



## Concerned Citizens of King Township

[www.cckt.ca](http://www.cckt.ca)

June 15, 2022

Dear Mayors and Members of York Region Council,

### **Re: Item H.2.1 - 2022 York Region Official Plan Adoption**

I am writing on behalf of Concerned Citizens of King Township (CCKT) 52-year old citizen organization with approximately 140 member households.

Over a number of years CCKT has advocated for wise, long term planning which leads to the building of “complete” sustainable communities offering a range of housing options, community services and employment opportunities while protecting and enhancing the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan* area, preserving prime agricultural land, maintaining natural heritage systems and respecting the boundaries and policies of the *Greenbelt Plan*.

The consideration and adoption of the 2022 York Region Official Plan (YROP) is an excellent opportunity to achieve a number of regional goals and continue important work towards a sustainable and healthy future in York Region.

— CCKT supports many aspects of the proposed draft YROP such as directing a large portion of the population to urban areas which are transit-supported, contain a wide mix of housing options and employment opportunities. The focus on financial sustainability in providing services and building complete communities is all positive. There is recognition of and policies in the plan to conserve the Regional Greenlands System and sustain valuable agricultural systems. These all contribute to a forward-looking plan.

— CCKT continues to support appropriate intensification within existing urban boundaries and does **not** support settlement expansions into whitebelt lands. There are abundant greenfield lands and numerous opportunities for intensification within the existing urban boundaries. CCKT strongly opposes any expansion of urban area and related uses into protected Oak Ridges Moraine (ORM) and Greenbelt lands, and we urge York Region Council and planning staff to maintain **all** existing boundaries of these highly respected provincial plans.

— Specifically, CCKT does **not** support the Council endorsed urban expansion lands on the Oak Ridges Moraine in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville as outlined in Attachment 3. Please maintain the full integrity of the ORMCP.

— CCKT supports overall minimum intensification targets that are 60% understanding that the more urbanized municipalities with extensive transit and amenities may well establish a target higher than 60%.

— In addition we support densities of 60, 70 and 80 residents and jobs per ha for greenfield development which are tailored individually to each of the nine municipalities. The key goal is to build complete communities that avoid car-dependent sprawl.

— And with a view to preserving prime farmland and long term food security in York Region and south-central Ontario we restate the request that all new growth and development in York Region be kept within the current urban boundaries with no expansions. There is already a generous land supply available within the settlement area boundaries to see new housing and employment move forward for many years.

— CCKT supports a phased approach within the MCR process and review of the YROP in ten year increments that can adjust to various factors including actual population growth, climate change priorities and changing housing, transportation and employment needs.

With a future vision for protecting and sustaining prime farmland and natural heritage systems on the Oak Ridges Moraine and in all of the Greenbelt, and for creating healthy, complete communities without additional low-density sprawl in York Region, we respectfully submit our comments.

Thank you for receiving and considering this submission.

Sincerely, J. Bruce Craig, Chair, Concerned Citizens of King Township