York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee Update to the Regional Official Plan

Paul Freeman, Chief Planner Shannon Brooks, Planner November 25th, 2020





- 1. Planning in York Region
- 2. Regional Official Plan Update
- 3. Consultation and Engagement for the Update
- 4. Integrating Inclusion into the Regional Official Plan Update



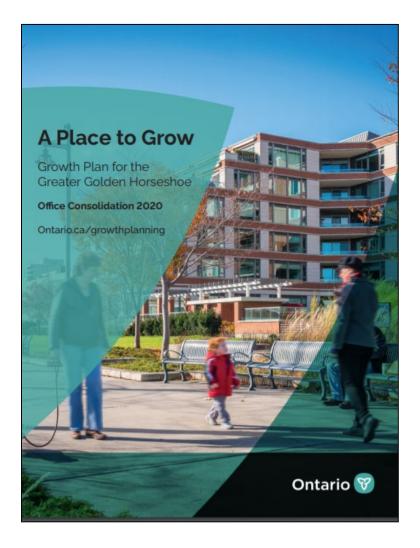


Purpose and Ask

Purpose:To provide an explanation of the Regional Official Plan,
why we are updating it and to engage the YRAAC on
integrating an inclusion lens into the updated Plan.

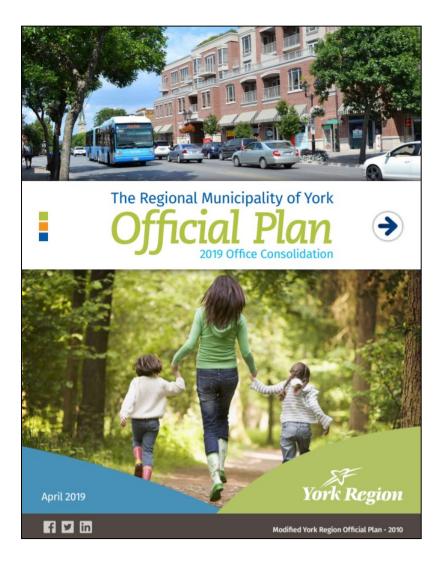
Ask: Seeking your knowledge and expertise on how to achieve more inclusive engagement for the Regional Official Plan update and integrate an inclusion lens.

Planning in York Region



- Guided by Provincial direction
- Regional planning sets the foundation for building complete communities
- Work in partnership with local municipal planning staff

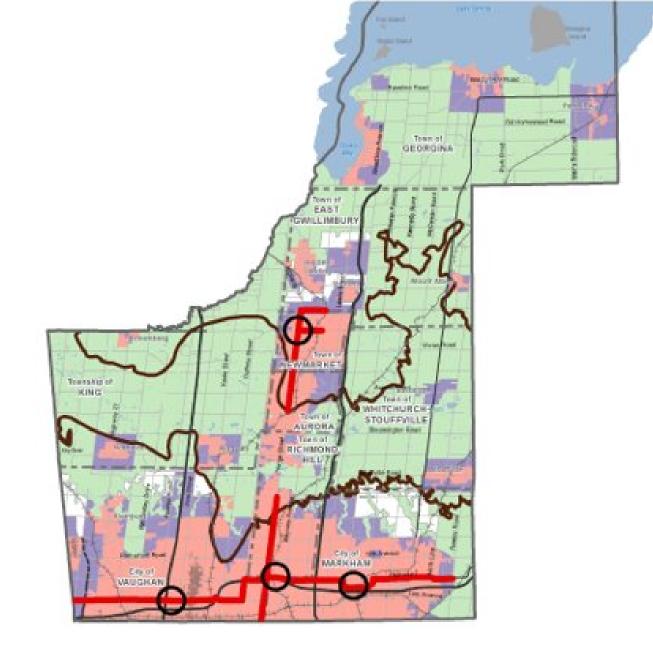
York Region Official Plan



- Long range plan that describes how York Region plans to accommodate future growth
- It provides directions and policies that guide economic, environmental and community planning decisions
- Update of the Regional Official Plan follows Planning Act and Provincial conformity requirements and updates

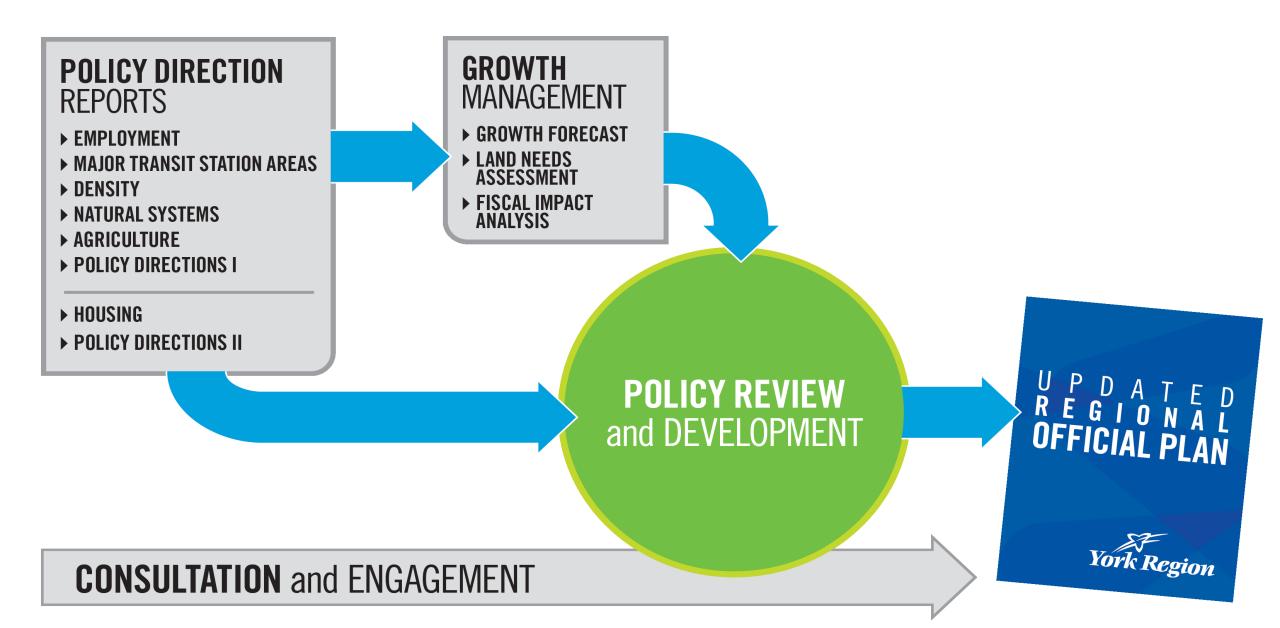
York Region Growth Context

- York Region's population is expected to grow from 1.2 million in 2020 to 2.02 million residents in 2051
- York Region's employment is expected to grow from 655,000 in 2019 to 990,000 jobs in 2051



This growth forecast informs where and how we grow in York Region

Process to Draft an Updated Regional Official Plan



Public and Stakeholder Engagement



- Input gathered through consultation:
 - Public
 - Local municipalities
 - Government agencies
 - Development industry
 - Internal staff
- Engaging with stakeholders like the Accessibility Advisory Committee to provide input into the **Official Plan**

Draft Release of the Regional Official Plan in 2021 – we welcome your input!

Consultation to Update the Regional Official Plan

- Engaged through a variety of in-person and online methods, including:
 - 'It's Your Pic' Contests
 - Major Transit Station Area Interactive Map and Comment Pin
 - Walk and Talk with the Chief Planner
 - eNewsletter
 - Community Survey
 - Local events and open houses
 - Social media campaigns, including online polls
 - Targeted consultations
 - Online open houses





What We Have Heard

Residents have identified the following as important:

•Compact, walkable communities

•Affordable housing

•Reducing emissions

•Protecting forests, parks, trails, agricultural lands and green spaces

•Transit is a top Regional service



OCTOBER 2019



Feedback

Any questions about Planning in York Region, the Regional Official Plan or the consultation work we are doing?

INTEGRATING INCLUSION INTO THE REGIONAL OFFICIAL PLAN

Diversity and Inclusion in Planning

- Planning is highly legislated, with clear direction identified by the Province
- Land use planning should include all communities to inform the decision-making process
- Development practices can have both positive and negative physical, social and economic impacts

Inclusion is a main objective in planning for complete communities

Proposed Next Steps

Create implementable policies that lead to fair and equitable outcomes for all

Bring voices into the planning process that have historically been under-represented



<u> Mini</u>

Encourage local municipalities to interpret and implement the Regional Official Plan from an inclusion lens



Identify inclusion as a core principle of planning in York Region

Discussion Questions

Consultation & Engagement:

- 1. How can we best engage all residents, including persons with disabilities, throughout our update process?
- 2. As traditional engagement methods are not always inclusive, how can we improve how we gather input and feedback?

Policy Considerations:

- 1. What other approaches should we consider in the policy writing process?
- 2. In your opinion, how do we adopt an inclusion lens that addresses the needs of people with disabilities in the Regional Official Plan?

Have Your Say your community, your ideas, your future.

To learn more about the **Regional Official Plan** and to receive our **monthly updates** please visit <u>york.ca/mcr</u>

For **future consultation** opportunities, please visit <u>york.ca/haveyoursay</u>

For any questions, please contact futureyork@york.ca

THANK YOU

