

INFORMATION ITEMS

Week Ending May 18, 2018

REPORTS

1. None

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS

1. Guidance to support implementation of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017: Application of the Intensification and Density Targets & The Municipal Comprehensive Review Process

CORRESPONDENCE

1. City of Kitchener Resolution re: Two-Way All-Day GO Rail Service and High Speed Rail to Kitchener
2. Regional Municipality of Waterloo Resolution re: Two-Way All-Day GO Rail Service and High Speed Rail to Waterloo Region
3. Town of Halton Hills Resolution re: Overview and Implications of the Province's "Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring" Policy Proposal
4. Town of Oakville Resolution re: In Consideration of a Renewed Commitment to the Greenbelt
5. GRCA Current, May 2018

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

1. None

ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

1. None

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Guidance to support implementation of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017: Application of the Intensification and Density Targets & The Municipal Comprehensive Review Process	Ministry of Municipal Affairs	June 19, 2018	<p>The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is seeking feedback on two draft technical guidance documents that help municipalities (1) plan for Growth Plan targets; and (2) bring their official plans into conformity with the Growth Plan.</p> <p>1) Draft Technical Guidance on the Application of the Intensification and Density Targets</p> <p>The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017 (the "Growth Plan") sets minimum standards for density and intensification in municipalities. Density is a measure of people and jobs per hectare, or simply jobs per hectare, depending on the type of target. Intensification is a measure of the percentage of residential development added each year to specified parts of existing urbanized areas.</p> <p>Municipalities are required to plan for five types of targets, where applicable. The targets are key to making more efficient use of land and infrastructure, and help inform infrastructure planning. The five types of targets are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intensification 2. Designated Greenfield Area density 3. Employment Area density 4. Urban Growth Centre density 5. Major Transit Station Area density <p>Growth Plan targets are meant to slow the outward expansion of settlement areas (areas designated for development). The targets also protect important resources such as farmland, water systems, wetlands and woodlands. Planning for intensification and density targets will have significant impacts on</p>	Staff comments will be submitted on the online Environmental Registry (EBR) and provided to Council via the Information Package following the consultation deadline.	The province is seeking input for two technical land use planning processes that will assist in the implementation of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2017. A staff level response will provide the appropriate technical feedback to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.	Policy Planning and Urban Design staff, Planning, Urban Design and Building Services	ER # 013-2359

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
			<p>addressing climate change and achieving provincial emission reduction goals.</p> <p>2) Draft Technical Guidance on the Municipal Comprehensive Review Process</p> <p>The City of Guelph must bring its official plan into conformity with the Growth Plan by 2022. This guidance material will help guide municipalities on how to bring their official plans into conformity with the Growth Plan, 2017.</p> <p>This process is known as the municipal comprehensive review ("MCR") process. An MCR results in a new official plan or official plan amendment that comprehensively applies all the policies of the plan, and which is then submitted to the province for approval.</p> <p>During the MCR process, municipalities will carry out background research, public consultation, and policy formulation with supplementary input from the province at critical milestones.</p>				



CHRISTINE TARLING
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk
Finance & Corporate Services Department
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Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7
Phone: 519.741.2200 x 7809 Fax: 519.741.2705
christine.tarling@kitchener.ca
TTY: 519-741-2385

May 11, 2018

Mr. Stephen O'Brien
1 Carden St.
Guelph ON N1H 3A1

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on May 7, 2018, passed the following resolution regarding a request that all political parties at the provincial and federal levels of government remain committed to both Two-Way All-Day GO rail service from Toronto to Kitchener by 2024 and to continue to work toward bringing a High Speed Rail line from Toronto to London by 2025:

“WHEREAS Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail will be a key part of unlocking the full potential of the Toronto – Waterloo Innovation Corridor and Southwestern Ontario that will create over 170,000 jobs and add an estimated \$17 billion to our nation’s Gross Domestic Product; and,

WHEREAS Waterloo Region currently has approximately 3,000 job vacancies in the high-tech sector, and Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail will help our companies attract and retain the talent and business connectivity in the Toronto-Waterloo Innovation Corridor and throughout Southwestern Ontario required to fill those vacancies, create jobs, and succeed globally; and,

WHEREAS Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail will alleviate Highway 401 and other roadway congestion issues coming in and out of our community on a daily basis; and,

WHEREAS Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail will positively impact our environment by reducing approximately 5 million cars off the road; and,

WHEREAS we will always advocate for a full-range of medical services available within Waterloo region, Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and

High Speed Rail will help our community members access medical centres more reliably and with greater comfort for any highly specialized services; and,

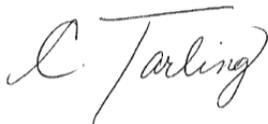
WHEREAS the Mayor and Council of the City of Kitchener have approved the Corporate Business Plan which prioritizes “Intergovernmental Relations – Passenger Rail” advocacy for Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail; and,

WHEREAS we will help to ensure that the impact and disruptions caused by the construction and operation of Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail are assessed and addressed fairly through the phases of consultation and project planning that are being developed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Kitchener calls upon all political parties at the provincial and federal levels governments to remain committed to both Two-Way All-Day GO rail service from Toronto to Kitchener by 2024 and to move forward to bring Canada’s first High Speed Rail line from Toronto to London in 2025;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, leaders of the Ontario Liberal Party, the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party, the Ontario New Democratic Party, and the Green Party of Ontario, the local MP’s and MPP’s, the Association of Municipalities Ontario, the Region of Waterloo, local area municipalities, and municipalities along the proposed Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail route.”

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Tarling". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

C. Tarling
Director of Legislated Services
& City Clerk

- c: J. Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada
K. Wynne, Ontario Liberal Party
D. Ford, Ontario PC Party
A. Horwath, Ontario NDP Party
M. Schreiner, Ontario Green Party
M. Turner, Association of Municipalities Ontario

R. Saini, MP, Kitchener Centre
H. Albrecht, MP Kitchener-Conestoga
M. Tabbara, MP Kitchener South Hespeler
B. Chagger, MP Waterloo
D. Vernille, MPP Kitchener-Centre
M. Harris, MPP Kitchener-Conestoga
C. Fife, MPP Kitchener-Waterloo
U. Watkiss, City of Toronto
S. Jones, Halton Hills
T. McKibbin, St. Mary's
J. Thomson, City of Stratford
P. Fay, City of Brampton
C. Saunders, City of London
Area Municipalities



May 15, 2018

A16-20

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Sent via email to: pm@pm.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail to Waterloo region

Please be advised that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo at their regular meeting held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, approved the following motion:

WHEREAS Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail to Waterloo region will be a key part of unlocking the full potential of the Toronto-Waterloo Innovation Corridor and Southwestern Ontario that will create over 170,000 jobs and add an estimated \$17 Billion to our nation's Gross Domestic Product; and,

WHEREAS Waterloo Region currently has over 3,000 job vacancies in the high tech and advanced manufacturing sectors, Two-Way All-Day GO rail service and High Speed Rail will help our companies attract and retain the talent and business connectivity in the Toronto-Waterloo Innovation Corridor and throughout Southwestern Ontario required to fill those vacancies, create jobs, and succeed globally; and,

WHEREAS High Speed Rail and Two-Way All-Day GO rail service to Kitchener-Waterloo and a proposed GO service to Cambridge will alleviate Highway 401 and other roadway congestion issues coming in and out of our community on a daily basis; and,

WHEREAS High Speed Rail and Two-Way All-Day GO rail service to Kitchener-Waterloo and GO service to Cambridge will positively impact our environment by reducing approximately 5 million cars off the road; and,

WHEREAS we will always advocate for a full-range of medical services available within Waterloo region, High Speed Rail and Two-Way All-Day GO rail service to Kitchener-Waterloo, and Cambridge GO will help our community members access medical centres more reliably and with greater comfort for any highly specialized services; and,

WHEREAS the Region of Waterloo's Strategic Plan includes an objective to "improve inter-city rail transportation services to and from Waterloo Region", and Regional Council has expressed its support for improved passenger rail service on numerous occasions; and,

WHEREAS THE Region will encourage the provincial government to ensure that the impact and disruptions caused by the construction and operation of High Speed Rail and Two-Way All-Day GO rail service to Kitchener-Waterloo, and GO service to Cambridge are assessed and addressed fairly through the phases of the consultation, planning, design, construction and operation of the projects;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Region of Waterloo calls upon all political parties at the provincial and federal levels governments to remain committed on both Two-Way All-Day GO rail service from Toronto to Waterloo region by 2024 and to move forward to bring Canada's first High Speed Rail line from Toronto to London in 2025; and further,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, leaders of the Ontario Liberal Party, the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party, the Ontario New Democratic Party, and the Green Party of Ontario, to the local MP's and MPP's, to the Association of Municipalities Ontario, local area municipalities, and municipalities located along the planned High-speed rail and Two-Way All-Day Go Transit rail service corridor.

Please accept this letter for information purposes only. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mike Murray, Chief Administrative Officer at 519-575-4561 or MMurray@regionofwaterloo.ca

Regards,



Kris Fletcher,
Regional Clerk/Director, Council and Administrative Services

cc: Kathleen Wynne, Leader of the Ontario Liberal Party and Premier of Ontario, kwynne.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Doug Ford, Leader of the Ontario PC Party, doug@fordnation.ca
Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Ontario NDP Party, ahorwath-co@ndp.on.ca
Mike Schreiner, Leader of the Ontario Green Party MikeForGuelph@gpo.ca
Harold Albrecht, M.P. Kitchener-Conestoga harold.albrecht@parl.gc.ca
The Honourable Bardish Chagger, M.P. Waterloo Bardish.Chagger@parl.gc.ca
Raj Saini, M. P. Kitchener Centre Raj.Saini@parl.gc.ca
Marwan Tabbara, M.P. Kitchener South-Hespeler, Marwan.Tabbara@parl.gc.ca
Bryan May, M.P. Cambridge Bryan.May@parl.gc.ca
Daiene Vernile, MPP (Kitchener Centre) dvernile.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Kathryn McGarry, MPP (Cambridge) kmcgarry.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Michael Harris, MPP (Kitchener—Conestoga) michael.harris@pc.ola.org
Catherine Fife, MPP (Kitchener—Waterloo) cfife-gp@ndp.on.ca
Monika Turner, Director of Policy, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) mturner@amo.on.ca
Michael Di Lullo, Clerk, City of Cambridge dilullom@cambridge.ca
Christine Tarling, Clerk, City of Kitchener Christine.tarling@kitchener.ca
Olga Smith, Clerk, City of Waterloo olga.smith@waterloo.ca
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Grace Kosch, Clerk, Township of Wellesley gkosch@wellesley.ca
Dawn Mittleholtz, Clerk, Township of Wilmot dawn.mittleholtz@wilmot.ca
Val Hummel, Clerk, Township of Woolwich vhummel@woolwich.ca
Ulli Watkiss – Clerk, City of Toronto, uwatkis@toronto.ca
P. Fay – Clerk, City of Brampton cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca
Suzanne Jones – Clerk, Halton Hills suzannej@haltonhills.ca
Stephen O'Brien – Clerk, City of Guelph stephen.obrien@guelph.ca
Trisha McKibbin – Clerk, Town of St. Mary's tmckibbin@town.stmarys.on.ca
Joan Thomson – Clerk, City of Stratford jthomson@stratfordcanada.ca
Cathy Saunders – Clerk, City of London csaunder@london.ca
Mike Murray, CAO, Region of Waterloo MMurray@regionofwaterloo.ca

May 15, 2018

Premier Kathleen Wynne
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Kathleen Wynne;

Re: Report No. ADMIN-2018-0017 – Overview and Implications of the Province's "Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring" Policy Proposal

Please be advised that Council for the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting of Monday, May 7, 2018, adopted the following Recommendation:

Recommendation No. GC-2018-0036 (Resolution No. 2018-0081)

THAT Report No. ADMIN-2018-0017, dated April 20, 2018, regarding the province's "Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring" policy proposal, and potential implications on the Town of Halton Hills, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province be informed that the Town of Halton Hills supports the potential Greenbelt expansion within the outer ring of the study area as defined by the Province;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province be requested not to expand the study area for Greenbelt expansion to include the whitebelt lands within the inner ring, nor grow the Greenbelt by incorporating any whitebelt lands located within the Town of Halton Hills as doing so would significantly restrict and undermine the Town of Halton Hills' ability to carry out local community planning, growth management and economic development initiatives, and be premature in light of the recently initiated Regional Official Plan Review (ROPR);

AND FURTHER THAT the Province be informed that the Town of Halton Hills' Council does not support the Region of Halton motion that was passed on February 21, 2018 requesting an extension of the Greenbelt study area to include the whitebelt lands;

AND FURTHER THAT, in keeping with the requirements of the Greenbelt Act (2005), the Province consult with the Town of Halton Hills, public and other stakeholders, on any proposed amendments to the Greenbelt Plan and its boundary, including any potential addition of the whitebelt lands into the Greenbelt, prior to any such changes being made;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this report and associated recommendation be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Economic Development and Growth, Halton Region, Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, Building Industry and Land Development Association, Greater Golden Horseshoe municipalities, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Environmental Defense, Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, Ontario Greenbelt Association, Ontario Nature, Earth Roots, Eco Spark and Save the Oak Rides Moraine (STORM).

CARRIED

As per the above recommendation enclosed is a copy of Report No. ADMIN-2018-0017.

If you have any questions, please contact Damian Szybalski, Manager of Economic Development, Innovation and Culture for the Town of Halton Hills at 905-873-2601 ext. 2289 or damians@haltonhills.ca.

Yours truly,



Renée Brown
Deputy Clerk – Legislation & Elections

- c. Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs
- Ontario Minister of Economic Development and Growth
- Building Industry and Land Development Association
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Environmental Defense
- Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
- Ontario Greenbelt Association
- Ontario Nature
- Earth Roots
- Eco Spark
- Save the Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM)
- Halton Region (via email)
- Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce (via email)
- City of Burlington (via email)
- Town of Milton (via email)
- Town of Oakville (via email)

Town of Ajax (via email)
Town of Aurora (via email)
City of Brampton (via email)
City of Barrie (via email)
Brant County (via email)
Township of Brock (via email)
Town of Caledon (via email)
Municipality of Clarington (via email)
Durham Region (via email)
Town of East Gwillimbury (via email)
Town of Georgina (via email)
Township of King (via email)
City of Markham (via email)
City of Mississauga (via email)
Town of Newmarket (via email)
City of Oshawa (via email)
Peel Region (via email)
City of Pickering (via email)
Town of Richmond Hill (via email)
Township of Scugog (via email)
City of Toronto (via email)
Township of Uxbridge (via email)
York Region (via email)
City of Vaughan (via email)
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville (via email)
Town of Whitby (via email)
Brantford (via email)
Dufferin County (via email)
Guelph (via email)
Haldimand County (via email)
Kawartha Lakes (via email)
Niagara Region (via email)
Northumberland County (via email)
Orillia (via email)
Peterborough County (via email)
Simcoe County (via email)
Waterloo Region (via email)
Wellington County (via email)

REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

REPORT FROM: John Linhardt, Commissioner, Planning and Sustainability
Damian Szybalski, Manager of Economic Development,
Innovation and Culture

DATE: April 20, 2018

REPORT NO.: ADMIN-2018-0017

RE: Overview and Implications of the Province's "Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring" Policy Proposal

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. ADMIN-2018-0017, dated April 20, 2018, regarding the province's "Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring" policy proposal, and potential implications on the Town of Halton Hills, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province be informed that the Town of Halton Hills supports the potential Greenbelt expansion within the outer ring of the study area as defined by the Province;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province be requested not to expand the study area for Greenbelt expansion to include the whitebelt lands within the inner ring, nor grow the Greenbelt by incorporating any whitebelt lands located within the Town of Halton Hills as doing so would significantly restrict and undermine the Town of Halton Hills' ability to carry out local community planning, growth management and economic development initiatives, and be premature in light of the recently initiated Regional Official Plan Review (ROPR);

AND FURTHER THAT the Province be informed that the Town of Halton Hills' Council does not support the Region of Halton motion that was passed on February 21, 2018 requesting an extension of the Greenbelt study area to include the whitebelt lands;

AND FURTHER THAT, in keeping with the requirements of the Greenbelt Act (2005), the Province consult with the Town of Halton Hills, public and other stakeholders, on any proposed amendments to the Greenbelt Plan and its boundary, including any potential addition of the whitebelt lands into the Greenbelt, prior to any such changes being made;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this report and associated recommendation be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Economic Development and Growth, Halton Region, Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, Building Industry and Land Development Association, Greater Golden Horseshoe municipalities, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Environmental Defense, Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, Ontario Greenbelt Association, Ontario Nature, Earth Roots, Eco Spark and Save the Oak Rides Moraine (STORM).

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the potential impacts of the Province's "Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring" policy proposal, as well as the recently passed motion at Halton Region related to this matter.

On December 7, 2017, the Province posted the "Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring" policy proposal on the Environmental Registry for a 90 day comment period, ending March 7, 2018.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs was seeking input on a study area for a potential Greenbelt expansion to protect water resources in the outer ring of the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Appendix 1). The study area is based on locations that have a high concentration of important water features that are under pressure from current or forecasted urban development. The consultation sought input on the (i) Province's approach to identifying important water features; (ii) the process followed for mapping the study area; and (iii) other factors that should be considered for mapping a proposed Greenbelt boundary (e.g. accommodating growth).

The study area for potential future Greenbelt expansion is made up of seven features and areas focused in Waterloo Region, Brant County, Wellington County, Dufferin County and Simcoe County. Importantly, the study area does not include Halton Region. The study area is not to be interpreted as a proposed Greenbelt boundary. The consultation did not include determining a proposed Greenbelt boundary. Consideration of the study area builds on the recently completed Coordinated Land Use Planning Review. The latter led to updates of the Growth Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, Greenbelt Plan and the Niagara Escarpment Plan (released in May 2017). The importance of protecting water resources and the expansion of the Greenbelt to achieve this was a key recommendation of the Advisory Panel for the Review.

A map of the study area for the potential expansion of the Greenbelt is attached as Appendix 1. More information is available at: www.ontario.ca/greenbelt

In February 2018, Halton Region's Planning and Public Works Committee considered report LPS20-18 (dated February 14, 2018) regarding "Protecting Water for Future Generations and Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring". Among other things, the report noted that "Halton Region is not planning on providing comments on this initiative given its geographic location... This initiative does not apply to Halton Region." The report also noted that while the Greenbelt Plan allows for the consideration of municipal requests to grow the Greenbelt, such requests must be accompanied by a Council resolution which is based on consultation with key stakeholders, indigenous groups, municipalities and the public.

On February 21, 2018, Halton Region Council passed a motion urging the Province to extend the study area for Greenbelt expansion to include the whitebelt lands (lands located between the existing Greenbelt Plan Protected Countryside boundary and Halton's settlement area boundaries) within the inner ring (Appendix 2). The motion also called on the Province to incorporate appropriate whitebelt lands within the inner ring to protect freshwater and natural heritage features. The motion noted that the current study area for Greenbelt expansion had omitted the whitebelt lands (lands outside of the Greenbelt and urban settlement areas) and that these lands are subject to development pressures. As outlined below, due to significant concerns with the motion, the Region's motion was not supported by representatives of Town Council. In a letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne, dated March 5, 2018, Mayor Bonnette expressed the Town's concerns with the Region's motion and requested that the whitebelt area not be considered for any potential Greenbelt expansion (Appendix 3).

Halton Region has begun the next Regional Official Plan Review (ROPR) to evaluate current Official Plan policies, meet current provincial policies, and achieve Regional Council and community goals. Among other matters, the review will include an in-depth study of growth management, and urban, rural, agricultural and natural heritage systems. A comprehensive Public Engagement Strategy is to be implemented. The project is to be completed by spring 2020. Regarding urban systems and growth management, the ROPR will consider ways of accommodating 220,000 additional residents and 80,000 jobs between 2031 and 2041.

COMMENTS:

Implications for the Town of Halton Hills

Although the Town supports a potential Greenbelt expansion within the original study area (outer ring), as defined by the Province, the Town does not support the Regional motion requesting the inclusion of whitebelt lands within the inner ring, as doing so would have significant negative impacts on the Town, including:

(i) Lack of Public Engagement

Public engagement is a key priority for Town Council. Recognizing this, a citizen taskforce was established to create the Public Engagement Charter highlighting the Town's commitment to community engagement. Halton Region's motion and any potential decision to expand the Greenbelt into the whitebelt area does not conform to the Town's Public Engagement Charter as no resident engagement, nor appropriate notification, has occurred.

(ii) Premature Request

The Region's motion is premature as it preempts the Region's own Municipal Comprehensive Review which will include a growth management strategy up to 2041. Expanding the Greenbelt into the whitebelt lands would place significant limitations, undermine the direction of the recently initiated Halton Region Official Plan Review Process, by altering the review's potential outcomes and do so in the absence of public engagement and the requisite studies, including demographic and economic factors. The ability to expand urban boundaries if necessary to accommodate future growth and economic development opportunities would be severely restricted by precluding a large area for potential future development.

(ii) Undermine Municipal Growth Management

Although it is too early to determine the amount of population and employment growth that will be allocated to Halton Hills, including the whitebelt lands in any Greenbelt expansion would severely restrict the Town's long-term planning options and development patterns for any future population and employment beyond 2031, thereby undermining Halton Hills' financial and economic health. As part of Town Council's Strategic Plan process which identifies Council's priorities for the current term and drives subsequent departmental business plans and workplans, Council confirmed planning for growth on the basis of a moderate scale and pace of growth.

(iv) Economic Prosperity

The Premier Gateway, generally located between Steeles Avenue and Highway 401 and in proximity to the 401/407 interchange along the Town's southern boundary, is Halton Hills' strategic employment area, offering easy access to major markets. The Premier Gateway continues to attract significant investment in new industrial and commercial development, including about \$230 million in private sector investment within the past 12-16 months. These investments are generating employment and contributing to economic prosperity, benefiting Halton Hills as well as the broader GTA.

The Town is also commencing an Employment Land Needs Study to determine if any additional employment lands to 2041 are required in order to support the Town's assessment base and generate local employment. Results of this study will be incorporated into Halton Region's Municipal Comprehensive Review. In addition, with

the view to protect lands for future employment, the Town's and Halton Region's Official Plans identify "Future Strategic Employment Areas" which would be adversely impacted if the whitebelt were included in the Greenbelt.

(v) Duplication

Lands within the whitebelt are already protected from development and subject to more restrictive planning policies. Adding these lands to the Greenbelt would add an unnecessary additional layer of policy complexity.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

The Strategic Plan sets out Council's strategic priorities for the current term. The potential expansion of the Greenbelt into the whitebelt lands would have significant implications on several Council priorities, which need to be assessed through detailed planning and public engagement, including:

- **Municipal Service Delivery:** Effective, efficient and economical delivery of the Town's existing services.
- **Financial Sustainability:** Determine the fiscal impacts of potential future growth to 2041.
- **Planning for Growth:** Actively participate in the Regional Official Plan review on the basis of a moderate scale and pace of growth to 2041 for Halton Hills.
- **Communications:** Continue to provide timely, transparent communications with residents and businesses owners.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

An in-depth financial and economic analysis is required to assess and fully understand the short and long-term financial and economic development impacts associated with any potential inclusion of the whitebelt lands in the Greenbelt. These impacts have not been considered in passing the Regional motion.

CONSULTATION:

This report has been prepared jointly between the Economic Development, Innovation and Culture division and the Planning and Sustainability Department

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

There has been no public engagement by the Town or Halton Region respecting expansion of the Greenbelt within Halton Hills.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The recommendation outlined in this report advances the Strategy's implementation.

This report supports all four pillars of Sustainability and in summary the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is Excellent.

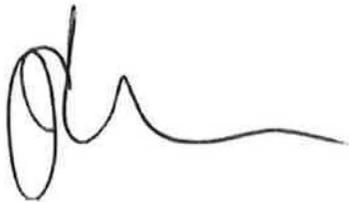
COMMUNICATIONS:

A copy of this report and associated recommendation will be forwarded to key stakeholders as per the recommendation of this report, including to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Economic Development and Growth, Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce and Halton Region.

CONCLUSION:

The Town supports provincial efforts to protect water resources. However, any potential expansion of the Greenbelt into the whitebelt lands within the Town of Halton Hills will have significant adverse impacts on the Town's ability to determine long-term planning and economic development opportunities for these lands. Precluding development within these lands at this time by placing them within the Greenbelt is premature in light of the recently initiated ROPR process as it would cause a fundamental change in the consideration of where any future growth could be allocated to Halton Hills, and if any such growth could be allocated to the Town.

Reviewed and Approved by,

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

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Sustainability

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

Damian Szybalski, Manager of Economic Development, Innovation & Culture

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

Brent Marshall, CAO

**Appendix 1 to Report ADMIN-2018-0017
Study Area for Potential Greenbelt Expansion**

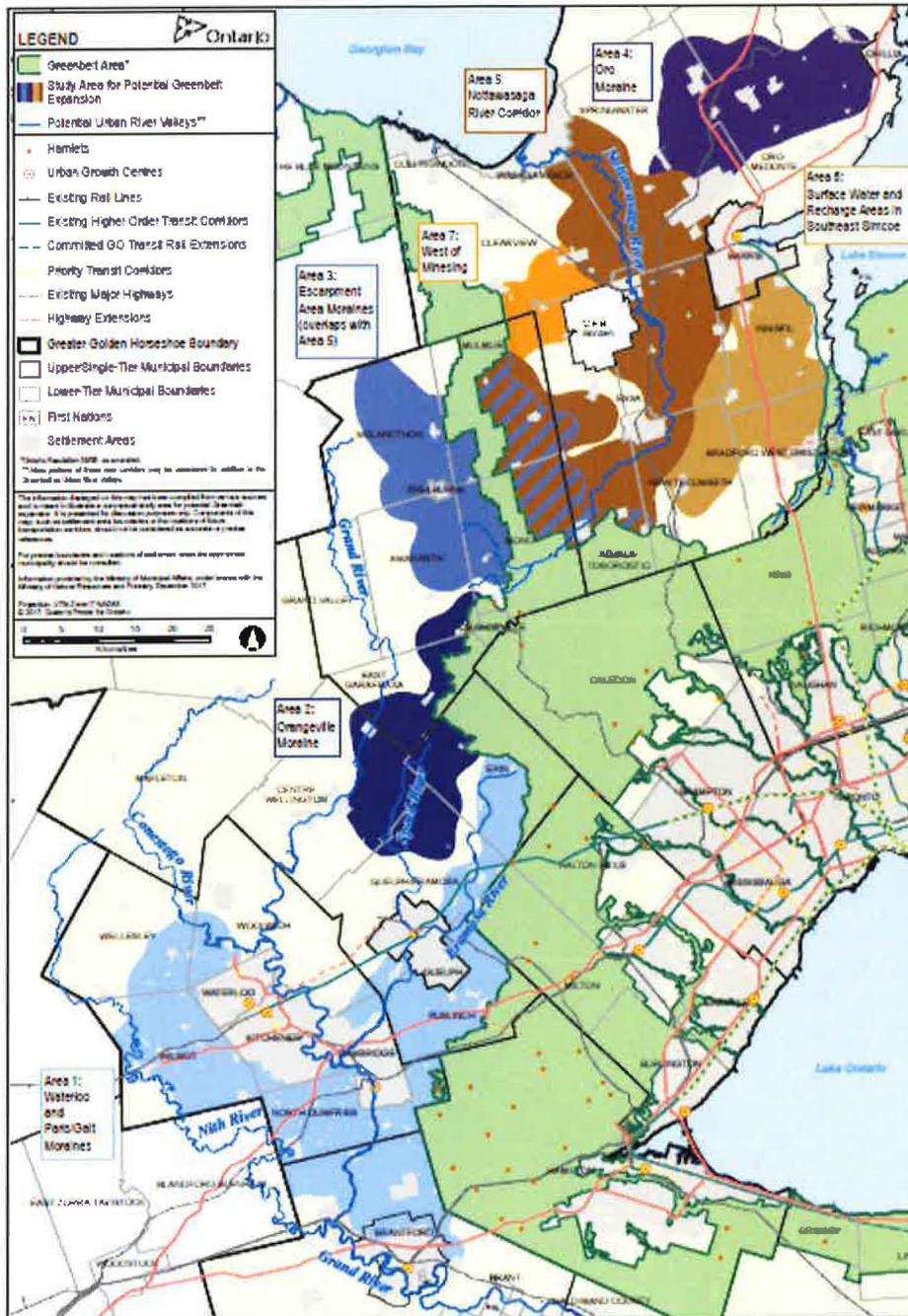


Figure 4: Study Area for Potential Greenbelt Expansion

Source: www.ontario.ca/greenbelt

Appendix 2 to Report ADMIN-2018-0017
Halton Region Council Resolution – February 21, 2018

Planning and Public Works Committee Report No. 02-18

Motion to Amend – Item No. 2

Moved by: Rob Burton
Seconded by: Allan Elgar

THAT Item No. 2 appearing in Planning and Public Works Committee Report No. 02-18, Report No. LPS20-18 - Protecting Water for Future Generations: Growing the Greenbelt in the Outer Ring, be amended as follows:

WHEREAS the Greenbelt is an integral component of land use planning in the Greater Golden Horseshoe, complementing the Growth Plan to encourage smart planning, the reduction of sprawl, protection of natural and hydrological features and agricultural lands; and

WHEREAS the Province's Advisory Panel chaired by David Crombie recommended that the Greenbelt grow to address the protection of areas of critical hydrological significance, such as key headwaters; and

WHEREAS the Province's current study area for Greenbelt expansion has prematurely omitted areas under the most direct threat of development, known as the 'whitebelt' which is neither in the Greenbelt nor in the urban settlement area that contain such critical areas; and

WHEREAS a fulsome study of all potential Greenbelt expansion areas should be undertaken as part of this review in order to make the best, most consistent land use planning decisions across the Greater Golden Horseshoe;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the Region of Halton commend the province for continued action toward growing the Greenbelt through the current consultation process; and

THAT the province be strongly urged to extend the study area for Greenbelt expansion to include the whitebelt lands within the inner ring, lands that are the most immediately vulnerable to development in the province; and

THAT that the province expeditiously grow the Greenbelt by incorporating appropriate whitebelt lands within the inner ring to protect our limited freshwater and natural heritage features; and

THAT this resolution be distributed to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of

Municipal Affairs, all Greater Golden Horseshoe municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Environmental Defence, Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, the Ontario Greenbelt Association, Ontario Nature, Earth Roots, Eco Spark, and Save the Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM).

Appendix 3 to Report ADMIN-2018-0017
Letter to the Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne

March 5, 2018

Kathleen Wynne, Premier
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Re: Protection of Municipally-Designated 'Whitebelt' Areas

Dear Premier Wynne:

I am writing to express my concern about a recent motion that was passed by Halton Regional Council concerning designation of lands within the Halton Hills boundary. As you can appreciate, upholding a municipality's rights to plan and develop for the purposes of managing growth in a responsible, sustainable and strategic manner that best meets the needs of its communities is a fundamental role of the local planning authority.

Further, please know that public engagement is a tenet of Halton Hills Council and to this end I have led a citizen task force that resulted in the creation of a Public Engagement Charter. This document was approved by Council and speaks to the municipality's commitment to engaging its citizens in a transparent and participatory manner with appropriate notification to residents and specific vested interest parties on issues as appropriate. I would ask that any consideration by your government of the motion passed by Halton Regional Council would allow such time for a proper and thorough consultation with our Halton Hills residents.

To be clear, the Town of Halton Hills (the Town) supports the potential greenbelt expansion study area as currently defined by the Province. The Town does not support the Regional resolution and the request to extend the study area for Greenbelt expansion to include the 'whitebelt' lands within the inner ring until the appropriate analysis and review is completed. Further, the Region's resolution pre-empt's its own Municipal Comprehensive Review which will include the growth management strategy up to 2041.



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Acton
Georgetown
Esquealing



Town of Halton Hills
Office of the Mayor
Rick Bonnette

Your consideration in denying the request for Greenbelt expansion into Halton Hills lands is appreciated and failing this direction, I respectfully request that the municipality be allowed the time to consult with its residents and that these findings be included in the Province's consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Rick Bonnette, Mayor

C.

Minister of Municipal Affairs
Minister of Economic Development and Growth
Members of Halton Hills Council
Greater Golden Horseshoe Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Defence
Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
Ontario Greenbelt Association
Ontario Nature
Earth Roots
Eco Spark
Save the Oaks Ridges Moraine (STORM)
Building Industry and Land Development Association



OAKVILLE

May 7, 2018

Subject: In Consideration of a Renewed Commitment to the Greenbelt

At its meeting on April 30, 2018, Oakville Town Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Greenbelt is an integral component of land use planning that complements the Growth Plan to encourage smart planning, the reduction of sprawl, protection of natural and hydrological features and agricultural lands; and

WHEREAS, the Greenbelt has protected 1.8 million acres of farmland, local food supplies, the headwaters of our rivers and important forests and wildlife habitat for over 12 years; and

WHEREAS, a permanent Greenbelt is an important part of the planning for sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS, there is a tremendous amount of land already planned and available in excess of the development needs of the GTA without weakening the protections provided by the Greenbelt; and

WHEREAS, efforts to open the Greenbelt create the opportunity for land speculators to build expansive homes, at immense profits, in remote areas; and

WHEREAS, opening the Greenbelt will move the urban boundary thus creating more sprawl and increased traffic; and

WHEREAS, the costs of sprawl result in increased taxes, because 25% of the costs of sprawl are downloaded to existing property tax payers; and

WHEREAS programs like the proposed inclusionary zoning regulations will assist municipalities in advancing the supply of affordable housing stock without the need to expand the built boundary;

WHEREAS the Town of Oakville was the originator of the Urban River Valley designation;

Subject: In Consideration of a Renewed Commitment to the Greenbelt

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

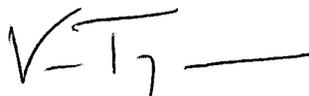
THAT the Town of Oakville stand with its municipal neighbours to undertake continued action to maintain and grow the current Greenbelt; and

THAT the province be strongly urged to extend Greenbelt protection to include the appropriate whitebelt lands within the inner ring, lands that are the most immediately vulnerable to development in the province; and

THAT this resolution be distributed to the leaders of all parties represented in the Legislature, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, all Greater Golden Horseshoe municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Environmental Defence, Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation and members of Municipal Leaders for the Greenbelt.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter or should you require any additional information, please contact me at 905-845-6601, extension 2003, or email vicki.tytaneck@oakville.ca.

Yours truly,



Vicki Tytaneck
Town Clerk

c: Andrea Horwath, Leader, New Democratic Party of Ontario
Doug Ford, Leader, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Kathleen Wynne, Leader, Ontario Liberal Party
Mike Schreiner, Leader, Green Party of Ontario
Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Greater Golden Horseshoe Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Environmental Defence
Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
Municipal Leaders for the Greenbelt

GRCA General Membership

Chair Helen Jowett

Vice-Chair Chris White

Townships of Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Melancthon and Southgate and Town of Grand Valley

Guy Gardhouse

Townships of Mapleton and Wellington North

Pat Salter

Township of Centre Wellington

Kirk McElwain

Town of Erin, Townships of Guelph/Eramosa and Puslinch

Chris White

City of Guelph

Bob Bell, Mike Salisbury

Region of Waterloo

Les Armstrong, Elizabeth Clarke, Sue Foxton, Helen Jowett, Geoff Lorentz, Jane Mitchell, Joe Nowak, Wayne Roth, Sandy Shantz, Warren Stauch

Municipality of North Perth and Township of Perth East

George Wicke

Halton Region

Cindy Lunau

City of Hamilton

George Stojanovic

Oxford County

Bruce Banbury

County of Brant

Brian Coleman, Shirley Simons

City of Brantford

Dave Neumann, Vic Prendergast

Haldimand and Norfolk Counties

Bernie Corbett, Fred Morison

Weather delays opening of parks and facilities

Wintry weather led the GRCA to delay the May 1 opening of some parks due to saturated ground, tree damage and an April ice storm.

Then a severe wind storm on May 4 also resulted in temporary closure of some parks, trails and facilities.

The opening of Guelph Lake and Elora Gorge parks was delayed until May 4. When the severe wind storm struck later that day, Elora Gorge closed again and reopened on May 11. The opening of Laurel Creek and Conestogo Lake was also delayed until May 11 due to the April storm.

The GRCA operates 11 parks in the Grand River watershed, eight of which offer camping with about 2,500 campsites available. Elora Quarry will open in mid-June when the weather is warmer for swimming.

2017 WMP annual report

The annual 2017 progress report for the Grand River Water Management Plan has been circulated to municipalities in the watershed and is posted on the website at www.grandriver.ca/WMP.

The progress report is prepared each year to outline the status of the 163 actions included in the plan. These actions were set out by partner agencies when they were developing the plan.

The GRCA hosted four meetings for water managers in 2017, including a joint meeting with watershed policy planners. The GRCA will continue to provide the opportunity for water managers to meet and discuss issues that go beyond municipal boundaries.

The GRCA has a long history of collaborative water management that dates back to 1932, when the Grand River Drainage Report came out. Since then, many plans have been put in place, implemented and adjusted.

In 2019, a State of the Watershed Water Resources Report will be issued, in addition to an annual progress report.

Hazard mapping project

The GRCA has hired W.F. Baird and Associates Coastal Engineers Limited to complete the Haldimand County Lake Erie Shoreline Hazard Mapping and Risk Assessment project for \$196,000.

Updated and consistent mapping is needed across the three conservation authority jurisdictions within Haldimand (Grand River, Long Point Region and the Niagara Peninsula conservation authorities).

This study will update hazard mapping associated with flooding, erosion and dynamic beach conditions. This will help flood and erosion-related emergency response and planning. It will also help with planning and permitting decisions in at-risk communities, including Dunnville and Port Maitland.

Parkhill hydro update

The GRCA board has authorized staff to take an important step towards building the proposed Parkhill hydro generating station on the Grand River in Cambridge.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project began in June 2017, and is now at the stage where specific design information is needed. This can only be provided by the equipment supplier. For this reason, staff will issue a two-part tender for all the equipment necessary to convert water into electricity. This equipment includes the turbine, generator, transformer and control equipment. This type of supply contract is called a water to wire contract, and is common in the hydro sector.

The contract will only be signed by the GRCA if the EA is approved and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) issues a notice to proceed.

Public input and feedback is an important part of the project planning. Two public consultation meetings were held in 2017 as part of the EA process, and were well attended. In the fall 2018, a third and final Public Information Centre will be held, prior to the release of the draft



Environmental Report (ER), where members of the public will again be able to share their feedback. The ER will also be available for a 30-day public review and comment period. Information on where to view the document will be advertised in local newspapers and on the GRCA website.

If the environmental assessment for this project is approved and a notice to proceed is obtained from the IESO, the GRCA would proceed with completing final design and obtaining other required approvals. It is expected that obtaining the final design and all necessary approvals, acquiring the equipment, and building the facility could take 18 to 24 months. The plant could be commissioned between 2021 and 2022, and would generate about 500 kW of power, or enough electricity to power about 560 homes.

Cold wet April weather

April was a cold wet month, during which the GRCA was able to fill the reservoirs to the appropriate level for this time of year.

A winter storm April 14 to 16 delivered a month's worth of precipitation to the watershed. This was a mix of ice pellets, snow, rain and freezing rain, a combination that is difficult to measure with the tipping bucket rain gauges that are used at most GRCA sites. These gauges are designed to measure only rain. The tipping bucket gauge at Conestogo Dam recorded 35 mm of precipitation, while the weighing gauge more accurately recorded double that amount.

This is because the weighing bucket gauge measures the total weight of water within different types of precipitation. There are currently three weighing gauges installed at authority climate stations and installing more of these is one of the GRCA's climate change adaptation actions.

April's wet weather contrasts with the very dry conditions during March, when most of the watershed climate stations recorded less than half of the normal precipitation.

Environment Canada is predicting normal temperatures and above normal precipitation through June.

Prescribed burn held at FWR Dickson

A prescribed burn took place at FWR



The Haldimand Children's Water Festival is supported by the Ontario Trillium Foundation. It is one of three children's water festivals in the Grand River watershed that that students attend with their class.

Dickson Wilderness Area in early May.

About 3.2 hectares were burned by Lands and Forests Consulting, a company that follows the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry guidelines for prescribed burning.

Prescribed burns are an important land management practice. Some ecosystems, such as FWR Dickson's tallgrass prairie, depend on periodic fires. The first burn on this property took place in 1995 and burns have been held every few years since then.

At one time, about 25 per cent of the Grand River watershed was tallgrass prairie. Today, only one per cent remains.

Three children's water festivals in May

Three children's water festivals are scheduled in the Grand River watershed this month.

Each festival features activity centres that focus on five water-related themes — water science, water protection, water technology, water conservation and attitudes towards water. The festivals are for children attending with their classes.

Brantford-Brant Children's Water Festival, May 15 to 17 for Grade 4 classes from Brantford, Brant County and Six Nations of the Grand River.

Haldimand Children's Water Festival, May 23 to 24 for Grade 4 students from

Haldimand County, Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the New Credit.

Waterloo-Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival is held May 25 and May 28 to 31 for primary school students in the Region of Waterloo, Wellington County and the City of Guelph.

The GRCA is a partner in the Waterloo-Wellington Festival which started in 1996, and leads the Brantford Festival (started in 2006) and the Haldimand festival (started in 2014).

This issue of *GRCA Current* was published in May, 2018.

It is a summary of the April, 2018 business conducted by the Grand River Conservation Authority board and committees, as well as other noteworthy happenings and topics of interest.

The Grand River Conservation Authority welcomes distribution, photocopying and forwarding of *GRCA Current*.

Next board meeting:
May 25 at 9:30 a.m.,
GRCA Administration Centre

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