# *PART VI DEFINITIONS*

**211.** ABUTTING means a property with a specific feature or attribute that physically touches or shares a common boundary with the subject property.

**212.** ACCESSORY BUILDING OR STRUCTURE means a detached building or structure that is not used for human habitation, the use of which is naturally and normally incidental to, subordinate to, or exclusively devoted to a principal use or building and located on the same *lot*.

**212.1** ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION means non-motorized or lightly-motorized travel, including walking, cycling, roller-blading and movements with mobility devices. The *active transportation* network includes sidewalks, crosswalks, designated road lanes and off-road trails to accommodate active transportation.

**212.2** ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN means an approach to managing complex natural systems by continually improving management *policies* and practices based on learning from the outcomes of operational programs that include monitoring and evaluation.

**212.2.1** ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL UNIT means a self-contained separate dwelling unit with full kitchen and bath facilities, as part of an existing detached, semi-detached or row house, or in a structure ancillary to a detached, semi-detached or row house (also referred to as second units or secondary suites).

**212.3** ADJACENT LANDS means:

For the purposes of Section 167(3), those lands contiguous to a protected heritage property or as otherwise defined in the Area Local Official Plan.

**212.4** ADVERSE EFFECT means, as defined in the Environmental Protection Act, one or more of

(1) impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it,

(2) injury or damage to property or plant or animal life,

(3) harm or material discomfort to any person

(4) an adverse effect on the health of any person,

(5) impairment of the safety of any person,

(6) rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for human use,

(7) loss of enjoyment of normal use of property, and

(8) interference with normal conduct of business.

**213.** [Section number not in use.]

**214.** AFFORDABLE HOUSING means housing with a market price or rent that is affordable to households of low and moderate income spending no more than 30 percent of their gross household income.

a) Affordable rental housing should meet the demand of households at the low end, as described in *Halton's* annual State of Housing Report, pursuant to Section 86(7). Such households would be able to afford at least three out of ten rental units on the market.

b) Affordable ownership housing should meet the demand of households at the high end, as identified in *Halton's* annual State of Housing Report pursuant to Section 86(7). Such households would have sufficient income left, after housing expenses, to sustain the basic standard of living.

**215.** AGRICULTURE or AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY or AGRICULTURAL OPERATION or AGRICULTURAL USE or FARMING means the growth of crops, including nursery and horticultural crops (but not *horticultural trade use*); raising of livestock; raising of other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agro-forestry; maple syrup production; and associated on-farm buildings and structures, including accommodation for full-time farm labour when the size and nature of the operation requires additional employment.

**215.1** AGRICULTURE-RELATED USES means those farm-related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are small scale and directly related to the farm operation and are required in close proximity to the farm operation.

**215.1.1** AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES ONLY is a designation or zone in a local official plan or zoning by-law that prohibits a dwelling on a remnant agricultural lot created from a severance of a *residence surplus to a farm operation* as a result of *farm consolidation*.

**215.1.2** FARM CONSOLIDATION means the acquisition of additional farm parcels to be operated as one farm operation.

**215.1.3** ANCILLARY USE means the use of any land, building or structure that is subordinate to and supportive of uses in the surrounding *Employment Area* and primarily provides its service to the uses, businesses and employees in the surrounding *Employment Area*.

**216.** ANIMAL KENNEL means a building, structure or premises used for the raising or boarding of dogs, cats, or other household pets.

**216.1** ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES means artifacts, archaeological sites and marine archaeological sites. The identification and evaluation of such resources are based upon archaeological fieldwork undertaken in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**216.2** AREA-SPECIFIC PLAN means a Local Official Plan Amendment applying to a specific geographic area such as a secondary plan or a Regional Official Plan Amendment applying to a specific geographic area.

**217.** ARTERIAL ROAD means a Major Arterial, a Multi-Purpose Arterial, or a Minor Arterial as shown on Map 3 of this Plan.

**218.** ASSISTED HOUSING means housing that is available to *low and moderate income households* for rent or purchase where part of the housing cost is subsidized through a government program.

**219.** [Section number not in use.]

**220.** [Section number not in use.]

**220.1** BROWNFIELD SITES means undeveloped or previously developed properties that may be contaminated. They are usually, but not exclusively, former industrial or commercial properties that may be under-utilized, derelict or vacant.

**220.1.1** BUFFER means an area of land located adjacent to *Key Features* or *watercourses* and usually bordering lands that are subject to *development* or *site alteration*. The purpose of the *buffer* is to protect the features and *ecological functions* of the Regional Natural Heritage System by mitigating impacts of the proposed *development* or *site alteration*. The extent of the *buffer* and activities that may be permitted within it shall be based on the sensitivity and significance of the *Key Features* and *watercourses* and their contribution to the long term *ecological functions* of the Regional Natural Heritage System as determined through a Sub-watershed Study, an Environmental Impact Assessment or similar studies that examine a sufficiently large area.

**220.2** BUILT BOUNDARY means the limits of the developed urban area as identified in the Provincial Paper, Built Boundary for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2006, (2008).

**220.3** BUILT HERITAGE RESOURCES means one or more significant buildings, structures, monuments, installations or remains associated with architectural, cultural, social, political, economic or military history and identified as being important to a community. These resources may be identified through designation or heritage conservation easement under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, or listed by local, provincial or federal jurisdictions.

**220.4** BUILT-UP AREA means all land within the *Built Boundary*.

**220.5** CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY means an area identified through a Regional Official Plan Amendment that encompasses existing *natural heritage features* and associated *enhancements to the Key Features* and is of sufficient size, quality and diversity that it can support a wide range of native species and *ecological functions*, accommodate periodic

local extinctions, natural patterns of disturbance and renewal and those species that are area sensitive, and provide sufficient habitat to support populations of native plants and animals in perpetuity. Any such amendment would be initiated after the day of adoption of this Plan (December 16, 2009) and shall include a detailed and precise justification supporting the identification of the area, based on current principles of conservation biology.

**221.** COMMERCIAL FARM means a farm which is deemed to be a viable farm operation and which normally produces sufficient income to support a farm family.

**221.1** COMPLETE COMMUNITIES means communities that meet people's needs for daily living throughout an entire lifetime by providing convenient access to an appropriate mix of jobs, local services, a full range of housing, and community infrastructure including *Affordable Housing*, schools, recreation and open space for their residents. Convenient access to public transportation and options for safe, non-motorized travel is also provided.

**222.** CONSERVATION AUTHORITY means Conservation Halton (Halton Region Conservation Authority) or Credit Valley Conservation (Authority) or the Grand River Conservation Authority.

**223.** COTTAGE INDUSTRY means an activity conducted as an accessory use within a *single detached dwelling* or in an addition to the dwelling or an *accessory building* not further than 30m from the dwelling and serviced by the same private water and wastewater systems, performed by one or more residents of the household on the same property. A *cottage industry* may include activities such as dressmaking, upholstering, weaving, baking, ceramic-making, painting, sculpting and the repair of personal effects.

**224.** CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES means elements of the Regional landscape which, by themselves, or together with the associated environment, are unique or representative of past human activities or events. Such elements may include *built heritage resources*, *cultural heritage landscapes*, and *archaeological resources*.

**224.1** CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPES means a defined geographical area of heritage significance which has been modified by human activities and is valued by a community. It involves a grouping(s) of individual heritage features such as structures, spaces, archaeological sites and natural elements, which together form a significant type of heritage form, distinctive from that of its constituent elements or parts. Examples may include, but are not limited to, heritage conservation districts designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and villages, parks, gardens, battlefields, mainstreets and neighbourhoods, cemeteries, trailways and industrial complexes of cultural heritage value.

**225.** CUMULATIVE IMPACT means the effect on the physical, natural, visual and *Cultural Heritage Resources* resulting from the incremental activities of *development* over a period

of time and over an area. All past, present and foreseeable future activities are to be considered in assessing *cumulative impact*.

**225.1** DESIGNATED GREENFIELD AREA means the area within the Urban Area that is not *Built-Up Area*.

**226.** DEVELOPMENT means the creation of a new *lot*, a change in land use, or the construction of buildings and structures, any of which requires approval under the Planning Act, or that are subject to the Environmental Assessment Act, but does not include:

(1) activities that create or maintain *infrastructure* authorized under an environmental assessment process,

(2) works subject to the Drainage Act, or

(3) within the Greenbelt Plan Area, the carrying out of agricultural practices on land that was being used for *agricultural uses* on the date the Greenbelt Plan 2005 came into effect.

**227.** DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY means capacity of a watershed to support use or change in use without *negative impact* on the Greenbelt and Regional Natural Heritage Systems.

**227.1** DEVELOPMENT DENSITY means the number of residents and jobs combined per hectare measured as follows:

a) for the *Designated Greenfield Areas*, shown as the lands within the Regional Urban Boundary and outside the *Built-Up Area* on Map 1H, the applicable density target in Table 2 is measured by excluding the following areas from the calculation:

[i] the Regional Natural Heritage System;

[ii] rights of way for electricity transmission lines, energy transmission pipelines, freeways as defined by and mapped as part of the Ontario Road Network, and railways;

[iii] *Employment Areas;* and,

[iv] cemeteries.

b) for the *Employment Areas* as shown on Map 1H, the applicable density target in Table 2 is measured across the lands within the *Employment Areas* that are designated Urban Area;

c) for the *Strategic Growth Areas* density targets in Table 2b, the density is measured across the *Strategic Growth Areas* in their entirety.

**227.2** DISABILITY means:

(1) any degree of physical disability, infirmity, malformation or disfigurement that is caused by bodily injury, birth defect or illness and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes diabetes mellitus, epilepsy, a brain injury, any degree of paralysis, amputation, lack of physical co-ordination, blindness or visual impediment, deafness or hearing impediment, muteness or speech impediment, or physical reliance on a guide dog or other animal or on a wheelchair or other remedial appliance or device,

(2) a condition of mental impairment or a developmental disability,

(3) a learning disability, or a dysfunction in one or more of the processes involved in understanding or using symbols or spoken language,

(4) a mental disorder, or

(5) an injury or disability for which benefits were claimed or received under the insurance plan established under *the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997*.

**228.** EASEMENT means a negotiated interest in the land of another which allows the *easement* holder specified uses or rights without actual ownership of the land.

**228.1** ECOLOGICAL FUNCTION means the natural processes, products or services that living and non-living environments provide or perform within or between species, ecosystems and landscapes. These may include biological, physical and socio-economic interactions.

**229.** EMERGENCY SHELTER means a facility that provides supervised temporary lodging, board and/or personal support services to homeless individuals round the clock.

**229.1** EMPLOYMENT AREA means areas designated in an official plan for clusters of business and economic activities including, but not limited to, manufacturing, warehousing, offices and associated retails and ancillary facilities.

**229.1.1** ENHANCEMENTS TO THE KEY FEATURES means ecologically supporting areas adjacent to *Key Features* and/or measures internal to the *Key Features* that increase the ecological resilience and function of individual *Key Features* or groups of *Key Features*.

**229.2** ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLAN means a voluntary, confidential, agricultural producer driven planning exercise that uses specifically designed resource material and technical assistance to develop a farm plan that identifies on farm environmental risks and establishes a priority sequence of action items to reduce those risks.

**230.** [Section number not in use.]

**231.** [Section number not in use.]

**232.** ESCARPMENT BROW means the uppermost point of the Escarpment slope or face. It may be the top of a rock cliff, or where the bedrock is buried, the most obvious break in slope associated with the underlying bedrock.

**233.** ESSENTIAL means that which is deemed necessary to the public interest after all alternatives have been considered and, where applicable, as determined through the Environmental Assessment process.

**234.** EXISTING USE as it applies to a Section of this Plan means the use of any land, building or structure legally existing, or approved under a Parkway Belt land use regulation, on the day of adoption of this Plan or the amendment to this Plan giving effect to the subject Section by Regional Council or, in the case of the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area, the day of approval of the Niagara Escarpment Plan or an amendment to that Plan or, in the case of the Greenbelt Plan, a use which lawfully existed on December 15, 2004. An *existing use*, building or structure may expand or be replaced in the same location and of the same use in accordance with Local Zoning By-laws. For the purpose of *horticultural trade uses*, they are considered *existing uses* provided that they are recognized as legal uses under Local Zoning By-laws or through the issuance of a development permit by the Niagara Escarpment Commission; such a process must commence within one year and be completed within five years of Regional Council adoption of the Amendment introducing such uses in this Plan.

**235.** FARMING (see AGRICULTURE).

**235.1** FISH HABITAT means spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes.

**236.** FISHERIES MANAGEMENT means the management of *fish habitat* and fish population for the purpose of sustaining and improving the quality and quantity of fish.

**237.** FLOOD PLAIN means, for *river, stream, and small inland lake systems,* the area, usually low lands adjoining a *watercourse*, which has been or may be subject to flooding hazards.

**238.** [Section number not in use.]

**239.** FOREST MANAGEMENT or FORESTRY means the wise use and management of forests for the production of wood and wood products, to provide outdoor recreation, to maintain, restore, or enhance environmental conditions for wildlife, and for the protection and production of water supplies.

**240.** FREQUENT TRANSIT means a public transit service that runs at least every 15 minutes in both directions throughout the day and into the evening every day of the week.

**241.** GOAL means an idealized end state of the social, economic, and/or physical environment, towards which the Plan must strive but for which it may not be possible to apply a test of fulfilment.

**241.1** GREYFIELD SITES means developed properties that are not contaminated. They are usually, but not exclusively, commercial properties that may be under-utilized, derelict or vacant.

**242.** HALTON means the area within the Regional Municipality of Halton, and/or its people.

**243.** HAMLET means an area so designated on Map 1, in accordance with Section 103 of this Plan.

**244.** HAZARD LANDS means properties or lands that could be unsafe for *development* due to naturally occurring processes. Along the shorelines of Lake Ontario and Burlington Bay, this means the land, including that covered by water, between a defined offshore distance or depth, and the furthest landward limit of the flooding, erosion or dynamic beach (areas of unstable accumulations of shoreline sediments) hazard limits. Along *river*, *stream and small inland lake systems*, this means the land, including that covered by water, to the furthest landward limit of the flooding or erosion hazard limits.

**245.** [Section number not in use.]

**245.1** HIGHER ORDER TRANSIT means transit that generally operates in its own dedicated right-of-way, outside of mixed traffic, and therefore can achieve a frequency of service greater than mixed-traffic transit. *Higher order transit* can include heavy rail (such as subways), light rail (such as streetcars), and buses in dedicated rights-of-way.

**246.** HIGHWAY means a common and public road, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle, any part of which is intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof.

**247.** HOME INDUSTRY means a small scale use providing a service primarily to the rural *farming* community and which is accessory to a *single detached dwelling* or *agricultural operation*, performed by one or more residents of the household on the same property. A *home industry* may be conducted in whole or in part in an *accessory building* and may include a carpentry shop, a metal working shop, a welding shop, an electrical shop, or blacksmith's shop, etc., but does not include an auto repair or paint shop, or furniture stripping.

**248.** HOME OCCUPATION means an activity that provides a service as an accessory use within a *single detached dwelling* or in an addition to the dwelling or in an *accessory building* not further than 30m away from the dwelling and serviced by the same private

water and wastewater systems, performed by one or more residents of the household on the same property. Such activities may include services performed by an accountant, architect, auditor, dentist, medical practitioner, engineer, insurance agent, land surveyor, lawyer, realtor, planner, hairdresser, desk top publisher or word processor, computer processing provider, teacher or day care provider.

**249.** HOMELESSNESS means an immediate lack of housing, or no access to safe, stable housing, or living in extremely sub-standard housing, or being at risk of losing existing housing.

**249.1** HORTICULTURAL TRADE USES means a non-farm business associated with the sale, supply, delivery, storage, distribution, installation, and/or maintenance of horticultural plants and products used in landscaping, but does not include uses associated with the principal *agricultural operation*.

**250.** HUMAN SERVICES means services relating to health, education, culture, recreation, public safety and social services.

**251.** INCIDENTAL USE means a use (e.g., swimming pool) normally accessory to but not an essential part of an *existing use*.

**252.** INFRASTRUCTURE means the collection of public capital facilities including *highways*, transit terminals and rolling stock, bicycle lanes, sidewalks and multi-use paths, municipal water and wastewater systems, *solid waste* management facilities, storm water systems, schools, hospitals, libraries, community and recreation centres, other public service facilities and any other public projects involving substantial capital investment. It includes not only the provision of new facilities but also the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing ones.

**253.** INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM means a broad spectrum of technologies, computers and strategies designed to optimize the use of available and planned roads and other transportation *infrastructure* at a fraction of the cost of adding additional *infrastructure*. Examples of such a system are: traffic signal coordination, demand responsive traffic signals, variable message signs, emergency route diversion, signal priority/pre-emption for transit vehicles and in-vehicle information systems.

**253.1** INTENSIFICATION means the *development* of a property, site or area at a higher density than currently exists through:

(1) redevelopment, including the reuse of *brownfield sites*;

(2) the *development* of vacant and/or under-utilized *lots* within previously developed areas;

(3) infill *development*; or

(4) the expansion or conversion of existing buildings.

**253.2** [Section number not in use.

**253.3** [Section number not in use.]

**253.4** KEY FEATURES means key natural heritage and hydrological features described in Sections 115.3(1) and 139.3.3 of this Plan.

**253.4.1** KEY HYDROLOGIC AREAS means significant groundwater recharge areas, highly vulnerable aquifers, and significant surface water contribution areas that are necessary for the ecological and hydrologic integrity of a watershed.

**253.5** LANDFORMS means distinctive physical attributes of land such as slope, shape, elevation and relief.

**254.** LIFE SCIENCE INDUSTRIES means new, neo-traditional products or services using renewable resources and developed from the advanced understanding of the biology and chemistry of organisms. Examples are personalized genetic medicine, plastics made from corn, and fuel from farm products and waste.

**255.** LINKAGE means an area intended to provide connectivity supporting a range of community and ecosystem processes enabling plants and animals to move between *Key Features* over multiple generations. *Linkages* are preferably associated with the presence of existing natural areas and functions and they are to be established where they will provide an important contribution to the long term sustainability of the Regional Natural Heritage System. They are not meant to interfere with *normal farm practice*. The extent and location of the *linkages* can be assessed in the context of both the scale of the proposed *development* or *site alteration*, and the *ecological functions* they contribute to the Regional Natural Heritage System.

**255.1** LOCAL NODE AND LOCAL INTENSIFICATION CORRIDOR means a *Strategic Growth Area* identified by a Local Municipality in an approved Official Plan, which has a role in the accommodation of mixed use *intensification* and/or employment *intensification* at a scale appropriate to the context.

**255.2** LOCAL URBAN STRUCTURE means an urban structure defined by a Local Municipality in an approved Official Plan, which furthers the growth management and community building objectives of the Local Municipality, and complements the Regional Urban Structure, in conformity with the Regional Official Plan.

**256.** LOT means a parcel of land:

(1) described in a deed or other document legally capable of conveying an interest in land, or

(2) shown as a *lot* or block on a registered plan of subdivision.

**256.1** LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSEHOLDS mean: those households defined through *Halton's* annual *State of Housing Report*, pursuant to Section 86(7), and in accordance with definitions of *Affordable* and *Assisted Housing* under Section 214 and 218. The income thresholds for *low and moderate income households* should not be more than those as defined in the Provincial Policy Statement.

**256.2** MAJOR CREEK OR CERTAIN HEADWATER CREEK means, as it applies to Section 277(4) of this Plan, all *watercourses* within a *Conservation Authority* Regulation Limit as of the date of the adoption of this Plan and those portions of a *watercourse* that extend beyond the limit of the *Conservation Authority* Regulation Limit to connect a *woodland* considered *significant* based on criteria under Section 277(1), 277(2) or 277(3) and/or *wetland* feature within the Regional Natural Heritage System. The extent and location of *major creeks or certain headwater creeks* will be updated from time to time by the appropriate *Conservation Authority* and as a result may lead to refinements to the boundaries of *significant woodlands*.

**256.3** MAJOR FACILITIES means facilities which may require separation from *sensitive land uses*, including but not limited to airports, manufacturing uses, transportation infrastructure and corridors, rail facilities, marine facilities, sewage treatment facilities, waste management systems, oil and gas pipelines, industries, energy generation facilities and transmission systems, and resource extraction activities.

**257.** MAJOR HIGHWAY means a Provincial Highway, a Major Arterial, a Multi-Purpose Arterial, or a Minor Arterial as shown on Map 3 of this Plan.

**257.1** MAJOR OFFICE means generally freestanding office buildings of 4,000 square metres of floor space or greater, or with 200 jobs or more.

**257.2** MAJOR RETAIL means large-scale or large-format stand-alone retail stores or retail centres that have the primary purpose of commercial activities.

**258.** MARKET HOUSING means private housing for rent or sale, where price are set through supplies and demands in the open market.

**258.1** MAJOR TRANSIT STATION AREA means the area including and around any existing or planned *higher order transit* station within the Urban Area; or the area including and around a major bus depot in an urban core. Station areas generally are defined as the area within an approximate 500m to 800m radius of a transit station, representing about a 10-minute walk.

**259.** MINERAL AGGREGATE RESOURCES means gravel, sand, clay, earth, shale, stone, limestone, dolostone, sandstone, marble, granite, rock or other material prescribed

under the Aggregate Resources Act suitable for construction, industrial, manufacturing and maintenance purposes but does not include metallic ores, asbestos, graphite, kyanite, mica, nepheline syenite, salt, talc, wollastonite, mine tailings or other material prescribed under the Mining Act.

**259.1** MINERAL AGGREGATE OPERATIONS means

a) lands under license or permit, other than for *wayside pits and quarries*, issued in accordance with the *Aggregate Resources Act*, or successors thereto;

b) for lands not designated under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, established *pits* and *quarries* that are not in contravention of municipal zoning by-laws and including adjacent land under agreement with or owned by the operator, to permit continuation of the operation; and

c) associated facilities used in extraction, transport, benefication, processing or recycling of *mineral aggregate resources* and derived products such as asphalt and concrete, or the production of secondary products but subject to limitations under Section 109(4).

**259.1.1** MINERAL AGGREGATE RESOURCE CONSERVATION means

(1) the recovery and recycling of manufactured materials derived from *mineral aggregate resources* (e.g. glass, porcelain, brick, concrete, asphalt, slag, etc.), for re-use in construction, manufacturing, industrial or maintenance projects as a substitute for new *mineral aggregate resources*; and

(2) the wise use of *mineral aggregate resources* including utilization or extraction of on-site *mineral aggregate resources* prior to *development* occurring.

**259.2** MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION FORMULAE means formulae developed by the Province to separate uses so as to reduce incompatibility concerns about odour from livestock facilities.

**259.3** MULTIMODAL means the availability or use of more than one form of transportation, such as automobiles, walking, cycling, buses, rapid transit, rail (such as commuter), trucks, air and marine.

**259.4** MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW means an official plan review, or an official plan amendment, initiated by a municipality that comprehensively applies the policies and schedules of the Provincial Growth Plan, except as it applies to Section 139.7(4), in which case such a review will be focussed on the need for employment lands in order to achieve the employment targets of Table 1, as set forth by Schedule 3 of the Provincial Growth Plan.

**259.5** MUNICIPAL SERVICES FACILITY means a municipally owned works yard, operations centre, police station or facility, fire station or facility, emergency medical services facility, solid waste management facility or biosolids management facility.

**260.** NATURAL ENVIRONMENT means the air, land and water, or any combination or part thereof.

**260.1** NATURAL FEATURES or NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES or NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES AND AREAS means features and/or areas which are important for their environmental and social values as a legacy of the natural landscapes of an area.

**260.2** NEGATIVE IMPACTS means:

(1) in regard to water, degradation to the quality and quantity of water, sensitive surface water features and sensitive ground water features, and their related hydrologic functions, due to single, multiple or successive *development* or *site alteration* activities;

(2) in regard to *fish habitat*, any permanent alteration to, or destruction of *fish habitat*, except where, in conjunction with the appropriate authorities, it has been authorized under the Fisheries Act; and

(3) in regard to other components of the Regional Natural Heritage System, degradation that threatens the health and integrity of the *natural features* or *ecological functions* for which an area is identified due to single, multiple or successive *development* or *site alteration* activities.

**261.** NIAGARA ESCARPMENT PARK AND OPEN SPACE MASTER/MANAGEMENT PLAN means master or management plan for parks and open space within the Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System which are not in conflict with the Niagara Escarpment Plan.

**261.1** NORMAL FARM PRACTICE means a practice that:

(1) is conducted in a manner consistent with proper and acceptable customs and standards as established and followed by similar *agricultural operations* under similar circumstances, or

(2) makes use of innovative technology in a manner consistent with proper advanced farm management practices.

If required, the determination of whether a farm practice is a *normal farm practice* shall be in accordance with the provision of the Farming and Food Production Protection Act,

including the final arbitration on *normal farm practices* by the Farm Practices Protection Board under the Act.

**262.** OBJECTIVE means a statement about the social, economic, and/or physical environment derived from a *goal* and for which the degree of attainment is in some way measurable. It may be conceived as an "attainable *goal*" or part of a *goal*.

**262.1** PLANNED CORRIDORS means corridors or future corridors which are required to meet projected needs, and are identified through Provincial Plans, this Plan, or preferred alignment(s) determined through the Environmental Assessment Act process, or identified through planning studies where the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Metrolinx, Ontario Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines or Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) or any successor to those ministries or entities is actively pursuing the identification of a corridor.

**263.** PIT means land or land under water from which unconsolidated aggregate is being or has been excavated, and that has not been rehabilitated, but does not mean land or land under water excavated for a building or other work on the excavation site or in relation to which an order has been made under Sub-section 1(3) of the Aggregate Resources Act.

**264.** POLICY means a statement which guides the use of the municipality's powers in the pursuit of its *goals* and *objectives*.

**265.** [Section number not in use.]

**265.1** PRIME AGRICULTURAL AREA means areas where *prime agricultural lands* predominate. *Prime Agricultural Areas* have been identified by the *Region* through an agricultural evaluation system approved by the Province and are identified on Map 1E of this Plan. Sections 139.9, 139.9.1 and 139.9.2 set out *policies* for land within *Prime Agricultural Areas*.

**266.** PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS means specialty crop lands and those lands of agricultural soils classes 1, 2 and 3 (and combination equivalents thereof), as defined in the Canada Land Inventory of Soil Capability for Agriculture, in this order of priority for protection.

**267.** PRIORITY TRANSIT CORRIDOR means a transit corridor shown in Schedule 5 of the Growth Plan, 2019.

**268.** PROVINCIALLY SIGNIFICANT WETLANDS means *wetlands* so classified by the Ministry of Natural Resources based on the Ontario *Wetland* Evaluation System 2013 Southern Manual, as amended from time to time.

**269.** PUBLIC AGENCY or PUBLIC AUTHORITY or PUBLIC BODY means any federal, provincial, regional, county or municipal agency including any commission, board,

authority or department established by such agency exercising any power or authority under a Statute of Canada or Ontario.

**269.1** PUBLIC SERVICE FACILITIES means lands, buildings and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and education programs, long-term care services and cultural services.

**269.2** QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF WATER means measurement by indicators associated with hydrologic function such as minimum base flow, depth to water table, aquifer pressure, oxygen levels, suspended solids, temperature, bacteria, nutrients and hazardous contaminants, and hydrologic regime.

**270.** QUARRY means land or land under water from which consolidated aggregate is being or has been excavated, and that has not been rehabilitated, but does not mean land or land under water excavated for a building or other work on the excavation site or in relation to which an order has been made under Sub-section 1(3) of the Aggregate Resources Act.

**271.** REGION means the Council and administration of the Regional Municipality of Halton.

**272.** REGIONAL INTENSIFICATION CORRIDOR means a *Strategic Growth Area* identified along major roads, arterials or *higher order transit* corridors that are planned to accommodate a significant amount of growth in alignment with the delivery of *frequent transit* and to support future transit projects.

**273.** REGIONAL NODE means a *Strategic Growth Area* derived from a *Local Urban Structure* that has a role in the accommodation of mixed use intensification, and supporting the transit network in the *Region*, which merits its identification as a component of the Regional Urban Structure hierarchy.

**274.** REGULATORY FLOOD means the approved standard(s), a regional flood or a one-in-one-hundred-year flood, used in a particular watershed to define the limit of the *flood plain* for regulatory purposes.

**274.1** RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS means the production of electrical power from an energy source that is renewed by natural processes including, but not limited to: wind, water, biomass, biogas, biofuel, solar energy, geothermal energy, and tidal forces.

**247.2** RESIDENCE SURPLUS TO A FARM OPERATION means an existing habitable farm residence that is rendered surplus as a result of a *farm consolidation*, but does not include a mobile or portable dwelling or dwelling developed for the purpose of farm labour use.

**275.** RESTRICTIVE means being stringent in permitting uses, as measured by the physical extent to which *development* is being allowed and/or by the *development*'s impacts on the social, economic and *natural environment*.

**275.1** RIGHT TO FARM means the right of a farmer to lawfully pursue *agriculture* in areas where *agriculture* is permitted by this Plan. This definition includes the right to move farm equipment in the pursuit of *agriculture*.

**275.2** RIVER, STREAM AND SMALL INLAND LAKE SYSTEMS means all *watercourses*, rivers, streams, and small inland lakes or waterbodies that have a measurable or predictable response to a single runoff event.

**276.** RURAL CLUSTER means an area so designated in an approved Local Official Plan, in accordance with Section 104 of this Plan.

**276.1** SECONDARY USES means uses secondary to the principal use of the property, including but not limited to, *home occupations*, *home industries*, and uses that produce value-added agricultural products from the farm operation on the property.

**276.2** SENSITIVE LAND USES means buildings, amenity areas or outdoor spaces where routine or normal activities occurring at reasonably expected times would experience one or more *adverse effects* from contaminant discharges, fumes, sound waves or radiation generated by a nearby major facility. *Sensitive land uses* may be part of the natural or built environment and include examples such as: residences, day care centres, hospitals, and schools.

**276.3** SETTLEMENT AREA means urban areas and rural settlement areas within municipalities (such as cities, towns, villages, *Hamlets* and *Rural Clusters*) where:

(1) *development* is concentrated and which have a mix of land uses; and

(2) lands have been designated in an official plan for *development* over the long term planning horizon provided for in the Provincial Policy Statement, 2005. Where there are no lands that have been designated over the long-term, the *settlement area* may be no larger than the area where the *development* is concentrated.

**276.4** SIGNIFICANT means:

(1) in regard to *wetlands*, an area as defined under Section 276.5 of this Plan;

(2) in regard to coastal wetlands and areas of natural and scientific interest, an area identified as provincially significant by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time;

(3) in regard to the habitat of endangered species and threatened species, the habitat, as approved by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, that is necessary for the maintenance, survival, and/or the recovery of naturally occurring or reintroduced populations of endangered species or threatened species, and where those areas of occurrence are occupied or habitually occupied by the species during all or any part(s) of its life cycle;

(4) in regard to *woodlands*, an area as defined by Section 277 of this Plan; and,

(5) in regard to other components of the Regional Natural Heritage System, ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of an identifiable geographic area or natural heritage system.

**276.5** SIGNIFICANT WETLANDS means:

(1) for lands within the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area, *Provincially Significant Wetlands* and wetlands as defined in the Niagara Escarpment Plan that make an important ecological contribution to the Regional Natural Heritage System;

(2) for lands within the Greenbelt Plan Area but outside the Niagara Escarpment Area, *Provincially Significant Wetlands* and wetlands as defined in the Greenbelt Plan;

(3) for lands within the Regional Natural Heritage System but outside the Greenbelt Plan Area, *Provincially Significant Wetlands* and *wetlands* that make an important ecological contribution to the Regional Natural Heritage System; and,

(4) outside the Regional Natural Heritage System, *Provincially Significant Wetlands*.

**277.** SIGNIFICANT WOODLAND means a *Woodland* 0.5ha or larger determined through a *Watershed Plan*, a Sub-watershed Study or a site-specific Environmental Impact Assessment to meet one or more of the four following criteria:

(1) the *Woodland* contains forest patches over 99 years old,

(2) the patch size of the *Woodland* is 2 ha or larger if it is located in the Urban Area, or 4 ha or larger if it is located outside the Urban Area but below the *Escarpment Brow*, or 10 ha or larger if it is located outside the Urban Area but above the *Escarpment Brow*,

(3) the *Woodland* has an interior core area of 4 ha or larger, measured 100m from the edge, or

(4) the *Woodland* is wholly or partially within 50 m of a *major creek or certain headwater creek* or within 150m of the *Escarpment Brow*.

**278.** SINGLE DETACHED DWELLING means a separate building containing not more than one dwelling unit and may include a chalet, cottage, or mobile home.

**278.1** SITE ALTERATION means activities, such as grading, excavation and the placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site but does not include *normal farm practices* unless such practices involve the removal of fill off the property or the introduction of fill from off-site locations.

**279.** SOLID WASTE means ashes, garbage, refuse, domestic waste, industrial waste, municipal waste, hazardous waste and such other wastes as are designated in the regulations under the Environmental Protection Act, but does not include agricultural waste, inert fill, inert rock fill, condemned or dead animals or parts thereof, or hauled sewage sludge for disposal on farmland.

**280.** SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING means any housing, including dedicated facilities, in whole or in part, that is used by people who have specific needs beyond economic needs, including but not limited to, needs such as mobility requirements or support functions required for daily living. Examples of *special needs housing* may include, but are not limited to, housing for persons with disabilities such as physical, sensory or mental health disabilities, housing for the elderly, group homes, *emergency shelter*, housing for the homeless, and independent permanent living arrangements where support services such as meal preparation, grocery shopping, laundry, housekeeping, respite care and attendant services are provided. It does not include households that receive community-based support services in their own home.

**280.1** SPECIALTY CROP AREA means an area designated using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time, where specialty crops such as tender fruits (peaches, cherries, plums), grapes, other fruit crops, vegetable crops, greenhouse crops, and crops from agriculturally developed organic soil lands are predominantly grown, usually resulting from:

(1) soils that have suitability to produce specialty crops, or lands that are subject to special climatic conditions, or a combination of both; and/or

(2) a combination of farmers skilled in the production of specialty crops, and of capital investment in related facilities and services to produce, store, or process specialty crops.

**280.2** STRATEGIC GROWTH AREAS means lands identified by the *Region* or its Local Municipalities within the Urban Area that are to be the focus for accommodating population and employment *intensification* and higher-density mixed uses in a more compact built form. *Strategic Growth Areas* include *Urban Growth Centres, Major Transit Station Areas, Regional Nodes, Regional Corridors,* and *Local Nodes* as identified in Local Official Plans.

**281.** TREE means any species of woody perennial plant, including its root system, which has reached or can reach a height of at least 4.5m above ground at physiological maturity.

**282.** TREESCAPE means a grouping of *trees* usually found along roads and stream courses, and between fields.

**283.** [Section number not in use.]

**284.** TRANSPORTATION SUPPLY MANAGEMENT means the application of various facility designs or operational measures to increase the carrying capacity of the transportation network and complement *travel demand management* strategies to achieve similar *objectives* of reducing travel and shifting modes or travel time. Examples include high-occupancy-vehicle lanes, reverse travel lanes, queue-jumping lanes and priority-signals for transit vehicles, commuter parking lots, and inter-modal transfer centres.

**285.** TRAVEL DEMAND MANAGEMENT means the application of a range of measures aimed at influencing travel patterns by reducing the amount of travel and shifting travel to non-peak periods or more efficient travel modes. Examples include carpooling, vanpooling, walking, cycling, public transit, alternative work hours and telecommuting.

**286.** UNIVERSAL PHYSICAL ACCESS means housing designs that incorporate the following principles and features:

(1) universality—same means for all users,

(2) flexibility—providing choice in methods of use and adaptable to the need of the user,

(3) low physical effort—usable with a minimum of effort and fatigue,

(4) accessibility—providing for adequate sight lines, reach, hand grip and use of helpful devices,

(5) safety—minimal consequences of errors with fail-safe features,

(6) simplicity—minimal complexity and accommodating a wide range of skills and abilities, and

(7) perceptible information—communicating necessary information effectively and in various ways.

**286.1** URBAN GROWTH CENTRE means the areas delineated on Map 1H of this Plan, which for *Halton* includes the areas known as Downtown Burlington, Downtown Milton and Midtown Oakville.

**287**. URBAN SERVICES means municipal water and/or wastewater systems or components thereof which are contained within or extended from Urban Area designations or from municipalities abutting Halton Region.

**288.** UTILITY means a water supply, storm water or wastewater system, gas or oil pipeline, the generation, transmission and distribution of electric power including *renewable energy systems*, the generation, transmission and distribution of steam or hot water, towers, communication or telecommunication facilities and other cabled services, a public transit or transportation system, licensed broadcasting receiving and transmitting facilities, or any other similar works or systems necessary to the public interest, but does not include a new sanitary landfill site, incineration facilities or large-scale packer and/or recycling plants or similar uses.

**288.1** VEGETATION PROTECTION ZONE means, as it applies within the Greenbelt Plan Area, a vegetated buffer area surrounding a *Key Feature* within which only those land uses permitted within the feature itself are permitted. The width of the *vegetation protection zone* is to be determined when new *development* or *site alteration* occurs within 120 metres of a *Key Feature*, and is to be of sufficient size to protect the feature and its functions from the impacts of the proposed change and associated activities that will occur before, during, and after construction, and where possible, restore or enhance the feature and/or its function.

**289.** VETERINARY CLINIC means the office of a veterinary surgeon and premises for the treatment of animals.

**289.1** WATERCOURSE or WATER COURSE means an identifiable depression in the ground in which a flow of water regularly or continuously occurs.

**289.2** WATERSHED PLAN means a plan used for managing human activities and natural resources in an area defined by watershed boundaries. *Watershed Plans* shall include, but are not limited to, the following components:

(1) a water budget and conservation plan;

(2) land and water use and management strategies;

(3) a framework for implementation;

(4) an environmental monitoring plan;

(5) requirements for the use of environmental management practices and programs;

(6) criteria for evaluating the protection of water quality and quantity, and key hydrologic features and functions; and

(7) targets on a watershed or sub-watershed basis for the protection and restoration of riparian areas and the establishment of natural self-sustaining vegetation.

**290.** WATERSHED MANAGEMENT means the analysis, protection, development, operation and maintenance of water, water-related features, terrestrial resources and fisheries of a drainage basin.

**290.1** WATER RESOURCE SYSTEM means a system consisting of ground water features and areas and surface water features (including shoreline areas), and hydrologic functions, which provide the water resources necessary to sustain healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and human water consumption. The water resource system will comprise key hydrologic features and key hydrologic areas.

**291.** WAYSIDE PIT AND QUARRY means a temporary *pit* or *quarry* opened and used by or for a *public authority* solely for the purpose of a particular project or contract of road construction and not located on the road right-of-way.

**292.** [Section number not in use.]

**293.** WETLANDS means lands that are seasonally or permanently covered by shallow water, as well as lands where the water table is close to or at the surface. In either case, the presence of abundant water has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic or water tolerant plants. The four major types of *wetlands* are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens. Periodically soaked or wet lands being used for agricultural purposes which no longer exhibit *wetland* characteristics are not considered to be *wetlands* for the purposes of this definition. Within the Greenbelt Plan Area, *wetlands* include only those that have been identified by the Ministry of Natural Resources or by any other person, according to evaluation procedures established by the Ministry of Natural Resources, as amended from time to time.

**294.** WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT means management of wildlife habitats for the purposes of sustaining the quantity and quality of wildlife.

**295.** WOODLAND means land with at least: 1000 *trees* of any size per ha, or 750 *trees* over 5 cm in diameter per ha, or 500 *trees* over 12 cm in diameter per ha, or 250 *trees* over 20 cm in diameter per ha but does not include an active cultivated fruit or nut orchard, a Christmas *tree* plantation, a plantation certified by the *Region*, a *tree* nursery, or a narrow linear strip of *trees* that defines a laneway or a boundary between fields. For the purpose of this definition, all measurements of the *trees* are to be taken at 1.37 m from the ground and *trees* in regenerating fields must have achieved that height to be counted.

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