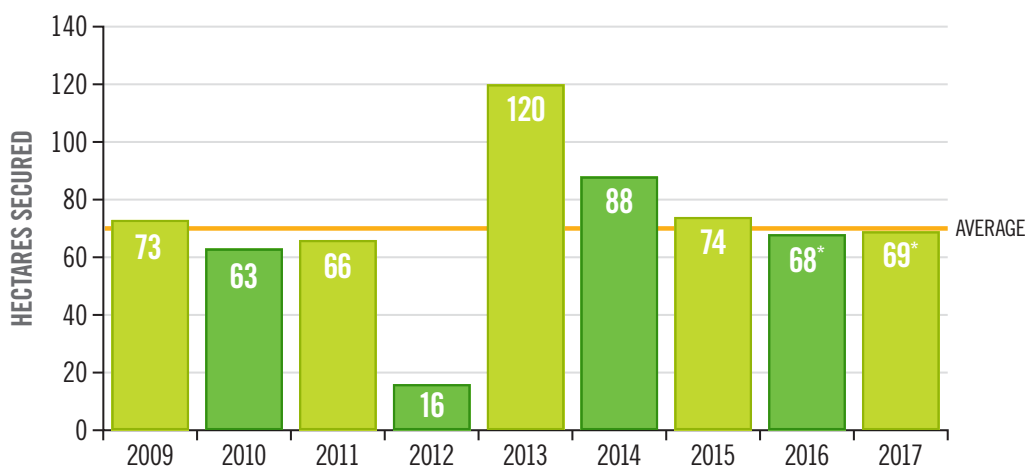
SUSTAINABLE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT



INDICATOR: ENVIRONMENTAL LAND PROTECTION and PRESERVATION (continued)

Results: Between 2009 and 2017, the Region protected 637 hectares of environmental lands through various methods including donations, purchases and conservation easements. During this time, the annual area of land secured has ranged from 16 to 120 hectares.

AREA of LAND SECURED through RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS



*Calculated using five year annual rolling average Source: York Region, Environmental Services

INDICATOR: WOODLAND COVER

Description: Percentage of woodland cover in York Region

ROP Policy 2.2.43: To increase the woodland cover to a minimum of 25 per cent of the Region's total land area.

Source of Data: York Region, Environmental Services

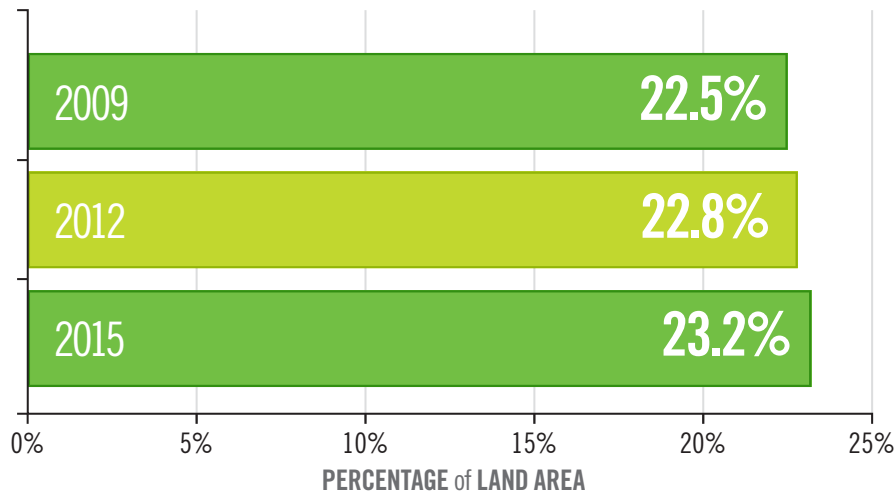
Why this is important: Woodlands provide a variety of important environmental, social and economic benefits including clean air and water, erosion prevention, water retention, provision of wildlife habitat, recreation and the sustainable harvest of woodland products.

Results: The **Official Plan** woodland cover target is a minimum of 25 per cent of the Region's total land area. This indicator was measured to be 22.5 per cent in 2009 and 22.8 per cent in 2012. In 2015, woodland cover increased to 23.2 per cent. This increase can be attributed to reforestation efforts and natural expansion of woodlands.

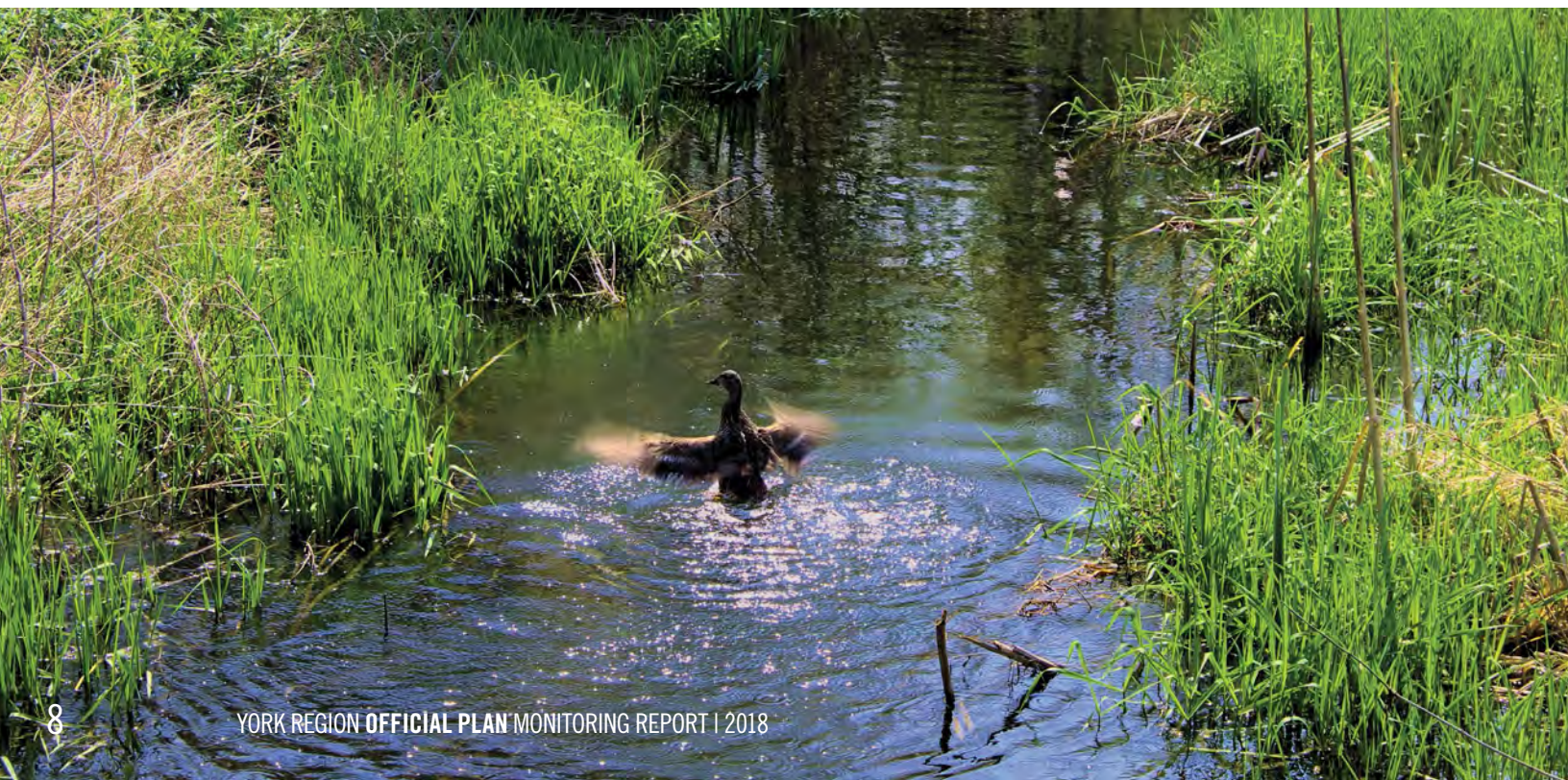
SUSTAINABLE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

INDICATOR: WOODLAND COVER (continued)

WOODLAND COVER in YORK REGION



Source: York Region, Environmental Services



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



Healthy communities are places where people can live, work, play and learn in an accessible and safe environment. Communities that provide a strong sense of belonging and identity contribute to a high quality of life, health and well-being. Healthy communities offer housing choices including affordable options, access to transit, a range of quality human services, schools, public spaces, and local amenities. As the Region continues to grow there is a unique opportunity to create healthier, more sustainable, walkable, and compact communities.

Healthy Communities Goal: *To improve the health and well-being of residents and workers in the Region by planning and developing sustainable active communities.*

INDICATOR: HOUSING MIX

Description: Housing mix of new housing in York Region by five-year period

ROP Policy 3.5: To promote an appropriate mix and range of acceptable housing to meet the needs of residents and workers.

Source of Data: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

Why this is important: The Region's existing housing stock is heavily weighted to lower density forms of housing. As of 2008, 67 per cent of the Region's total housing stock was comprised of single detached units. In order to accommodate the increasing diversification of the Region's households, meet intensification targets and address housing affordability issues, the housing mix in the Region needs to shift to more compact forms of housing. New construction of compact housing forms will contribute to diversifying the Region's existing housing stock.

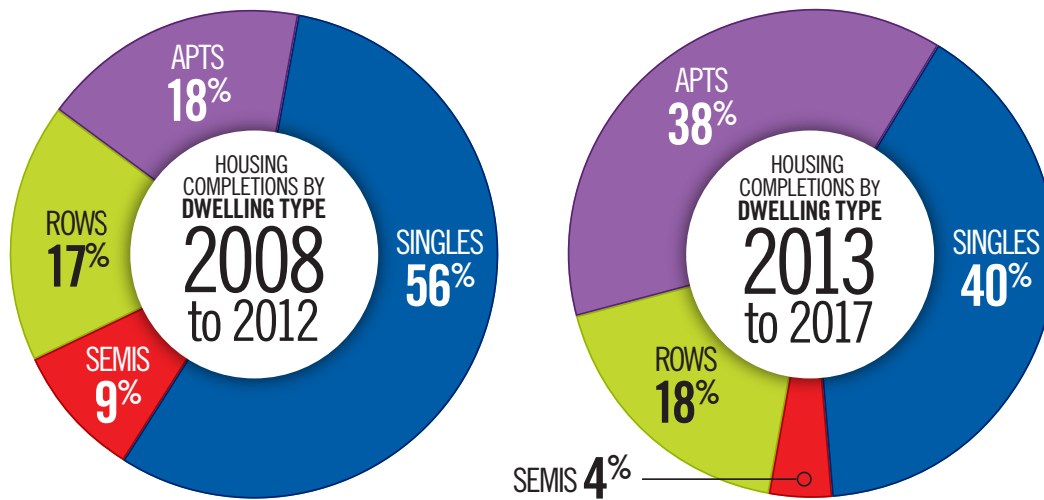


HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

INDICATOR: HOUSING MIX (continued)

Results: There has been a clear shift in the development of new housing in York Region. Between 2008 and 2012, medium and high density housing accounted for a 35 per cent share of the total units completed in the Region. During the most recent period from 2013 to 2017, medium and high density housing forms have risen to a 56 per cent share. In 2017, about 64 per cent of the Region’s total housing stock were single detached units, a decrease of approximately 3 per cent since 2008.

HOUSING COMPLETIONS by DWELLING TYPE



Source: Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation

INDICATOR: HOUSING SUPPLY

Description: Number of years supply of land for housing in the Region and number of years supply in registered and draft approved units.

ROP Policy 3.5.3: To ensure an adequate region-wide supply of housing by:

- a) maintaining a minimum 10-year supply of land designated for housing through intensification and redevelopment and in designated greenfield areas
- b) maintaining a 3 to 7 year supply of registered and draft approved plans of subdivision, condominium plans and/or site plans.

Source of Data: York Region, Planning and Economic Development

Why this is important: Providing an adequate supply of land for housing allows for more choice in terms of location and type for new housing. It also contributes to providing more affordable housing options. A 10 year supply of housing across the Region is required by both the York Region **Official Plan** and the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014*.

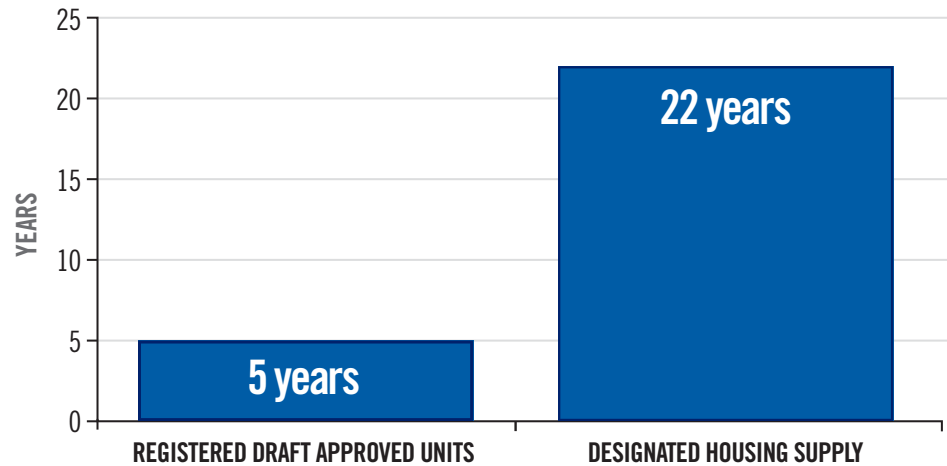
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



INDICATOR: HOUSING SUPPLY (continued)

Results: Based on the analysis of the Region’s 2016 housing supply contained in the May 2017 staff report, **2016 York Region Housing Supply**, the Region has approximately 22 years of designated housing supply, which surpasses the Regional and Provincial policy requirement of 10 years. In addition, the Region currently has approximately five years of housing supply in registered and draft approved units, exceeding the Official Plan minimum requirement of three years.

YORK REGION HOUSING SUPPLY



Source: York Region, Planning and Economic Development Branch

INDICATOR: AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Description: Share of new units in the Region that meet the Region’s affordability threshold.

ROP Policies 3.5.6 & 3.5.7: That a minimum 25 per cent of new housing units across the Region be affordable, be distributed within each local municipality and should be coordinated across applicable local planning areas including secondary plan and block plan areas. A portion of these units should be accessible for people with disabilities. Affordable housing units should include a mix and range of types, lot sizes, functions and tenures to provide opportunity for all household types, including larger families, seniors and residents with special needs.

A minimum of 35 per cent of new housing units in Regional Centres and key development areas is to be affordable, offering a range of affordability for low and moderate income households.

Source of data: York Region, Planning and Economic Development



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

INDICATOR: AFFORDABLE HOUSING (continued)

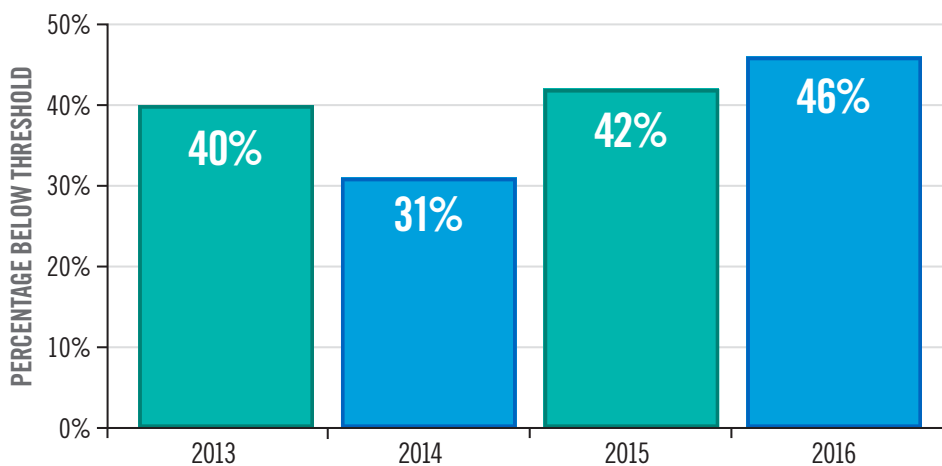
Why this is important: Complete communities include a variety of housing options that meet the needs of residents of all ages, stages and abilities. A variety of housing options includes a mix and range of both ownership and rental housing that is affordable, suitably sized and in good condition. A diverse mix and range of housing options, including affordable options, is a major contributor to the quality of life of residents and workers, the economy, individual and community health and well-being.

The *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014* directs the establishment of minimum affordable housing targets. The *Provincial Growth Plan* reiterates the requirement that affordable housing targets be established and implemented.

Results: York Region has developed **Affordable Housing Measuring and Monitoring Guidelines** to provide a standard approach to measure the supply of new affordable housing units on an annual basis, which in turn allows for evidence based responses to housing needs. The Region exceeded its affordability targets in 2016 with 46 per cent of new housing units falling below maximum affordable thresholds.

The proportion of new housing units that are affordable has increased since 2014 primarily due to an increase in smaller sized condominium units. While this upward trend is positive, affordable housing options are not available to all households due to the uneven geographic distribution of affordable units, the lack of affordable family sized units and the lack of units available for households with incomes lower than those used to set the affordability threshold.

NEW UNITS BELOW the AFFORDABLE THRESHOLD



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development Branch

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



INDICATOR: NEW NON-PROFIT HOUSING

Description: Total number of rental units in the York Region social housing portfolio

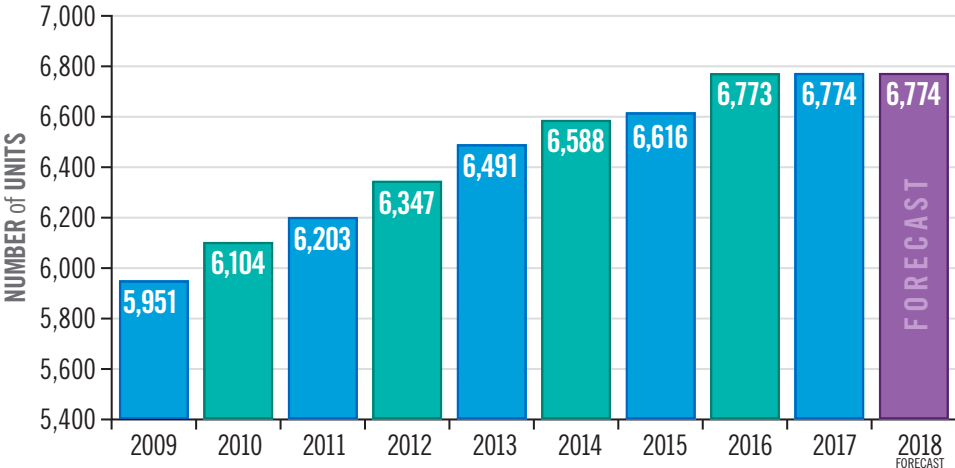
ROP Policy 3.5.13: To encourage the construction of new non-profit housing.

Source of Data: York Region, Community and Health Services

Why this is important: Social housing units provide affordable options to people whose income, age, social or health needs prevent them from attaining adequate housing in the private market. These units form the majority of units that are used to deliver affordable housing options.

Results: Over the past four years, the number of units in the Social Housing Portfolio increased from 6,588 to 6,774. In 2016, 203 new units were added and 46 units were temporarily removed from the portfolio for redevelopment. The number of units is expected to remain stable until 2019, when construction is completed for the first of three non-profit buildings currently under development.

YORK REGION SOCIAL HOUSING PORTFOLIO



Source: York Region, Community and Health Services.

➔ Healthy communities are places where people can live, work, play and learn in an accessible and safe environment.



ECONOMIC VITALITY



A strong and stable economy is essential to a healthy and prosperous Region. Strengthening the links between the natural environment, healthy communities and the economy is required to promote the overall well-being of York Region's residents and businesses in a sustainable manner.

Economic Vitality Goal: To create a competitive and flexible economic environment that encourages investment and a diversity of employment opportunities.

INDICATOR: LIVE/WORK RATIO

Description: York Region live/work ratio

ROP Policy 4.1: To encourage and accommodate economic activities that diversify and strengthen the Region's economic base, employment opportunities for residents and competitive advantage for its businesses.

Source of Data: Statistics Canada, Census and National Household Survey

Why this is important: The live-work percentage depicts the number of residents who are in the employed labour force that live and work within the Region. Improving the York Region live-work percentage is positive for the economy. Shorter commute times, less traffic congestion on roads and more quality time for workers to spend with their families improves the quality of life and strengthens the overall economy in the Region.

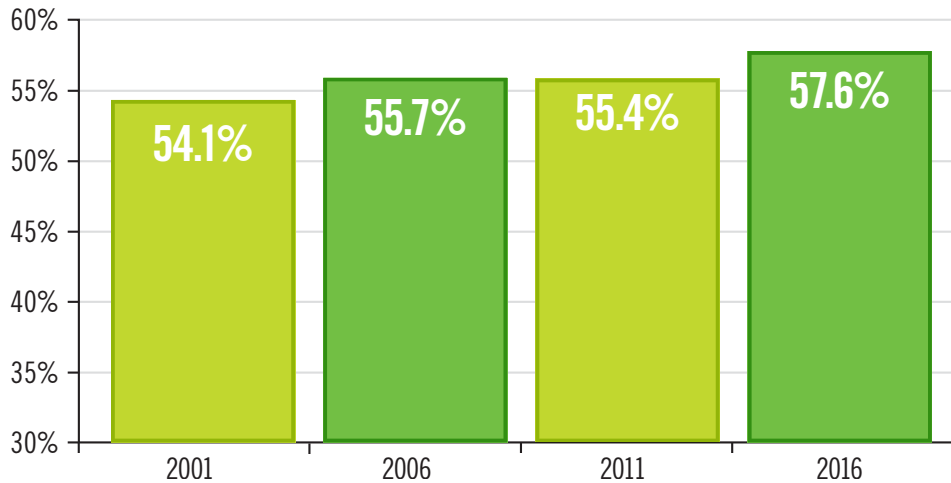
Results: York Region's live-work percentage of 57.6 per cent in 2016 (the percentage of residents who live and work within the Region) shows an improvement compared to 2006 Census data (55.7 per cent). The live/work ratio can be improved by creating jobs in the Region that match the skill sets of its residents. Providing affordable housing options is also critical in attracting and retaining both businesses and residents in the Region, thereby contributing to the improvement of the live/work ratio in the Region.



ECONOMIC VITALITY

INDICATOR: LIVE/WORK RATIO (continued)

LIVE/WORK RATIO, YORK REGION



Source: Statistics Canada, Census and National Housing Strategy

INDICATOR: ACTIVITY RATE

Description: York Region activity rate—ratio of employment to population

ROP Policy 4.1.2: To create high-quality employment opportunities for residents with the goal of 1 job for every 2 residents.

Source of Data: York Region, Planning and Economic Development

Why this is important: Providing sufficient high quality employment opportunities in the Region contributes to the Region's ability to increase the activity rate thereby reducing traffic congestion, reducing commute times and improving quality of life for residents. The goal of providing 1 job for every 2 residents is derived from the objective of providing job opportunities for every member of the Region's workforce (which is estimated at 50 per cent of the population). An activity rate of 50 per cent equates to providing one job for every two residents.

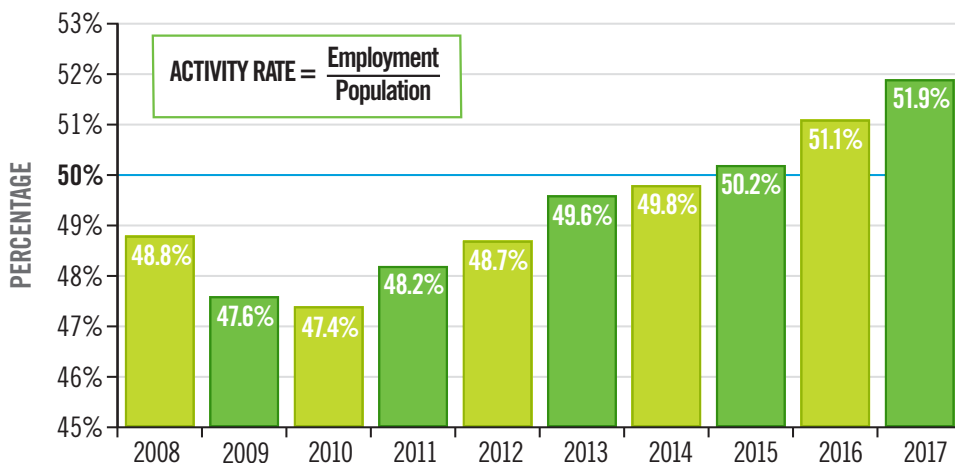
Results: York Region's activity rate (ratio of jobs to residents) declined slightly during the 2008-2009 economic recession as job growth lagged behind population growth but since 2011 has been increasing steadily. In 2015, the **Official Plan** target of 50 per cent was reached. Subsequent years have progressively exceeded this target.

ECONOMIC VITALITY



INDICATOR: ACTIVITY RATE (continued)

YORK REGION ACTIVITY RATE



Source: York Region, Planning and Economic Development

INDICATOR: EMPLOYMENT LAND CONVERSION

Description: Hectares of converted employment land

ROP Policy 4.3.2: That a sufficient supply of employment lands based on the applicable municipal comprehensive review will be maintained to accommodate the employment growth forecasts in Table 1 of the **Official Plan**.

Source of Data: York Region, Planning and Economic Development

Why this is important: The York Region employment forecast assumes that a significant share of the Region's employment growth will occur on employment lands. Employment lands typically accommodate industrial and business uses that benefit from good access to 400 series highways along with ancillary retail and service uses. It is important for the Region to maintain its supply of employment lands since many of the types of uses that occur on employment lands cannot be accommodated in other locations, and options for new or expanding businesses need to be available over time.

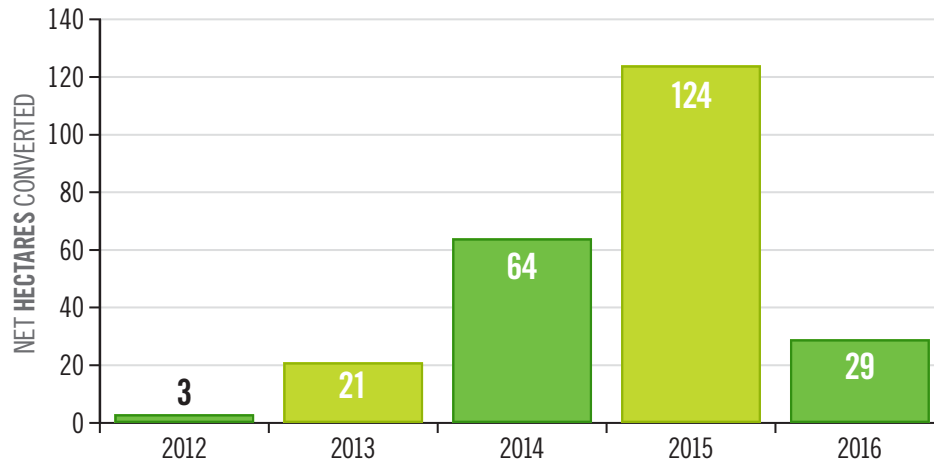
Results: Between 2012 and 2016, approximately 241 net hectares of employment land was converted from employment land uses to non-employment uses including residential and major retail. Under the **2017 Growth Plan**, Employment Conversions are now only to be considered at the time of a Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review.



ECONOMIC VITALITY

INDICATOR: EMPLOYMENT LAND CONVERSION (continued)

EMPLOYMENT LAND CONVERSIONS



Source: York Region, Planning and Economic Development



AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES



York Region will continue to accommodate significant growth. The **Official Plan** forecasts the population to reach 1.5 million people and 780,000 jobs by 2031. The **2017 Growth Plan** projects a population of 1.79 million people and 900,000 jobs for York Region by 2041. The Region is committed to plan for this growth in a sustainable way while providing a high quality of life for its residents. The Region's urban structure has evolved and includes a series of centres and corridors surrounded by the Urban Area, and a number of rural towns, villages, and hamlets.

An Urbanizing Region Goal: To enhance the Region's urban structure through city building, intensification, and compact and complete communities.

INDICATOR: POPULATION and EMPLOYMENT FORECASTS

Description: York Region population and employment forecasts in comparison to observed Census population and York Region Employment Survey employment

ROP Policy 5.1.11: That forecasts in Table 1 be monitored annually and reviewed at least every 5 years, taking the following into account:

- a) the latest population and employment forecasts for the Region; b) the fiscal policies in Section 4.5 of this Plan; c) the York Region Water and Wastewater Master Plan;
- d) the York Region 10-Year Capital Plan; and e) the pace of growth and shifts in the marketplace.

Source of Data: Statistics Canada Census and York Region, Planning and Economic Development

Why this is important: Population and employment growth forecasts form the basis for determining urban land needs, infrastructure and service planning and financial planning, including determining development charges. The Region's forecast is reviewed as part of a Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR). It should be noted that the Region's population and employment forecasts will be updated to be consistent with the **2017 Growth Plan** as part of the Regional MCR. The Regional MCR was recently initiated and will take place over the next 3 years.

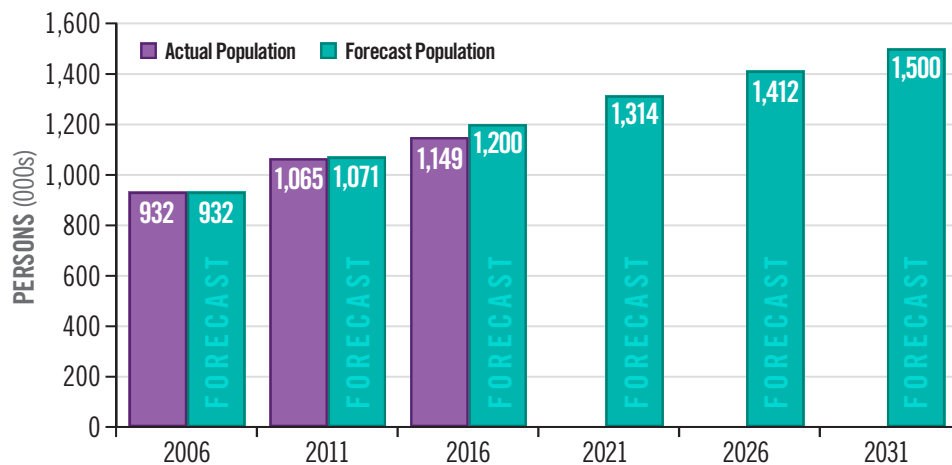


AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

INDICATOR: POPULATION and EMPLOYMENT FORECASTS (continued)

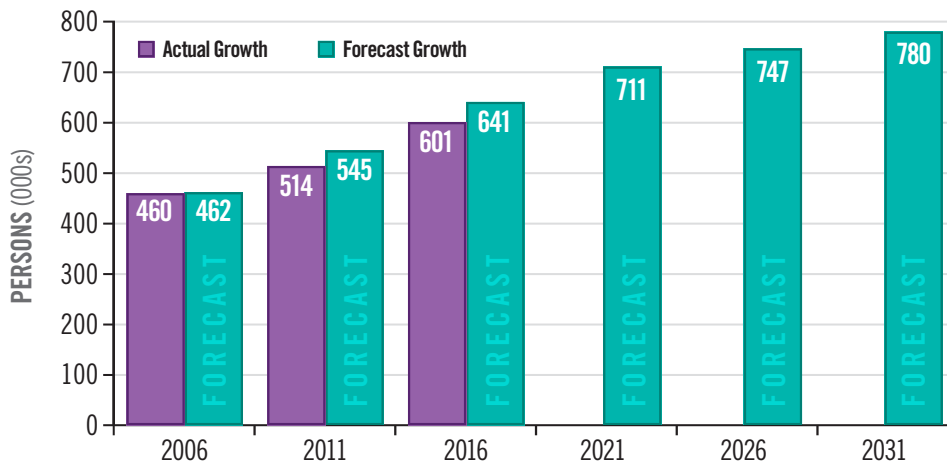
Results: York Region’s total population in 2016 was approximately 1,148,500 (based on 2016 Census, adjusted for an undercount factor) which is approximately 4 per cent lower than the Region’s forecast of 1,200,100. In 2016, York Region’s employment was approximately 600,800, almost 7 per cent lower than the 2016 forecast of 640,500. Despite this discrepancy, strong employment growth in recent years has put the Region back on track to meet the current **Official Plan** employment forecast of 780,000 in 2031. Similarly, it is anticipated that the Region will experience sufficient population growth to meet the 2031 Official Plan forecast.

POPULATION GROWTH (Actual and Forecasted)



Source: Statistics Canada Census and York Region, Planning and Economic Development

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH (Actual and Forecasted)



Source: Statistics Canada Census and York Region, Planning and Economic Development

AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES



INDICATOR: DESIGNATED GREENFIELD AREA (DGA) DENSITY

Description: Residents and jobs combined per developable hectare in selected designated greenfield areas

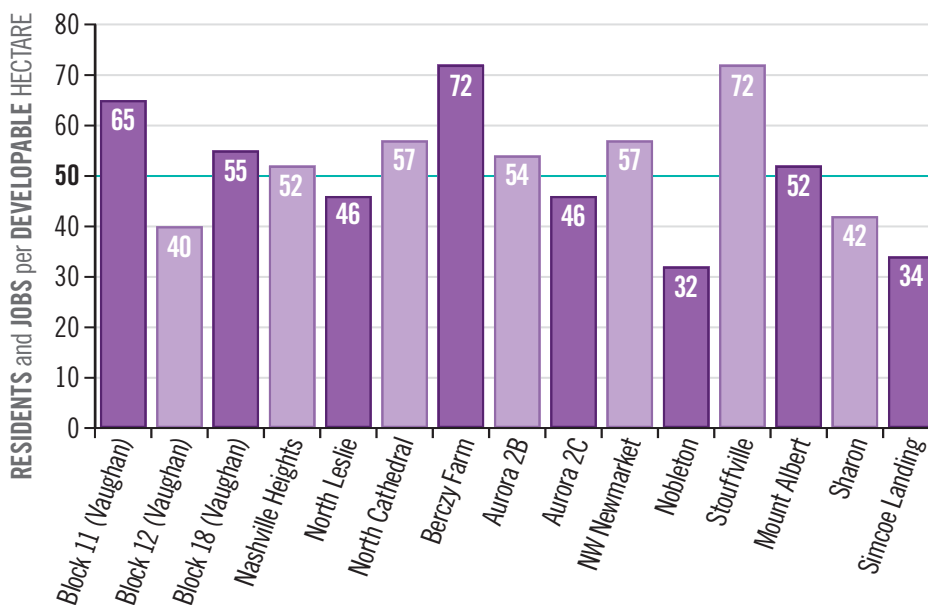
ROP Policy 5.2.14: To require that the designated greenfield area achieve an average minimum density that is not less than 50 residents and jobs combined in the developable area.

Source of Data: York Region, Planning and Economic Development

Why this is important: This policy is a requirement of the Provincial Growth Plan and is meant to promote the development of more compact, efficient and complete communities that are of a sufficient density to support higher level public transits.

Results: The graph below illustrates Designated Greenfield Area (DGA) densities for a sample of York Region communities. The densities range from 32 to over 70 residents and jobs per developable hectare. The DGA density of 50 residents and jobs per developable hectare has to be achieved by 2031 across the Region. It should be noted that most of these sample developments were planned before the Provincial Growth Plan came into effect. The 2017 Growth Plan DGA target is 60 residents and jobs per hectare. However, a change in methodology for calculating DGA density as set out in the 2017 Growth Plan makes this density target easier to achieve. This new target will be used in the current Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review.

DENSITY of SELECT COMMUNITIES in DGAs in YORK REGION



Source: York Region, Planning and Economic Development



AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

INDICATOR: SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

Description: Annual number of buildings that have achieved LEED® Silver, Gold or Platinum standards

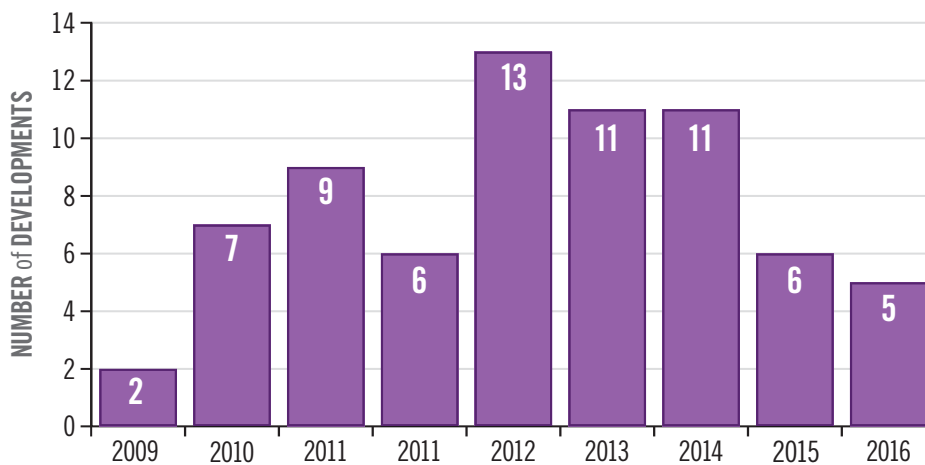
ROP Policy 5.2.24: To encourage that new buildings be designed and certified to LEED® Silver, Gold or Platinum standards, and to provide complementary incentive programs to achieve the successful implementation of LEED® buildings across York Region.

Source of Data: Canada Green Building Council

Why this is important: Sustainable building standards such as LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) will help to create more sustainable communities by incorporating green building technologies as well as renewable and alternative energy options.

Results: Since 2009, an average of 8 projects per year have been LEED® certified. In 2013, 13 projects were certified Silver, Gold, or Platinum, and 2014 and 2015 had 11 certified projects each year. The projects include both residential and non-residential developments in different parts of the Region. Please note that other building standards are also being used throughout the Region. Therefore, this measure only provides an indication of LEED activity and not an absolute number of sustainable buildings being developed in the Region.

NUMBER of LEED® SILVER, GOLD or PLATINUM PROJECTS in YORK REGION



Source: Canada Green Building Council

AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES



INDICATOR: RESIDENTIAL INTENSIFICATION

Description: Annual percent of residential units as a share of total housing units built within York Region's built-up area.

ROP Policy 5.3.1: That by the year 2015 and each year thereafter, a minimum of 40 per cent of all residential development will occur within the built-up area as defined by the Province's Built Boundary in **Places to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe**.

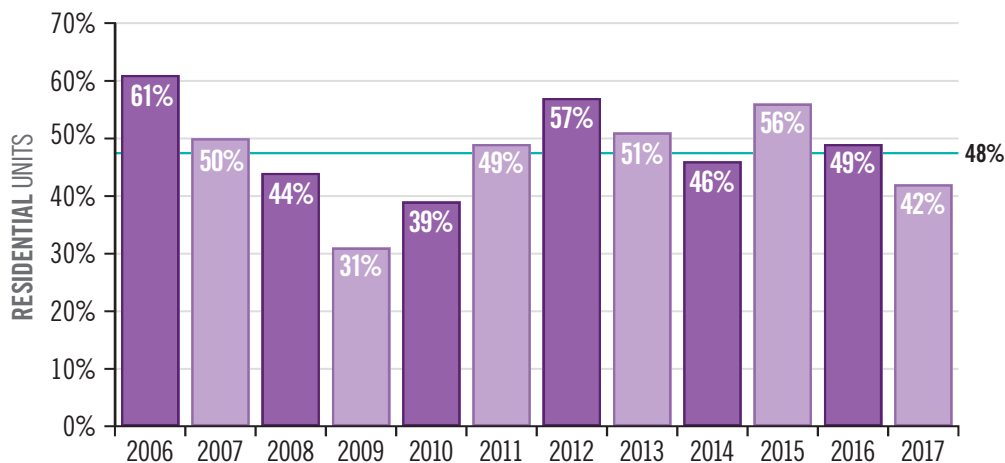
Source of Data: York Region Planning and Economic Development and Local Municipal residential building permit data

Why this is important: This Official Plan policy aligns with the Provincial Growth Plan policy on intensification which sets a target for accommodating growth within existing urban areas as opposed to greenfield locations. Accommodating higher shares of growth through intensification will result in decreased consumption of agricultural land for urban development and better support of investment in public transit and other services.

It should be noted that the 2017 Growth Plan intensification targets are 50 per cent intensification from the completion of the updated Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review up until 2031 and 60 per cent from 2031 to 2041.

Results: Since 2006, York Region's intensification share within the built-up area has averaged 48 per cent. The continuing development of the Region's Centres and Corridors and other intensification areas will contribute to achieving the intensification target.

INTENSIFICATION within BUILT-UP AREA in YORK REGION



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development and Local Municipal residential building permit data



AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

INDICATOR: DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY in REGIONAL CENTRES and CORRIDORS

Description: Population and employment from existing, under construction and proposed residential and non-residential development projects in the Regional Centres (Regional Corridors to be reported on in future monitoring).

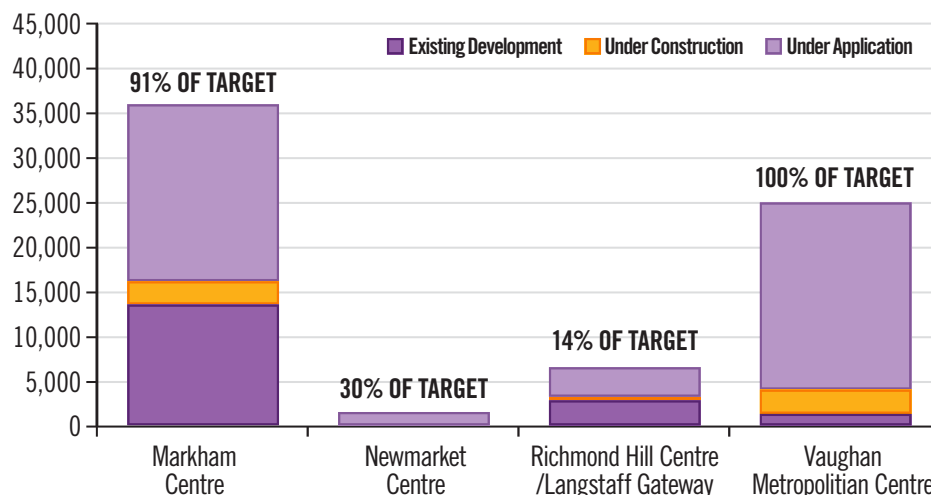
ROP Policy 5.4.13: To work with local municipalities to regularly monitor and report on planning and development activity within the Regional Centres and Corridors.

Source of Data: York Region Planning and Economic Development and Local Municipal information

Why this is important: Regional Centres are intended to be the primary locations for the most intensive concentrations of development within the Region. They are to be vibrant urban places for living, working, shopping, entertainment, cultural identify and human services. Portions of the Regional Centres are also designated Urban Growth Centres under the Provincial Growth Plan which are to be planned to achieve a density of 200 residents and jobs per hectare.

Results: To date, activity with Regional centres has had more emphasis on the residential component but there has been major office and retail development in Markham Centre and Vaughan Metropolitan Centre. Markham Centre is the most advanced of the Regional Centres, having had a local municipal planning framework in place since the mid 1990s. Active development applications in all four Regional Centres are anticipated to result in new population and employment in the next few years. The 2017 completion of the University/ Spadina subway line extension has resulted in increased levels of development interest in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre. In 2017 there was development activity that will equate to approximately 51,000 people and 9,000 jobs.

POPULATION by STATUS of DEVELOPMENT in YORK REGION'S CENTRES



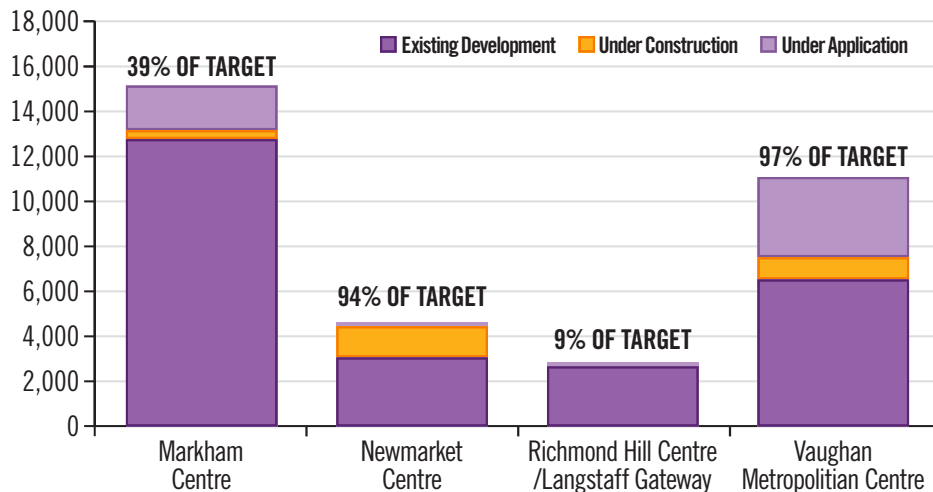
Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development and Local Municipal information

AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES



INDICATOR: DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY in REGIONAL CENTRES and CORRIDORS (continued)

EMPLOYMENT by STATUS of DEVELOPMENT in YORK REGION'S CENTRES



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development and Local Municipal information

INDICATOR: DENSITY of DEVELOPMENT in REGIONAL CENTRES

Description: Floor space index (FSI) of sample of buildings in the Regional Centres

ROP Policy 5.4.23: That the Regional Centres contain the highest development densities and the greatest mix of uses in the Region, and shall achieve a minimum density of: **a)** 2.5 floor space index per development block. This requirement exceeds the **Places to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe** gross minimum density requirement of 200 residents and jobs combined per hectare; and, **b)** 3.5 floor space index per development block, at, and adjacent to, the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Station on the Spadina Subway Extension, and the Langstaff/Longbridge and Richmond Hill stations on the Yonge Subway Extension.

Source of Data: York Region Planning and Economic Development and Local municipal residential building permit data

Why this is important: This policy measures progress towards achieving higher intensity uses in the Regional Centres. The Regional Centres are intended to accommodate the highest intensity and mix of uses and support higher forms of public transit in the Region. Floor Space Index = total building area divided by site area.

AN URBANIZING REGION: BUILDING CITIES and COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

INDICATOR: DENSITY of DEVELOPMENT in REGIONAL CENTRES (continued)

Results: Because the majority of the Regional Centres are at their early stages of development, the indicator examines the site densities achieved for a sample of buildings in the Regional Centres. The results show that all of the sample buildings have achieved a site Floor Space Index (FSI) higher than the Official Plan targets. The Official Plan density targets are not site specific, and are to be achieved by 2031.

ADDRESS	MUNICIPALITY	FSI
8108, 8110, 8128, 8130 Birchmount Road	Markham	4.3
15 and 25 Water Walk Drive	Markham	3.6
89 and 99 South Town Boulevard, 33 Clegg Road, 38 Cederland Drive	Markham	3.6
55 and 65 Oneida Crescent	Richmond Hill	4.2
2900 and 2910 Highway 7	Vaughan	8.7
2871 Highway 7, 180 and 190 Maplecrete Road	Vaughan	6.2
7895 Jane Street	Vaughan	4.1

Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development and Local Municipal information



AGRICULTURAL and RURAL AREAS



Agricultural and Rural Areas form an important part of the fabric of York Region, supporting a vibrant agricultural community and contributing to the economy, quality of life and natural heritage legacy. Agricultural production is an important part of the Region's economy, providing jobs and agricultural products.

Agricultural and Rural Areas Goal: To protect the Agricultural, Rural, and Holland Marsh Specialty Crop Areas and support the agricultural industry as essential components of the Regional fabric.

INDICATOR: AREA FARMED and GROSS FARM RECEIPTS

Description: Area farmed and gross farm receipts (adjusted for inflation)

ROP Policy 6.3: To protect Agricultural and Holland Marsh Specialty Crop Areas for the future to ensure a sustainable agricultural industry.

Source of Data: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture

Why this is important: The agricultural industry is an important part of the Region's economy, providing both jobs and agricultural products. Agricultural areas further contribute to the quality of life in the Region by providing environmental, educational and heritage opportunities. A key attribute of the Region's agricultural industry is the Holland Marsh area which is a designated Specialty Crop Area.

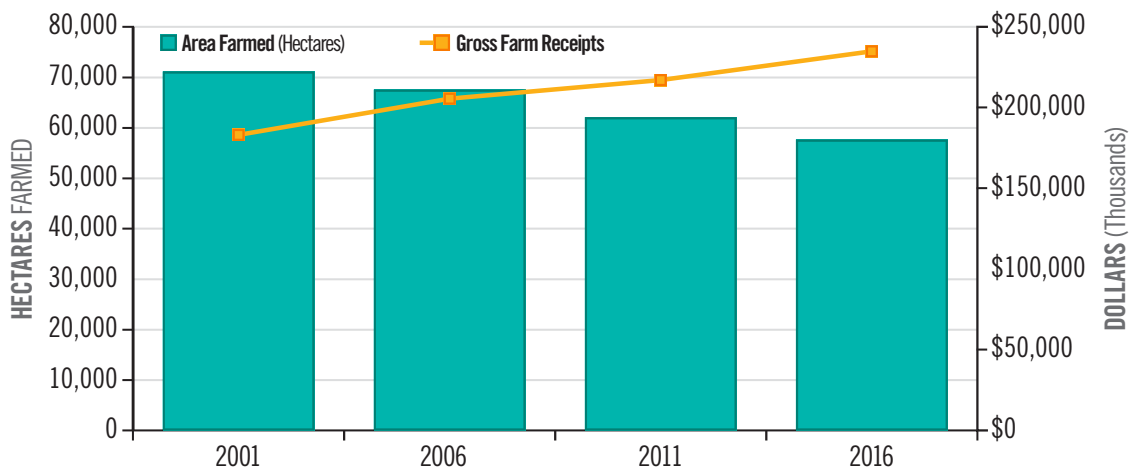


AGRICULTURAL and RURAL AREAS

INDICATOR: AREA FARMED and GROSS FARM RECEIPTS (continued)

Results: As the Region continues to experience growth in both population and employment, agricultural land designated for development has been converted to urban uses. This has resulted in the decline in the total area farmed in the Region from 2001 to 2016. In addition, with the expansion of urban areas in the Region, there is likely to be increasing pressures on farm operations that are in close proximity to urban areas including increased land speculation. A number of factors contribute to the decline in agricultural lands in the Region including the urbanization of agricultural land, and speculation. Despite this trend, the value of gross farm receipts continued to increase over this same period indicating the continued high value of the Holland Marsh Specialty Crop Area and the value of cash crops and other products by agricultural operations in the Region. .

AREA and GROSS FARM RECEIPTS for CENSUS FARMS in YORK REGION



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture

SERVICING OUR POPULATION



York Region is committed to providing state-of-the-art infrastructure for both residents and businesses, vital to maintaining and improving quality of life and economic competitiveness. For the purposes of this section, infrastructure includes transit, streets, water, wastewater, waste management and rail, operated by a variety of public and private sector agencies. The effective provision of services includes reducing demand as well as expanding and updating existing infrastructure.

Servicing Our Population Goal: To provide the services required to support the Region's residents and businesses to 2031 and beyond, in a sustainable manner.

INDICATOR: MODAL SPLIT

Description: Percent of trips by mode of transportation over a 24-hour period

ROP Policy 7.1: To reduce automobile dependence by enhancing opportunities for residents and workers to walk, cycle, take transit, and carpool.

ROP Policy 7.2.26: To achieve an overall transit modal split of 30 per cent during peak periods in the Urban Area and 50 per cent in the Regional Centres and Corridors by 2031.

Source of Data: Ministry of Transportation, Transportation Tomorrow Survey

Why this is important: Multi-modal transportation choices support both population and employment growth in the Region, by relieving congestion, improving goods movement along the Region's major road networks and providing for a better work/life balance. The provision of these transportation options for both residents and workers in the Region also promotes an active lifestyle and overall community well-being and supports sustainability objectives.

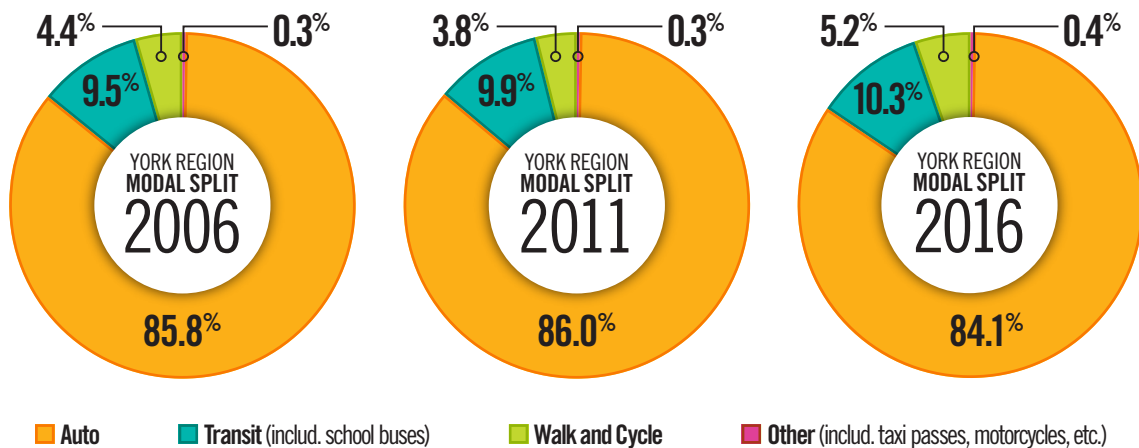


SERVICING OUR POPULATION

INDICATOR: MODAL SPLIT (continued)

Results: Between 2006 and 2016, overall automobile dependence by York Region residents has declined from 85.8 to 84.1 percent. Active transportation modes (walking and cycling) have increased their modal share from 4.4 per cent to 5.2 percent from 2006 to 2016. The share of population using public transportation (which include school buses) has increased from 9.9 per cent in 2011 to 10.3 per cent in 2016. Walking and cycling have also increased. Annual revenue ridership on York Region Transit (YRT) increased from 19.8 million trips in 2011 to 22.4 million trips in 2016. In the Urban Area, the transit modal split in 2016 was 14.6 per cent during the morning peak period, short of the Official Plan target of 30 per cent. Continued investments in transportation, including the opening of the Spadina Subway Extension into York Region in December 2017 and recent expansions to the BRT system will provide more linkages and multi-modal transportation choices for York Region residents and workers.

YORK REGION MODAL SPLIT



Source: Ministry of Transportation, Transportation Tomorrow Survey, 2016

INDICATOR: WASTEWATER INFLOW and INFILTRATION

Description: Reduction in inflow and infiltration

ROP Policy 7.3.24: To work with local municipalities to reduce the amount of inflow and infiltration in both local and Regional wastewater systems.

Source of Data: York Region, Environmental Services, Long Term Water Conservation Strategy and Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy Annual Report

Why this is important: Inflow and infiltration of external water into wastewater systems reduces the capacity of the sewage system leaving less capacity for existing residents and future growth. It makes sewage treatment less efficient, increases infrastructure operating costs and may also result in sewage overflows or overwhelm treatment plants leading to health risks and/or property and environmental damage.

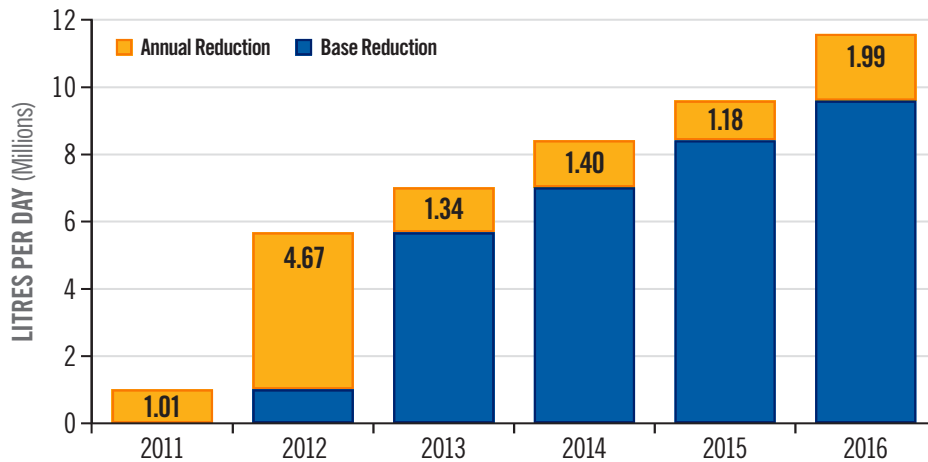
SERVICING OUR POPULATION



INDICATOR: WASTEWATER INFLOW and INFILTRATION (continued)

Results: Since implementation of the Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy in 2011, the Region has continued to make progress in reducing inflow and infiltration. In total, from 2011 to 2016, the Region and local municipalities reduced inflow and infiltration by 11.6 million litres of flow per day (MLD) in the York Durham Sewage System (YDSS) representing 29 per cent of the 2031 target reduction of 40 MLD. These reductions have been achieved through operation and maintenance programs, private initiatives and capital rehabilitation projects and were quantified through flow monitoring programs and investigative studies. The programs have been supplemented and developed further through the use of pilot projects and the implementation of new technologies and guidelines for new construction.

REDUCTION in WASTEWATER INFLOW and INFILTRATION



Source: York Region, Environmental Services

INDICATOR: WATER CONSERVATION

Description: Water consumption per capita

ROP Policy 7.1.19 to 7.1.24: To ensure adequate water resources for today's residents and future generations, through conservation and efficiency.

Source of Data: York Region, Environmental Services

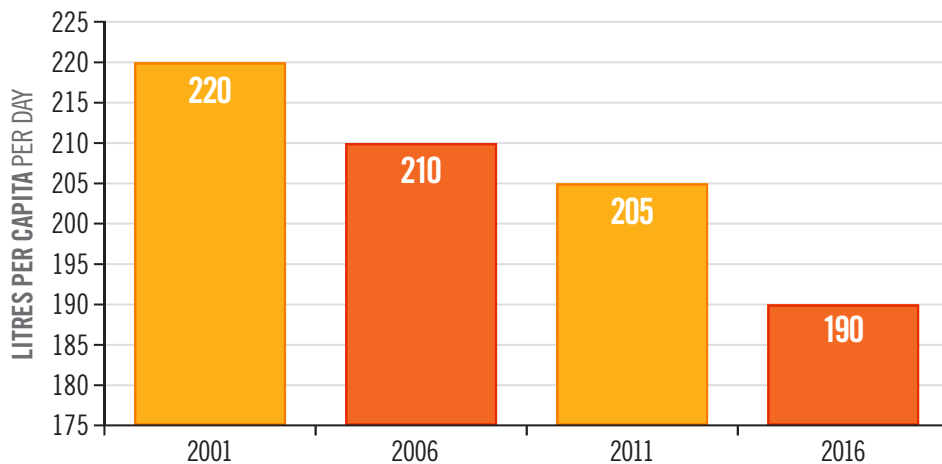
Results: Residential water consumption per capita has declined from 220 litres per capita per day in 2010 to 190 litres per capita per day in 2016. Through York Region's Water for Tomorrow program, a number of initiatives are being undertaken to reduce water consumption including rebates and incentives, education, improved maintenance of water infrastructure systems and others.



SERVICING OUR POPULATION

INDICATOR: WATER CONSERVATION (continued)

ESTIMATED RESIDENTIAL WATER CONSUMPTION YORK REGION



Source: York Region, Environmental Services

INDICATOR: WASTE DIVERSION

Description: Percentage of solid waste diverted from landfill (including energy-from-waste)

ROP Policy 7.4.2: To surpass waste management regulatory requirements by:

a) achieving at least 80 per cent diversion from landfill by 2010; b) achieving over 90 per cent diversion from landfill by 2016; and, c) eliminating the disposal of unprocessed waste in landfill by 2020.

Source of Data: York Region, Environmental Services, Annual Diversion Report (York Region Solid Waste Management)

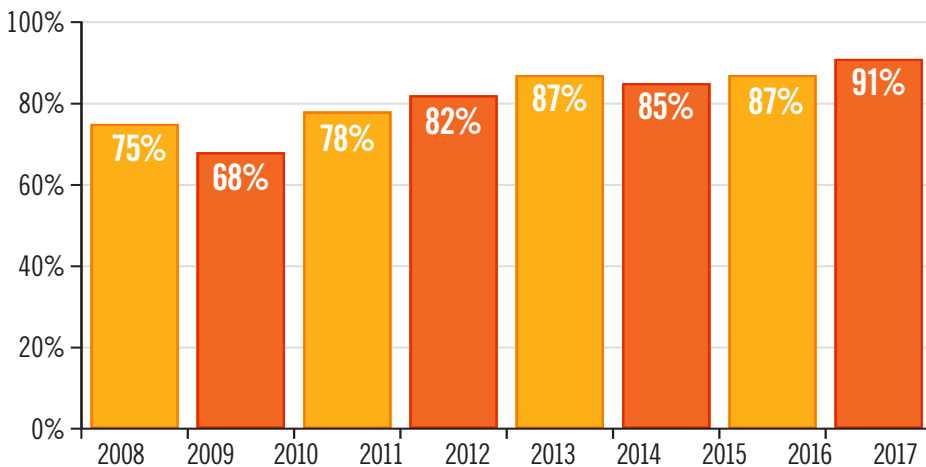
Why this is important: Sustainable waste management is a key component of achieving public health and sustainable environment goals. The Official Plan policies related to waste management focus on achieving an efficient waste management system that minimizes material entering the waste stream. Waste diversion from landfill is an important element of the Region's waste management planning.

SERVICING OUR POPULATION

INDICATOR: WASTE DIVERSION (continued)

Results: Solid waste diversion from landfill has increased from 75 per cent in 2009 to 91 per cent in 2016. The York Region Official Plan target for 2016 of 90 per cent diversion was achieved.

PER CENT SOLID WASTE DIVERTED from LANDFILL



Source: York Region, Environmental Services, Annual Diversion Report (York Region Solid Waste Management)





➔ Create a competitive and flexible economic environment that encourages investment and a diversity of employment opportunities



For more information on businesses
in York Region please contact:

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1-877-464-9675

Extension 71508

futureyork@york.ca

2018 YORK REGION
OFFICIAL PLAN
MONITORING REPORT

For more information on York Region's
Official Plan please contact:




PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1-877-464-9675 Extension 71508

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Table 1 - Regional Official Plan (ROP) Monitoring Indicators

 Trending in desired direction
  Progress Neutral
  Not trending in desired direction








Indicator by ROP Chapter	Description	Highlight/Trend	
Chapter 2 - Sustainable Natural Environment			
Tree and shrub plantings	Annual number of trees and shrubs planted through Greening Strategy initiatives (Planted on Public and Private lands)	Over 770,000 trees and shrubs have been planted since 2009 with an annual average of approximately 86,000.	
Environmental land protection and preservation	Area of environmental lands protected by the Region	Over 600 hectares have been protected since 2009, with an annual average of 71 hectares.	
Woodland cover	Percentage of woodland cover in the Region	Land area covered by woodland has increased from 22.5 per cent in 2009 to 23.2 per cent in 2015, moving closer to the Official Plan target of 25 per cent.	
Chapter 3 - Healthy Communities			
Housing mix	Housing mix of new housing completions in the Region in 2008-2012 and 2013 – 2017	The housing mix continues to shift towards a more balanced mix with a higher share of medium and high density housing being developed. In 2017, about 64 per cent of the Region's total housing stock were single detached units, reflecting a 3 per cent increase in higher density forms.	

Table 1 - Regional Official Plan (ROP) Monitoring Indicators (continued)

 Trending in desired direction
  Progress neutral
  Not trending in desired direction









Indicator by ROP Chapter	Description	Highlight/Trend	
Chapter 3 - Healthy Communities (continued)			
Housing supply	Ability of the Regional housing supply to meet the Official Plan policy requirements	The Region’s designated housing supply (approximately 22 years) exceeds the minimum ten year requirement of the Official Plan and Provincial Policy Statement. The five year supply of registered and draft approved plans meets the required 3-7 year supply.	 
Affordable housing	Minimum 25 per cent of new housing units to be affordable Minimum 35 per cent of new housing units in Regional Centres and Key Development Areas to be affordable	The Official Plan affordability target was met each year from 2013 to 2016, ranging from 31 to 46 per cent, however, more diversity of built form is required.	
New non-profit housing	Construction of new non-profit housing	Since 2009, the number of units in the York Region Social Housing Portfolio has progressively increased reaching 6,774 units in 2017 up from 5,951 in 2009.	
Chapter 4 – Economic Vitality			
Live-work ratio	The per cent of the Region’s labour force that both live and work in the Region	The live-work ratio increased from 55.4 per cent in 2011 to 57.6 per cent in 2016. York Region’s activity rate indicates that this ratio should increase in the future.	

Table 1 - Regional Official Plan (ROP) Monitoring Indicators (continued)

 Trending in desired direction
  Progress neutral
  Not trending in desired direction









Indicator by ROP Chapter	Description	Highlight/Trend	
Chapter 4 – Economic Vitality (continued)			
Activity rate	Ratio of employment to population	Since 2011 the activity rate has increased steadily. In 2017, the ROP target of 50 per cent was exceeded with 51.8 per cent or more than one job for every two residents.	
Employment land conversion	Annual area of employment land converted to non-employment uses	Between 2012 and 2016, approximately 241 net hectares were converted from employment land to non-employment uses.	
Chapter 5 – An Urbanizing Region			
Population and employment forecasts	Comparison of actual and forecast population and employment	In 2016, the population was approximately 4 per cent lower than the Region’s forecast while employment was almost 7 per cent below forecast. Despite this discrepancy, the Region is on target to meet its 2031 forecasts.	
Designated Greenfield Area (DGA) density.	Residents and jobs combined per hectare in selected Designated Greenfield Areas	Sample communities identify progress towards meeting the DGA density target.	
Sustainable buildings	Annual number of LEED® silver, gold and platinum certified projects in York Region	Since 2009, an average of 8 projects per year have been LEED® certified.	

Table 1 - Regional Official Plan (ROP) Monitoring Indicators (continued)

 Trending in desired direction
  Progress neutral
  Not trending in desired direction













Indicator by ROP Chapter	Description	Highlight/Trend	
Chapter 5 – An Urbanizing Region (continued)			
Residential Intensification	Annual share of residential building permits within the built-up area in the Region (ROP target 40 per cent)	Since 2006, the share of annual development within the Built-up area has averaged 48 per cent.	
Development activity in Regional Centres and Corridors	Existing, under construction and proposed development resulting in population and employment in the Regional Centres and Corridors	The Regional Centres and Corridors continue to move towards their population and employment targets. As of 2017, active applications and projects under construction account for approximately 51,000 people and 9,000 jobs.	
Density of development in Regional Centres	Floor Space Index (FSI) for buildings in the Regional Centres	The majority of new buildings in Regional Centres are meeting or exceeding ROP density targets.	
Chapter 6 – Agricultural and Rural Areas			
Area farmed	Change in land area being farmed in the Region	As can be expected, there has been a decline in agricultural land between 2001 and 2016 of 13,508 hectares or 19 per cent.	
Gross farm receipts	Annual gross farm receipts (revenue)	There has been an increase in Gross Farm Receipts between 2001 and 2016 from approximately \$183M to \$235M or 28 per cent.	

Table 1 - Regional Official Plan (ROP) Monitoring Indicators (continued)

 Trending in desired direction
  Progress neutral
  Not trending in desired direction

Indicator by ROP Chapter	Description	Highlight/Trend	
Chapter 7 – Servicing our Population			
Modal Split	Percentage of total daily trips using transit, cycling and walking	Between 2006 and 2016 transit usage has increased by 0.8 per cent. Active transportation modes (walking and cycling) have also increased from 4.4 to 5.2 per cent.	
Wastewater inflow and infiltration	Inflow and infiltration in Regional and local wastewater systems	Reductions in inflow and infiltration have continued each year between 2011 and 2016, with a total reduction of 11.6 million litres of flow per day over this period.	
Water conservation	Annual water consumption	Residential water consumption per capita has declined from 220 litres per capita per day in 2010 to 190 litres per capita per day in 2016.	
Waste diversion	Annual level of waste diversion from landfill	Solid waste diversion from landfill has increased from 75 per cent in 2009 to 91 per cent in 2016, achieving the ROP 2016 target of 90 per cent diversion.	

A low-angle photograph of the York Region clock tower building, featuring two prominent towers with circular clock faces, set against a clear blue sky. The building's facade is made of light-colored stone or concrete with horizontal lines. The image is partially obscured by a large, stylized graphic element in the bottom right corner, which consists of overlapping light grey and purple shapes.

YORK REGION OFFICIAL PLAN MONITORING REPORT

2018

Sandra Malcic
Planning and Economic Development,
Corporate Services
April 12, 2018

The logo for York Region, featuring a stylized white bird or wing icon above the text "York Region" in a white serif font.

York Region

NEED FOR OFFICIAL PLAN MONITORING

Track progress



Identify emerging trends






Provide basis for policy adjustments

Inform the Municipal Comprehensive Review

22 INDICATORS

Regional Official Plan Chapter	Number of Indicators
Sustainable Natural Environment	3
Healthy Communities	4
Economic Vitality	3
An Urbanizing Region	6
Agricultural and Rural Areas	2
Servicing our Population	4

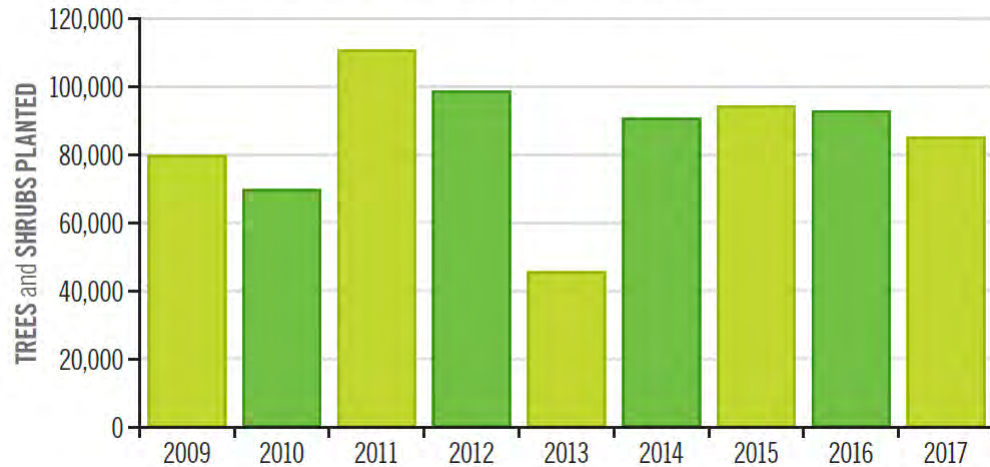
INDICATORS

- 17  Trending in desired direction
- 3  Progress neutral
- 2  Not trending in desired direction

SUSTAINABLE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Tree and Shrub Plantings ✓

NUMBER of TREES and SHRUBS PLANTED, YORK REGION



Woodland Cover ✓

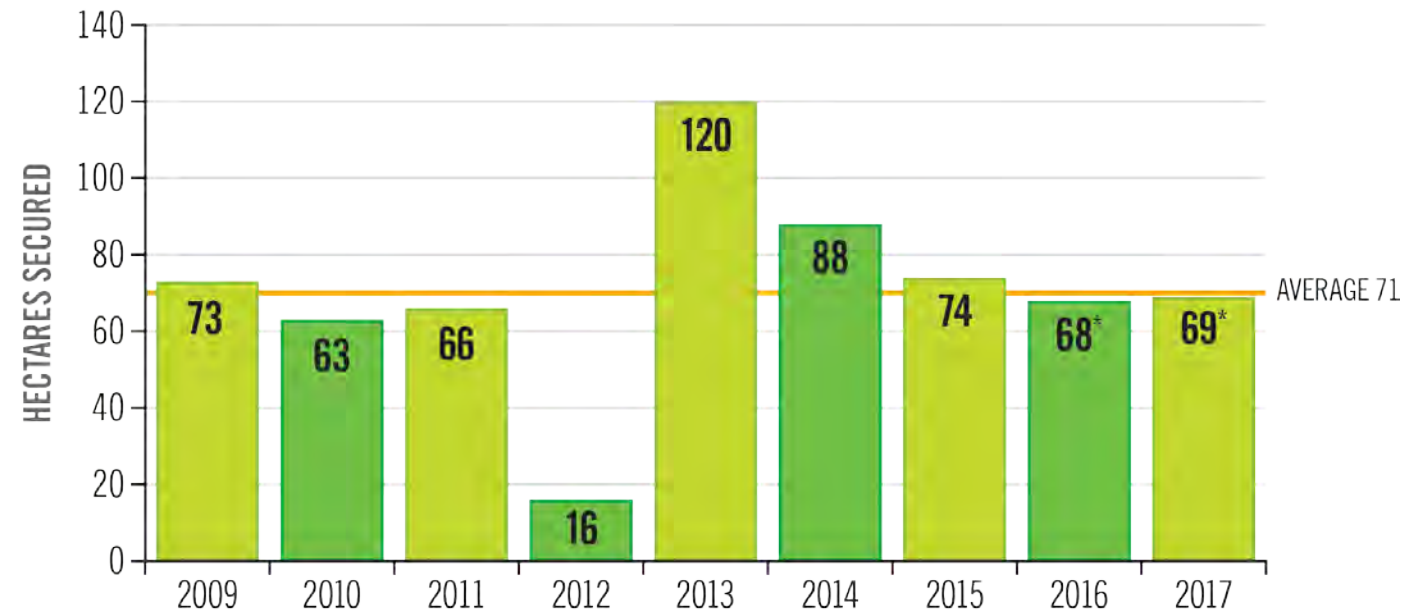
- In 2015 reached 23.2% getting closer to the 2031 target of 25%



SUSTAINABLE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Land Protection and Preservation

AREA of LAND SECURED through RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS



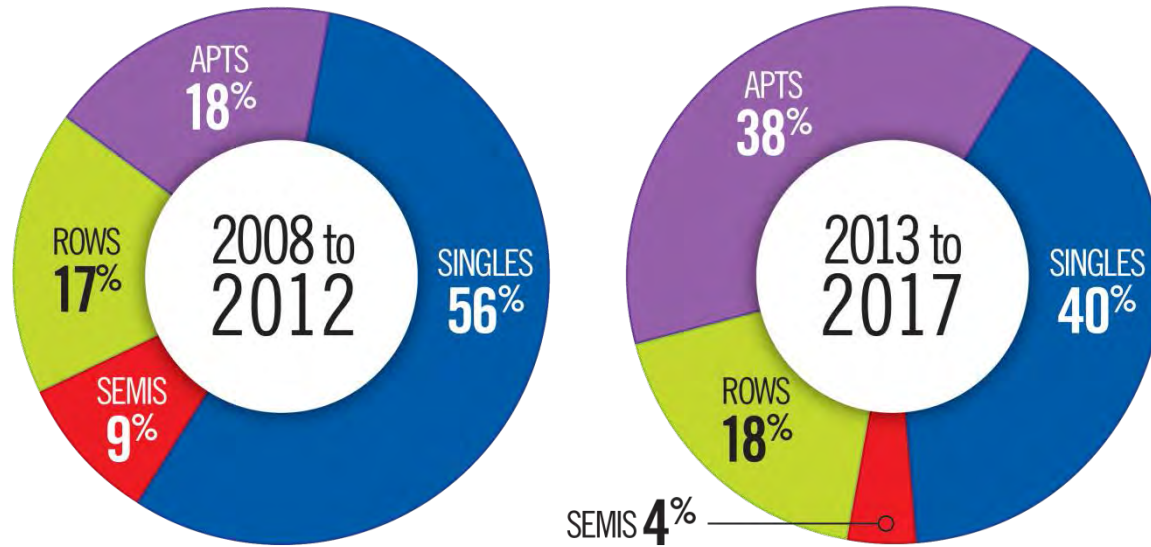
*Calculated using five year annual rolling average



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Housing Mix

HOUSING COMPLETIONS by DWELLING TYPE



Housing Supply

- 22 years of designated housing supply
- 5 years of housing supply in registered and draft approved units

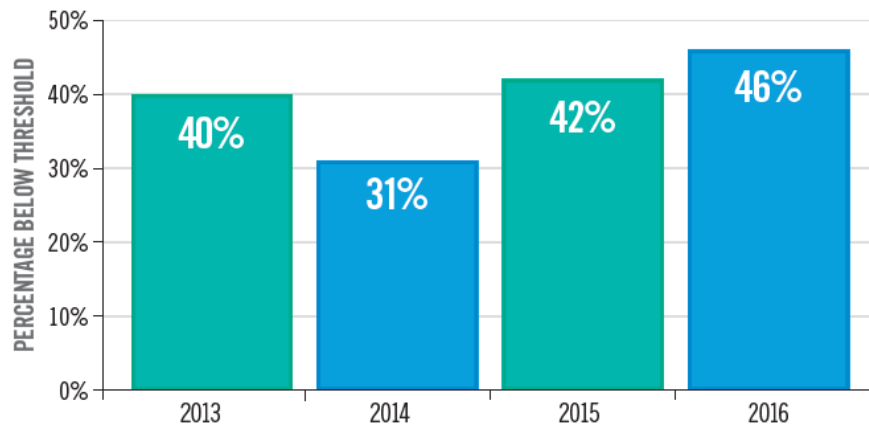


HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Affordable Housing ✓

- Affordability target met each year between 2013 and 2016

NEW UNITS BELOW the AFFORDABLE THRESHOLD



Source: York Region Planning and Economic Development Branch



New non-profit housing ✓

- Since 2009, units in the Social Housing Portfolio have increased reaching 6,774 units in 2017, up from 5,951

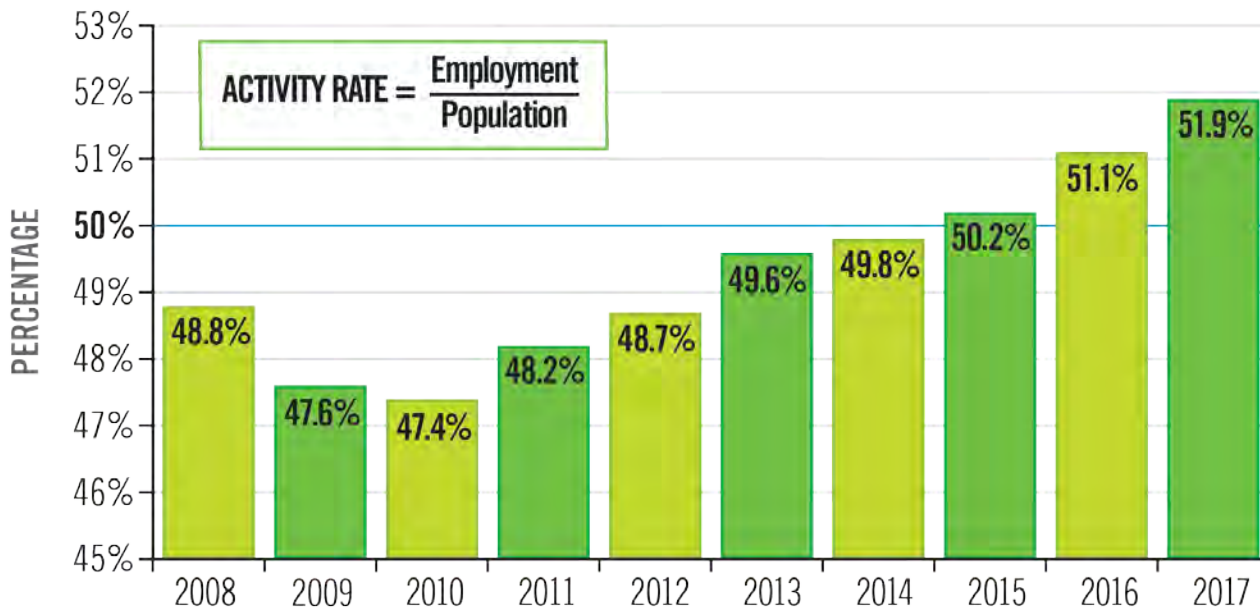
ECONOMIC VITALITY

Live/Work Ratio ☹️

- Increased from 55.4% in 2011 to 57.6% in 2016

Activity Rate ✅

YORK REGION ACTIVITY RATE

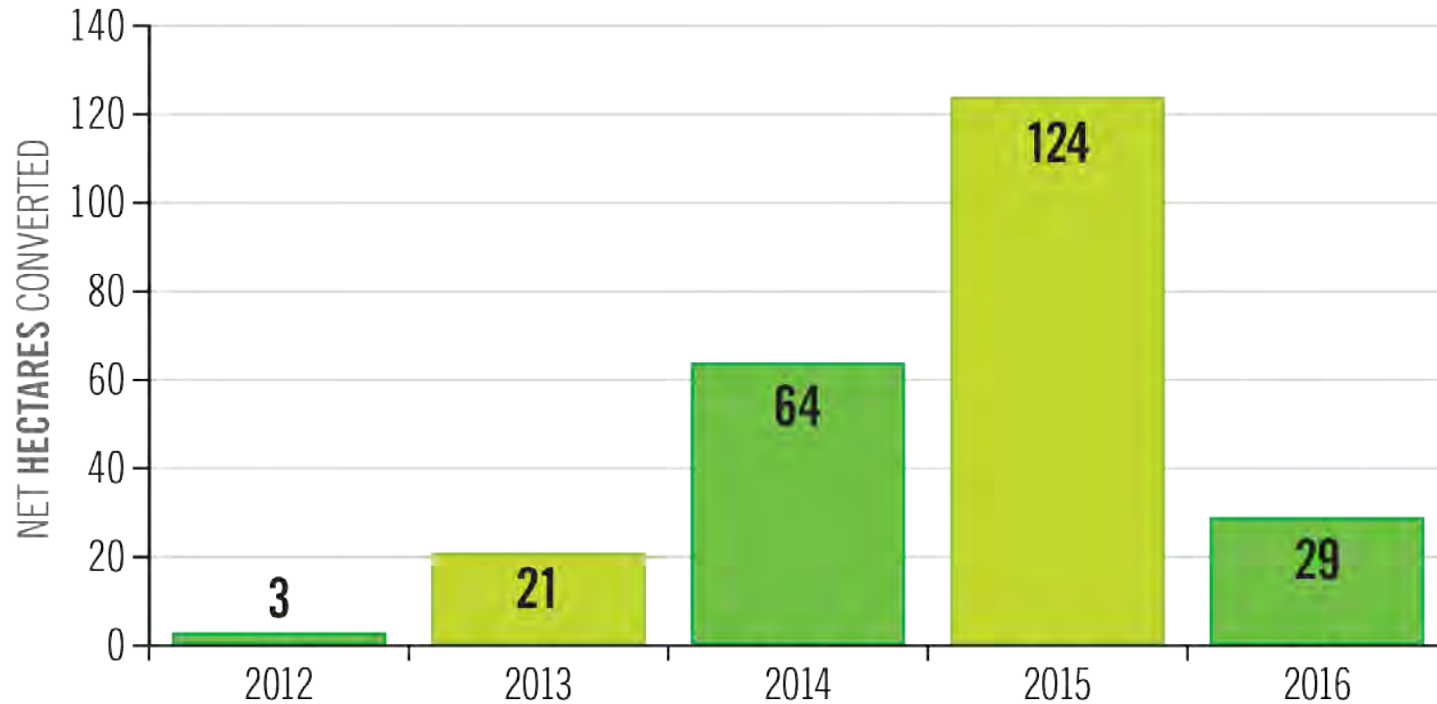


ECONOMIC VITALITY

Employment Land Conversion ❌

- Approximately 241 net hectares of employment land converted to non-employment uses since 2012

EMPLOYMENT LAND CONVERSIONS

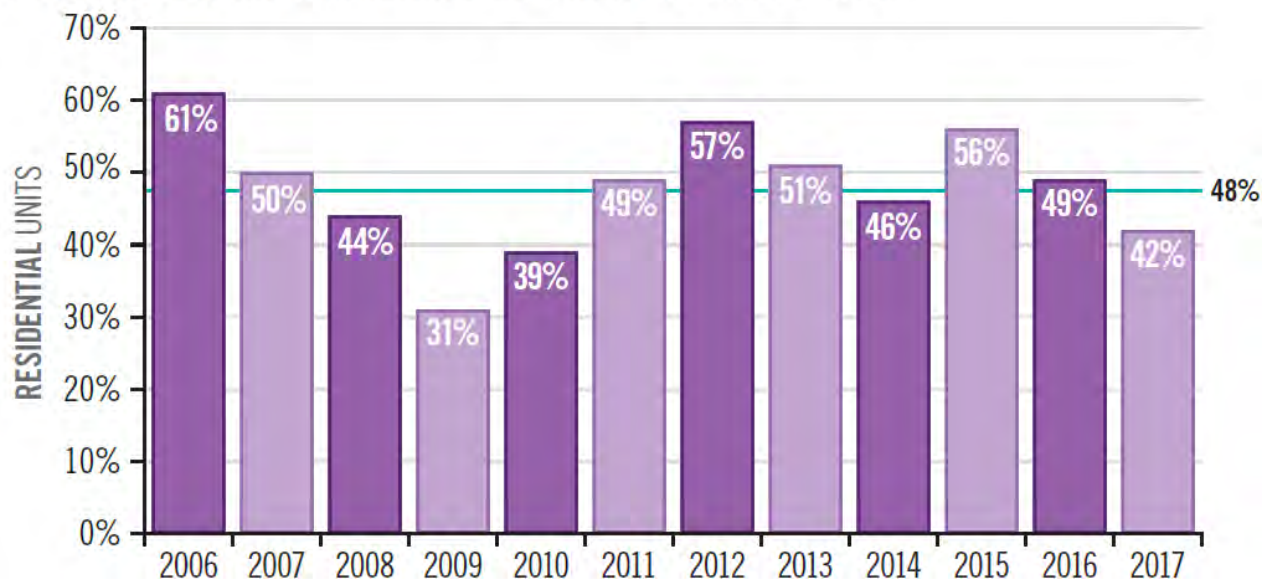


Now may only be considered at time of Regional MCR

AN URBANIZING REGION

Residential Intensification ✓

INTENSIFICATION within BUILT-UP AREA in YORK REGION



Development Activity in Regional Centres and Corridors ✓

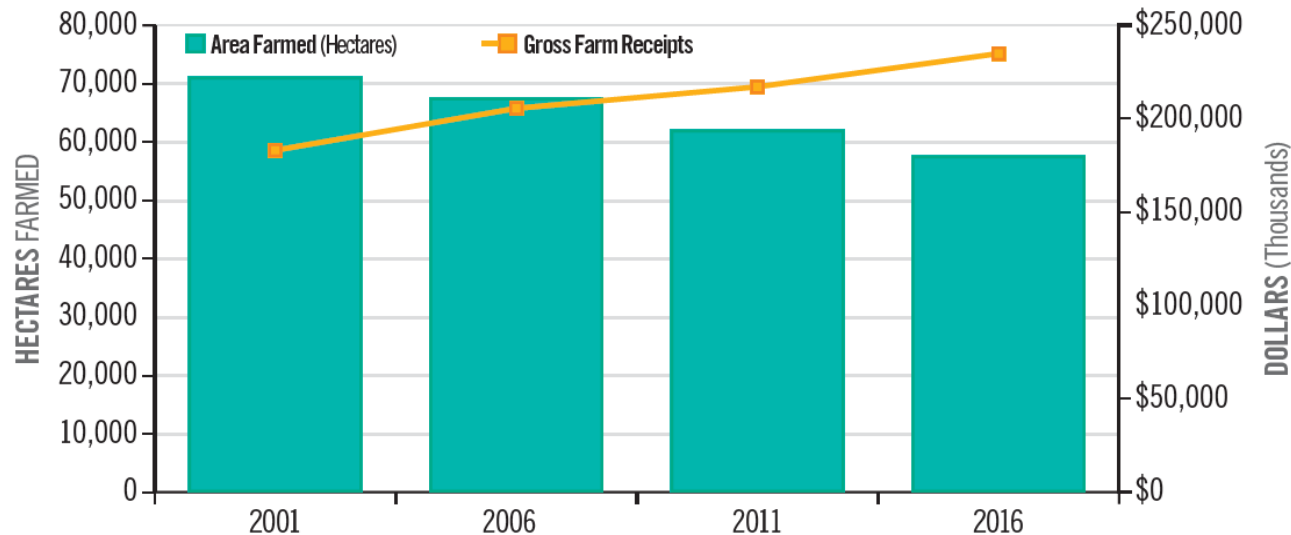
- Active applications and projects under construction account for approximately 51,000 people and 9,000 jobs

AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL AREAS

Area Farmed and Gross Farm Receipts

- Between 2001 and 2016, total area farmed has declined while the value of gross farm receipts continues to increase

AREA and GROSS FARM RECEIPTS for CENSUS FARMS in YORK REGION

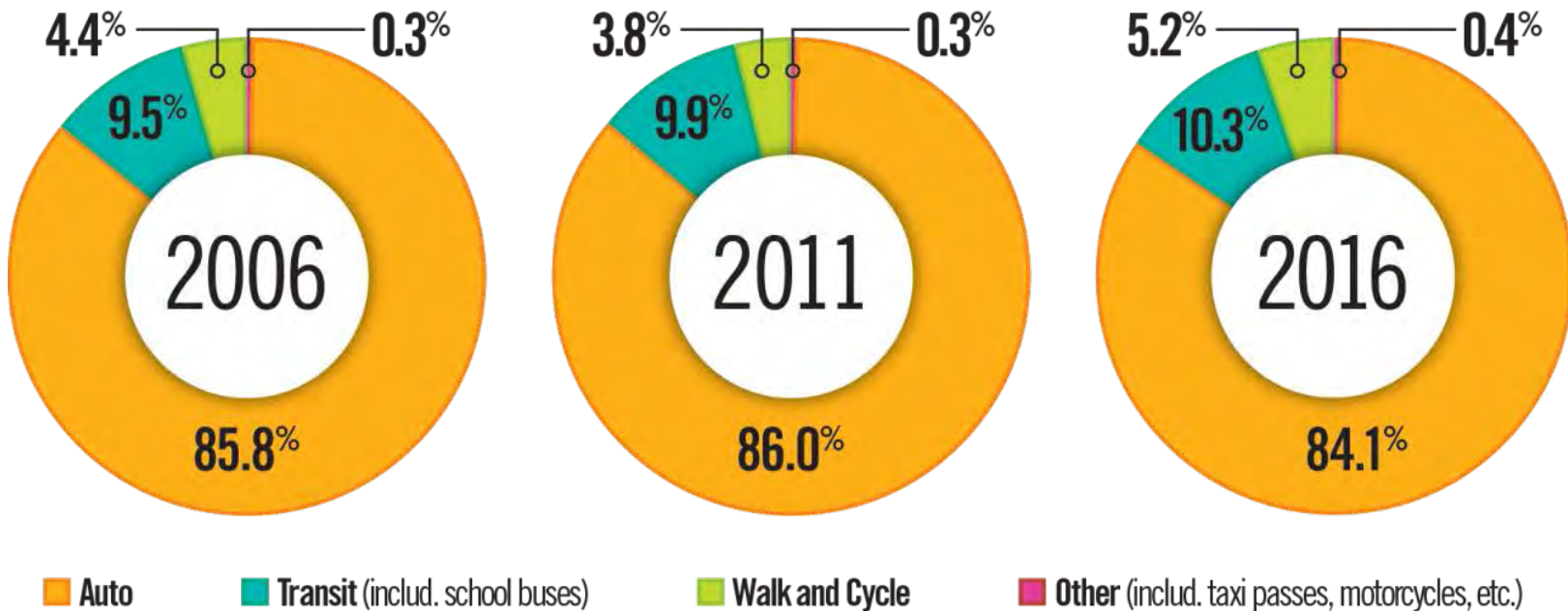


SERVICING OUR POPULATION

Modal Split

- Between 2006 and 2016 transit usage and active transportation modes (walking and cycling) have increased

YORK REGION MODAL SPLIT

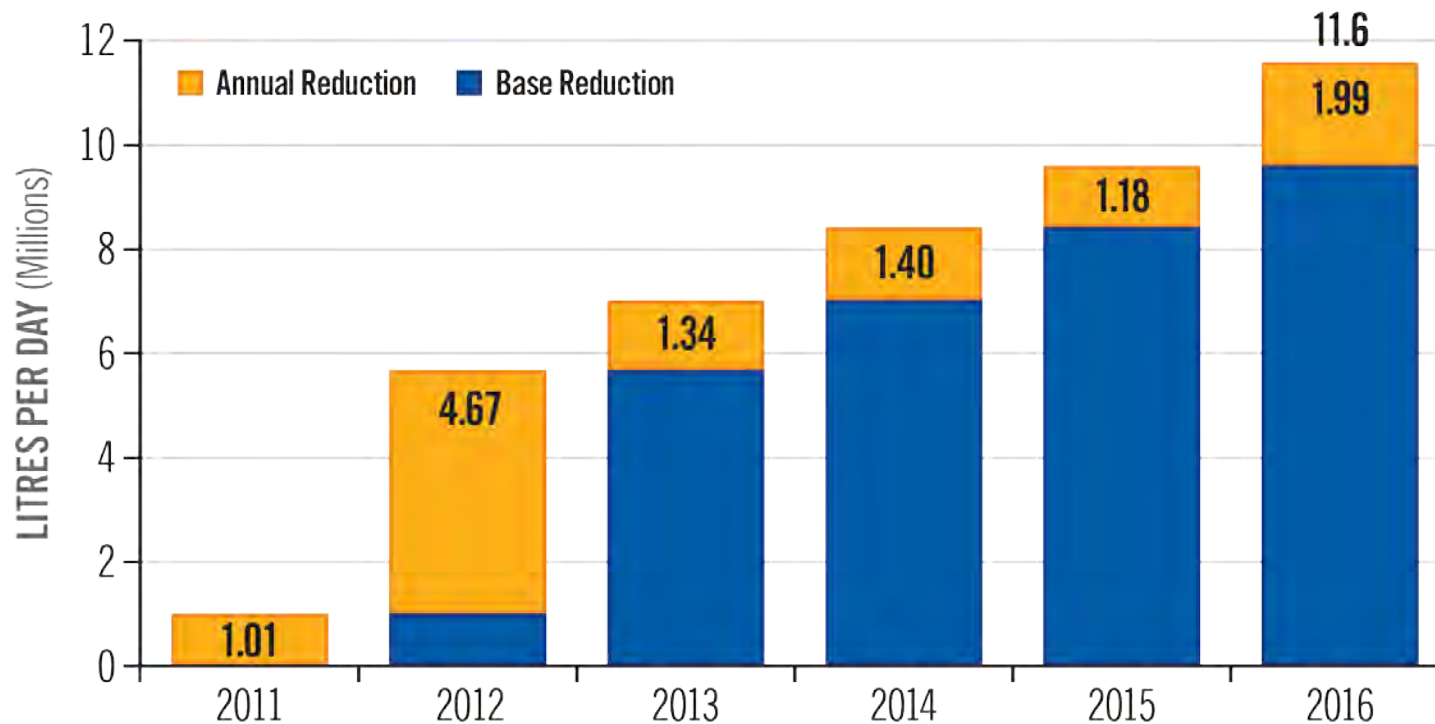


SERVICING OUR POPULATION

Wastewater inflow and infiltration

- Total reduction of 11.6 million litres of flow per day between 2011 and 2016

REDUCTION in WASTEWATER INFLOW and INFILTRATION



SERVICING OUR POPULATION

Water Conservation ✓

- Residential water consumption per capita has declined from 220 litres per capita per day in 2010 to 190 litres per capita per day in 2016



Waste Diversion ✓

- Solid waste diversion from landfill has increased from 75 per cent in 2009 to 91 per cent in 2016, achieving the ROP 2016 target of 90 per cent diversion

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THIS
REPORT BE CIRCULATED TO THE
LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES FOR
INFORMATION**

The Region is well on its way to achieving Official Plan targets & objectives

THANK YOU

For more information

Contact Sandra Malcic

Sandra.malcic@york.ca x75274





April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:


Re: 2017 Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "2017 Paramedic Response Time Performance Results":

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.
2. The Regional Chair write to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care requesting the Minister expedite the modernization of technology and processes in Georgian Central Ambulance Communication Centre in order to improve the efficiency of call handling and paramedic services responses.

A copy of Clause 12 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Norm Barrette, Chief and General Manager, Paramedic and Seniors Services, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74709 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachment

Clause 12 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

12

2017 Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.
2. The Regional Chair write to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care requesting the Minister expedite the modernization of technology and processes in Georgian Central Ambulance Communication Centre in order to improve the efficiency of call handling and paramedic services responses.

Report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.
2. The Regional Chair write to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care requesting the Minister expedite the modernization of technology and processes in Georgian Central Ambulance Communication Centre in order to improve the efficiency of call handling and paramedic services responses.

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

2. Purpose

This report informs Council of the 2017 performance results by Paramedic Services against the targets set by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Council. Paramedic Services exceeded all targets. This report also highlights ongoing service efficiencies and innovations that have been achieved as a result of Council approved initiatives.

3. Background and Previous Council Direction

The Region is required to maintain paramedic response time performance targets based on patient acuity levels

The Region is required to maintain response time targets in accordance with the Ambulance Act, Regulation 257/00. Under this regulation, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care sets specific targets based on the Canadian Triage Acuity Scale. The Acuity Scale is a five-level assessment tool used in hospital Emergency Departments to determine the severity of a patient's condition. The Canadian Triage Acuity Scale ranges from 1 to 5, with 1 as the highest severity level (resuscitation) and 5 the least severity level (non-urgent). It defines a patient's need for timely care.

Council established a response time performance plan in 2012

Of the immediate neighbouring municipalities, the Regions of Durham and Halton and the City of Toronto adopted a response time framework consistent with 75th percentile. In addition, the City of Hamilton and the City of Ottawa adopted the framework consistent with the 75th percentile detailed in Table 1.

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

Table 1

2012 GTA Proposed Common Paramedic Services Response Times

Category	Requirement Time - Dispatch to Arrival On Scene	GTA Common Target (%)
Sudden Cardiac Arrest***	AED within 6 minutes**	60
CTAS 1*	8 minutes	75
CTAS 2	10 minutes	75
CTAS 3	15 minutes	75
CTAS 4	20 minutes	75
CTAS 5	25 minutes	75

*Canadian Triage Acuity Scale (CTAS)

**Community Target - arrival of any person equipped with an Automated External Defibrillator (includes fire and/or police departments and public bystanders) based on Paramedic Services data only.

***Sudden Cardiac Arrest is a condition included in the CTAS 1 category

On September 20, 2012, the York Region Emergency Medical Services Response Time Performance Plan 2013 was adopted by Council. Staff had recommended target based on the 75th percentiles consistent with neighbouring municipalities. Council amended the targets, setting higher standards:

- Canadian Triage Acuity Scale 2 – 80%
- Canadian Triage Acuity Scale 3 – 90%
- Canadian Triage Acuity Scale 4 – 90%
- Canadian Triage Acuity Scale 5 – 90%

The Region of Peel adopted a different target framework ranging from the 75th percentile to the 90th percentile. The Region of Niagara adopted a response time framework using the 90th percentile, which they are able to achieve because they operate their own distinct dispatch system which supports the setting of focused targets.

Municipal performance results for each response time requirement must be submitted annually to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Emergency Health Services Branch. The results are posted on the government's web site for public viewing.

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

4. Analysis and Implications

York Region Paramedic Services have exceeded all targets

Table 2 displays the requirements set by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term and Regional Council, and the 2017 results achieved. As shown in the table, York Region Paramedic Services have met and exceeded all targets. For example, for patients assessed at level 1 on the Acuity Scale, the target is to arrive at the scene in eight minutes 75% of the time. In 2017, Paramedic Services arrived within eight minutes 78% of the time.

Table 2
Performance Requirements Set by Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Targets Set by Regional Council

Category	% of Total Responses	Requirement Time - Dispatch to Arrival On Scene	2017 Target (%)	2017 Result (%)
Sudden Cardiac Arrest***	0.8%	AED within 6 minutes**	60	66
CTAS 1*	1.7%	8 minutes	75	78
CTAS 2	24%	10 minutes	80	85
CTAS 3	59%	15 minutes	90	92
CTAS 4	11%	20 minutes	90	96
CTAS 5	4%	25 minutes	90	98

* Canadian Triage Acuity Scale (CTAS)

** Community Target - arrival of any person equipped with an Automated External Defibrillator (includes fire and/or police departments and public bystanders) based on Paramedic Services data only.

***Sudden Cardiac Arrest is a condition included in the CTAS 1 category

Note: The time requirement from dispatch to arrival on scene for Sudden Cardiac Arrest and CTAS 1 are set by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (bolded in Table 1). Targets for CTAS 2 through 5 are set by the Region. The regulation under the *Ambulance Act* requires upper-tier municipalities to develop land ambulance response times and performance targets for each patient type.

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

Further Improvements in response time performance may be realized with modernization of key provincial dispatch systems

To achieve response time improvements above current levels, changes would be required to the provincial dispatch system. When a dispatch is made, the current provincial triage process assigns the call as either urgent (lights and sirens) or prompt (no lights and sirens). Over 75 per cent (more than 55,000 incidents annually) of all calls for York Region Paramedic Services are categorized as urgent by the provincial system. The dispatch triage does not identify patients by the Canadian Triage Acuity Scale level; that is determined by the paramedic after they arrive at the scene. Of these 55,000 incidents dispatched as "urgent", less than 2 per cent are truly urgent (Canadian Triage Acuity Scale 1) requiring a response within 8 minutes or an Automatic External Defibrillator within 6 minutes.

The impact of over-prioritizing paramedic services calls, resulting in inefficient use of paramedic resources and overuse of other first responders.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has not yet confirmed timelines for the new Provincial Dispatch System technology upgrades

On June 24, 2010, Council received the Greater Toronto Area Central Ambulance Communication Centre consultant report produced by POMAX Public Safety. The report, which was initiated by the Regions of York, Peel, Durham, Halton, and the County of Simcoe, made a number of recommendations for the Emergency Medical Services dispatch system to improve system efficiencies. Since that time, regional staff has worked with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term care to provide feedback on the report's recommendations.

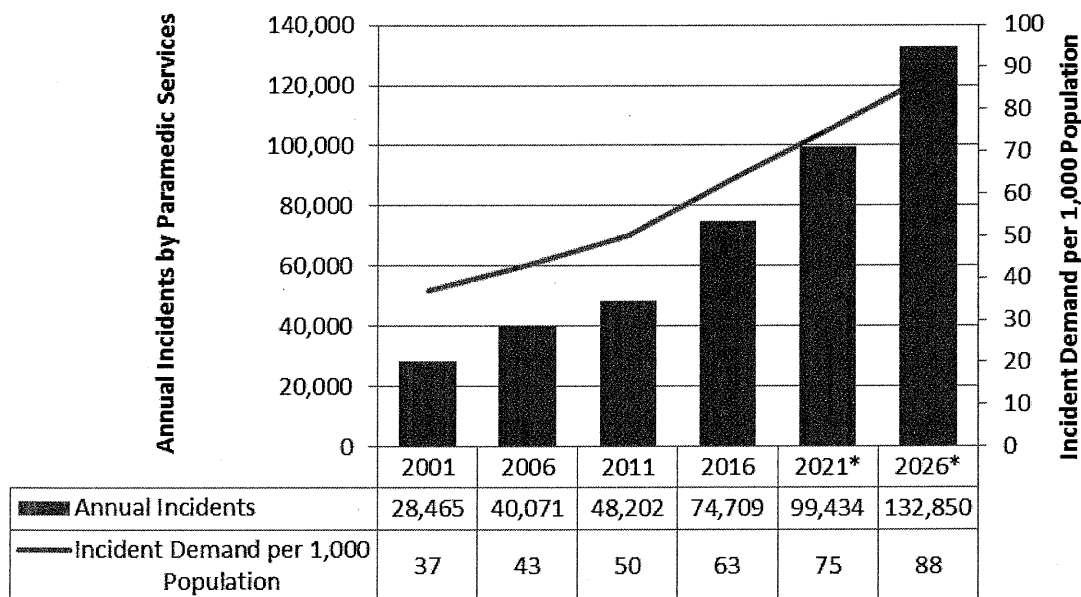
As part of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care strategy to transform Ontario's Emergency Health Services, the Province will be investing in a new Medical Dispatch System and in upgrades to the Computer Aided Dispatch system over the next three years. Once these new systems are operational, targeted response time improvement opportunities will be available. It is therefore important that the implementation and access to the new system is expedited. The Provincial rollout schedule has yet to be announced.

Paramedic Services Call Volume has increased and is expected to continue to increase with an aging population

Despite consistently exceeding annual performance targets, Paramedic Services continue to face pressure as the demand for services continues to increase. As shown in Figure 1, demand for Paramedic Services per 1,000 residents have increased since 2001; an average annual growth rate of 5 per cent.

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

Figure 1
Paramedic Incident Demand per 1,000 Residents, 2001-2026



*Predicted based on Paramedic Services 10 Year Resources and Facilities Master Plan

Two primary factors have contributed to call volume increases: overall population growth and the changing demographic shift associated with an aging population. According to 2016 Statistics Canada Census data, seniors (65 years and older) accounted for 14.6 per cent (161,925) of York Region's population, compared to 11.7 per cent (120,935) in 2011. This represents an increase of 33.9 per cent; a higher growth rate than children, youth and adults of working age. By 2031, 1 in 5 residents living in York Region will be 65 years or older.

The call volume growth trend suggests over the next 10 to 20 years consumption of Paramedic Services per capita will increase as older adults living with multiple medical complexities will require paramedic care. Call volume increases will result in resource pressure on York Region Paramedic Services, which underpins the need to continue to optimize efficiencies wherever possible.

The 10-Year Resources and Facilities Master Plan has been successful at matching resource requirements to demands and achieving reliable response time performance

In September 2012, Council approved the York Region Emergency Medical Services 10-Year Resources and Facilities Master Plan. The 10-year Master Plan was developed in order to plan for the future demands for Paramedic services through to 2021. The plan incorporates future demand distribution based on population trends, roadway development, travel time, optimal station locations,

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

staffing and vehicle resourcing requirements. In 2016, the plan was updated and extended from 2021 to 2026 to ensure that accurate long term planning informs business and capital plans.

Council approved Community Paramedicine pilot projects to evaluate new models of care

Community Paramedicine refers to new models of care that aim to reduce unnecessary patient transports to Emergency Departments through community based clinics, home visits and expanded scopes of care in the 9-1-1 setting. In February 2013, Council approved the Expanding Paramedicine in the Community project which integrates expanded scope community paramedics with Family Health Care Teams with the goal of improving the health of patients with chronic diseases such as Diabetes, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and Congestive Heart Failure. The project has been showcased by Dr. Samir Sinha, the Executive Lead of Ontario's Seniors Strategy and Dr. Jane Philpott, the former Federal Health Minister.

This care model includes home visits from Community Paramedics to assist patients to age in place while decreasing the health system impacts of chronic medical conditions. The project has been evaluated by an independent research organization. Research results should be available before the end of the year, and staff will report to Council on the findings in 2019.

In 2018, York Region Paramedic Services will be piloting an innovative care delivery model titled 'Improving Patient Access, Care and Transportation by Paramedics' (IMPACT). This model will provide patients calling 9-1-1 with access to expanded scope paramedics. The goal is to reduce Emergency Department transports by delivering a broader set of clinical care options and appropriately referring patients to other health care services in the community.

In addition, recent amendments to the Ambulance Act will expand the authority of Paramedic Services to deliver alternative care options on-scene to patients. Once these amendments are in effect, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, for instance, can issue operational and policy directives regarding the care by paramedics to patients who may not require transport to hospital and the transport of patients to destinations other than hospitals for medical care.

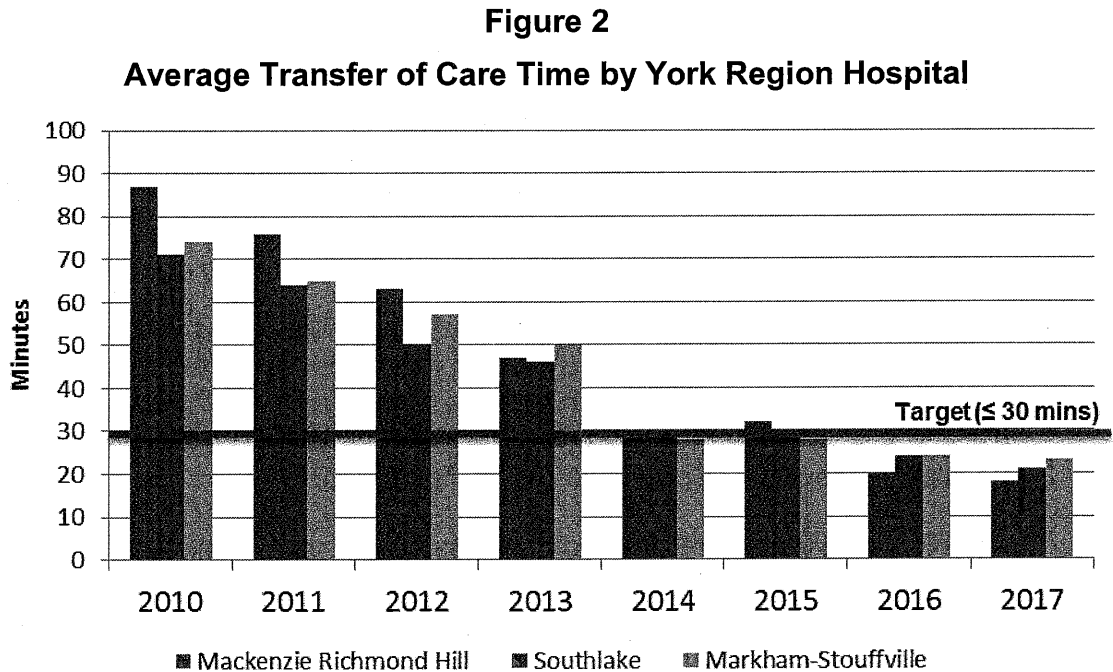
Hospital transfer of care times have significantly shortened since 2013 and have been maintained

Transfer of care time is the time interval from when paramedics arrive at a hospital to when a patient is transferred from the care of paramedics to hospital care. York Region Paramedic Services has been working closely with local hospitals to improve transfer of care times. In January 2015, by way of the

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

Hospital Memorandum of Understanding Update 2014, York Region withheld \$1.3 million of hospital funding related to poor transfer of care performance. This funding was then reallocated to fund a range of initiatives including specific projects to reduce transfer of care times at Regional hospitals.

As displayed in Figure 2, the average time taken to transfer patients to York Region hospitals has decreased at all three York Region hospitals since 2010, and has dropped below the Region's target of 30 minutes since 2015.



Source: York Region Paramedic Services Ambulance Dispatch Reporting System.

Continuous improvements in transfer of care times in part have enabled paramedics to manage an increasing volume of calls while continuing to meet response time targets.

5. Local Municipal Impact

York Region Paramedic Services continue to meet and exceed response time targets. All local municipalities continue to receive highly reliable Paramedic Services. As populations in local municipalities continue to grow and seniors account for a higher share of the total population, Paramedic Services will be in increasing demand.

Paramedic Response Time Performance Results

Paramedic Services will continue to work closely in partnership with municipal fire services by targeting responses to Canadian Triage Acuity 1 patient conditions such as sudden cardiac arrests to ensure the most efficient use of resources and provide the best possible emergency response while minimizing unnecessary responses.

6. Financial Considerations

Paramedic Services were managed within the 2017 Council approved budget of \$75.6 million gross (\$34.9 million net/ tax levy).

7. Conclusion

In 2017, York Region Paramedic Services exceeded all response time targets. On-going implementation of the Paramedic Services 10-year Master Plan along with sustained reductions in hospital transfer of care times has helped to support this performance.

Staff continues to develop and implement efficiency initiatives and develop and evaluate innovative service delivery models as the Region's population grows and ages. It is imperative that the planned transformation of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's dispatch technology be accessed by the communities of York Region at the earliest possible time in order to improve the efficiency of call handling and paramedic services responses.

For more information on this report, please contact Norm Barrette, Chief and General Manager, Paramedic and Seniors Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74709.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 23, 2018

#8321399

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request



April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		
R. Brindhamme		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region":

1. Council authorize the Commissioner of Transportation Services to provide funding to the University of Toronto's iCity Centre for Automated and Transformative Transportation Systems at a cost of \$75,000 per year to a total of \$300,000 over four years.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the clerks of the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 5 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Brian Titherington, Director, Transportation and Infrastructure Planning at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75901 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark

Clause 5 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

5

Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. Council authorize the Commissioner of Transportation Services to provide funding to the University of Toronto's iCity Centre for Automated and Transformative Transportation Systems at a cost of \$75,000 per year to a total of \$300,000 over four years.
 2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the clerks of the local municipalities.
-

Report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Council authorize the Commissioner of Transportation Services to provide funding to the University of Toronto's iCity Centre for Automated and Transformative Transportation Systems at a cost of \$75,000 per year to a total of \$300,000 over four years.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the clerks of the local municipalities.

Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region

2. Purpose

This report seeks Council authorization to fund a multi-year partnership with the University of Toronto's iCity Centre for Automated and Transformative Transportation Systems (iCity-CATTS) as part of a coordinated action plan to prepare the Region for the impacts of technology on transportation. The iCity-CATTS Study (Study) also supports work the Region has already initiated to prepare for changes in transportation technology as well as initiatives in the approved 2016 Transportation Master Plan (TMP). This will impact the Region's role as a service provider, through York Region Transit, and as a transportation network owner. This may also potentially impact the way our communities function.

3. Background

Advancements in technology are rapidly transforming the way people travel in the Region

The way people travel in the Region is changing as a result of new technology as it affects the way travellers obtain information before or during their travel, the options for travel and the types of vehicles available. Travellers now have access to better information to assist in commuting throughout the Region. Smartphone applications, such as Waze or Apple Maps, provide travellers with real-time traffic information that can be used to make more informed travel choices whether by car, bus or cycling. These applications can also provide real-time information about traveller behaviour, which can be collected and shared to better plan future transportation investments.

In order to support these advancements, there is a critical need for access to high-speed and reliable internet that allows for the transfer and sharing of data between vehicles and infrastructure. The York Telecom Network (YTN) provides a network of broadband communications infrastructure to help share and store data. This infrastructure and connectivity allows the adoption of autonomous and connected vehicles within the Region to be more viable and will further support the Region as a Smart City.

Options for travel have also improved. Mobility-as-a-service refers to the concept of not owning a car but having access to on-demand travel through services such as Uber or Lyft. Mobility-as-a-service can also extend to other types of travel such as bike sharing, which is currently available in Toronto. With the exception of bike sharing at this time, these services are becoming more available and increasingly popular throughout the Region.

Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region

The types of vehicles travellers are using are also rapidly changing. Electric vehicles and alternative fuels are becoming more common, which may impact supporting infrastructure such as more charging stations and fewer gas stations. As an example of the Region's role as service provider, York Region Transit is piloting an electric bus in the Town of Aurora and City of Vaughan in 2018.

The use of connected vehicles (those that can communicate with each other and infrastructure) and autonomous vehicles (those that control driving functions without input from the driver) is increasing, with testing of these vehicles permitted throughout the province. These changes have the potential to revolutionize the way we travel and the Region needs to be prepared for the potential impacts to the transportation network.

The Region is preparing for the future of transportation through a coordinated action plan

The Region acts both as a transportation service provider, through York Region Transit, and as an owner of the Region's transportation network. A coordinated action plan has been initiated to ensure the Region is prepared for the future of transportation. The plan includes four streams of action:

- Testing new technology in the field. An example is York Region Transit vehicles that are now communicating with traffic signals along a section of Jane Street through digital short range communications, which is the next advancement of Bluetooth. New technology has also been installed on Regional snow plows to minimize delays to traffic as the new rapidways are cleared of snow.
- Improved integration of transportation needs with land use policy decisions that support the future vision of the Region. There is an opportunity with the current Municipal Comprehensive Review process to update the transportation vision and land use planning policies with the implications of new technology.
- Create partnerships to leverage shared resources in response to new technology. Examples include a partnership with Waze, a community-based traffic and navigation application company, to provide more accurate information on the Region's road network. The Region is also a partner in the Municipal Alliance for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles in Ontario, an organization bringing together municipalities to facilitate connected and autonomous vehicle research, testing and integration within their respective jurisdictions.

Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region

- Engage in academic research to better understand the possible impacts of new technology. Better understanding the impacts of new technology will inform transportation decisions to support growth and service delivery as recommended in the 2016 TMP. This is the stream that will be enhanced through the work being undertaken by the University of Toronto on the iCity-CATTS Study.

4. Analysis and Implications

The iCity-CATTS Study will help prepare the Region for the future of transportation

The University of Toronto Transportation Research Institute created the iCity Centre of Automated and Transformative Transportation Systems to bring together academia from the private and public sector to study the impacts of transformative transportation technologies. The partnership includes York Region, the Regions of Peel and Waterloo, the Cities of Mississauga and Toronto and academic, public sector and industry partners.

The Study will allow the Region to better understand and respond to the following questions:

- How will technology changes affect the Region?
- What is government's role?
- What does the Region need to do to prepare?
- What are the planning policy implications?

The Region can leverage this partnership to gain access to data, research and other partnerships that would be significantly more difficult to obtain if working alone. The findings from the study will help to guide important transportation policy and planning decisions for investment in infrastructure.

The Study outcomes will support the future transportation vision in the Region

The Study includes numerous projects over a five-year period that will develop tools. These include applications and smart infrastructure management, models that will measure the impacts of new transportation technologies on the Region's infrastructure and communities and a policy framework to guide the adoption of transportation technologies in the Region. The Study supports the five objectives

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of the 2016 Transportation Master Plan to deliver a multi-modal network and outcomes will assist Regional staff with implementing TMP action plans and developing the future transportation vision, including:

- Advancements in new logistics may inform policy decisions and strategies related to efficient movement of goods
- Data from new transportation models supporting first-mile and last-mile trips, such as car-share or bike-share models, may influence decisions regarding the need for parking

The Study is a key part of the Region's coordinated action plan that will initiate conversations with key stakeholders, advance discussions on policy requirements and gather industry insight. The Study will be led by a Steering Committee, comprised of representation from all partners, who will meet one to three times annually. Study progress and outcomes will be shared with the Steering Committee in the form of presentations or reports. Input and recommendations from the Committee will be considered by the Study's project team. The Steering Committee will also be made aware of potential opportunities to participate in pilot or field tests. Partners will also be invited to annual research days held throughout the year to share findings.

Staff will report back on key milestones of the Study and will work with partners in Planning and Economic Development to align initial findings with the Municipal Comprehensive Review, Regional Official Plan and future transportation vision for the Region.

Technology changes are going to affect transportation in the Region

New technology creates more questions than answers with respect to the impact on transportation, including:

- Will autonomous vehicles increase the number of vehicles on the road as residents who currently cannot drive, may now own a vehicle?
- Will autonomous vehicles increase demand for urban sprawl as commuters are able to use their commute times more productively?
- Will car ownership decrease as more residents become comfortable with the idea of mobility-as-a-service that may reduce the demand for parking?

The Study with the University of Toronto will help to better understand which technology advancements will have the greatest effect and what they mean for the future of the Region's transportation system.

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Government has a role in supporting new transportation technology

Cities are using technology advancements to address congestion, create more dynamic, inter-connected and efficient transportation systems with increased potential for safety and cost savings. In Columbus, Ohio, digital short range communication units are being installed on traffic lights at intersections along heavily travelled corridors and city fleet. Operators can receive safety alerts, such as reduced speeds in school safety zones, increased pedestrian traffic, and collision and traffic incidents, resulting in improved operations and reduced emergency response times. The data collected from the units is shared with the City's traffic management center to optimize and improve traffic operations. It will not be long before the Region's infrastructure has these same capabilities.

Other jurisdictions are using ride-sharing companies as a revenue stream. In Chicago, a 15-cent fee on Uber, Lyft and other ride-sharing services is helping to pay for track, signal and electrical upgrades to make the City's trains run faster and smoother.

Uber and Lyft services are well-established in many Ontario municipalities, including York Region, and on-demand transit service, such as Uber-Pool, has been piloted in neighbouring Simcoe County as an alternative to implementing conventional transit service.

The Region needs to prepare for the Municipal Comprehensive Review, Regional Official Plan Update and updates to Vision 2051

Municipalities are quickly facing complex challenges associated with new transportation technologies ranging from new regulatory requirements, safety measures, ethical decisions, and service delivery options. York Region, along with other municipalities and government agencies, has a valuable role to play through the development of policies, guidelines, standards and regulations to best serve the interests of the travelling public. These advancements will need to be reflected in the MCR, Official Plan and review of long range goals articulated in Vision 2051.

As an example, the proposed permission to test driverless vehicles on all public roads, including Regional roads, requires research and studies to better understand the impacts to our infrastructure, transportation system and travel behaviour. As well, maintaining the privacy and security of traveller data collected, processed or stored on Regional facilities requires thorough investigation and planning.

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Understanding the technologies and how they will be applied is important to develop appropriate policies and tools to adapt current planning and operations to changing technology.

Funding the University of Toronto partnership allows the Region to cost-effectively leverage expertise and industry innovation

Investment in the iCity-CATTS Study is an opportunity to work with partner municipalities, leading-edge institutions, organizations and skilled researchers that will better position the Region to prepare for and be equipped to respond to advanced transportation technologies and the unknown impacts they bring. Working with these partners provides access to research and options that would otherwise not be accessible to the Region.

The Study includes numerous projects over a five-year period to develop a policy framework and tangible tools that will help the Region prepare for the impacts of technology. The investment in the Study supports the Region's initiatives to leverage technology to enhance transportation operations and safety by:

- Understanding how to leverage new technologies that will improve the management of travel across the Region and the Greater Toronto Area network
- Identifying the role of transit, while making non-conventional transit options more viable
- Leveraging additional data sources to improve the condition of our existing and future infrastructure assets to gain a better understanding of infrastructure needs to support new services
- Leveraging investment in Regional telecommunications infrastructure that will facilitate the sharing of real-time information for staff, residents and businesses

Funding of the research will be based on key principles that will guide the ongoing partnership

The iCity-CATTS Study funding will be based on key principles to protect the Region's investment in research of this strategic nature. The Region can decide to opt out of this commitment at any time. Staff will conduct an annual review of the research program to ensure the Region's needs are being met. The review will ensure that:

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- The data, findings and outputs of the research are accessible and can be used by York Region, as required by staff and/or Council
- York Region is identified as a key partner in the research program
- Regional data will not be sold or used by the University of Toronto iCity-CATTS for monetary gain

Investing in a research partnership with the University of Toronto supports the goals of Vision 2051, the objectives of the Strategic Plan and Municipal Comprehensive Review

Understanding the impacts of transportation technologies supports the goals of Vision 2051 of Creating Interconnected Systems of Mobility and Healthy Communities. The Study will help guide the planning, design and operation of our transportation network to move people more efficiently, safely and seamlessly across various modes. The objectives of the 2015 to 2019 Strategic Plan are also supported, including Strengthening the Region's Economy, Managing Environmentally Sustainable Growth and Providing Responsible and Efficient Public Service. The data and recommendations from the Study will also inform the Municipal Comprehensive Review and updated vision for the Region.

5. Financial Considerations

The financial contribution towards the University of Toronto iCity-CATTS research program provides access to research

A financial contribution of \$75,000 per year for four years, to a maximum of \$300,000, is reserved in the Transportation Services budget, starting in 2018, subject to Council's authorization of the partnership. The option to increase the term of partnership to five years is possible, subject to the next multi-year budget in 2023. The financial contribution represents good value based on past assignments the Region has procured for similar policy, transportation and infrastructure planning projects.

The iCity-CATTS research program is also eligible for fund matching from the Province through the Ontario Research Fund

In September 2017, iCity-CATTS submitted the Study to the Ontario Research Fund under the category of "Research Excellence". The Ontario Research Fund provides research institutions with funding to help support the operational costs of large-scale transformative research considered to be of strategic value to the Province. The Province will match a maximum one-third of the total cost of the

Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region

project, between \$1 million to \$4 million. To date, the iCity-CATTS and its partners have committed a total financial contribution of approximately \$4 million, with some partners still confirming contributions. Announcement of the successful Ontario Research Fund applicants is anticipated by summer 2018.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Recommendations and tools can support integrated Regional and local municipal planning initiatives

In addition to supporting and improving Regional services, the deliverables of the Study, including modelling outcomes, tools and policy recommendations, can also be used to improve local municipal services and create healthier, resilient and adaptive communities. Information will be shared with local municipalities through regular meetings, such as the Public Works Liaison Committee.

7. Conclusion

Technology is rapidly transforming the way people travel, the types of vehicles people use and infrastructure that is used to travel. The Region is preparing for the future of transportation through a coordinated action plan including field testing, partnerships and academic research. Working with the University of Toronto is an opportunity to advance academic research for the Region.

The findings of the research will help prepare the Region for the impacts of technology on transportation systems and communities and inform future investments. Funding will be based on key principles that will guide the ongoing relationship. Investing in a research partnership with the University of Toronto supports the goals of Vision 2051 and the objectives of the Strategic Plan.

Partnering with University of Toronto and Other Agencies to Prepare for the Future of Transportation in the Region

For more information on this report, please contact Brian Titherington at 1-877-464-9675, ext. 75901.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 23, 2018

#8325040

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Alb 1.005



Corporate Services
Regional Clerk's Office

April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors – Update and Implications for Long-Term Care

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors – Update and Implications for Long-Term Care":

1. The Regional Chair write to the Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care and Seniors Affairs to:
 - a) Advocate and support the need for more Long-Term Care beds across York Region
 - b) Request that the methodology for projecting demand for Long-Term Care beds be revised to include factors such as the increasing prevalence of complex medical conditions that require long-term care, shifting demographics and waitlists
 - c) State its position that municipalities should not be responsible for health care costs
 - d) Request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care:
 - i. Implement funding models that cover upfront capital costs of developing or re-developing long term care homes and beds similar to the models used for hospitals and the community sector
 - ii. Revise the Long-Term Care funding model to reflect the true costs of developing and operating Long-Term Care beds

2. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities, the Central Local Health Integration Network, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, AdvantAge Ontario and the Ontario Long-Term Care Association for information.

A copy of Clause 13 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Norm Barrette, Chief and General Manager, Paramedic and Seniors Services, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74709 or Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christopher Raynor', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 13 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

13

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. The Regional Chair write to the Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care and Seniors Affairs to:
 - a) Advocate and support the need for more Long-Term Care beds across York Region
 - b) Request that the methodology for projecting demand for Long-Term Care beds be revised to include factors such as the increasing prevalence of complex medical conditions that require long-term care, shifting demographics and waitlists
 - c) State its position that municipalities should not be responsible for health care costs
 - d) Request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care:
 - i. Implement funding models that cover upfront capital costs of developing or re-developing long term care homes and beds similar to the models used for hospitals and the community sector
 - ii. Revise the Long-Term Care funding model to reflect the true costs of developing and operating Long-Term Care beds
2. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities, the Central Local Health Integration Network, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, AdvantAge Ontario and the Ontario Long-Term Care Association for information.

Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors Update and Implications for Long-Term Care

Report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Chair write to the Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care and Seniors Affairs to:
 - a) Advocate and support the need for more Long-Term Care beds across York Region
 - b) Request that the methodology for projecting demand for Long-Term Care beds be revised to include factors such as the increasing prevalence of complex medical conditions that require long-term care, shifting demographics and waitlists
 - c) State its position that municipalities should not be responsible for health care costs
 - d) Request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care:
 - i. Implement funding models that cover upfront capital costs of developing or re-developing long term care homes and beds similar to the models used for hospitals and the community sector
 - ii. Revise the Long-Term Care funding model to reflect the true costs of developing and operating Long-Term Care beds
2. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities, the Central Local Health Integration Network, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, AdvantAge Ontario and the Ontario Long-Term Care Association for information.

2. Purpose

This report provides information on Aging with Confidence: Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors, released on November 7, 2017, with a specific focus on the Province's commitment to create additional Long-Term Care beds.

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

3. Background

Aging with Confidence, Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors, has 30 actions intended to support seniors at various stages of life so that they can remain independent, healthy, active, safe and socially connected

On November 7, 2017, the provincial government released, Aging with Confidence: Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors (the "Ontario Action Plan"). The Ontario Action Plan commits to 30 actions to support seniors and caregivers at various stages of their lives, and introduces a more stringent compliance framework for long-term care services.

The Ontario Action Plan includes both previously announced funded and new initiatives, totalling approximately \$202.3 million. Table 1 lists the categories for action and related funding.

**Table 1
Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors and Funding Envelopes**

Categories for Actions	Number of Actions	Approximate Funding Envelope (\$million)
Supporting Seniors At All Stages	7	31.7
Supporting Seniors Living Independently In the Community	6	37.1
Seniors Requiring Enhanced Supports At Home and In Their Communities	9	123.5
Seniors Requiring Intensive Supports	8	10.0
Total	30	202.3

Commitments include 30,000 new long-term care beds over the next decade, 40 more Seniors Acting Living Centres, and increasing access to in-home health care

All actions align with York Region's Seniors Strategy. Descriptions for each of the 30 actions and potential implications for York Region are set out in Attachment 1, and summarized below according to the four categories for actions used in Table 1. More detailed analysis of the implications for long-term care is provided below and in the next section of the report.

Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care

Information on funding allocations and implementation is required to fully assess Regional implications. Staff anticipate further details and funding commitments to support the Ontario Action Plan will be announced as part of the 2018 provincial budget on March 28, 2018.

1. Supporting Seniors at All Stages

- Easier to find information through a “one-stop” website
- Better community transportation for seniors in underserved communities
- Expand the Age-Friendly community planning grant
- Free high-dose influenza vaccine
- Enhance education about power of attorneys
- Expand consumer protection programs for seniors
- Strengthen elder abuse protection

2. Supporting Seniors Living Independently In the Community

- More seniors active living centres (currently six in York Region)
- Extend the Seniors Community Grant program
- Establish a new Active for Life Recreation Stream for seniors under the Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund
- Establish a new fund to support professional arts programming and art therapy for seniors
- Establish a link between youth volunteers and seniors to help enable use of technology by seniors
- Establish a senior-youth mentorship program, through an estimated 20 to 30 projects across the province.

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

3. Seniors Requiring Enhanced Supports At Home and In Their Communities

- Support for “naturally occurring” retirement communities (for example, York Region’s subsidized seniors housing communities)
- Increasing access to in-home health care to include, in addition to physicians, healthcare providers such as social workers, therapists and nurses
- Increasing access to geriatric care by increasing training opportunities for healthcare providers, including physicians, personal support workers and nurse practitioners;
- 2.6 million additional home-care hours
- Expanding seniors supportive housing with over 500 new transitional care spaces, and 200 new subsidies to better access affordable housing as well as home and community care supports;
- Launching a new organization to support caregivers
- Introducing new guidelines for home care assessment and planning to make the quality of care more consistent
- Expanding and enhancing access to quality care for people living with dementia and their care partners
- Establishing a new personal support services organization in 2018 to enhance self-directed care

4. Seniors Requiring Intensive Supports

- Redeveloping more than 30,000 existing long term care beds in more than 300 homes (not applicable to York Region’s two long-term care homes)
- Creating an additional 30,000 long-term care beds over the next decade
- Increasing the provincial average to four hours of direct care per resident per day, and ensure every home has staff with specialized training in behavioural supports and in palliative and end-of-life care
- Promoting innovation in long-term care through new technologies, such as electronic clinical support tools

Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors Update and Implications for Long-Term Care

- Providing more access to culturally appropriate homes and supports (for example, culturally appropriate meal preparation and support in language of the resident's choice)
- Strengthening safety for long-term care home residents, which includes stricter standards of accountability for homes
- Improving customer service by the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee
- Creating more hospice beds to support more than 2,000 additional people and their families

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario supports the Ontario Action Plan

On November 8, 2017, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario issued a release on the Province's New Action Plan for Seniors welcoming the new provincial investments for initiatives it has advocated for, such as:

- Increasing hours of care in long-term care homes
- Enhancing culturally appropriate practices
- Engaging in a capacity review to determine the need for more long-term care beds
- Better transportation options in rural and northern areas
- Expanding age-friendly programs that support municipal governments to provide services to seniors

Provincial long-term care associations, including Advantage Ontario and the Ontario Long-Term Care Association, are cautiously optimistic about the enhancements to long-term care. There are concerns, shared by Regional staff, about implementation including challenges associated with recruiting and retaining sufficient staff to meet the increase to four hours of daily care per resident and related staffing costs.

The Province has started the process of calling for applications for new Long-Term Care beds

On February 12, 2018, the Province released its first call for applications to create new Long-Term Care beds. Applications were due to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on March 2, 2018, with priority given to those that demonstrated the following:

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

- Regions with high needs for Long-Term Care beds
- Ability to serve specialized populations
- Ability to serve culturally specific needs, including those of Indigenous populations
- A campus of care or hub model

Ministry staff have advised that the February call is the first call, and there will be others.

4. Analysis and Implications

Overall, the Ontario Action Plan investments are positive and closely align with Regional priorities to better support seniors to age in place

The Ontario Action Plan includes actions intended to support seniors including enhanced municipal services.

Regional staff anticipate that Ontario Action Plan investments will benefit York Region programs and services as well as community agencies that serve seniors.

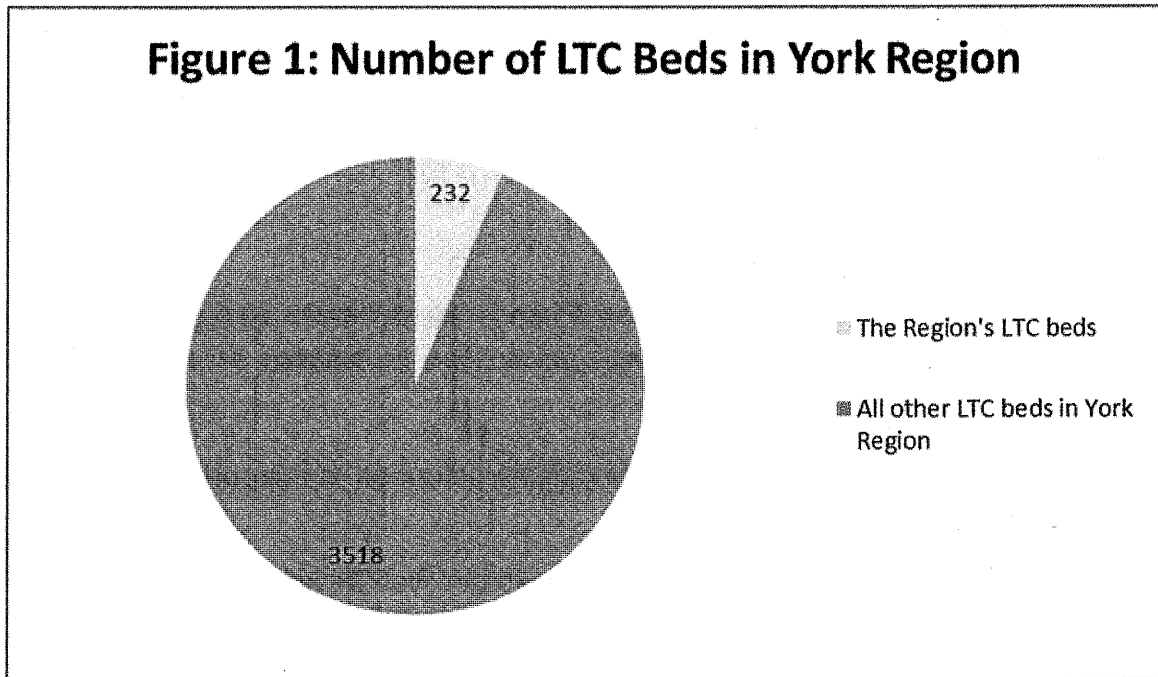
The provincial decision to create 30,000 new long-term care beds is a significant change in direction

For many years, the provincial direction has been that it would not increase the number of long-term care beds. Instead, the focus has been on funding and supports that would support seniors to age in place rather than increasing the number of Long-Term Care beds. The additional commitments made in the Ontario Action Plan represent a significant departure from that approach, for which many long-term care operators were unprepared. As such, the Region had not completed any analysis since 2011 on costs or issues related to long-term care expansion.

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

More long-term care beds are required by 2025 to maintain current service levels

The CLHIN has 46 Long-Term Care homes that operate 7,247 beds. Twenty-eight of these homes are located within York Region and operate a total of 3,750 beds. These homes are operated by non-profit organizations and private sector companies, and two are owned and operated by York Region (232 beds).



The Central Local Health Integration Network (CLHIN) covers most of York Region, some of Simcoe County, and a small part of the north-west area of the City of Toronto. It has the highest number of seniors aged 75+ in the province (127,000 or 12 per cent).

In its Long-Term Care Capacity Plan (2016), the Central Local Health Integration Network noted it would need, "4,246 more long-term care beds by 2025 in order to maintain current state. This does not take into consideration clients on the waitlist".

As of February 9, 2018, the CLHIN had 4,449 clients waiting for a Long-Term Care bed

As of December 31, 2017, the average number of people waiting for placement in a CLHIN Long-Term Care home was 269. There were 337 people on Maple Health Centre's wait list for basic accommodation (two people sharing a room) and 369 people on Newmarket Health Centre's wait list for basic accommodation.

Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors Update and Implications for Long-Term Care

The length of time that people wait for a bed is long, with a median time of 188 days for CLHIN homes

Wait times for the Region's homes are much longer than the median. In 2016/17, Newmarket Health Centre's median wait time was 432 days for all placements, with 90 per cent of people on the waitlist being placed in Newmarket Health Centre within 1,063 days. For the same time period, Maple Health Centre's median wait time was 195 days for all placements, with 90 percent of people on the waitlist placed in Maple Health Centre within 625 days.

By 2026, the greatest need for Long-Term Care beds will be in the Richmond Hill and Markham areas

As of February 9, 2018, the CLHIN advised that the Long-Term Care homes in its western (Town of Richmond Hill and area) and eastern (City of Markham and area) sub-region planning areas had the greatest number of people on their waitlists. The CLHIN projects that by 2026, the eastern sub-region will need an additional 818 beds and the western sub-region will need another 1,004 beds.

In contrast, projections show that the number of Long-Term Care beds needed for York Region's northern sub-region planning area will decrease by 46 beds by 2026. Regional staff are not confident about this projection. The methodology used Census data and population projections, but did not take into account important factors such as the increasing prevalence of complex medical conditions that require long-term care, shifting demographics and waitlists. Further, the Central LHIN's projected demand assumes people want long-term care in the sub-region where they live, which may or may not be true (for example, they may wish to live closer to family members). Staff recommend that the Province revise their methodology for projected demand for Long-Term Care beds to address these factors.

The CLHIN has identified priority populations in need of Long-Term Care

To identify York Region's priority populations for Long-Term Care, staff had discussions with CLHIN planners, the CLHIN Director of Home and Community Care Placement for Long-Term Care Homes, Behavioural Supports Ontario for CLHIN, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Long Term Care Homes Division. Based on these discussions, the following populations have been identified as most in need of Long-Term Care placement:

- Younger residents with complex needs
- Adults with developmental disabilities

Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors Update and Implications for Long-Term Care

- Older adults with specialized medical needs (for example dialysis, chronic ventilation, acquired brain injury)
- Older adults with responsive behaviours (complex mental health, addictions, dementia or other neurological conditions)

The Province provides higher per diem funding rates for serving priority populations. However, there is a possibility that the costs to care for these residents may exceed the funding provided.

New beds would result in significant upfront construction costs

Unlike the construction funding for new hospitals and community sector institutions, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care does not provide upfront capital funding for developing and constructing new Long-Term Care beds, nor does it provide funding for demolition costs of existing facilities. If the Region applies for and received an allocation of additional beds, the Region would be fully responsible for costs.

In 2011, cost estimates were obtained for building a new Long-Term Care home. The estimated cost at that time was about \$165,000 per bed, with a total cost of \$33 million for a 200 bed home. The estimated project completion timeframe was approximately four years.

Construction funding subsidies are available as reimbursements for capital expenditures over a 25 year period

Long-Term Care operators may apply to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for a Construction Funding Subsidy. This funding is subject to a number of eligibility requirements, including that at least \$120,000 is spent in eligible expenses per new bed. Non-profit homes may also apply for a one-time planning grant of \$250,000, which is to be used for planning purposes only.

The Construction Funding Subsidy is a per diem per bed amount that becomes payable for a period of 25 years once new beds are open and operational. The per diem amount varies based on a number of factors (variance from current standards, home size, environmental design, whether it is a new facility or renovation of an existing one, and the proportion of new beds that are basic accommodation) and ranges from \$16.65 to \$23.03 per bed per day.

There is a risk that the Construction Funding Subsidy received over the 25-year term may not fully reimburse the construction costs incurred.

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

Municipal funding of health care costs is increasing

At one time, municipal homes were more like retirement homes. Over the years, they have become more like chronic care hospitals providing medical and nursing care for residents with complex health conditions. Residents currently being admitted to the homes are increasingly frail with multiple medical conditions, dementia and/or behavioural issues. As such, they have complex care needs and the Region is under increasing pressure to fund the costs of providing health care, even though health care provision has historically been the purview of the provincial government. Further, as a relatively small player, the Region cannot benefit from economies of scale available to larger providers.

There is increasing reliance on property taxes for the Region's Long-Term Care Homes

To sustain high quality of care, the Long-Term Care budget relies on the municipal tax levy. From 2012 to 2016, the tax levy contribution to the Region's annual Long-Term Care budget ranged from 40.1 to 44.2 per cent of gross operating costs. Many municipalities contribute additional resources to their Long Term Care operations to maintain standards of care that exceed provincial requirements. According to the Municipal Benchmarking Network Canada, 2016 annual report, York Region's Long Term Care Facility Operating Cost per Bed Day is \$296, which is \$53 above the median of the participating municipalities and is the second highest cost (after Durham Region which reported \$303).

Amendments to the *Long-Term Care Homes Act* increase the risk to long-term care home operators due to stricter accountability standards and monetary administrative penalties

The Action Plan includes new provisions that strengthen the safety of Long-Term Care residents by amending the *Long-Term Care Homes Act* (the *Act*) to establish a more stringent compliance framework with enhanced enforcement tools and additional requirements in providing Long-Term Care services. As a result of the amendments, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care may:

- Make operational or policy directives for the quality of care and treatment of residents in Long-Term Care homes generally
- Impose administrative monetary penalties for licensees if the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is of the view that the home has not complied with the *Act*
- Expand Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's ability to return/withhold funding from licensees

Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors

Update and Implications for Long-Term Care

The *Act* also specifies that the Directors and Officers of a corporation operating a Home and Committee of Management (Regional Council) shall ensure that the corporation complies with all requirements under the *Act* and if convicted of an offence, are liable to individual fines.

Under this more stringent compliance framework, homes are at increased risk of being found in non-compliance with the Long-Term Care legislation and that risk may increase by adding more beds and admitting more residents.

Further details on the legislative amendments and significant implications for York Region are set out in Attachment 2.

Long-term Care Homes are part of the healthcare system and should be fully funded by the Province

Given the significant financial outlay and risks, and the current nature of Long-Term Care service requirements, staff recommends writing to the Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care and Seniors Affairs to:

- Advise the Ministers of Council's position that municipalities should not be responsible for health care costs
- Advocate and support the need for more Long-Term Care beds across York Region, to be provided by other operators (e.g. non-profits, private firms, hospitals and/or other providers in the acute health care system)
- Request that the methodology for projecting demand for Long-Term Care beds be revised to include factors such as the increasing prevalence of complex medical conditions that require long-term care, shifting demographics and waitlists
- Adopt funding models that cover upfront capital costs, similar to hospitals and the community sector
- Revise the Long-Term Care funding model to reflect the true costs of developing and operating Long-Term Care beds

5. Financial Considerations

The financial implications arising from the Province's Action Plan for Long-Term Care commitments are still to be determined as the Province provides more details and funding announcements.

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

Staff will continue to monitor and explore funding opportunities, where appropriate, to better support seniors in the Region and to advance implementation of the Seniors Strategy.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Local municipalities have an integral role to play in ensuring that seniors living in their communities receive the best possible supports and services to help them age in place. Successful implementation of the Ontario Action Plan and the Seniors Strategy requires alignment, collaboration and partnership with local municipal initiatives to effectively serve and support seniors. This includes continuing discussions from the November Age-Friendly Complete Communities workshop with the local municipalities and leveraging the Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review to better support age-friendly, complete communities in York Region.

Residents of local municipalities in need of Long-Term Care services will benefit from the Long-Term Care initiatives outlined in the Province's new Action Plan; such as more Long-Term Care beds (should they be allocated within the region), reduced wait times, increased hours of direct daily care and the commitment to strengthen resident safety.

7. Conclusion

Overall, the Ontario Action Plan aligns with the direction of the York Region Seniors Strategy and will help the Region to better address the needs of a growing aging population while ensuring seniors are able to age in place for longer in the future. Staff will continue to monitor for additional details on implementation of the Ontario Action Plan and will report back to Council with new information.

The Ontario Action Plan signals a change in direction for the Province's Long-Term Care sector. There is a continued need for advocacy for sustainable funding and the allocation of the appropriate number of Long-term Care beds in the Region to address current and future demands.

Regional staff will continue to monitor Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care announcements and consult with the Central Local Health Integration Network to investigate options and costs for implementing these initiatives, and will report back to Council as required.

**Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
Update and Implications for Long-Term Care**

For more information on this report, please contact Norm Barrette, Chief and General Manager at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74709 and Lisa Gonsalves at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 23, 2018

Attachments (2)

#8321668

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Summary of Ontario Action Plan for Seniors and Potential Implications for York Region

Supporting Seniors at All Stages

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
Easier-to-Find Information	A "one-stop" website (ontario.ca/AgingWell) has been developed to provide information, about government services, programs and supports for seniors across the province. Information can be accessed by phone, 24 hours a day, and in over 150 languages	Not Announced	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate options for a single point of access for seniors to access information, including a self-service option (for example system navigation) Explore how to guide seniors through the many services out there <p>Opportunity to connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York</p>
Better Community Transportation	Ontario will make it easier for seniors who live in communities currently underserved by public transportation to connect with the services and supports they need. In recognition of challenges faced by those living in northern communities in particular, services in Northern Ontario will also be improved	Not Announced	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a variety of transportation options to support age-friendly, complete communities Initiate discussions with transit providers funded by various provincial ministries to look for ways to better coordinate services, look for innovative opportunities and enhance services and choice for seniors <p>Opportunity to build upon existing programs/services that aim to enhance transportation service to all residents, including seniors, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobility Plus which offers accessible transit for people with disabilities On-Demand Transit which improves service delivery in low-demand areas MyRide Travel Training programs which provides the knowledge and skills to use transit independently

Supporting Seniors at All Stages

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
<p>More Age-Friendly Communities</p>	<p>Ontario will expand the successful <u>Age-Friendly Community Planning grant</u> program including a new implementation stream to make communities more accessible and inclusive for seniors of all ages and abilities</p>	<p>\$7 million over three years</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy desired result area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for age-friendly, complete communities <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To apply for funding to undertake research, needs assessments and consultation to inform and advance age-friendly, complete communities in York Region • To collaborate with and support external partners such as the local municipalities in applying for funding to support local age-friendly initiatives
<p>Free High-dose flu vaccine</p>	<p>A high-dose influenza vaccine, targeted to protect seniors, will be available free of charge as part of the Ontario Universal Influenza Immunization Program</p> <p>This vaccine will help keep seniors healthy and active and out of hospitals</p>	<p>\$17 million per year beginning in the 2018-2019 flu season</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity needed to deliver them <p>Opportunity to build upon existing prevention and promotion programs and services such as expanding Public Health's vaccine program/clinic. This expanded role can include reaching vulnerable seniors who face barriers accessing primary care.</p>
<p>Enhance Education about Power of Attorneys</p>	<p>A public education campaign to raise awareness among seniors of how important — and easy — it is to set up Powers of Attorney and to encourage them to choose who can make personal care and financial decisions on their behalf</p> <p>As part of this campaign, easy-to-use and accessible resource materials, including a revised Power of Attorney (POA) document and information about how people can prevent</p>	<p>\$1 million over three years</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a communication campaign about preparing financially for retirement <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York • to train Regional staff who work with seniors on identifying potential fraud/misappropriation by Powers of Attorney

Supporting Seniors at All Stages

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
Expansion of Consumer Protection Programs for Seniors	<p>POA misuse, will be made available on Ontario.ca/AgingWell</p> <p>Consumer protection pilot program aimed at protecting seniors' hard-earned money through education and awareness, as well as through enhanced assistance and intervention programs for seniors who have fallen victim to consumer threats or scams</p>	Not announced	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a communication campaign about preparing financially for retirement <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York To promote awareness within existing York Region programs and services including social and affordable housing communities and the Housing Repair Program To advocate for legal assistance for seniors to reverse Powers of Attorney, in cases where seniors are being taken advantage of
Strengthening elder abuse Protection	<p>Deliver public education, service provider training, research, and improved community response, to better support abused older adults. This also includes dedicated efforts to address violence against older women, and support older people in Indigenous communities</p>	\$6.7 million over three years	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training for outside workers to identify seniors in distress and age sensitivity training At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity needed to deliver them <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York to coordinate the sharing of information at York Region community outreach events such Paramedics and Seniors Services' Connecting Caregivers Workshop and York Regional Police Seniors' Day

Supporting Seniors Living Independently in the Community

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
More seniors active living centres	The province is increasing its network of <u>Seniors Active Living Centres</u> by 40, to more than 300 Centres province-wide. These centres provide seniors with a range of social, recreational and wellness programs, as well as educational and support services	\$8 million over three years	Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with local municipalities, community agencies, private sector and Central Local Health Integration Network to provide better integrated and co-located services for seniors Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York • To collaborate with external partners such as local municipalities, agencies and the Central LHIN to better integrate and co-locate services for seniors There are 6 Seniors Active Living Centres in York Region: Markham (2), Richmond Hill (1), Newmarket (1), Aurora (1), Georgina (1)
More community engagement opportunities	<u>Ontario's Seniors Community Grant Program</u> is being extended and enhanced to support larger projects that will benefit more seniors over a longer term. The program will support seniors to learn, volunteer and be socially involved	\$11 million over three years	Aligns with the following Seniors strategy desired result area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect seniors and caregivers to the right programs and services at the right times Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To apply for funding to build upon existing programs and services • To collaborate with and support external partners such as the local municipalities and agencies to provide more community engagement opportunities for seniors
Staying physically strong	A new <u>Active for Life Recreation Stream</u> for seniors, under the <u>Ontario Sport and Recreations Communities Fund</u> to provide more recreational activities to help up to 20,000 older Ontarians prolong their physical and mental health, stay mobile and reduce the risk of falls	\$3.5 million over three years	Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand existing prevention programs and identify new programs needed, including alternative programs for those on waitlists Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To advocate to the province for more funding to expand existing York Region programs and services such as Public Health exercise and fall prevention classes • To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York

Supporting Seniors Living Independently in the Community

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
Engaging seniors through the arts	A government fund will be created to support professional arts programming and art therapy for seniors in community settings such as Seniors Active Living Centres, retirement homes, hospitals, and long-term care homes, as well as build capacity for seniors to engage in arts organizations in their communities	\$10 million over two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To collaborate with and support external partners such as the local municipalities and agencies to provide more recreational opportunities for seniors <p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy result area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect seniors and caregivers with the right programs and services at the right times <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To apply for funding to build upon existing programs/services in the Region's Long-Term Care homes and subsidized seniors housing communities, as well as adult day programs To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York To collaborate with and support external partners such as the local municipalities and agencies to provide more arts programming opportunities for seniors
Helping seniors with technology	<u>Ontario's Change the World program</u> will launch a special project to link youth volunteers with seniors to help seniors build their understanding and enable their use of technology. It will help reduce seniors' social isolation and facilitate meaningful volunteering experiences for youth	\$600,000 over two years	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the business/industry sector to identify innovative new business solutions for seniors (i.e. new technology, apps for wellness checks, data solutions) Connect seniors and caregivers to the right programs and services at the right times <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York To apply for funding to build upon existing programs/services in the Region's Long-Term Care homes and subsidized seniors housing communities, as well as adult day programs To collaborate with external partners such as the local municipalities and agencies to provide more opportunities

Supporting Seniors Living Independently in the Community

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
Supporting seniors to become mentors	A senior-youth mentorship program will be established, to help build relationships and encourage knowledge sharing between generations. This will support 20 to 30 projects across the province	\$4 million over two years	<p>for youth to engage with seniors on the use of technology</p> <p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy result area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connect seniors and caregivers to the right programs and services at the right times <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York To apply for funding to build upon existing programs and services such as the York Region Transit Travel Training Centre which is an opportunity to bring youth and seniors together to train how to use technology such as pay app, PRESTO, etc. To collaborate with and support external partners such as the local municipalities and agencies to provide more youth mentorship opportunities with seniors in York Region

Seniors Requiring Enhances Supports at Home and in their Communities

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
Support for more naturally occurring retirement communities	<p>Province to continue supporting "naturally occurring" retirement communities. Naturally occurring retirement communities are apartment buildings or housing developments where many seniors already live close to one another such as York Region's seniors subsidized housing communities</p> <p>The Local Health Integration Networks will explore ways to further support seniors who live near each other by providing more on-site services to meet seniors' needs, including culturally appropriate care</p>	\$15 million over two years	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the local municipalities, community agencies, private sector and Central Health Integration Network to design and implement a multi-service centre/hub model(s) that will co-locate services to respond to the needs of seniors • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity needed to deliver them <p>York Region seniors subsidized housing communities are independent living communities. It is important that supports introduced into naturally occurring retirement communities are not provided in lieu of transitioning a resident to a long-term care home. York Region's subsidized housing communities do not have the infrastructure or staff to accommodate residents in need of long-term care and retrofitting existing buildings can be costly or not possible, in some cases</p>
Increasing access to in-home health care	<p>Improve seniors' access to house-calls by expanding the existing program beyond physicians to include additional healthcare providers such as social workers, therapists and nurses</p>	\$3 million over two years	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to build upon existing programs/services such as the Expanded Paramedics in the Community Program, Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Team and Housing York Inc. social workers • Greater access to in-home health care may benefit some seniors in the Region's social and affordable housing and Homelessness Community Programs • For the Region to continue to advocate to ensure the appropriate home and community supports are available in the Region, including funding for the Community

Seniors Requiring Enhances Supports at Home and in their Communities

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
Increasing access to geriatric care	Strengthen the healthcare workforce's ability to provide specialized care in geriatrics by increasing training opportunities for healthcare providers, including physicians, personal support workers and nurse practitioners	\$5.5 million over two years	<p>Paramedicine Program that supports additional healthcare providers in providing home health care</p> <p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them • Provide training for those that work with seniors on how to care for elderly with complex needs <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York • To apply for funding to provide training for the Region's healthcare workers • To advocate for funding for York Region staff such as Housing York Inc. social workers and those working on the Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Team
Providing more home care hours	Seniors requiring home care will benefit from an estimated 2.6 million additional hours this year, including personal support services, nursing, physical and speech therapy, and respite services for caregivers	Not announced	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them <p>May benefit York Region seniors by helping them to age in place for longer, including seniors residing in social and affordable housing and housing with supports</p>
Expanding seniors supportive housing	Providing support and rehabilitation to 1,700 people who are ready to leave hospital, but need some additional assistance before they can return home, with over 500 new transitional care spaces The province is also helping	Not announced	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them • Provide a variety of housing options, including rental, to support age-friendly, complete communities

Seniors Requiring Enhances Supports at Home and in their Communities

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
	<p>seniors who require assistance with health care or activities of daily living, such as bathing or meal preparation, and cannot afford to live independently, by providing 200 new subsidies to better access affordable housing as well as home and community care supports</p>		<p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To benefit seniors living in subsidized housing communities • To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York • To collaborate with and support external partners such as agencies to provide more supportive housing to benefit seniors
<p>Increasing support for caregivers</p>	<p>Ontario is launching a new province-wide organization to provide caregivers with supports and resources, including a single point of access for information in areas such as training in multiple languages, local programs and peer support</p>	<p>Not announced</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate options for a single point of access for seniors to access information, including a self-service option (i.e. system navigation) • Explore how to guide seniors through the many services out there <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York • To build upon existing programs/services offered by Paramedic and Seniors Services such as the Connecting Caregivers Workshop • For the Region to advocate to the province to request funding and improved coordination and integrated service delivery to assist with system navigation to ensure seniors and caregivers are connected to the right programs and services at the right times
<p>Making the quality of care more consistent</p>	<p>Ontario is introducing new guidelines for home care assessment and planning based on the level of care needed by the individual and their caregivers</p>	<p>Not announced</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them <p>Opportunities – dependant on funding and program details</p> <p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services
<p>Helping people with dementia</p>	<p>Improvements to access to quality care for people living</p>	<p>\$100 million</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services

Seniors Requiring Enhances Supports at Home and in their Communities

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
<p>Enhancing self-directed care</p>	<p>with dementia and their care partners, including expanding and enhancing existing services such as community dementia programs.</p> <p>The first year of Ontario's dementia strategy is focused on expanding and enhancing existing services such as community dementia programs, including increased access to adult day programs, enhanced caregiver respite services (both in-home and overnight), expanding behavioural supports, improving the coordination of care, continuing to invest in health care providers' education, and raising awareness about dementia risk factors and reducing the stigma associated with dementia</p>	<p>over three years</p>	<p>are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training outside workers on how to identify seniors in distress as well as training on age sensitivity and how to care for elderly with complex needs <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To apply for funding to expand Regional programs and services that align with the Dementia Strategy (i.e. behavioural support services, adult day programs, respite services and the Mental Health Matters Initiative). The behavioural support services may include providing supports in Emergency Housing facilities and building capacity in Public Health for dementia prevention and falls prevention • To advocate to the provincial government to request funding to ensure adequate dementia services are available to support seniors and caregivers in York Region social housing and housing with supports programs, and to ensure appropriate home and community care supports are available in the Region, including homecare, adult day programs and respite <p>York Region operates two ADP programs and hosts two other ADP programs through purchase of service partnerships with Mackenzie Health and the March of Dimes.</p>
<p>Enhancing self-directed care</p>	<p>Ontario is creating new, innovative self-directed care models to provide eligible clients and caregivers with more control over their care</p> <p>This will include establishment of a new personal support services organization in early 2018: Self-Directed Personal Support Services Ontario (SDPSSO)</p>	<p>Not announced</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them <p>Opportunity to connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York</p> <p>Potential financial and legal implications to existing programs/services</p>

Seniors Requiring Intensive Supports		Seniors Requiring Intensive Supports	
Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
Modernizing long-term care homes	Ontario is supporting redevelopment of more than 30,000 existing long-term care beds in more than 300 long-term care homes by 2025, and will be eliminating all four-bed wards in the long-term care homes	Not announced	Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy advocacy area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request the provincial government work with the Region to improve policy planning and decision-making for long-term care beds by developing a forecast for York Region, including required number, type and locations <p>York Region's two long-term care homes are not eligible for redevelopment (they do not have four-bed wards)</p>
Reducing the wait for long-term care	Ontario will create 5,000 new long-term care beds by 2022, to ensure those with the highest need, as well as those within hospitals who are ready to be discharged and require a long-term care home, have a bed	Not announced	Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy advocacy area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request the provincial government work with the Region to improve policy planning and decision-making for long-term care beds by developing a forecast for York Region, including required number, type and locations <p>Opportunity to expand Long-Term Care Services in the Region. Staff are assessing potential options, implications and associated costs for the development of long-term care beds</p>
More staffing and support in long term care	Ontario will increase the provincial average to four hours of direct care per resident per day to ensure that residents in Ontario's long-term care homes receive the highest quality of care	Not announced	Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them <p>Opportunity to build upon existing programs/services offered by Long-Term Care Services by providing more staffing with specialized training</p> <p>Potential financial implications in the delivery of Long-Term Care Services as funding has not been announced</p>

Seniors Requiring Intensive Supports

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
	<p>care residents across Ontario, and will ensure that every long-term care home in the province has staff with specialized training in behavioural supports and in palliative and end-of-life care</p>		<p>Potential recruitment implications associated with additional long-term care staff, and in particular, recruiting registered nursing staff and personal support workers</p> <p>[York Region's two long-term care homes currently provide 3.5 hours of direct resident care per day]</p>
<p>Promoting innovation in long-term care</p>	<p>Ontario is introducing innovative technologies to all long-term care homes to help create a modernized and efficient system. This includes supplying all homes with electronic clinical support tools to ensure standardized, high-quality care is delivered to residents with a range of complex diagnoses</p>	<p>Not announced</p>	<p>Opportunity to build upon existing programs/services in the Region's Long-Term Care Homes</p> <p>Potential financial implications (e.g. capital, operational, etc.)</p>
<p>Culturally appropriate long-term care</p>	<p>In consultation with long-term care providers and residents and families, Ontario will provide more access to culturally appropriate homes, and in-home supports such as culturally appropriate meal preparation and support in the resident's language of choice</p>	<p>Not announced</p>	<p>Opportunity to build upon existing programs/services offered Long-Term Care Services</p> <p>Positive for York Region as it is one of the most culturally diverse areas in the province</p> <p>Potential financial implications (i.e. capital, operational, etc.)</p>
<p>Strengthening safety for long-term care home residents</p>	<p>Bill 160, <i>Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients Act, 2017</i>, strengthens the long-term care inspection and enforcement framework</p>	<p>Not applicable Legislation</p>	<p>Stricter standards of accountability and higher fines for the Region's Committee of Management (Regional Council) and long-term care staff, if convicted of an offence under the amended Long-Term Care Homes Act. See attachment 2 for details.</p>
<p>Protecting vulnerable seniors</p>	<p>The province will strengthen the <u>Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee (OPGT)</u>, which acts as a public guardian for over 13,000 mentally incapable</p>	<p>\$10 million over two years</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how to guide seniors through the many services available <p>Opportunity to connect York Region seniors/caregivers with</p>

Seniors Requiring Intensive Supports

Actions	Details	Funding	Alignment with Seniors Strategy and Potential Opportunities
	<p>adults. The OPGT will offer improved customer service through the creation of a contact centre, improved information management and modernized service delivery</p>		<p>information via Access York</p> <p>May benefit York Region Homelessness and Community Programs staff and frontline service providers who support clients in housing with supports</p>
<p>Improved end-of-life care</p>	<p>Ontario is partnering with local communities to build more hospice beds across the province. This expansion will provide compassionate palliative and end-of-life care for more than 2,000 additional people and their families each year, closer to home</p>	<p>Not announced</p>	<p>Aligns with the following Seniors Strategy action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity required to deliver them <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To connect York Region seniors/caregivers with information via Access York • To collaborate with and support external partners to provide more hospice beds in York Region

Strengthening Safety for Long-Term Care Home Residents

Details: Bill 160, Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients Act, 2017, strengthens the long-term care inspection and enforcement framework by making amendments to the Long Term Care Homes Act, 2007 (the Act).

Implications: As a result of the amendments there will be a more stringent compliance framework and additional requirements in providing long-term care services. The amended legislation enables the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to do the following:

1. **Issue policy/operational directives for long-term care homes**
2. **Charge homes with two new offences:**
 - A “Failure to Protect” charge for violations of section 19 of the Act, which requires homes to protect residents from abuse and neglect
 - A “Failure to Comply with an Order” charge to be applied every licensee that fails to comply with an Order. Persons convicted of this offence could be liable to fines but not to imprisonment and probation.
3. **File an order with the court:** The MOHLTC may file an Order issued under the Act with the local registrar of the Superior Court of Justice after the time limit for review or appeal has passed. On filing an Order, it would be deemed to be an Order of that Court and be enforceable as such.
4. **Hold directors and officers of a corporation more accountable:** Directors and officers of a corporation must ensure that the corporation complies with all requirements of the Act. This obligation also applies to every member of the Committee of Management, a role filled by Regional Council. Failure to comply with this obligation is an offence and committee of management and directors and officers of a not for profit corporation, such as the Region, is subject to a fine of not more than \$2,000.
5. **Impose administrative monetary penalties:** The MOHLTC could issue a notice in imposing monetary penalties to a licensee for non-compliance with the Act, which cannot exceed \$100,000.
6. **Increase fines under the Act:**
 - a) **For individuals:** Every individual who is convicted of an offence under this Act is liable (a) for a first offence, to a fine not more than \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than 12 months, or to both; and (b) for a subsequent offence, to a fine of not more than \$200,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than 12 months, or to both.

Exception: Every individual who is convicted of an offense under section 24, (such as abuse of a resident) is liable to a fine of not more than \$100,000.

b) For Directors, Officers, Members of Committee of Management: The following rules apply if an individual is convicted of an offence as a director or officer of a corporation:

- If the individual is a member of a committee of management/board of management or a director or officer of a corporation that is the licensee of a non-profit Long-Term Care home, the individual is liable to a fine of not more than \$2,000.
- In every other case, the individual is liable to a fine of not more than \$100,000 for a first offence, and not more than \$200,000 for a subsequent offence.

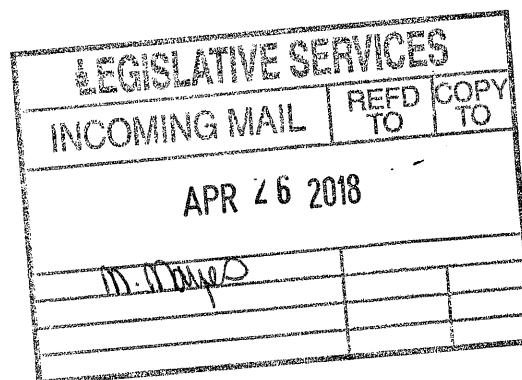
c) For Corporations: Any corporation convicted of an offence under this Act could be fined up to a maximum of \$200,000 for a first offence and a maximum of \$500,000 for a subsequent offence.

Note: An individual may be prosecuted and convicted under this section even if the corporation has not been prosecuted or convicted.

- 7. Expand the MOHLTC's ability to return/withhold funding:** The MOHLTC can currently withhold funding from the nursing and personal care fund when an amount is owed by the home. The proposed change would mean that funding owed by a home could come from any specific funding envelope such as direct funding, resident co-payments and preferred accommodation revenue. Returning/withholding funding could negatively impact the care provided to residents.
- 8. Publically post directives for improvement:** Inspection reports are currently published; with new amendments the MOHLTC can also publish cease admission order, written plans for achieving compliance, administrative monetary penalty information, and convictions and penalties imposed on a home.

April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
 Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
 Town of Newmarket
 395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
 Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7



Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: 2018 Property Tax Rates

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "2018 Property Tax Rates":

1. Broad property class tax rates for 2018 be established as follows:

Broad Property Class	2018 Tax Rates %
Residential/Farm	0.350606
Multi-Residential	0.350606
Commercial	0.432052
Industrial	0.524962
Pipelines	0.322207
Farmland	0.087651
Managed Forests	0.087651

2. Local municipalities pay the final two instalments of the 2018 regional property tax levy on or before September 28, 2018 and December 14, 2018.
3. Council approve a bylaw to give effect to these recommendations.
4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 7 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 7 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Edward Hankins, Director, Treasury Office, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71644 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Raynor", written over the printed name.

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S. Dumont
Attachments

Clause 7 in Report No. 7 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

7

2018 Property Tax Rates

1. Broad property class tax rates for 2018 be established as follows:

Broad Property Class	2018 Tax Rates %
Residential/Farm	0.350606
Multi-Residential	0.350606
Commercial	0.432052
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Pipelines	0.322207
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2. Local municipalities pay the final two instalments of the 2018 regional property tax levy on or before September 28, 2018 and December 14, 2018.
3. Council approve a bylaw to give effect to these recommendations.
4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

Report dated March 27, 2018 from the Commissioner of Finance now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Broad property class tax rates for 2018 be established as follows:

2018 Property Tax Rates

Broad Property Class	2018 Tax Rates %
Residential/Farm	0.350606
Multi-Residential	0.350606
Commercial	0.432052
Industrial	0.524962
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2. Local municipalities pay the final two instalments of the 2018 regional property tax levy on or before September 28, 2018 and December 14, 2018.
3. Council approve a bylaw to give effect to these recommendations.
4. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

2. Purpose

It is necessary to establish tax rates for the various property classes so that the tax levy component of the 2018 Regional Budget can be raised.

3. Background

A tax rate bylaw is required annually

In 2017, Council adopted revenue neutral tax ratios. Since the assessment values of different property classes shift at different rates, rates need to be adjusted annually to maintain revenue neutrality.

Section 311(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the Act) requires that an upper-tier municipality pass a tax rating bylaw each year, unless otherwise specified by the Province, that sets out the tax rates for each property class. This allows the Region to raise sufficient revenues to meet its budgetary requirements.

2018 Property Tax Rates

4. Analysis and Implications

2018 tax rates are determined by the approved budget, assessment values and tax ratios

Regional property tax rates are calculated based on the following formula:

$$\text{Property Tax Rates} = \frac{\text{Total Property Tax Funding Requirement for 2018}}{\text{Weighted and Discounted Assessment for All Classes}} \times \text{Tax Ratio for the Class}$$

Weighted and discounted property assessment is the assessment returned by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) for 2018 using tax ratios established in the 2018 Property Tax Ratios Report. Table 1 summarizes the revenue neutral tax ratios and the 2018 proposed tax rates.

Table 1
2018 Proposed Revenue Neutral Tax Ratios and 2018 Proposed Tax Rates

Property Class	2018 Proposed Revenue Neutral Ratios	Proposed 2018 Tax Rates %
Residential	1.0000	0.350606
Multi-Residential	1.0000	0.350606
Commercial	1.2323	0.432052
Industrial	1.4973	0.524962
Pipelines	0.9190	0.322207
Farmland	0.2500	0.087651
Managed Forests	0.2500	0.087651

In addition, the Minister of Finance has prescribed discounted tax rates for certain property subclasses, to ensure that the special nature of these properties is recognized. However, the Region has the flexibility to phase out the vacant and excess land discounts, which amount to approximately \$4 million in 2018. Table 2 is a list of these subclasses.

2018 Property Tax Rates

Table 2
Prescribed Subclass Discounts for Property Classes

Applicable Property Class	Subclass	Discount
Residential, Multi-Residential, Commercial and Industrial	Farmland Awaiting Development 1	75% of the residential tax rate
Commercial and Industrial	Excess Land	30% of the commercial rate and 35% of the industrial rate
Commercial and Industrial	Vacant Land	30% of the commercial rate and 35% of the industrial rate

Attachment 1 shows the distribution of Regional revenues by the various property classes and subclasses. The table includes linear properties for which the Province has prescribed a charge per acre. It also includes payments-in-lieu, which are payments made to compensate a municipality for some or all of the tax revenues that are foregone from tax-exempt properties. The most common payments-in-lieu in York Region are for federally-owned properties such as Canada Post, municipal utilities and crown corporations.

5. Financial Considerations

Tax rates are declining because property assessment values are growing faster than the Region's tax levy needs

Table 3 shows the historical relationship between the increases in average single-family detached assessment in York Region and tax rates for the residential property class. In all cases, the tax rates decrease because the value of the assessment base of the property class increased more than the property tax funding requirement.

2018 Property Tax Rates

Table 3
Comparison of Residential Assessment to Residential Tax Rates

	Average Single-Family Detached Assessment	Tax Rates (%)
2018	812,292	0.350606
2017	740,630	0.371903
2016	667,714	0.397157
2015	629,000	0.406421
2014	591,000	0.416733
2013	553,000	0.434762

6. Local Municipal Impact

Subsection 311(11) of the Act requires that an upper-tier tax rating bylaw estimate the amount of upper-tier tax revenue to be raised in each of the local municipalities. The estimate is shown in Table 4.

Table 4
2018 Regional Tax Revenue to be Raised by Local Municipalities

Municipality	2017 Tax Requirement (\$)	2017 Share (%)	2018 Tax Requirement (\$)	2018 Share (%)
Aurora	48,872,445	4.78	51,388,882	4.81
East Gwillimbury	19,327,056	1.89	21,223,927	1.98
Georgina	24,948,980	2.44	25,782,552	2.41
King	27,969,255	2.73	29,211,616	2.73
Markham	295,222,443	28.85	308,886,015	28.88
Newmarket	59,140,811	5.78	61,626,756	5.76
Richmond Hill	185,278,851	18.11	195,244,933	18.26
Vaughan	324,498,154	31.70	336,309,832	31.45
Whitchurch-Stouffville	38,040,764	3.72	39,764,765	3.72
Sub-Total	1,023,298,759	100.00	1,069,439,278	100.00
Payments-in-Lieu	2,841,114		3,079,722	
Total Tax Requirement	1,026,139,873		1,072,519,000	

2018 Property Tax Rates

The Municipal Act permits upper-tier municipalities to collect their portion of the property tax payments from local municipalities on or before specified dates

Subsection 311(12) of the Act provides that an upper-tier rating bylaw may require specified portions of the estimated taxes to be paid by the local municipalities on or before specified dates. At its meeting of January 25, 2018, Council adopted the interim levy payment dates of April 27, 2018 and June 29, 2018. It is recommended that the Regional Treasurer request that the remaining two instalments for the property tax levy be paid on or before September 28, 2018 and December 14, 2018.

7. Conclusion

The proposed 2018 tax rates will raise the property tax levy requirement that was approved by Council in December 2017. As well, the report provides the dates for the remittance of the remaining instalment payments from local municipalities.

For more information on this report, please contact Edward Hankins, Director, Treasury Office, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71644.

March 27, 2018

Attachments (1)

8294010

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Attachment 1

2018 Proposed Regional Revenues and Tax Rates by Class for Illustration

Property Assessment Class and Subclass	Tax Rates (%)	Revenue Generated (\$)
Residential		
Residential	0.350606	875,034,923
Residential Taxable (Shared as Payment in Lieu)	0.350606	31,313
Residential – Farmland Awaiting Development Phase 1	0.087651	19,096
Residential Taxable (Upper Tier and Education Only)	0.350606	0
Multi-Residential		
Multi-Residential	0.350606	8,367,670
Commercial		
Commercial (Occupied)	0.432052	80,231,795
Shopping Centre	0.432052	25,505,327
New Commercial (Occupied)	0.432052	16,339,537
Office Building	0.432052	9,673,130
Shopping Centre (New Construction)	0.432052	4,570,363
Commercial Vacant Land	0.302436	2,650,755
Office Building Occupied (New Construction)	0.432052	2,221,218
Commercial Excess Land	0.302436	1,541,239
Commercial Excess Land (New Construction)	0.432052	243,067
Parking Lot (Full)	0.432052	609,725
Commercial (previously Ontario Hydro)	0.432052	130,789

Property Assessment Class and Subclass	Tax Rates (%)	Revenue Generated (\$)
Shopping Centre Excess Land (New Construction)	0.302436	149,963
Office Building Vacant Units and Excess Land	0.302436	93,530
Shopping Centre Vacant Units and Excess Land	0.302436	104,372
Commercial – Farmland Awaiting Development Phase 1	0.087651	97,813
Commercial Vacant Land (Shared as Payment in Lieu)	0.302436	30,057
Office Building Excess Land (New Construction)	0.302436	14,180
Commercial Excess Land (Shared as Payment in Lieu)	0.302436	2,049
Industrial		
Industrial (Occupied)	0.524962	25,183,604
Large Industrial	0.524962	5,667,293
Industrial Vacant Land	0.341225	3,553,765
Industrial Occupied (New Construction)	0.524962	2,016,588
Industrial (previous Ontario Hydro)	0.524962	583,374
Industrial Excess Land	0.341225	174,344
Industrial Excess Land (previously Ontario Hydro)	0.341225	139,900
Industrial Farmland Awaiting Development Phase 1	0.087651	99,561
New Large Industrial Occupied	0.524962	81,411
Large Industrial Vacant Units and	0.341225	51,029

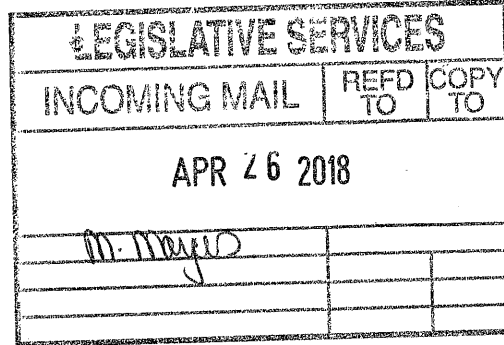
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Property Assessment Class and Subclass	Tax Rates (%)	Revenue Generated (\$)
Excess Land		
Industrial (New Construction)	0.524962	22,324
Industrial Excess Land (New Construction)	0.341225	14,235
Industrial Vacant Land (Shared as Payment in Lieu)	0.341225	4,311
Pipeline	0.322207	1,127,894
Farmlands	0.087651	1,429,396
Managed Forest	0.087651	58,282
Railway Right-Of-Way (Estimated)		567,586
Utility Transmission (Estimated)		1,002,470
Sub-Total (Estimated)		1,069,439,280
Payment-in-Lieu	N/A	3,079,722
Total 2018 Regional Tax Requirement		1,072,519,000



April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7



Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: 2018 Property Tax Ratios

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "2018 Property Tax Ratios":

1. The property tax ratios for the 2018 taxation year be established as follows:

Broad Property Class	Proposed 2018 Tax Ratios
Multi-Residential	1.0000
Commercial (incl. office)	1.2323
Industrial	1.4973
Pipelines	0.9190
Farmland	0.2500
Managed Forests	0.2500

2. Council approve a bylaw to implement the tax ratios using the notional property tax rate calculation adjustment for 2018.
3. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 6 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 7 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Edward Hankins, Director, Treasury Office, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71644 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CR', written over a horizontal line.

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/S.Dumont
Attachments

Clause 6 in Report No. 7 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

6

2018 Property Tax Ratios

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated March 27, 2018 from the Commissioner of Finance:

1. The property tax ratios for the 2018 taxation year be established as follows:

Broad Property Class	Proposed 2018 Tax Ratios
Multi-Residential	1.0000
Commercial (incl. office)	1.2323
Industrial	1.4973
Pipelines	0.9190
Farmland	0.2500
Managed Forests	0.2500

2. Council approve a bylaw to implement the tax ratios using the notional property tax rate calculation adjustment for 2018.
3. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

Report dated March 27, 2018 from the Commissioner of Finance now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The property tax ratios for the 2018 taxation year be established as follows:

2018 Property Tax Ratios

Broad Property Class	Proposed 2018 Tax Ratios
Multi-Residential	1.0000
Commercial (incl. office)	1.2323
Industrial	1.4973
Pipelines	0.9190
Farmland	0.2500
Managed Forests	0.2500

2. Council approve a bylaw to implement the tax ratios using the notional property tax rate calculation adjustment for 2018.
3. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

2. Purpose

This report identifies proposed property tax ratios for the 2018 taxation year.

3. Background

Tax ratios influence the share of taxation paid by each class of property

Tax ratios influence the relative amount of taxation that is borne by each property class. The tax rate for a given property class is determined by multiplying the residential tax rate by the tax ratio for the class. For example, if the proposed tax ratios are adopted, the tax rate for a property in the commercial class would be 1.2323 times the residential tax rate per one hundred dollars of assessment.

Table 1 shows the tax ratios that the Region has had in place since 2009.

2018 Property Tax Ratios

Table 1
Region's Tax Ratios Since Tax Year 2009

Property Class*	2009 Ratios	2010 Ratios	2011 Ratios	2012 Ratios	2013-2016 Ratios	2017 Ratios	2018 Ratios (Proposed)
Residential	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Multi-Residential	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
Commercial (incl. office)	1.2070	1.1800	1.1431	1.1172	1.1172	1.1813	1.2323
Industrial	1.3737	1.3575	1.3305	1.3124	1.3124	1.4169	1.4973
Pipelines	0.9190	0.9190	0.9190	0.9190	0.9190	0.9190	0.9190
Farmland	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500
Managed Forests	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500	0.2500

* Note that tax ratios have only been adjusted for the business classes as Council policy has been to maintain tax ratios for multi-residential, farmland, managed forests and pipelines.

In 2017 Council adopted revenue neutral tax ratios

In 2017, Council endorsed revenue neutral tax ratios. Under this option, each property class would pay the same share of property taxes as it did prior to reassessment. The effect of revenue neutrality is that the same share of revenue is obtained from each class, even though some classes have changed in value well above or below the average rate of growth.

Increases to property values in the residential class as a result of the 2016 reassessment exceeded those in the business classes. Under "revenue neutrality," an increase to tax ratios for the business classes is required to achieve the same share of property taxation. In other words, the property taxes for the residential classes are lower than they would have been if tax ratios had remained at 2016 levels. The tax burden is shifted from residential classes to the commercial and industrial classes.

Shifting the tax burden away from the residential class does not benefit every household in the same way. Those who own homes that are in the highest levels of assessed value benefit the most under revenue neutrality, as they otherwise would have experienced the highest increases in property taxes if the burden hadn't been shifted to the business classes.

4. Analysis and Implications

As a result of the decision to approve revenue neutral tax ratios, Council is required to approve new revenue neutral tax ratios based on actual assessment outcomes for each year

Council needs to approve revenue neutral tax ratios based on actual assessment outcomes for each year, as the relative share of the total Current Value Assessment for each broad property class shifts from year-to-year due to the phase-in of the reassessed values and the addition of new assessment. The total Current Value Assessment is the sum of the assessed values of all taxable properties in the region based on the assessments of each individual property determined by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation. The 2018 tax ratio outcomes were generated by the Online Property Tax Analysis System ("OPTA"), an online tool by Reamined Systems Inc. on behalf of the Government of Ontario that has various applications to help municipalities make decisions under the current property tax and assessment system.

2018 Current Value Assessment is 10.2% higher than 2017, of which 9.5% can be attributable to the phasing-in of the 2016 reassessment

Table 2 illustrates the increase in total value assessment between 2017 and 2018.

2018 Property Tax Ratios

Table 2
Current Value Assessment Comparison

Broad Property Class	2017 CVA	2018 CVA	% Increase
Residential	224,675,306,633	249,613,414,750	11.1
Multi-Residential	2,230,073,734	2,386,632,022	7.0
Commercial (incl. office)	32,163,609,025	33,945,695,763	5.5
Industrial	7,420,870,209	7,659,354,112	3.2
Pipelines	296,014,250	350,052,836	18.3
Farmland	1,528,921,482	1,630,772,552	6.7
Managed Forests	62,951,400	66,492,900	5.6
Total	268,377,750,424	295,652,414,935	10.2%

The 2018 Current Value Assessment is used as the basis to calculate the revenue neutral tax ratios for 2018 (Table 3).

Table 3
Estimated Revenue Neutral Tax Ratios for 2018

	2017 Actual	2018 (Online Property Tax Analysis)
Residential	1.0000	1.0000
Multi-Residential	1.0000	1.0000
Commercial (incl. office)	1.1803	1.2323
Industrial	1.4200	1.4973
Pipelines	0.9190	0.9190
Farmland	0.2500	0.2500
Managed Forests	0.2500	0.2500

Even with revenue neutral ratios, York Region still has the lowest commercial and industrial property tax ratios in the GTA

While revenue neutrality increases the ratios for commercial and industrial classes relative to what they would have been without revenue neutral ratios, the Region still has the lower tax rates for commercial and industrial properties in the GTA (Charts 1 and 2).

2018 Property Tax Ratios

Chart 1 2017 Commercial Tax Ratios for GTA Municipalities

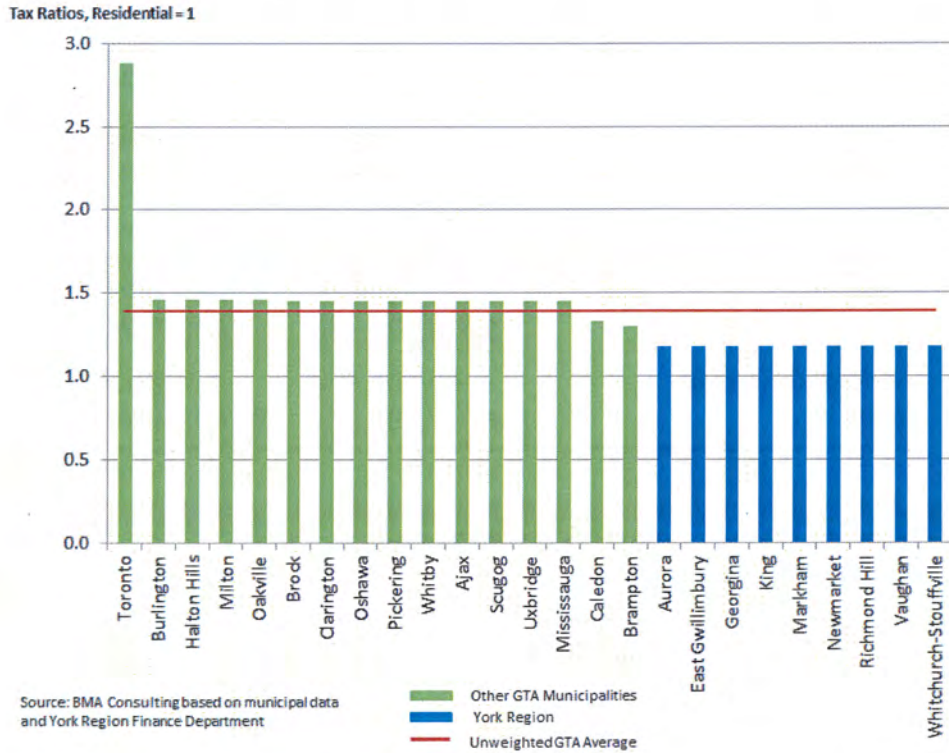
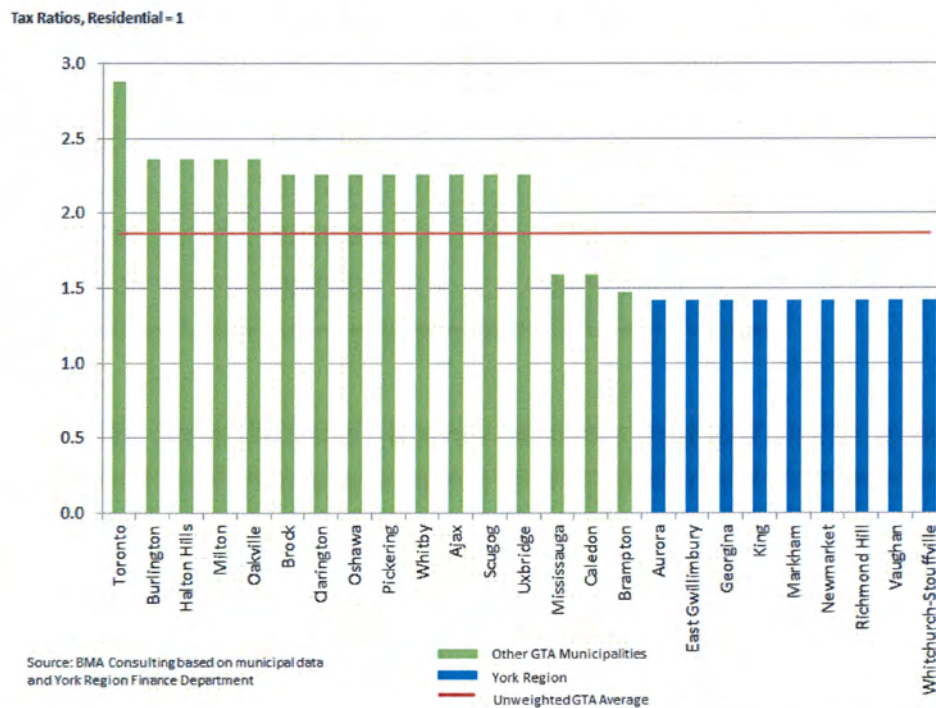


Chart 2 2017 Industrial Tax Ratios for GTA Municipalities



2018 Property Tax Ratios

Council approval is required for municipalities to adopt the notional tax rate calculation adjustment

The notional tax rate calculation is an input for determining the revenue neutral tax ratios. Notional tax rates are the tax rates that would raise the same amount of property taxes as the previous year while using the updated assessment roll information for the current year. As the total assessment value increases each year due to assessment value phase-in, the notional tax rate declines to keep revenues at the previous year's level. While the notional tax rate has no impact on the respective tax rates, it is used to explain changes in the tax levies year over year. The notional tax rate is not used to establish the property tax rates that are used to raise the Council-approved operating budget.

In 2016, the province introduced an option for municipalities to adjust the notional tax rate calculation. This option allows municipalities to remove in-year assessment losses due to factual errors and methodological changes when calculating notional tax rates. In calculating the 2018 property tax ratios, staff utilized the notional tax rate adjustment as it provides a more accurate illustration of the impact of assessment growth.

Adopting the provincial methodology for calculating notional tax rates does not materially affect revenue neutral tax ratios

The notional rate calculation adjustment has only immaterial impact on revenue neutral tax ratios. Where this adjustment impacts the final bills would be the overall levy change and disclosure notices, since the overall levy change is calculated by comparing the notional rates as a base rate to the adopted tax rates.

The notional tax rate adjustment option was adopted in 2017 and is reflected in the proposed 2018 revenue neutral tax ratios.

5. Financial Considerations

The adoption of tax ratios enables the Region to set the tax rates to raise the amount of revenue that Council approves through the annual budget process.

2018 Property Tax Ratios

6. Local Municipal Impact

Revenue neutral ratios do not eliminate tax shifts between municipalities

While revenue neutrality mitigates the change in the relative tax burden, it does not eliminate the impact of the reassessment on the residential class among municipalities. Using 2018 estimates, residential properties in Richmond Hill and Markham would continue to experience an increase in relative tax burden, given that the Current Value Assessments in those municipalities have increased more than the rest of the Region.

7. Conclusion

The proposed 2018 tax ratio will raise the property tax levy requirement that was approved by Council in December 2017.

For more information on this report, please contact Edward Hankins, Director, Treasury Office, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71644.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 27, 2018

8293198

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request



April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	
INCOMING MAIL	REFD COPY TO TO
APR 26 2018	

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: 2018 Speed Limit Revisions

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendations of Committee of the Whole regarding "2018 Speed Limit Revisions":

1. Existing speed limits on Regional roads listed in Table 1 of this report be revised as detailed.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of the Towns of East Gwillimbury, Georgina and Newmarket, the Township of King, the City of Markham and the Chief of York Regional Police.
3. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaws.

A copy of Clause 6 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Joseph Petrunaro, Director, Roads and Traffic Operations at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75220 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 6 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

6

2018 Speed Limit Revisions

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. Existing speed limits on Regional roads listed in Table 1 of this report be revised as detailed.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of the Towns of East Gwillimbury, Georgina and Newmarket, the Township of King, the City of Markham and the Chief of York Regional Police.
3. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaws.

Report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Existing speed limits on Regional roads listed in Table 1 of this report be revised as detailed.
2. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of the Towns of East Gwillimbury, Georgina and Newmarket, the Township of King, the City of Markham and the Chief of York Regional Police.
3. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary bylaws.

2018 Speed Limit Revisions

2. Purpose

This report seeks Council approval to implement recommended speed limit revisions detailed in Table 1. The revisions reflect changing land use, increased urbanization, promote speed limit consistency and improve traffic operations.

3. Background and Previous Council Direction

The recommended speed limit revisions are based on principles defined in the Council-adopted speed limit policy

In 2011, Council adopted a Speed Limit Policy that provides guidelines to assist in ensuring a consistent approach on setting speed limits on Regional roads. The guidelines reference industry standards that help the policy remain current as industry-accepted best practices evolve. The Highway Traffic Act, Section 128, gives a municipal council the authority, by bylaw, to revise speed limits under 100 km/h in its jurisdiction.

The Regional road network is monitored to balance traffic flow with safety

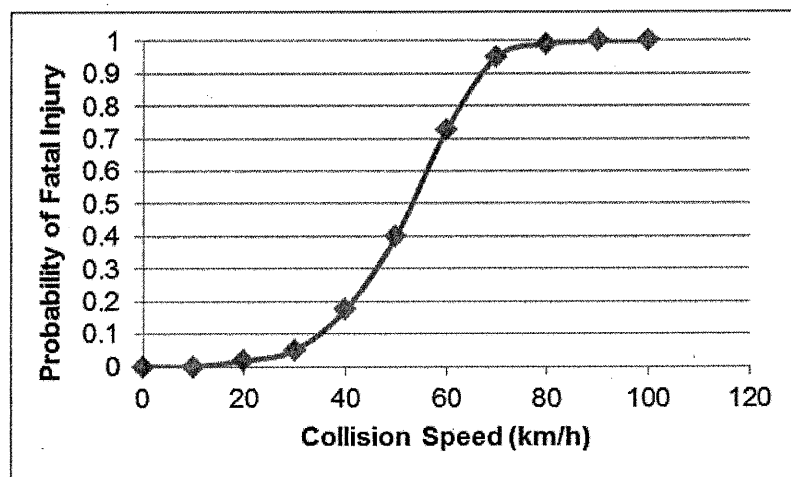
The Region's road network is a dynamic system. The critical parameters of roadside environment, road geometry, adjacent land use and access frequency are considered when establishing a speed zone. These parameters may change over time due to new development, transit routes or road widening. It is important speed limits be monitored and periodically reviewed to reflect changing parameters and address risks to road users.

Staff monitors and reviews the Regional road network ensuring speed limits are updated in accordance with the Region's Speed Limit Policy and set at appropriate levels for the road.

The Regional road network supports all modes of travel. As the Region continues to grow, traffic flow is increasingly interrupted by various factors, such as traffic volume, traffic signals, rail crossings and transit facilities. These interruptions may require motorists to come to a complete stop, which highlights the importance of travel speed in relation to a motorist's ability to safely stop.

Figure 1 shows the relationship between vehicle collision speeds and the probability of a fatal pedestrian injury. Pedestrian fatality rates increase drastically in a pedestrian/vehicle collision as vehicle speed increases.

Figure 1
Pedestrian Fatality Rate in Relation to Vehicle Travel Speed



Source: Wegman, F.C.M. & Aarts, L.T. (eds.) (2006). Advancing sustainable safety; National Road Safety Outlook for 2005-2020. SWOV, Leidschendam.

4. Analysis and Implications

Setting speed limits based on land use and operational justification encourages compliance and improves traffic operations

Justifications for speed limit revisions are:

- Changing Land Use - Urbanization resulting from new development and infrastructure can include changing land uses and traffic patterns along the road corridor. When communities are built adjacent to Regional roads, operating conditions of these roads must change to reflect increases in volumes, intersections, driveway connections, turning movements, pedestrians, cyclists and transit activities. Urban areas, towns and villages with higher volumes of traffic, pedestrians, cyclists and children playing require special attention when setting speed limit.
- Promoting Consistent Speed Limits - Speed limits that change frequently within short distances on the same road can result in driver confusion and low compliance of speed limits. Limiting the number of speed zone changes encourages driver compliance.

2018 Speed Limit Revisions

- Improving Traffic Operations - Credible speed limits that match driver expectations for a given roadway and its surrounding area improve traffic operations, increase speed limit compliance, provide a clear reminder to violators and reduce arbitrary enforcement and conviction tolerances. With the appropriate posted speed limit, the amount of time drivers have to react to potential hazards is also increased. Speed limits are determined in accordance with existing roadway elements, characteristics and surrounding environments.

Several Regional road sections have been identified for speed limit revisions

Proposed speed limit revisions on Regional roads are detailed in Table 1. Maps of these locations are included as Attachments 1 through 9.

Table 1
Speed Limit Revisions

Road	Municipality	Existing Speed	Proposed Speed (effective April 19, 2018)	Justification
1 Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) from 300 metres north of Major Mackenzie Drive East (Y.R. 25) to 228 metres north of Victoria Square Boulevard North (Attachment 1)	City of Markham	70 km/h	60 km/h	Changing land use and Consistent speed limits
2 Mount Albert Road (Y.R. 13) from 160 metres east of 2 nd Concession Road (Y.R. 34) to 280 metres west of Leslie Street (Y.R. 12) (Attachment 2)	Town of East Gwillimbury	70km/h	60km/h	Changing land use and Consistent speed limits
3 Green Lane (Y.R.19) from Bathurst Street (Y.R. 38) to 100 metres west of Woodspring Avenue (Attachment 2)	Town of East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	70 km/h	Changing land use

2018 Speed Limit Revisions

Road	Municipality	Existing Speed	Proposed Speed (effective April 19, 2018)	Justification
4 Green Lane (Y.R.19) from 500 metres east of Yonge Street (Y.R. 1) to Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) (Attachment 2)	Town of East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	70 km/h	Changing land use
5 Holland Landing Road (Y.R. 83) from its intersection with Bathurst Street (Y.R. 38) to 215 metres north thereof (Attachment 3)	Town of East Gwillimbury	70 km/h	60 km/h	Improved traffic operations
6 Leslie Street (Y.R. 12) from Doane Road (Y.R. 45) extending 860 metres north on Doane Road (Y.R. 45) (Attachment 4)	Town of East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	60 km/h	Changing land use and Consistent speed limits
7 McCowan Road (Y.R. 67) from Mount Albert Road (Y.R. 13) to 100 metres north of Mill Road (Attachment 5)	Town of East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	60 km/h	Bylaw update only, signs installed
8 Ravenshoe Road (Y.R. 32) from The Queensway South (Y.R. 12) to Thornlodge Drive (Attachment 6)	Towns of Georgina and East Gwillimbury	70 km/h	60 km/h	Changing land use
9 Ravenshoe Road (Y.R. 32) from Thornlodge Drive to 450 metres east thereof (Attachment 6)	Towns of Georgina and East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	60 km/h	Changing land use and Consistent speed limits
10 Ravenshoe Road (Y.R. 32) from 450 metres east of Thornlodge Drive to 230 metres west of Warden Avenue (Y.R. 65) (Attachment 6)	Towns of Georgina and East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	70 km/h	Improved traffic operations

2018 Speed Limit Revisions

Road	Municipality	Existing Speed	Proposed Speed (effective April 19, 2018)	Justification
11 Ravenshoe Road (Y.R. 32) from 240 metres east of Ravencrest Road to 480 metres east of Ravencrest Road (Attachment 6)	Towns of Georgina and East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	60 km/h	Improved traffic operations
12 Woodbine Avenue (Y.R. 8) from Glenwoods Avenue (Y.R. 33) to 360 metres south of Highway 404 off-ramp (Attachment 6)	Towns of Georgina and East Gwillimbury	80 km/h	70 km/h	Improved traffic operations
13 Metro Road (Y.R. 78) from Salvation Army Road to South Drive (Attachment 7)	Town of Georgina	60 km/h	50 km/h	Improved traffic operations and Consistent speed limit
14 Highway 27 (Y.R. 27) from King-Vaughan Road to 230 metres south of Oliver Emerson Avenue (Attachment 8)	Township of King	80 km/h	70 km/h	Improved traffic operations
15 Highway 27 (Y.R. 27) from 230 metres south of Oliver Emerson Avenue to 315 metres south of King Road (Y.R. 11) (Attachment 8)	Township of King	80 km/h	60 km/h	Bylaw update only, signs installed
16 Mulock Drive (Y.R. 74) from Bathurst Street (Y.R. 38) to 200 metres west of Yonge Street (Y.R. 1) (Attachment 9)	Town of Newmarket	70 km/h	60 km/h	Changing land use and Consistent speed limits

Benefits of reduced operating speeds outweigh the marginal travel time increases resulting from recommended speed limit revisions in this report.

2018 Speed Limit Revisions

Citizens are notified of the new speed limits through signage

When speed limits are changed on Regional roads, a NEW sign is placed above each speed limit sign at the beginning of the speed zone. The NEW signs remain in place for approximately 60-90 days.

5. Financial Considerations

Costs associated with the manufacture and installations of new speed limit signs are included in the approved 2018 Transportation Services Budget.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Local municipal staff has been engaged in the recommended speed limit revisions in this report and are supportive.

7. Conclusion

Staff recommends implementation of speed limit revisions on a number of Regional roads as described in this report. The recommended speed limit revisions will enhance traveller experience by ensuring speed limits are in accordance with existing roadway characteristics and surrounding environments.

Revisions to the bylaw are required before speed limit revisions can be implemented. Once the revised speed limits are approved, staff will prepare the necessary bylaws and forward a copy to the Towns of East Gwillimbury, Georgina and Newmarket, Township of King, City of Markham and the Chief of York Regional Police.

2018 Speed Limit Revisions

For more information on this report, please contact Joseph Petrunaro, Director, Roads and Traffic Operations, at 1-877-464-9675 ext.75220.

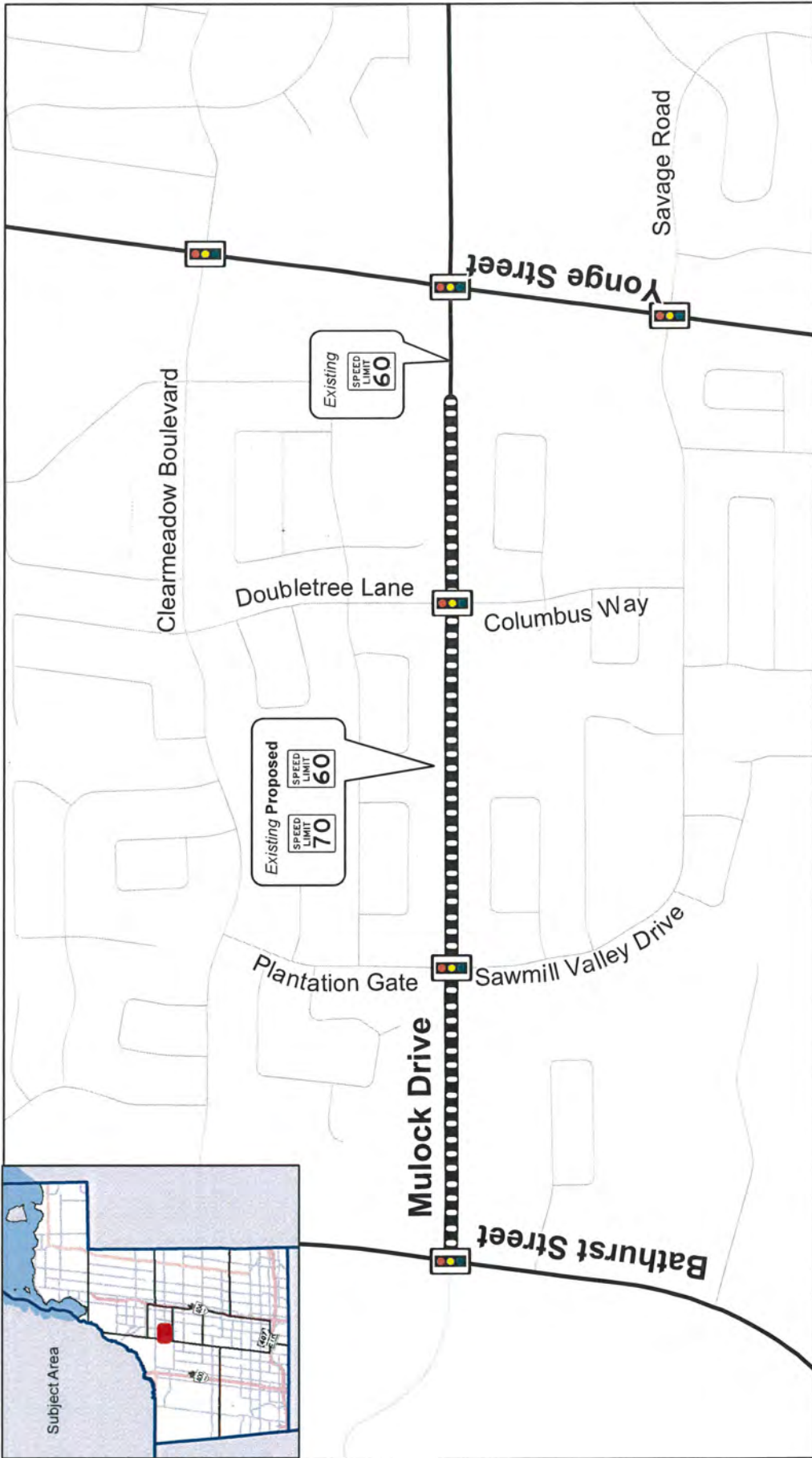
The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 23, 2018


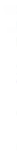
Attachments (9)

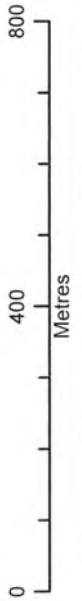
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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request



Legend

-  70 to 60 km/h
-  Regional Road
-  Local Road
-  Existing Traffic Signal



Mullock Drive (Y.R. 74)
Town of Newmarket
 2018 Speed Limit Revisions
 April 5, 2018

Produced by:
 Roads and Traffic Operations
 Transportation Services
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April 20, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update":

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 4 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Salim Alibhai, Director, Capital Planning and Delivery at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75229 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 4 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

4

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update

Committee of the Whole recommends:

1. Receipt of the presentation by Salim Alibhai, Director, Capital Planning and Delivery, Transportation Services.
2. Adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:
 1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

Report dated March 23, 2018 from the Commissioner of Transportation Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the local municipalities.

2. Purpose

This report provides Council with an update on 2017 accomplishments and projects that will be delivered in 2018 under the Transportation Services Roads and Transit Capital Program.

3. Background

Transportation Services is investing \$2.2B through the Growth and State of Good Repair Programs over the next 10 years

The 2018 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Program (Program), with a budget of \$2.2B, is divided into a Growth Program, valued at approximately \$1.44B, and a State of Good Repair Program, valued at approximately \$728M.

Over \$328M is being invested by Transportation Services during 2018 for Growth and State of Good Repair projects located throughout the Region. This investment is in addition to the \$365M being invested in the rapid transit network in York Region through projects undertaken by the York Region Rapid Transit Corporation (YRRTC). These investments reflect Council's support of growing a Regional transit system, building road and transit system improvements and maintaining transportation assets to provide an efficient transportation network and enhance the traveller experience. Attachment 1 shows the locations of current projects, with the exception of some minor State of Good Repair projects. Projects to be undertaken in 2018 by Transportation Services (excluding YRRTC projects), under the Program, are summarized in Attachment 2.

The Growth Program focuses on expanding the Regional road and transit network

The Growth Program focuses on building system improvements to increase the capacity of the Region's road and transit network, including:

- Road reconstruction
- Road widening
- Building new links in the Regional road network
- Midblock crossings of Provincial highways
- Major bridge replacements and upgrades
- Intersection upgrades to improve traffic operations
- Streetscaping
- Green infrastructure, including street tree and landscape plantings, irrigation systems and other supporting technologies
- Fibre optic cables or conduits, where appropriate

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update

- Active transportation facilities
- Building new transit terminals and operations and maintenance facilities
- Expansion of transit fleet

The State of Good Repair Program focuses on rehabilitation and replacement of existing transportation assets

The State of Good Repair Program focuses on rehabilitation and replacement of existing transportation assets, including:

- Pavement repair, preservation and rehabilitation
- Bridge and culvert rehabilitation or replacement
- Roadside safety device improvements
- Intersection improvements, including the reconstruction of traffic control signals and upgrades to meet Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements
- Transit terminal, station and bus stop repairs and improvements
- Transit fleet midlife overhaul
- Transit fleet retirement and replacement
- Operations, maintenance and storage facility rehabilitation program

The Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program provides funding to local municipalities on a cost-share basis to support streetscape design enhancements in the Region

Through the Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program, a component of the Roads Growth Program, the Region provides cost-share funding to local municipalities to support streetscape design enhancements on Regional roads. This includes elements such as street tree planters, decorative street lighting, banner poles, street furniture, gateway features, planting, coloured crosswalks and public art. Streetscape design supports a context sensitive approach to designing vibrant communities in an urbanizing Region. Living elements, such as street trees, support healthy communities by providing many co-benefits including, improved public health, energy savings and improved storm water management.

The operation, maintenance, and long-term rehabilitation of the enhanced streetscape features are the responsibility of the local municipality. The Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program has an annual budget of \$1M available for cost sharing, subject to annual capital budget approval by Council. Approved applications for funding and projects completed in 2017 under the program are summarized in Attachment 3.

The Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program provides funding to local municipalities on a cost-share basis for projects that support walking and cycling in the Region

The Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program, a component of the Roads Growth Program, assists with the implementation of local-led walking and cycling infrastructure that forms part of the Regional-scale network. This includes design and construction costs, but excludes property acquisition, new curbs, gutters or sidewalks, interlocking pavers, landscaping, and end of trip facilities. Ownership, operation, maintenance and long-term rehabilitation of the improvements are the responsibility of the local municipality.

The Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program has an annual budget of \$500,000 available for cost sharing, subject to annual capital budget approval by Council. Approved applications for funding and projects completed in 2017 under the program are summarized in Attachment 4.

4. Analysis and Implications

2017 was a successful year with Transportation Services meeting most project delivery objectives

A list of 2017 accomplishments is provided in Attachment 5. The following is a summary of the key accomplishments:

- Completed major construction on four growth projects and opened to traffic
- Completed three environmental assessment studies
- Purchased 13 conventional buses and five Viva buses
- Completed rehabilitation of 19 lane kilometres of road and preservation of 44 lane kilometres of road
- Completed rehabilitation of four structures

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update

- Completed improvements at 16 intersections/locations
- Completed midlife overhaul of 31 conventional buses and 10 Viva buses
- Approved funding for five and completed construction on two Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program projects
- Approved funding for four and completed construction on five Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program projects
- Undertook work on 14 emergency repair projects

The Region continues to invest in building system improvements

There is a continued focus on the urbanization and widening of existing rural roads, reflecting the Region's growing urban population. Service reliability and delivering quality transit service continues to be a priority to support the Region's transportation and mobility needs. Several multi-year contracts were awarded in 2016 and 2017 and work on these will continue in 2018. Several new contracts will also be tendered in 2018.

Table 1 summarizes the programs and number of projects scheduled for 2018 that will continue to build system improvements in the Region (further detailed in Attachment 2).

Table 1
2018 Programs and Projects

Description	No. of New Projects	No. of Continuing Projects	Total No. of Projects
Growth Program			
Roads			
• Construction	13	5	18
• Detailed Design	0	18	18
• Environmental Assessment Studies	0	11	11
• Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program	TBD*	4	4
• Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program	TBD*	3	3
Transit			
• Terminals and Facilities	1	4	5
• Fleet Procurement	0	2	2
State of Good Repair			
Roads			
• Rehabilitation and Preservation	16	0	16
• Bridge/Culvert Rehabilitation	8	0	8
• Intersection Improvements	18	0	18
Transit			
• Rehabilitation and Preventative Maintenance	6	0	6
Total	62	48	110

*To be decided

Programs and projects planned for 2018 will support the Region's growing communities

Travellers in the Region's growing communities need safe, reliable and efficient services. This is a priority for Transportation Services and construction, taking place at over 60 locations in 2018, is being managed to proactively minimize disruptions to travellers while building and maintaining a world-class transportation network. This includes ensuring projects are scheduled so that parallel Regional roads are not under construction simultaneously, whenever possible.

The Region's Travel Smart Program provides informed travel options and improves travel reliability. The program includes initiatives to inform travellers of mobility options and real-time traffic conditions. A comprehensive program of public notifications and portable variable message signs also inform travellers of planning, design and construction projects.

Projects related to streetscaping, cycling and pedestrian facility improvements also enhance the traveller experience. They contribute to more liveable neighbourhoods and communities by creating public spaces that encourage social interaction, promote active transportation and healthy living, support the local economy, reflect the local character and elevate York Region's civic image.

Planning of projects is coordinated with other departments and agencies

Coordinating with Environmental Services and other agencies' infrastructure programs, including local municipalities, rail authorities, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, YTN Telecom Network Inc. and the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) is an important factor when planning construction projects within the Region.

Examples include:

- Coordinating construction on Major Mackenzie Drive, from Highway 50 to Canadian Pacific Railway, with MTO's proposed Highway 427 extension
- Coordinating the widening and grade separation of Rutherford Road with Metrolinx's expansion of the Rutherford GO station
- Coordinating construction on Major Mackenzie Drive, from Highway 400 to Jane Street, to coincide with the opening of the Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital
- Coordinating the proposed widening of 16th Avenue with MTO's Highway 404 widening project

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update

- Coordinating with Peel Region to improve Highway 50, from Highway 7 to Albion-Vaughan Road
- Coordinating the installation of water, wastewater and telecom infrastructure and planting street trees as part of road construction projects

Transportation Services continues to meet project delivery objectives due to a focus on increasing business effectiveness

In 2017, Transportation Services successfully delivered most committed project milestones on time or earlier than expected, due to a focus on increasing business effectiveness. The implementation of project management software has resulted in more efficient and transparent reporting, allowing teams to better monitor project performance and achieve schedule goals. Staff continues to seek opportunities to improve programs and project delivery processes through continuous improvement initiatives.

5. Financial Considerations

The 2018 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Program has an approved budget of \$328M for 2018

The 2018 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Program is on track to meet the 90 per cent delivery target of the 2018 budget. Meeting the budget target is an important indicator that project milestones are being achieved.

Resources are allocated appropriately to align with the vision and strategy previously approved by Council in the Transportation Master Plan. Policies and procedures are in place to minimize the Region's exposure to risk and to actively manage that exposure, while adhering to the highest standards of ethics, quality, transparency and accountability. All policies and procedures are reviewed regularly.

The 2017 actuals and 2018 capital budget for Roads and Transit are outlined in Table 2.

Table 2
Roads and Transit 2017 Actuals and 2018 Capital Budget

Program	2017 Actuals* (\$M)	2018 Budget (\$M)
Roads	154.0	221.5
Transit	34.3	107.0
Total	188.3	328.5

*2017 Actuals are preliminary

With an additional \$365M being invested in rapid transit infrastructure, a total of \$694M is being invested in the Region's transportation infrastructure

The planning, design and construction of the Region's rapid transit network and related infrastructure is led by York Region Rapid Transit Corporation.

The total investment being made in the Region's transportation infrastructure in 2017 and 2018 is outlined in Table 3.

Table 3
2017 Actuals and 2018 Capital Budget

Program	2017 Actuals (\$M)	2018 Budget (\$M)
Transportation Services	188.3	328.5
YRRTC	403.4	365.3
Total	591.7	693.8

6. Local Municipal Impact

Staff continues to work closely with local municipal staff to ensure concerns are addressed and local municipal infrastructure needs such as watermains, sewers, streetlights, sidewalks, streetscape, and multi-use paths are included in Regional projects, where possible. In 2018, \$9.5M in local municipal infrastructure is included in Regional projects.

Ongoing transit growth and rehabilitation programs support the continued delivery of safe and reliable transit service and amenities to municipal travellers in the Region.

7. Conclusion

The Region continues to invest significant resources in the expansion and maintenance of Regional road and transit system improvements, with a number of large projects underway that will be delivered during 2018. The 2018 10-Year Roads and Transit Capital Program is on track to meet the delivery target of 90 per cent of the 2018 budget.

For more information on this report, please contact Salim Alibhai, Director, Capital Planning and Delivery at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75229.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 23, 2018

Attachments (5)

#8324852

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

2018 Growth and State of Good Repair Project Map

Construction

- Intersection Improvement
- 🏠 Facility
- 🟢 Road Reconstruction/Widening

Detailed Design

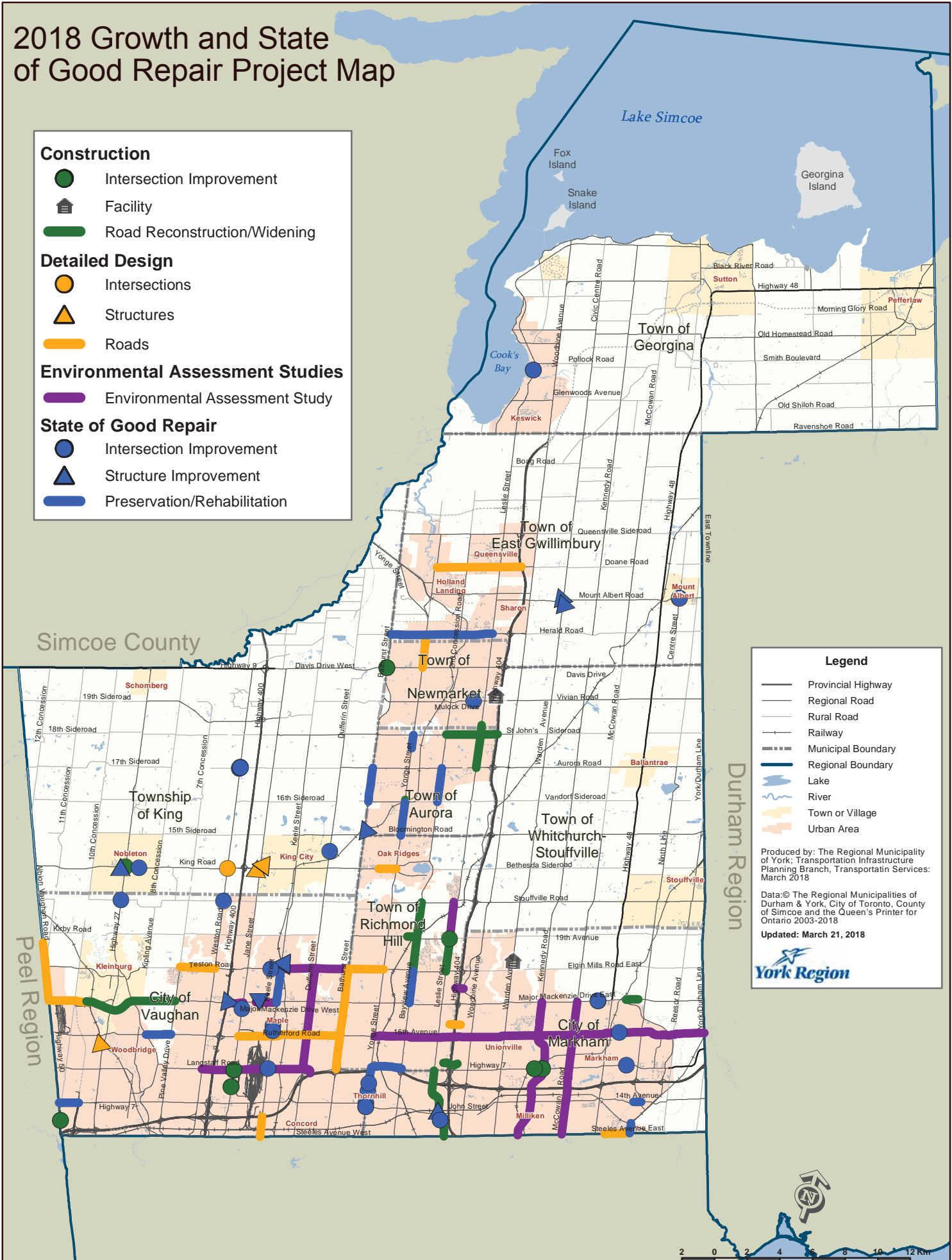
- Intersections
- ▲ Structures
- 🟡 Roads

Environmental Assessment Studies

- 🟣 Environmental Assessment Study

State of Good Repair

- Intersection Improvement
- ▲ Structure Improvement
- 🟠 Preservation/Rehabilitation



Legend

- Provincial Highway
- Regional Road
- Rural Road
- Railway
- - - Municipal Boundary
- Regional Boundary
- 🟦 Lake
- 🟦 River
- 🟡 Town or Village
- 🟠 Urban Area

Produced by: The Regional Municipality of York; Transportation Infrastructure Planning Branch, Transportation Services; March 2018

Data: © The Regional Municipalities of Durham & York, City of Toronto, County of Simcoe and the Queen's Printer on Ontario 2003-2018

Updated: March 21, 2018



Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
Summary of Current Projects

Committee of the Whole
Transportation Services
April 5, 2018

GROWTH PROGRAM

Roads - Major Capital – Construction - 18 Projects

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost	Construction Completion
Continuing Construction – 5 Contracts			
19th Avenue Widening, from Linda Margaret Crescent to Bayview Avenue	Town of Richmond Hill	\$41.4M	2018
Bayview Avenue Widening, from Elgin Mills Road to Stouffville Road			
Highway 404 Midblock Crossing, north of Highway 7 and northbound off-ramp extension	City of Markham/Town of Richmond Hill	\$43.8M	2018
Leslie Street Widening, from Don Hillcock Drive to Broughton Lane	Town of Aurora	\$24.3M	2019
St. John's Sideroad Widening, from Bayview Avenue to Woodbine Avenue	Town of Aurora/Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	\$42.4M	2019
New Construction – 13 Contracts			
Bathurst Street and Davis Drive Intersection Improvements	Town of Newmarket/ Township of King	\$6.5M	2019
Highway 50 and Gore Road Intersection Improvements	City of Vaughan/ Region of Peel	\$1.3M	2018
Highway 7 Intersection Improvements, at Main Street (Unionville) and at Kennedy Road	City of Markham	\$2.1M	2018
Jane Street Intersection Improvements, at Pennsylvania Avenue/MacIntosh Boulevard and at Langstaff Road	City of Vaughan	\$1.8M	2018
King Road and Highway 27 Intersection Improvements	Township of King	\$6.3M	2019
Leslie Street, Lake-to-Lake Cycling Route, from Steeles Avenue to Highway 7	City of Markham	\$5.6M	2018
Leslie Street, from Elgin Mills Road to 19 th Avenue	Town of Richmond Hill	\$14.8M	2020
Leslie Street and 19 th Avenue Intersection Improvements	Town of Richmond Hill	\$7.0M	2019

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of Current Projects

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost	Construction Completion
Major Mackenzie Drive, from Donald Cousens Parkway to Ninth Line	City of Markham	\$0.9M	2018
Major Mackenzie Drive Widening, from CPR Tracks to Islington Avenue	City of Vaughan	\$99.3M	2021
Major Mackenzie Drive Widening, from Islington Avenue to Pine Valley Drive	City of Vaughan	\$52.9M	2021
Central District Snow Management Facility, Harry Walker Parkway	Town of Newmarket	\$4.7M	2018
Southeast District Road Maintenance Facility, Warden Avenue (sheds and site works only)	City of Markham	\$1.6M	2018

Transit – Construction – 4 Projects

Project Name	Municipality	Total Project Cost	Construction Completion
Continuing Construction – 4 Contracts			
Expansion and Renovation of North Operations, Maintenance, and Storage Facility – 18110 Yonge St.	Town of Newmarket /Town of East Gwillimbury	\$17.3M	2019
Major Mackenzie and Highway 404 Park and Ride Facility	Town of Richmond Hill/City of Markham	\$1.5M	2018
Viva Purple Expansion – 4 new stations on Highway 7	City of Markham	\$0.7M	2018
Transit Shelter, Concrete Platform and Bus Stop Sign Expansion	Various	\$0.5M	2018
New Design – 1 Project			
Major Mackenzie West Terminal, opposite Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital	City of Vaughan	\$9.0M	2020

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of Current Projects

Roads – Environmental Assessments – 11 Studies

Project Location	Municipality
Continuing Environmental Assessments – 11 Studies	
16th Avenue, from Yonge Street to Woodbine Avenue	City of Markham/Town of Richmond Hill
16th Avenue, from Woodbine Avenue to York-Durham Line	City of Markham
Dufferin Street, from Langstaff Road to Teston Road	City of Vaughan
Highway 404 Midblock Crossing, north of Major Mackenzie Drive	City of Markham/Town of Richmond Hill
Kennedy Road, from Steeles Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive	City of Markham
Langstaff Road, from Weston Road to Highway 7	City of Vaughan
Leslie Street, from 19th Avenue to Stouffville Road (Environmental Assessment Addendum)	Town of Richmond Hill
Major Mackenzie Drive, from Highway 400 to Jane Street	City of Vaughan
Major Mackenzie Drive, from McNaughton Road to Keele Street (Operational Improvements)	City of Vaughan
McCowan Road, from Steeles Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive	City of Markham
Teston Road, from Keele Street to Bathurst Street (Individual Environmental Assessment)	City of Vaughan

Roads – Detailed Design – 18 Projects

Project Location	Municipality
Continuing Detailed Design – 18 Projects	
Bathurst Street, from north of Highway 7 to Elgin Mills Road	City of Vaughan/ Town of Richmond Hill
Doane Road, from Yonge Street to Highway 40	Town of East Gwillimbury
East Humber River Bridge, Jane Street north of King Road	Township of King
Elgin Mills Road, from Bathurst Street to Yonge Street	Town of Richmond Hill

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of Current Projects

Project Location	Municipality
Highway 27 Road Widening at the Canadian Pacific Railway Bridge	City of Vaughan
Highway 50, from Rutherford Road to Albion-Vaughan Road	City of Vaughan/Peel Region
Keele Street, from Steeles Avenue to Highway 407	City of Vaughan/City of Toronto
King Horne Bridge, King Road east of Highway 400	Township of King
King Road, from Bond Crescent to Yonge Street	Town of Richmond Hill
King Road at Weston Road Intersection Improvements	Township of King
Major Mackenzie Drive, from Highway 50 to Canadian Pacific Railway	City of Vaughan/Peel Region
Mid-Block Crossing, Highway 404 north of 16th Avenue	Town of Richmond Hill/ City of Markham
Rutherford Road, from Jane Street to Westburne Drive	City of Vaughan
Rutherford Road, from Westburne Drive to Peter Rupert Avenue	City of Vaughan
Rutherford Road, from Peter Rupert Ave to Bathurst St	City of Vaughan
Steeles Avenue, from Tapscott Road to Donald Cousens Parkway	City of Markham/City of Toronto
Teston Road, from Pine Valley Drive to Weston Road	City of Vaughan
Yonge Street, from Davis Drive to Green Lane	Town of Newmarket/ Town of East Gwillimbury

Transit – Ongoing Fleet Procurement - 2

Project Name	Total Project Cost
Procurement of 5 Conventional Buses	\$3.0M
Procurement of 1 Specialized Transit Vehicle (Purchase of one 8m Low Floor Transit Bus)	\$0.3M

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of Current Projects

STATE OF GOOD REPAIR PROGRAM

Roads - Rehabilitation/Preservation - 16 Projects

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Crack Sealing	Various Locations	\$0.6M
Grind and Pave	Various Locations	\$2.5M
14 th Avenue, 40m west of Ninth Line to 295m east of Ninth Line - Rehabilitation	City of Markham	\$0.8M
Ninth Line, 30m north of Steeles Avenue to Donald Cousens Parkway - Rehabilitation	City of Markham	
Bathurst Street, 50m south of Henderson Drive to 50m north of Wellington Street – Preservation	Township of King/Town of Aurora	\$0.5M
Bayview Avenue, 50m north of Major Mackenzie Drive to 50m north of Elgin Mills Road - Rehabilitation	Town of Richmond Hill	\$2.0M
Bayview Avenue, Vandorf Sideroad to Wellington Street - Rehabilitation	Town of Aurora	\$1.2M
Green Lane, 550m east of Bathurst Street to 390m east of Leslie Street - Rehabilitation	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$2.0M
Highway 7, 40m east of Highway 50 to Highway 427 - Rehabilitation	City of Vaughan	\$0.6M
Highway 7, Yonge Street to Bayview Avenue – Preservation	City of Markham	\$0.7M
Keele Street, 15m north of Major Mackenzie Drive to 220m north of Teston Road – Preservation	City of Vaughan	\$0.5M
Rutherford Road, 230m east of Islington Avenue to 100m east of Pine Valley Drive - Rehabilitation	City of Vaughan	\$1.6M
Yonge Street, 95m south of John Street to 135m south of Langstaff Road - Rehabilitation	City of Vaughan/City of Markham	\$2.1M
Yonge Street, 370m north of Bloomington Road to 84m south of Industrial Parkway South – Preservation	Town of Aurora	\$0.5M
Yonge Street, 825m south of St John's Sideroad to 25m north of St John's Sideroad - Rehabilitation	Town of Aurora	\$1.0M
Yonge Street, north of Industrial Parkway	Town of Aurora	\$3.3M

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
Summary of Current Projects

Roads - Structure Rehabilitation – 8 Projects

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Bathurst Street (Southbound Bridge), 380m north of Bloomington Road	Township of King/Town of Aurora	\$1.1M
Don Mills Road at CN Rail, 160m north of John Street	City of Markham	\$0.8M
Keele Street Bridge, 310m north of Teston Road	City of Vaughan	\$0.4M
King Road Culvert, 300m west of Highway 27	Township of King	\$0.1M
Major Mackenzie Drive Culvert, east of Highway 400	City of Vaughan/Ministry of Transportation	\$0.5M
Major Mackenzie Drive Culvert, at McNaughton Road	City of Vaughan	\$3.3M
Mount Albert Road Retaining Wall, at Warden Avenue	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$1.5M
Warden Avenue Bridge, 1.95km north of Harold Road	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$0.8M

Roads - Intersection Improvements – 18 Projects

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
16th Avenue and Williamson Road	City of Markham	\$165K
Don Mills Road and Simonston Boulevard	City of Markham	\$330K
Dufferin Street and Country Day School	Township of King	\$150K
Highway 27 and King-Vaughan Road	City of Vaughan	\$165K
Jane Street and Avro Road	City of Vaughan	\$165K
Keele Street and Cromwell Road/ Fieldgate Drive	City of Vaughan	\$165K
Keele Street and Dina Road	City of Vaughan	\$165K
Keele Street and Langstaff Road	City of Vaughan	\$330K
Highway 7 and Wootten Way	City of Markham	\$330K
King Road and Greenside Drive	Township of King	\$150K
Major Mackenzie Drive and Mingay Avenue	City of Markham	\$165K
Mount Albert Road and Centre Street	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$220K

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of Current Projects

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Mulock Drive and Newmarket High School	Town of Newmarket	\$60K
Teston Road and St. Joan of Arc Avenue	City of Vaughan	\$120K
The Queensway South and Richmond Park Drive	Town of Georgina	\$190K
Weston Road and 17th Sideroad	Township of King	\$110K
Weston Road and King-Vaughan Road	City of Vaughan	\$110K
Yonge Street and Centre Street	City of Vaughan/City of Markham	\$330K
Yonge Street and John Street	City of Vaughan/City of Markham	\$330K
Yonge Street and Royal Orchard Boulevard	City of Vaughan/City of Markham	\$330K
Yonge Street and Uplands Avenue	City of Vaughan/City of Markham	\$330K

Transit – Ongoing Rehabilitation and Preventative Maintenance - 6 Projects

Project Name	Total Project Cost
Transit Fleet Mid-Life Overhaul – Asset Life Extension (Conventional)	\$6.1M
Fleet Retirement and Replacement – Purchase of 21 Conventional Buses and 6 Electric Buses	\$15.4M
Operations, Maintenance, and Storage Facility Rehabilitation – Various locations	\$0.3M
Bus Shelter, Concrete Platform, and Bus Stop Sign Replacement	\$1.0M
Bus Terminal Rehabilitation – Richmond Hill Centre and Bernard Terminal	\$0.2M
Fleet Retirement and Replacement – Procurement of 18 Specialized Transit Vehicles (11 8m Low Floor Transit Buses and 7 Mini Buses)	\$2.6M

8121523

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program Summary

Committee of the Whole
Transportation Services
April 5, 2018

Funding Approved in 2017

In 2017, funding for the following projects was approved under the Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program:

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Contribution Tier	Regional Contribution
Town of Newmarket	Bathurst Street and Davis Drive Crosswalks and Median	\$133K	50%	\$67K
Township of King	Bathurst Street and Davis Drive Crosswalks and Median	\$28K	50%	\$14K
Town of East Gwillimbury	Leslie Street and Mount Albert Intersection	\$205K	33%	\$59K
Township of King	Keele Street (King Road to Station Street)	\$681K	33%	\$225K

Construction Completed in 2017

In 2017, construction was completed on the following projects under the Municipal Streetscape Partnership Program:

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Contribution Tier	Regional Contribution
City of Markham	Highway 7 (Town Centre Boulevard to Sciberras Road)	\$3.8M	50%	\$1.9M
City of Vaughan	Highway 7 (Keele Street to Bowes Road)	\$450K	50%	\$225K

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program Summary

Committee of the Whole
Transportation Services
April 5, 2018

Funding Approved in 2017

In 2017, funding for the following projects was approved under the Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program:

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Contribution Tier	Regional Contribution
Town of Richmond Hill	Phase 2 – Lake to Lake multi-use path, Leslie Street (16 th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive)	\$1.35M	25%	\$343K
TRCA	Phase 2 – Nashville Conservation Reserve multi-use trail, Kirby Road	\$250K	50%	\$125K
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	Sidewalk system on Burkholder Street	\$28K	50%	\$14K
Town of East Gwillimbury	Parking lot upgrade for trailhead – Nokiidaa Trail Extension	\$90K	21%	\$18K

Construction Completed in 2017

In 2017, construction was completed on the following project under the Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program:

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Contribution Tier	Regional Contribution
Town of East Gwillimbury	Nokiidaa Trail extension to Yonge Street and Mount Albert Road	\$194K	50%	\$97K
Town of East Gwillimbury	Nokiidaa Trail Extension - Parking lot upgrade for trailhead	\$90K	21%	\$18K
Town of Richmond Hill	Lake to Lake multi-use path, Leslie Street (Highway 7 to north of 16 th Avenue) *consisting of three approved applications for funding	\$1.7M	50%	\$800K*

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program Summary

Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Contribution Tier	Regional Contribution
City of Markham	Phase 2 - Rouge Valley Trail, Areas 1 and 4 (Toogood Pond and Milne Dam Conservation Park)	\$1.1M	8%	\$85K
City of Vaughan	Signage on Bartley Smith Greenway multi-use path	\$80K	50%	\$39K

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
Summary of 2017 Accomplishments

Committee of the Whole
Transportation Services
April 5, 2018

GROWTH PROGRAM

Roads - Major Capital – Construction - 4 Projects Completed

Project	Municipality	Total Project Cost
2nd Concession Road Widening, from south of Green Lane to Doane Road	Town of East Gwillimbury/ Town of Newmarket	\$75.1M
Highway 7 Road Widening, from Town Centre Boulevard to Sciberras Road	City of Markham	\$41.5M
Leslie Street Widening, from Broughton Lane to Mulock Drive	Town of Newmarket	\$12.8M
Major Mackenzie Drive Widening, from Pine Valley Drive to Highway 400	City of Vaughan	\$33.6M

Roads – Environmental Assessments – 3 Studies Completed

Project Location	Municipality
Bayview Avenue, from Steeles Avenue to Elgin Mills Road	City of Markham/Town of Richmond Hill
Steeles Avenue, from Kennedy Road to Midland Avenue; including grade separation at GO Railway Line (City of Toronto led project)	City of Markham/City of Toronto
Stouffville Road, from Yonge Street to Highway 404	Town of Richmond Hill

Transit – Growth and Procurement – 5 Projects Completed

Project	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Conventional Bus Expansion – Purchased 13 conventional buses	N/A	\$5.6M
Viva Bus Expansion – Purchased 5 Viva buses	N/A	\$4.0M

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of 2017 Accomplishments

Project	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Richmond Hill Centre Terminal – Vendor and Customer Facilities	Town of Richmond Hill	\$2.6M
Viva Purple Expansion – 6 new stations on Highway 7	City of Markham	\$1.0M
Installed new concrete pads, shelters, bus stop signs and posts at various locations	Various	\$1.1M

STATE OF GOOD REPAIR PROGRAM

Roads - Rehabilitation/Preservation - 10 Projects Completed

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Crack Sealing	Various	\$0.6M
Grind and Pave	Various	\$1.4M
Green Lane, Yonge Street to 2nd Concession and Green Lane/Leslie Street intersection – Road Rehabilitation and Intersection Improvements	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$3.3M
Jane Street, Highway 7 to Langstaff Road - Preservation	City of Vaughan	\$0.6M
Kennedy Road, 16th Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive - Preservation	City of Markham	\$0.5M
Kennedy Road, Highway 407 to 400m north of Highway 407 - Preservation	City of Markham	\$0.2M
Rutherford Road/Islington Avenue intersection - Road Rehabilitation and AODA Intersection Improvements	City of Vaughan	\$1.0M
Warden Avenue, Steeles Avenue to 14th Avenue - Preservation	City of Markham	\$0.5M
Weston Road, Highway 7 to Langstaff Road - Preservation	City of Vaughan	\$0.6M
Woodbine Avenue, Highway 407 to Highway 7 - Preservation	City of Markham	\$0.3M

Roads - Structure Rehabilitation – 4 Projects Completed

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Woodbine Avenue, at Vandorf Side Road – CNR Underpass Rehabilitation	Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	\$40K

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of 2017 Accomplishments

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Black River Road, 800m east of Dalton Road - Bridge Rehabilitation	Town of Georgina	\$1.0M
York/Durham Line, 10m south of Ravenshoe Road – Culvert Replacement	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$0.5M
McCowan Road, 850m north of Queensville Sideroad – Bridge Replacement	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$3.1M

Roads - Intersection Improvements – 16 Projects Completed

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
14th Avenue and McDowell Gate	City of Markham	\$360K
14th Avenue and Ninth Line	City of Markham	
14th Avenue and Riverwalk Drive (work ongoing)	City of Markham	
Aurora Road and Ninth Line	Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	\$150K
Kennedy Road and Vivian Road	Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	
Kennedy Road and Unionville Gate	City of Markham	
Bathurst Street and George Kirby Street	City of Vaughan	
Keele Street and Administration Road	City of Vaughan	\$160K
Bayview Avenue and Bayview Park Lane/Dariole Drive	Town of Richmond Hill	
Bloomington Road and William Avenue	Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	\$210K
Highway 27 and King-Vaughan Road	City of Vaughan	\$125K
Rutherford Road and Huntington Road	City of Vaughan	
Highway 27 and Nashville Road	City of Vaughan	\$370K
Major Mackenzie Drive and Bathurst Street	City of Vaughan	\$140K
The Queensway South and Elm Avenue/Dovetail Drive	Town of Georgina	\$170K
Yonge Street and Bristol Road	Town of Newmarket	

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
 Summary of 2017 Accomplishments

Transit – Ongoing Rehabilitation and Preventative Maintenance - 4 Projects Completed

Project Location	Municipality	Total Project Cost
Conventional Bus Major Mid-life Structural Refurbishing and Mechanical Overhaul – 31 buses and 18 Viva bus conversions	N/A	\$8.1M
Viva Bus Major Mid-life Structural Refurbishing and Mechanical Overhaul – 10 Viva buses	N/A	\$1.7M
Replaced concrete pads, shelters and bus stop signs and posts at various locations	Various	\$1.3M
Operations, Maintenance, and Storage Facilities Rehabilitation – Southwest Garage, 8300 Keele Street	N/A	\$0.3M

EMERGENCY REPAIRS

Roads – Emergency Repair Work – 14 Projects Completed

Project	Municipality	Cost
Carrville Road, east of Ayr Street - Retaining wall failure*	Town of Richmond Hill	\$250K*
Highway 7, east of Islington Avenue – Sink hole repair	City of Vaughan	\$10K
Jane Street, north of Teston Road - Culvert failure/sink hole repair	City of Vaughan	\$55K
King Road at 8th Concession - Retaining wall repair*	Township of King	\$0.9M*
Metro Road, east of Birch Road - Culvert Repair	Town of Georgina	\$15K
Ninth Line at Musselman Lake – Slope failure	Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville	\$25K
Park Road, north of Ravenshoe Road - Culvert replacement	Town of Georgina	\$135K
Ravenshoe Road, east of Thornlodge and Metro Road - Culvert blockage removal	Town of Georgina	\$45K
Warden Avenue, north of Pollock Road - Slope failure	Town of Georgina	\$80K
Warden Avenue, north of Queensville Sideroad - Slope failure*	Town of Georgina	\$150K*
Yonge Street at Holland Landing Road - Slope failure	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$55K
Yonge Street opposite Silverline Helicopters' Driveway - Slope failure*	Town of East Gwillimbury	\$400K*

Transportation Services Capital Infrastructure Status Update
Summary of 2017 Accomplishments

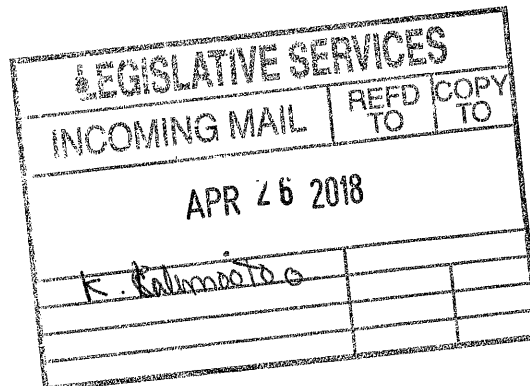
Project	Municipality	Cost
Yonge Street, north of Industrial Parkway - Sink hole repair	Town of Aurora	\$10K
York-Durham Line at Elgin Mills Road - Slope failure*	City of Markham	\$5K*

*Road re-opened and some work ongoing.

8121563



April 20, 2018



Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: Vector-Borne Disease Program 2017/2018 Annual Update

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "Vector-Borne Disease Program 2017/2018 Annual Update":

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of the local municipalities.

A copy of Clause 11 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Joe La Marca, Director, Health Protection, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 74025 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachments

Clause 11 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

11

Vector-Borne Disease Program 2017/2018 Annual Update

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 23, 2018 from the Medical Officer of Health and the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of the local municipalities.
-

Report dated March 23, 2018 from the Medical Officer of Health and the Commissioner of Community and Health Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk circulate this report to the Clerks of the local municipalities.

2. Purpose

This report is prepared for Council in order for it to carry out its legislative duties and responsibilities as the board of health under the Health Protection and Promotion Act. It summarizes York Region Public Health's 2017 Vector-Borne Disease Program and outlines activities planned for 2018.

3. Background

To respond to vector-borne diseases of public health importance, Ontario public health units deliver a disease management strategy in accordance with the Health Protection and Promotion Act and the Ontario Public Health Standards

Vector-Borne diseases are diseases transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected insect or arthropod, such as a mosquito or tick. In Ontario, vector-borne diseases of public health importance include West Nile virus, Lyme disease, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and travel related Zika virus.

West Nile virus is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. It was first detected in North America in 1999 and emerged in York Region in 2002. It has since become established in Ontario. The number of confirmed human cases and mosquito traps that test positive for West Nile virus varies from year to year, depending upon the weather and its influence on mosquito breeding conditions.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito and has a high mortality rate. In Ontario, the virus has been detected in horses, emus and mosquitoes. No human cases have been reported in Canada. Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus has not been detected in horses in York Region or through the York Region Public Health's mosquito surveillance program.

Lyme disease is caused by the *Borellia burgdorferi* bacteria, which is spread through the bite of an infected blacklegged tick. Since its emergence in North America in the 1970s, Lyme disease has become one of the most frequent vector-borne diseases in the temperate world. Ticks infected with the bacterium that causes Lyme disease can be found in temperate forested areas of North America, Europe and Asia. Areas of the province where blacklegged ticks are more commonly found include the north shores of Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River; however, their habitat is expanding.

Zika virus is spread through the bite of infected mosquitoes in warmer climatic zones. Travel health notices for the Zika virus have been issued by the Public Health Agency of Canada for a number of locations including the Caribbean, Central America and Mexico, South America, Southeast Asia, Ocean Pacific Islands, and limited areas in North America, Central Africa and West Africa. It is recommended residents monitor travel health notices prior to travel.

Mosquitoes responsible for spread of Zika virus have been found in Windsor

Two mosquito species that can spread the Zika virus, *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti*, have been discovered in Windsor. The *Aedes aegypti* is thought

to be responsible for the majority of human cases of Zika virus infection worldwide. The discovery was made during enhanced surveillance for invasive mosquito species in the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit. All the mosquitoes captured tested negative for Zika virus disease. These exceptional findings of *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti* are likely due to adventitious insects entering via cross-border vehicular traffic and trade.

The mosquitoes responsible for the spread of Zika virus and illnesses such as chikungunya, dengue, and yellow fever are not established in Ontario. According to Public Health Ontario, the relatively cooler temperatures of Ontario cannot support establishment and spread of these vector mosquito species in the province. The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit will continue enhanced surveillance for these mosquitoes over the next few years.

4. Analysis and Implications

WEST NILE VIRUS

Temperature and precipitation has a direct and significant effect on West Nile virus activity levels from year to year

Winter temperatures were unseasonably warm leading into 2017, allowing more overwintering mosquitoes to survive. Greater numbers of mosquitoes that survive the winter increase the potential for amplification of the number of mosquitoes the following West Nile virus season.

While the summer months were relatively cool compared to previous years, the spring and summer months were among the 10 wettest since recording started in 1948. The wet conditions provided ample amounts of standing water available for mosquito breeding, which leads to increased mosquito numbers. The increase in mosquito populations and warmer temperatures late in the summer contributed to an increase in West Nile virus activity.

In 2012, unprecedented West Nile virus activity was likely due to warmer than average winter temperatures, an early spring, and record-breaking summer temperatures. The increase of the mosquito population and virus occurred relatively early in the summer of 2012 compared to other years. Higher temperatures decreased the required time for mosquito development leading to more infected mosquitos which has a direct impact on the rate of human infection.

In contrast, from 2013 to 2016 various ecological factors such as below normal temperatures or drought like conditions may have contributed to lower levels of West Nile virus activity.

Public Health Ontario monitors temperatures across Ontario in relation to the level of risk for West Nile virus activity. This helps health units with risk assessments and timing of response activities throughout the season.

Twelve West Nile virus human cases reported in 2017

In 2017, York Region Public Health continued surveillance activities to monitor West Nile virus in mosquito and human populations. Surveillance activities have been maintained at the same levels each year. Table 1 provides an overview of York Region West Nile virus surveillance findings from 2012 to 2017.

West Nile virus activity increased in 2017, with twelve human cases reported and fourteen mosquito traps testing positive.

Table 1
West Nile Virus Surveillance Summary, 2012 to 2017, York Region

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Confirmed human cases	17	1	0	1	3	12*
Probable human cases	0	0	1*	0	0	0
Positive mosquito pools	43	16	2	3	2	14
Standing water complaint investigations	57	75	88	70	73	122

* One case reported travel outside Ontario

There were 190 confirmed human cases of West Nile virus in Canada in 2017, and 2,002 cases reported in the United States. Eight fatal cases were reported in Canada and 121 deaths were reported in the United States. There were no deaths in York Region.

Larviciding is the primary method of mosquito control in Ontario

The control of mosquitoes through larviciding at the weakest point in their life cycle remains the most effective method of reducing mosquitoes that could potentially carry West Nile virus.

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change has authorized the use of three larvicides to control mosquito populations under approved permits:

- Methoprene, in pellet form, is applied to roadside catch basins four times during the mosquito season to provide consistent larval control. At the beginning of each mosquito season, a one-time application of methoprene

briquettes are applied to rear-yard catch basins, long-term care homes (on a request basis) and all municipally-owned properties and parks.

- *Bacillus sphaericus* (*B. sphaericus*) is approved for use in environmentally sensitive catch basins.
- *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (*Bti*) is approved for use in standing surface water and sewage lagoons.

These products have been used for fifteen years by York Region as the primary method for mosquito control.

LYME DISEASE

Surveillance is used by health units help determine the level of community risk from Lyme disease

The blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*), the primary vector of the Lyme disease pathogen *Borrelia burgdorferi*, has expanded its range northward from the United States into new regions in southern Canada. The range of the blacklegged tick will continue to expand northward in the coming decades. While the probability is low, it is possible to encounter an infected tick almost anywhere in Ontario.

To measure the local distribution and incidence of ticks and Lyme disease cases in York Region, York Region Public Health uses three surveillance techniques to help determine the level of risk in the community:

- **Passive tick surveillance** involves residents submitting ticks to the health unit for identification and subsequent testing if the tick is identified as a blacklegged tick. Residents are encouraged to submit ticks to help determine if they have come in contact with an infected blacklegged tick and to monitor the locations where ticks were encountered. Locally acquired passive tick surveillance results are further investigated through active tick surveillance. An additional form of passive surveillance is the voluntary notification of tick submission results from physicians and veterinarians to the health unit.
- **Active tick surveillance** involves collecting ticks from their habitat by dragging a flannel cloth (tick dragging) over and around vegetation where ticks may be waiting for a passing host to determine Lyme disease risk areas. Risk areas are defined as wooded or brushy areas within a 20 kilometre radius zone around locations where blacklegged ticks have been found through drag sampling, during two dragging events (once in spring and again in the fall; from May through October). It is within these areas where humans have the potential to come into contact with infected ticks.

York Region Public Health has conducted active tick surveillance throughout the region since 2011.

- **Human case surveillance** is another important method to determine the level of risk in the community. Lyme disease is a reportable disease in Ontario. Once a report of Lyme disease is received, a case investigation is conducted to confirm diagnosis, collect epidemiological information and identify the location where the individual may have encountered a Lyme disease-bearing tick.

Blacklegged ticks found through passive tick surveillance increased in 2017

Passive tick submissions are used to assist in determining where additional surveillance (tick dragging) is required to identify Lyme disease risk areas. In 2017, one hundred and thirteen ticks were submitted through passive tick surveillance to the Ontario Public Health Lab for identification, double the number of ticks submitted in 2016. Of the 113 submitted:

- fifty-three were identified as blacklegged ticks
- sixty were identified as other tick species (e.g. dog tick) which do not spread Lyme disease
- thirty-five blacklegged ticks were locally acquired in York Region

The locally acquired ticks were found by residents with reported travel to woodland habitat mostly within:

- the City of Markham's eastern portion of the Rouge Valley and extending northward into The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville;
- King Township in the vicinity of Joker's Hill; and
- the Humber Valley in the City of Vaughan.

To date, one locally acquired tick has tested positive for the bacterium that causes Lyme disease.

Two new Lyme disease risk areas have been identified in York Region through active tick surveillance

York Region Public Health conducted tick dragging sessions at 33 locations throughout the spring and fall in natural, forested public spaces (e.g. municipal parks, conservation areas, provincial parks, Regional forest tracts, Rouge and Humber River valley systems). Attachment 1, York Region's Active Tick Surveillance 2017 map outlines the locations of active tick surveillance and

where blacklegged ticks were found. The locations selected for active tick surveillance were based primarily on passive tick surveillance findings.

In the 2017 spring and fall tick dragging sessions, ten blacklegged ticks were found:

- King Township in the vicinity of Joker's Hill
- the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville in the vicinity of the York Regional Forest North Tract

As a result, two new Lyme disease risk areas have been identified by Public Health Ontario in the areas surrounding Joker's Hill and the York Regional Forest North Tract. The Rouge Valley area was identified by Public Health Ontario as a Lyme disease risk area in 2015.

Public Health Ontario Lyme disease maps are updated on a yearly basis and assists clinicians in the diagnosis and/or treatment of Lyme disease, with potential exposures in risk areas. Attachment 2, Public Health Ontario's, Lyme Disease Map 2017 outlines estimated risk areas in Ontario. Risk areas are calculated as a 20 kilometre radiuses from the centre of a location where blacklegged ticks were found through drag sampling. This map currently does not include York Region's new locations in King Township or Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, which will be noted in the 2018 map release.

Additionally, blacklegged ticks were found in the Boyd and Kortright Conservation Areas in the City of Vaughan in the fall. One blacklegged tick found in the Kortright Conservation Area tested positive for the bacterium that causes Lyme disease. Active tick surveillance will continue to monitor if this is an emerging risk area.

Confirmed and probable cases of Lyme disease increased in 2017

Before 2016, there were very few cases that were locally acquired. In 2016/2017 there were significantly more cases of Lyme disease in York Region, compared to previous years. This could be due to the expanding risk areas within York Region's geographic boundaries and the identification of black legged ticks through tick dragging.

Lyme disease activity in York Region increased in 2017, with seventeen confirmed human cases and four probable cases reported. Ten of these 21 confirmed and probable cases may have been acquired in York Region, nine were likely acquired outside of York Region, and two were unknown.

Table 2 provides an overview of York Region Lyme disease surveillance findings from 2012 to 2017.

Table 2
Lyme Disease Surveillance Summary, 2012 to 2017, York Region

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Confirmed human cases	2	13	6	8	5 ¹	17 ³
Probable human cases	2	3	3	2	5 ²	4 ⁴
Blacklegged ticks found locally through passive tick surveillance	1	4	7	11	15	35
Blacklegged ticks found locally through active tick surveillance	0	0	2	4	0	10
Positive blacklegged ticks found locally through passive or active surveillance	0	0	1	0	1 ⁵	2

Notes:

¹ Cases likely acquired outside York Region

² Cases possibly acquired in York Region

³ Eight cases possibly acquired in York Region, nine cases likely acquired outside York Region

⁴ Two cases possibly acquired in York Region, two cases unknown acquisition

⁵ Passive tick submission with reported local travel and to a known risk area outside York Region

Vector-Borne disease management and treatment

Prevention is the best defence against West Nile virus and Lyme disease. There are no vaccines to prevent or medications to treat West Nile virus. Fortunately, most people infected with West Nile virus do not have symptoms. About one in five people who are infected develop a fever and other symptoms. About one out of 150 infected people develop a serious, sometimes fatal, illness.

For Lyme disease, there are no vaccines to prevent the illness. Early detection of infection is important to help reduce the risk of developing long-term health effects. People treated with appropriate antibiotics in the early stages of Lyme disease usually recover rapidly and completely.

Residents can reduce the risk of Vector-Borne diseases by utilizing personal protection measures.

Personal protection communications were enhanced in 2017 due to increased West Nile virus and Lyme disease risk

Education and awareness are necessary to reduce the risk of vector-borne disease because there are no control options for tick populations. Knowledge of the locations of emerging blacklegged tick populations, and personal protection messaging to the public is critical in reducing the potential of locally acquired Lyme disease cases. In 2017, West Nile virus and Lyme disease awareness was achieved through strategies, such as:

- Media releases
- Information on Regional and municipal websites
- Social media messages on vector-borne disease personal protection
- Media interviews on West Nile virus and Lyme disease conducted with various media outlets to reinforce personal protection messaging
- Pamphlets and/or posters to municipal and Regional offices, libraries, community and recreation centres, garden centres, golf courses, Sibbald Point Provincial Park and conservation areas
- Creation of a new YouTube educational video on Lyme disease, blacklegged ticks and personal protection
- *Fight the Bite!*
 - permanent tick signs posted at risk area trailheads and timely notification of blacklegged tick surveillance findings to the public through media releases and communications in collaboration with York Region Forestry, local municipalities and conservation authorities
 - display and presentations at community events on Vector-Borne diseases, surveillance efforts and personal protection messaging
- *What's Bugging You?* child storybook about mosquitoes and ticks provided to all libraries
- West Nile virus and Lyme disease ads in York Region Media Group publications, multicultural newspapers and municipal recycling calendars
- Personal protection messaging published in school board and day care centre guides and Take a Hike Trail Guide

2018 VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE PROGRAM

Objectives for 2018 include continued focus on surveillance, public awareness and mosquito population control

The vector and human case trends experienced in York Region are reflective of the environmental and ecological influences. The 2018 York Region Vector-Borne Disease Program is very similar to the 2017 program in that it will also focus on both prevention and response activities.

- Surveillance related to West Nile virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and Lyme disease will continue. Since so many factors have an effect on vector-borne diseases (such as temperature, precipitation and climate change), it is not possible to predict virus or disease activity for the coming season with any degree of accuracy. However, Public Health will monitor the presence, location, time and intensity of vector-borne disease activity, which will inform decision making on additional prevention and enhanced response activities as the season unfolds.
- Education activities in 2018 will continue to provide information about personal protection to residents through various means, including print and social media.
- Mosquito control through larviciding will continue at the same levels as 2017, as will reduction of mosquito breeding sites through investigation of standing water complaints.

5. Financial Considerations

Regional expenditures for the Vector-Borne Disease Program in 2017 totaled \$550,113 gross (\$138,113 net). The program was managed within the approved Regional budget for Public Health.

The Regional budget for this program for 2018 is \$551,606 gross (\$139,606 net), although provincial allocations have not yet been confirmed for 2018.

Additional resources within the mandatory programs of Public Health support the Vector-Borne Disease program to ensure compliance with the Ontario Public Health Standards.

6. Local Municipal Impact

As in previous years, the Region will continue to collaborate with local municipalities and conservation authorities through the Vector-Borne Disease

Liaison Committee. This group meets throughout the year to discuss vector-borne disease resources, surveillance trends, program updates and positive activity notification. Local municipalities also participate in West Nile virus control measures through enforcement of local standing water by-laws.

7. Conclusion

Under the Health Protection and Promotion Act and the Ontario Public Health Standards, York Region Public Health is responsible for responding to any vector-borne disease of public health importance. The Vector-Borne Disease Program presently focuses on West Nile virus and Lyme disease. The local mosquito population is also being monitored for Eastern Equine Encephalitis.

In 2018, Public Health will continue the mandated activities of the Vector-Borne Disease Program, including vector and disease surveillance, public education and awareness, mosquito vector control programs, and human case investigations.

For more information on this report, please contact Joe La Marca, Director, Health Protection at 1-877-464-9675 ext.74025.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

Approved for Submission:

Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

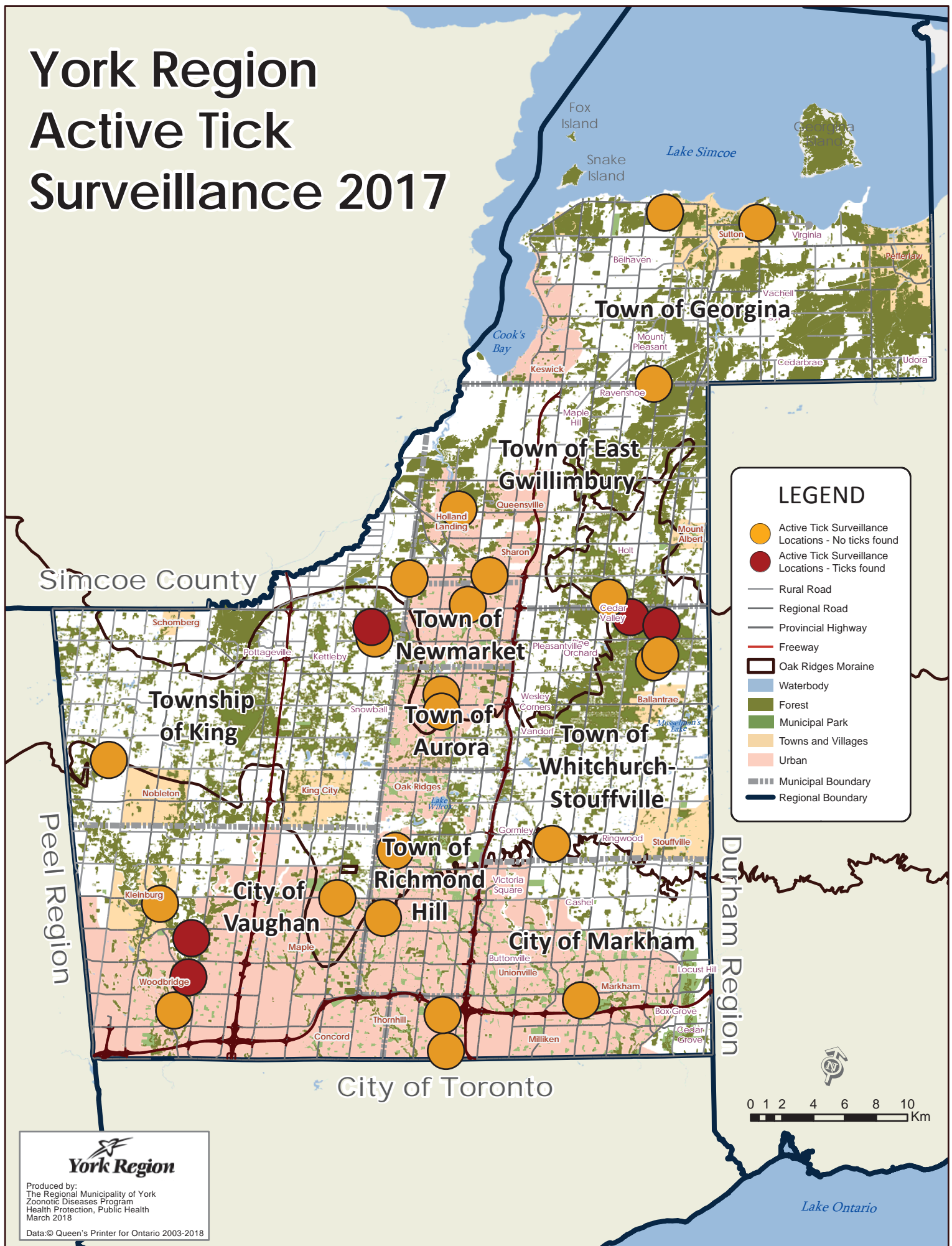
March 23, 2018

Attachments (2)

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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

York Region Active Tick Surveillance 2017

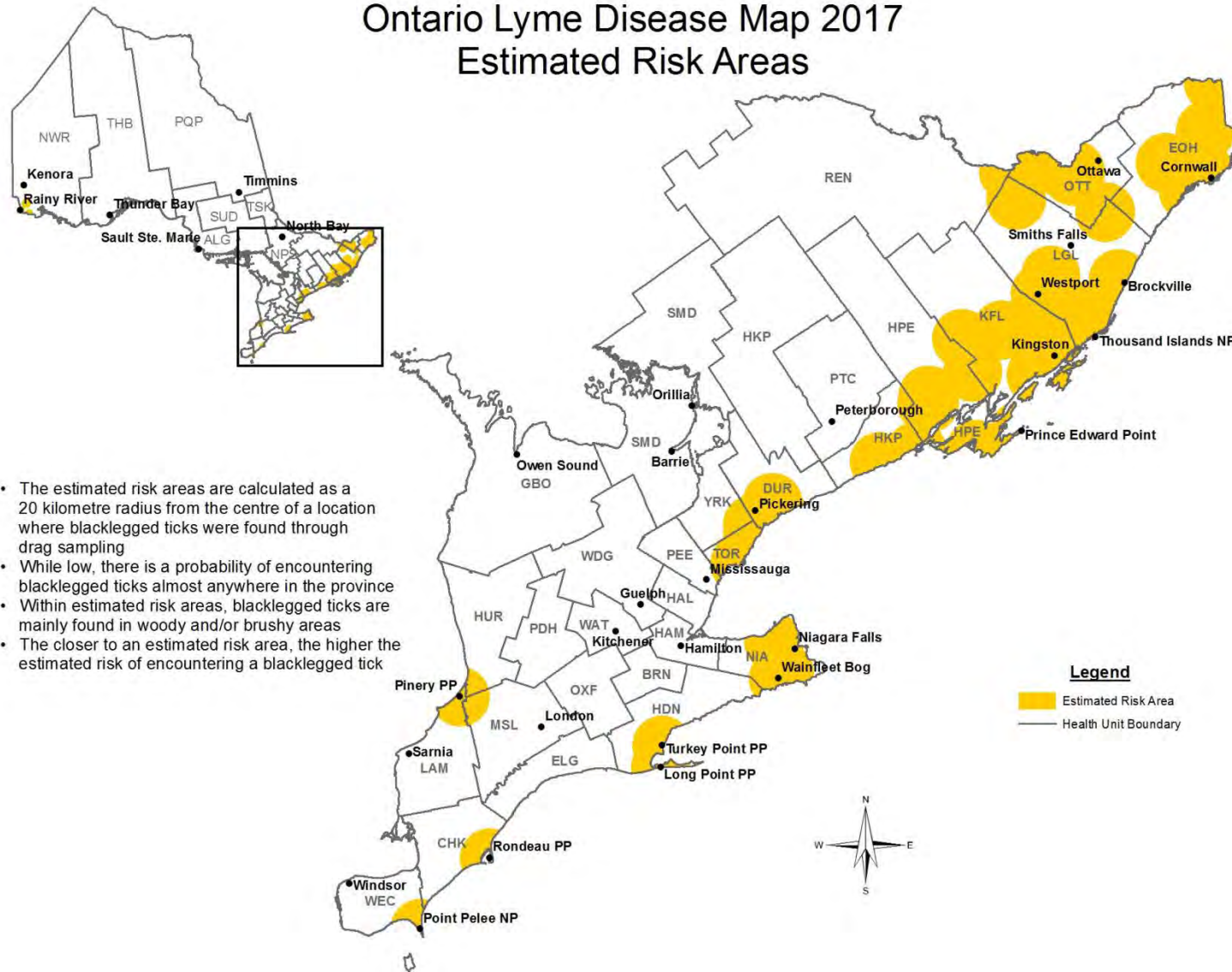


York Region

Produced by:
The Regional Municipality of York
Zoonotic Diseases Program
Health Protection, Public Health
March 2018

Data: © Queen's Printer for Ontario 2003-2018

Ontario Lyme Disease Map 2017 Estimated Risk Areas



- The estimated risk areas are calculated as a 20 kilometre radius from the centre of a location where blacklegged ticks were found through drag sampling
- While low, there is a probability of encountering blacklegged ticks almost anywhere in the province
- Within estimated risk areas, blacklegged ticks are mainly found in woody and/or brushy areas
- The closer to an estimated risk area, the higher the estimated risk of encountering a blacklegged tick

Legend
 Estimated Risk Area
 Health Unit Boundary

For more information, please visit www.publichealthontario.ca/lymedisease



April 24, 2018

Ms. Lisa Lyons
Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive, P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 26 2018		

Dear Ms. Lyons:

Re: York Region Seniors Strategy Update

Regional Council, at its meeting held on April 19, 2018, adopted the following amended recommendation of Committee of the Whole regarding "York Region Seniors Strategy Update":

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities, the Central Local Health Integration Network and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for information.
2. Staff be directed to report back with options for potential built form adaptations to create more senior-friendly housing.

A copy of Clause 10 of Committee of the Whole Report No. 6 is enclosed for your information.

Please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships, Community and Health Services at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090 if you have any questions with respect to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

/C. Clark
Attachment

Clause 10 in Report No. 6 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, as amended, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on April 19, 2018.

It was moved by Regional Councillor Heath, seconded by Regional Councillor Taylor that Council add the following recommendation:

- 2. Staff be directed to report back with options for potential built form adaptations to create more senior-friendly housing.*

Carried

10

York Region Seniors Strategy Update

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 22, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services and the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities, the Central Local Health Integration Network and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for information.

Report dated March 22, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services and the Commissioner of Transportation Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the local municipalities, the Central Local Health Integration Network and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for information.

2. Purpose

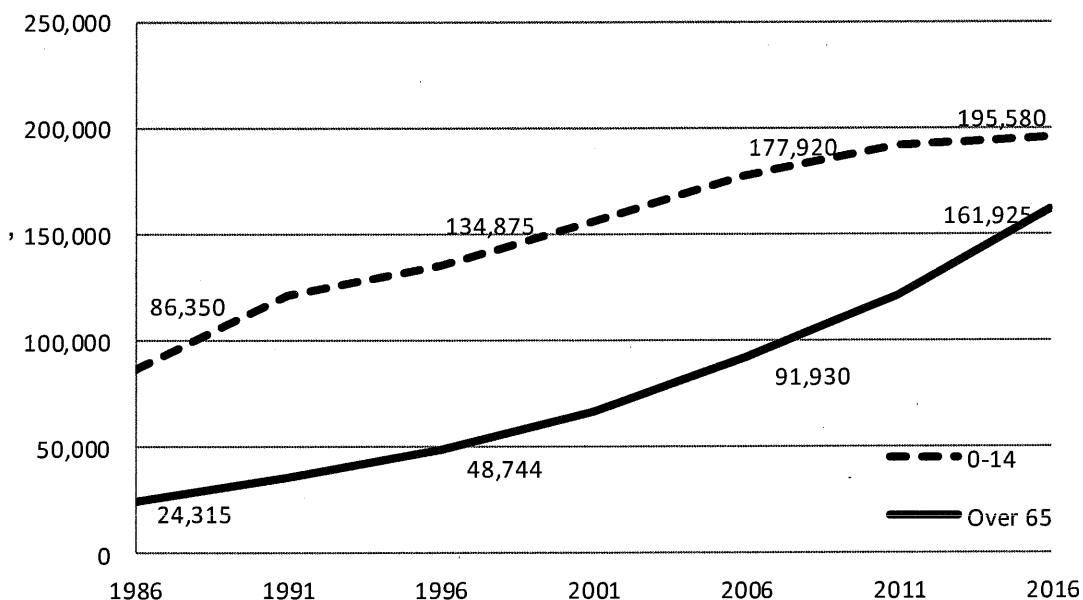
This report provides a progress update on the York Region Seniors Strategy.

3. Background and Previous Council Direction

Between 2011 and 2016, the number of seniors grew by 33.9 per cent, making this the fastest growing population group in York Region

According to the 2016 Census, seniors represented 14.6 per cent (161,925) of York Region's population in 2016, as compared to 11.7 per cent (120,935) in 2011. Between 2011 and 2016 the number of seniors (65 years and older) grew by 33.9 per cent, making this the fastest growing population group in York Region. This rate of growth was higher than that of children aged 14 years and under, as shown in Graph 1.

Graph 1
York Region's Population Growth for Seniors and Children



Source: Statistics Canada, 1986 to 2016 Census

According to York Region planning projections, by 2026, it is expected that the number of seniors will be higher than the number of children in York Region for the first time. The 2016 Census data shows that shift has already taken place in Ontario, which had 2,207,907 children (0-14 years) and 2,251,655 seniors (65 years and older) in 2016. Nation-wide, there were 5,839,565 children and 5,935,630 seniors in 2016.

York Region Seniors Strategy Update

As the population gets older this will impact taxes and government as more and more Canadians are leaving the workforce, drawing a pension and using more health care while at the same time a smaller proportion of younger people will be entering the workforce and paying taxes to support growing the health care costs. This imbalance of seniors to children is projected to grow which will likely result in reduced rates of caregiving for seniors by younger people putting additional pressures on the health care system.

4. Analysis and Implications

The York Region Seniors Strategy provides a collaborative corporate strategic direction for responding to growth in the seniors population

In November 2016, Council approved the 2016 York Region Seniors Strategy- Thinking Ahead. The Strategy looks at the changing senior population, defines the Region's role in serving seniors and sets a course for action to best support the aging population. It guides the Region's work with other levels of government and community partners to better target seniors programming and services where there is the greatest need.

The Strategy sets four key roles for the Region:

1. Balance the needs of seniors with all residents
2. Keep seniors healthier, longer
3. Support age-friendly, complete communities
4. Connect seniors and caregivers to the right programs and services at the right times

The York Region Seniors Strategy has completed its first year of implementation

Working groups have been established across the Corporation to implement the Strategy. Attachment 1 provides an update on all actions initiated and completed in 2017. Examples of these actions are highlighted below for each of the four key roles.

York Region Seniors Strategy Update

1. Balance the needs of seniors with all residents

Fairness to people in all age groups (sometimes called “intergenerational equity”) was a critical consideration in developing the Strategy. Decisions that support intergenerational equity must strike the balance that helps those that need it the most, regardless of age. A needs based approach captures low income seniors in York Region, as well as residents across all age groups who are financially vulnerable. Over the past year, the Region introduced new eligibility models that target low income residents and those that need it the most, such as:

- Modernizing the subsidized housing wait list by implementing new eligibility criteria, including asset and income limits, for rent subsidy program.
- Introducing a low income transit pass with eligibility based on income.

2. Keep seniors healthier, longer

Planning, prevention and education are required to reduce and manage an aging population’s health related demands. This includes investing in programs and services that seniors need to stay healthy and age in place. The following actions support the healthy aging of York Region seniors:

- Regional staff participation on three of the four Central Local Health Integration Network (CLHIN) sub-region collaborative tables. Participation on these tables is an opportunity to align Regional priorities for seniors (e.g. more home and community care, adult day programs, community paramedicine, etc.) with the CLHIN service priorities.
- Markham Stouffville Hospital partnered with the Region’s Community Paramedicine Team on their Hospital to Home Program. The program helps keep residents, including seniors, out of the hospital by bringing health services to the home.

3. Support age-friendly, complete communities

Adequate and accessible options for housing, transportation and support services are required for seniors to age in place for longer in the future. The following actions support age-friendly, complete communities:

- The Region hosted a workshop for local municipal and Regional staff to explore opportunities to collaborate on age-friendly, complete communities. Local municipal staff shared information on age-friendly initiatives underway such as the Town of East Gwillimbury’s Health and Active Living Plaza and the City of Markham’s new Older Adult Strategy. Attendees also heard from industry experts on new ideas for developing congregate housing options for seniors and the 8 80 Cities concept which

York Region Seniors Strategy Update

is based on the premise that if you build a city that is great for an 8 year old and an 80 year old, then you will build a successful city for everyone.

- Planning is underway with Regional and City of Markham staff to support the development of the Unionville Seniors Hub (the Hub). The Hub will provide better integrated and coordinated services for seniors to help them age in place for longer.

4. Connect seniors and caregivers to the right programs and services at the right times

Seniors and caregivers need to know what supports are available, where and how to access the information, and who to ask for help. In order to make navigating the support system easier, the following are some of the actions underway:

- A workshop was held in June 2017 that brought together caregivers and seniors to support and connect them to information and services available in York Region. Another workshop is planned for June 13, 2018.

5. Financial Considerations

There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations made in this report.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Local municipalities have an integral role in ensuring that seniors living in their communities receive the best possible supports and services to help them age in place. Successful implementation of the Seniors Strategy requires alignment, collaboration and partnership with local municipal initiatives to effectively serve and support seniors. This includes continuing discussions from the November Age-Friendly Complete Communities workshop with the local municipalities and leveraging the Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review to better support age-friendly, complete communities in York Region.

7. Conclusion

The Seniors Strategy has caused the Region to rethink how we view and serve seniors. Implementation of the Strategy's actions will help to better position Regional advocacy for additional resources and policy changes from senior levels of government. Moving forward, the Region's actions, advocacy and work with partners will help to ensure seniors are able to age in place for longer in the future.

For more information on this report, please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 22, 2018

Attachment (1)

#8315377

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Update on Implementation of the Seniors Strategy Actions January – December 2017

1. Balance the needs of seniors with all residents	
Develop options for eligibility for programs and services based on income levels, assets, user fees, loans vs. grants and private contributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernization of the subsidized housing waitlist to help households most in need. On March 29, 2018, Council approved the <u>Modernization of the Subsidized Housing Wait List</u> report, introducing asset and income limits to further define eligibility for rent subsidy programs. • Transit Assistance Program. On November 17, 2016, Council approved the <u>York Region Transit (YRT/Viva) Fares 2017 – 2020 and Fare Policy Update</u> report, which permitted implementation of a new low income pass program. A reduced fare option is available for all eligible residents, and Program eligibility is based on income.
2. Keep seniors healthier, longer	
At a system level, understand what programs and services are required to support seniors to age in place and the capacity needed to deliver them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation on the Central Local Health Integration Network (CLHIN) sub-region collaborative tables. The Region successfully secured membership on three of the four CLHIN sub-region collaborative tables that cover the York Region catchment area. • These tables work collectively to identify, plan, implement and evaluate opportunities that address unique sub-region challenges. • This provides the Region with an opportunity to align our priorities for seniors with CLHIN service priorities.
Expand existing prevention programs and identify new programs needed, including alternative programs for those on waitlists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Matters Initiative -Integrated Case Management System. The pilot is underway and will help residents, including seniors, to enter all community and health service programs through one point of access. • Common consent allows clients to access multiple services easily and for staff to make appropriate referrals for service. • Seniors mental health first aid training initiated targeting regional staff that work with seniors. In 2017, there were 2 sessions that had 24 participants.

- **Hospital to Home Program.** In July 2017, Markham Stouffville Hospital partnered with the Region's Community Paramedicine Team and launched a pilot program for congestive heart failure patients. The program provides treatment services to support patient transitions from hospital to home and to reduce avoidable hospital emergency department visits.

3. Support Age-Friendly, Complete Communities

Establish an external planning table with the local municipalities on age-friendly communities

- **Age-Friendly, Complete Communities Workshop.** On November 27, 2017, the Region hosted a workshop with local municipal and Regional staff to explore opportunities to collaborate on age-friendly, complete communities.
- 120 attendees participated from various disciplines responsible for supporting age-friendly, complete communities. Participants included regional and local municipal staff from Planning, Transportation, Paramedic and Seniors Services, Housing Services, Public Health, Parks and Recreation, Fire and Emergency Services and Police Services.
- Attendees shared information, heard from experts in the field and identified areas of common interest such as creating consistent messaging for seniors around ability to pay, system navigation and better integration and co-location of services.
- Follow-up meetings with each of the local municipalities will be held to confirm which age-friendly ideas and actions to move forward on together.
- **Regional Municipal Comprehensive Review.** Official Plan policies to promote age-friendly, complete communities will be reviewed.
- Opportunities for retrofitting neighbourhoods and home sharing will be considered.
- **City of Vaughan Older Adult Task Force.** The City of Vaughan established an Older Adult Task Force to work with relevant parties to achieve the objectives of its Older Adult Strategy, which includes promoting age-friendly communities and healthy seniors.
- Regional staff will participate as a resource to support the Task Force and identify alignments and connections with the York Region Seniors Strategy

Develop a variety of housing options including rental

- **Housing Initiatives and Incentives Framework.** On February 15, 2018, Council approved the Housing Initiatives and Incentives Update report on the development of a purpose built rental affordable housing incentives framework that targets mid-range income households.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This framework aims to increase the supply of rental housing, and this may provide seniors with more options to age in place. • Staff will report back to Council in Q2 2018 with a proposed Mid-Range Income Affordable Housing Incentives Framework.
<p>Work with local municipalities, community agencies, private sector and Central Local Health Integration Network to design and implement a multi-service centre/hub model(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unionville Seniors Hub. The hub is planned as part of the Unionville Redevelopment in Markham, and is expected to be ready for occupancy Q4 2021. • The hub will co-locate services and supports for seniors and caregivers. A needs assessment is underway to inform development of a service delivery model. • Preliminary consultations with multiple stakeholders including the City of Markham are underway. • Identification of funding sources required to support the operations of the hub underway.
<p>Coordinate community outreach and communication activities internally and with York Regional Police</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated Outreach to Seniors. In 2017 this included the York Regional Police Seniors' Day and Transportation Services roadshow at seniors' buildings across the region. Discussions are now moving toward future planning and identifying opportunities for more coordinated and strategic outreach, including joint messaging around existing Regional programs and services available to seniors that help seniors stay healthy, active and connected to their communities. Another component of the messaging is the promotion of Access York as the way to get information on these programs and services.
<p>4. Connect seniors and caregivers to the right programs and services at the right times</p>	
<p>Explore how to guide seniors through the many services out there</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seniors Community Grant Program. The Region submitted an application for the Seniors Community Grant Program to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop an inventory of community services and supports available to seniors and caregivers in York Region. A regional Community Assets Project Team has been established to work on this. ○ Develop a York Region Nature's Classroom for Seniors, to be held in the York Regional Forest (Bill Fisch Forest Stewardship and Education Centre). This will directly benefit seniors by providing them with opportunities to be active and to connect with nature and each other. ○ Expand the Region's Connecting Caregivers Workshop to reach more caregivers, particularly those who cannot attend the workshop in person, with a travelling roadshow. ○ Provide medical information kits to seniors to streamline and

standardize the information used by paramedics when responding to 911 calls with seniors.

- **Connecting Caregivers Workshop.** On June 21, 2017 a workshop was held in the northern part of the Region to bring together caregivers and seniors to support and connect them to information and services available in York Region. The workshop was attended by thirteen organizations serving seniors and 108 participants. Evaluation feedback was very positive.
- On June 13, 2018, the Region will host another Caregiver Workshop in the southern part of the Region. The Region will also develop “conference in a box” tools to support any organizations or municipalities to extend the reach of the workshop.