



HALTON REGION

NOTICE OF MOTION

DATE: February 16, 2022

ITEM: Modified Preferred Growth Concept

DATE OF MEETING
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TO BE CONSIDERED: Council Meeting – February 16, 2022

MOVED BY: Mayor Rob Burton

SECONDED BY: Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

WHEREAS the Region of Halton is in the process of updating the Regional Official Plan to conform with the 2019 Growth Plan, as amended, in accordance with the *Places to Grow Act, 2005*, and to plan to accommodate a total population of 1.1 million and total jobs of 500,000 to 2051; and

WHEREAS the Region is committed to meeting the Provincial conformity deadline of July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS by letter dated November 12, 2019, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing clarified that municipalities may choose to take a phased approach to their municipal comprehensive review through multiple official plan amendments; and

WHEREAS the Region is completing its municipal comprehensive review using a phased approach, including updating the Regional Urban Structure, considering a Draft Preferred Growth Concept arising from the Integrated Growth Management Strategy that has explored issues and opportunities related to growth management, and considering a Policy Directions Report to guide the development of updated official plan policies; and

WHEREAS the market for housing and employment is constantly evolving due to the COVID-19 pandemic, shifts in demographics, work from home opportunities, housing affordability, and other factors that are anticipated to significantly change the way people live, work and play in Halton; and

WHEREAS on February 8, 2022, Ontario published a report from the Housing Affordability Task Force that may have significant implications on the supply of market housing to address the housing crisis and which implications are unclear;

WHEREAS the Draft Land Needs Assessment provided in support of the Draft Preferred Growth Concept indicates that the majority of pre-2041 population and employment growth can be accommodated without expansions to the existing approved urban boundary; and

WHEREAS it would be prudent for the Region consider all relevant information that is available to it during its municipal comprehensive review exercise to make a determination on land requirements and other fundamental planning decisions that will dictate growth in Halton to 2051;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT Halton Regional Council directs Staff to prepare a Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA 49) that advances a modified Preferred Growth Concept in two phases to accommodate growth pre-2041 and from 2041 to 2051:

1. For accommodating growth pre-2041, directing population and employment growth to the existing approved urban boundary;
2. For accommodating growth from 2041 to 2051, providing a clear framework for when, and how planned growth should be distributed based on principles of minimizing land consumption, making the most efficient use of land and infrastructure, and achieving other principles of the Growth Plan;

AND FURTHER THAT Staff be directed to schedule a Statutory Public Meeting and Open House to obtain comments on an updated draft ROPA 49 no later than April 30, 2022;

AND FURTHER THAT Staff be directed to prepare its recommendation report and bring it forward to Regional Council such that ROPA 49 could be adopted and forwarded to the Province for approval to meet the July 1, 2022 conformity deadline, subject to being directed by the Minister to meet an alternative date, as requested the Region and other municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be circulated to the City of Burlington, Town of Halton Hills, Town of Milton and Town of Oakville.

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