# PART IV HEALTHY COMMUNITIES POLICIES

## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

### Goal and General Policies

**140.** The *goal* for environmental quality is to achieve a high-quality environment, for this and future generations, that will sustain life, maintain health and improve the quality of living.

**141.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Maintain an Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee (EEAC) to advise and assist Regional Council in the management and conservation of the *natural environment* in *Halton*.

(2) Require the proponent of any *development* in certain areas or under certain conditions as specified in this Plan, to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

(3) Provide guidelines for carrying out EIAs.

(4) Seek input from EEAC in the review of EIAs provided under this Plan and make recommendations to the appropriate approval body as part of the *development* review process.

(5) Encourage the use of the principles of sustainability under Section 25 of this Plan in evaluating plans, programs and policies affecting the *natural environment*.

(6) Engage the *Halton* community in the pursuit of measures, including the undertaking of pilot projects, to address climate change, improve air quality, promote energy and water conservation, pursue the use of renewable energy sources, and generally improve environmental quality in *Halton*.

(7) Establish and maintain a Sustainability Advisory Committee to:

a) advise and assist Council in the pursuit of the goal of sustainability in accordance with the principles of sustainability under Section 25 of this Plan;

b) co-ordinate sustainability initiatives between the *Region* and the Local Municipalities;

c) recommend to Council annually a work plan for selecting, funding and overseeing research and development efforts into sustainability programs and practices, including those pilot projects as described under Section 141(6); and

d) recommend to Council a protocol, procedure or process for incorporating the principles of sustainability in land use planning decision-making.

(8) Encourage opportunities for the consideration and use of alternative engineering standards to promote sustainability and more efficient use of resources.

## *Air and the Ambience*

**142.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To reduce, in concert with the Federal Government, the Province, other municipalities, public interest groups and the private sector, the emissions of greenhouse gases.

(2) To improve air quality and to address the impact of climate change.

(3) To reduce incrementally the overall greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants generated by the *Region*'s own corporate activities and functions.

(4) To contribute to the overall improvement of air quality in *Halton*'s airshed through facility management, land use planning, transportation management, roadway design, operation and maintenance, and other complementary programs.

(5) To support urban forms that will reduce long distance trip-making and the use of the private automobile.

(6) To promote trips made by *active transportation* and public transit.

(7) To promote *tree* planting in both rural and urban areas for the purposes of improving air quality, sequestering carbon dioxide and reducing energy use through shading and sheltering.

(8) To address the impact of air pollution, noise, vibration and light on land uses.

**143.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Monitor and report regularly, in association with the Province, air quality at strategic locations in the *Region* and report on such results through the State of Sustainability Report.

(1.1) Undertake, in association with the Province, airshed modelling to predict future air quality in *Halton* and develop *policies* and programs to address future degradation of air quality.

(2) In consultation with the *Halton* community, develop a Halton Response Plan to climate change, including measures and best management practices the *Halton*

community can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and sequester carbon dioxide in *Halton*.

(2.1) Establish Air Quality Impact Assessment Guidelines to assist with the review of *development* applications to protect the health of *Halton* residents.

(3) Establish five-year targets for, and monitor regularly the performance of, the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants generated by *Region*'s own corporate activities and functions.

(4) Promote walking, cycling and public transit over other modes of transportation.

(5) Require all new urban *development* to consider in its design the provision of safe and accessible *active transportation* facilities and access to public transit services, or transit stops where they are likely to be located, within a walking distance of 400m.

(6) Require, in the re-construction or improvement of *Arterial Roads*, that consideration be given to:

a) the provision of facilities for *active transportation* where appropriate; and

b) *tree* planting and landscaping initiatives to improve air quality and reduce visual impact to adjacent land uses.

(7) [Section number not in use.]

(8) In conjunction with the Local Municipalities, reduce noise impact of *Arterial Roads* on adjacent existing residential uses in accordance with Council-adopted noise abatement guidelines.

(9) Require proposed *development* adjacent or in proximity to railway lines or railway yards to undertake, prior to *development* approval, the following studies by qualified consultants in accordance with Provincial policies, to the satisfaction of the *Region*, the Local Municipality and the Ministry of the Environment, and in consultation with the appropriate railway agency, and to implement the study recommendations, as approved, including the restriction of new residential and other *sensitive land uses*:

a) noise studies, if the *development* is within 300m of a railway right-of-way or 1000m of a railway yard;

b) vibration studies, if the *development* is within 75m of a railway right-of-way or a railway yard; and

c) air quality studies, if the *development* contains *sensitive land uses* and is within 1,000m of a railway yard.

(10) Develop, in consultation with the Local Municipalities, the Province, Federal government and the railway agencies, Land Use Compatibility Guidelines to minimize the *adverse effects* of noise, vibration, odour and air pollution from industrial, transportation and *utility* sources on *sensitive land uses*, including the application of separation distance between these non-compatible uses.

(11) Encourage the Local Municipalities to permit in those areas adjacent to industrial, transportation and *utility* uses, primarily land uses that require minimal noise, vibration, odour and air pollution abatement measures and require the proponent of *development* in those areas to undertake, in accordance with Regional and Ministry of the Environment guidelines, the necessary impact analysis and implement, as a condition of approval, appropriate abatement measures.

(12) Achieve land use compatibility between *sensitive land uses* and *major facilities* by:

a) requiring that such uses are planned and developed to avoid, or if avoidance is not possible, to minimize and mitigate any potential *adverse effects* from odour, noise, vibration, air pollutants, and other contaminants, to minimize risk to public health and safety, and to ensure the long-term operational and economic viability of *major facilities*, in accordance with Provincial guidelines, standards, and procedures;

b) where avoidance is not possible, protecting the long-term viability of existing or planned industrial, manufacturing, or other uses that are vulnerable to encroachment by ensuring that the planning and development of proposed adjacent *sensitive land uses* are only permitted if the following are demonstrated through appropriate studies in accordance with Provincial guidelines, standards and procedures:

[i] there is an identified need for the proposed use;

[ii] alternative locations for the proposed use have been evaluated and there are no reasonable alternative locations;

[iii] *adverse effects* to the proposed *sensitive land use* are minimized and mitigated; and

[iv] potential impacts to industrial, manufacturing or other uses are minimized and mitigated; and

c) requiring an air quality study based on guidelines under Section 143(2.1) for *development* proposals with *sensitive land uses* located within 30m of a Major Arterial or Provincial Highway, or 150m of a Provincial Freeway, as defined by Map 3 of this Plan.

(13) Adopt Regional guidelines concerning noise abatement measures on Regional roads and facilities, and encourage the Local Municipalities to adopt similar guidelines on Local Roads and facilities.

(14) Adopt lighting standards for Regional roads and facilities that would minimize sky-glow and the intrusion of unwanted lighting into adjacent uses and natural areas while not compromising public safety and encourage the Local Municipalities to do the same.

(15) Encourage the Local Municipalities to consider the impact of lighting and sky-glow on adjacent uses and natural areas in their review of site plans.

(16) Encourage the Local Municipalities to adopt landscaping policies and practices that would reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants and reduce the urban heat island effect.

## *Water*

**144.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To increase public awareness of the importance and value of an adequate, sustainable supply of clean water for both human use and the *natural environment*.

(2) To increase our collective knowledge of the water resources in *Halton*.

(3) To maintain, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of groundwater and surface water.

(4) To achieve integrated *watershed management* in *Halton* through partnership with all stakeholders within the watersheds.

(5) To support the protection of water quality and quantity in accordance with the *objectives* of *Watershed Plans* and Sub-watershed Studies, where they exist, or through best management practice, where such Plans/Studies do not exist.

(6) To maintain and enhance *fish habitat* in *Halton*.

(7) To promote efficient and sustainable use of water resources, including the practices for water conservation and sustaining water quality.

(8) To recognize Lake Ontario as a valuable and important natural resource on which *Halton* relies for drinking water, wastewater treatment, recreation and economic development.

(9) To support the undertaking and implementation of remedial action plans for Lake Ontario, Hamilton Harbour (Burlington Bay) and other existing bodies of water.

**145.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Adopt and maintain an Aquifer Management Plan as described in Section 101(1.1), and Guidelines for Hydrological Studies and Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection as described in Section 101(1.4).

(2) Identify the following Municipal Wellhead Protection Zones as shown on Map 1D, based on the migratory pattern of groundwater upstream from each of the active municipal wells supplying water to *Halton*:

a) Zone 1—100-day travel time, which is immediately adjacent to the municipal well and allows limited time for natural remediation of any contaminants in the groundwater.

b) Zone 2—100-day to 2-year travel time, which is considered to be close to the wellhead, whereby groundwater contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons or industrial solvents within this area would arrive at the well in a relatively short time frame.

c) Zone 3—2-year to 10-year travel time, which is further from the wellhead, whereby any groundwater contamination within this area would have some time to be attenuated and diluted before reaching the municipal well; in addition, there may be sufficient time to secure a new water supply or undertake remedial action prior to the contamination of the wellhead.

(3) Require Local Zoning By-laws to show the boundaries of Municipal Wellhead Protection Zones and prohibit or restrict within these areas land uses that have the potential to release or discharge contaminants to significantly affect the quality of groundwater in accordance with Tables 2.1 and 2.2. This *policy* will be applied through the development permit system within the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area.

## TABLE 2.1 LAND USE GROUPS BY RISK TO GROUNDWATER QUALITY

| *Group 1—High Risk Land Uses* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| • Landfills, waste transfer stations, & putrescible waste disposal<br>• Lagoons for sewage treatment<br>• Auto wrecking & salvage yards<br>• Commercial or industrial dry cleaning of textiles & textile products<br>• Foundries, non-ferrous metal smelting & refining, & casting operations<br>• Metal finishing operations (electroplating, electrocoating, galvanizing, painting, application of baked enamel)<br>• Vehicle stampings<br>• Wood & wood product preservation & treatment | • Airports<br>• Bulk liquid trucking<br>• Local inter-municipal passenger service terminals<br>• Warehousing, bulk storage or retail sale of:<br>- Oil, natural gas & petroleum products<br>- Household or industrial cleaning products<br>- Agricultural pesticides, herbicides, fungicides & chemicals<br>• Manufacturing of:<br>- Petroleum products or asphalt batching (including processing)<br>- Motor vehicles, trucks, & bus bodies<br>- Aircraft & aircraft parts<br>- Trailers | - Rail cars<br>- Mobile homes<br>- Ships & boats<br>- Industrial chemicals<br>- Printing inks<br>- Adhesives<br>- Small electrical appliances<br>- Electric lamps<br>- Wet batteries<br>- Dry electrical industrial equipment<br>- Vehicle engines<br>- Cable & wire<br>- Pharmaceuticals & medicines<br>- Paints & varnishes<br>- Major electric appliances<br>- Plastics & synthetic resins<br>- Lighting fixtures | - Wet electrical equipment<br>- Steering & suspension parts<br>- Engine parts<br>- Motor vehicle wiring<br>- Jewellery & precious metals<br>- Reinforced fibreglass plastic<br>- Electronic components (semi-conductors, printed circuit boards, cathode ray tubes)<br>- Unfinished fabricated metal products<br>- Wheels & brakes<br>- Leather products<br>- Soaps & toilet preparations |
| *Group 2—Moderate Risk Land Uses* | | | |
| • Golf courses<br>• Photo developing facilities<br>• Printing of newspapers, packaging & books<br>• Repair of industrial machinery | • Repair of motor vehicles, aircraft, watercraft, rail vehicles & trucks<br>• Manufacturing of:<br>- Plastic parts for vehicles<br>- Telephones | - Business machines<br>- Plastic products<br>- Paper & newsprint<br>- Stereo equipment<br>- Fax machines<br>- Dry batteries<br>- Glass & glass products | - Furniture, caskets, cabinets & other wood products<br>- Radios & televisions<br>- Computing equipment<br>- Rubber products<br>- Photographic equipment |
| *Group 3—Low Risk Land Uses* | | | |
| • Funeral homes & cemeteries<br>• Medical, health & other laboratories<br>• Storage, repair yards & facilities for contractors<br>• Asphalt paving & roofing contractor yards<br>• Lawn care contractors<br>• Machinery equipment rental yards | • Retail sale of agricultural pesticides & herbicides<br>• Repair (including welding) of:<br>- Photographic equipment<br>- Watches<br>- Electronic equipment<br>- Appliances<br>- Furniture | - Jewellery<br>- Electronic motors<br>- Small motors<br>- Vending machines<br>- Computer equipment<br>• Manufacturing of:<br>- Textiles (including dyeing)<br>- Vehicle fabric accessories | - Dairy<br>- Processed foods & meats<br>- Soft drinks & alcohol<br>- Baked goods<br>- Canned goods<br>- Frozen foods |

## TABLE 2.2 LAND USE PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS WITHIN MUNICIPAL WELLHEAD PROTECTION ZONES

| | ***Zone 1***<br>***100-day Travel Time*** | ***Zone 2***<br>***100-day to 2-year Travel Time*** | ***Zone 3***<br>***2-year to 10-year Travel Time*** |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Group 1— High Risk Land Uses*** | • Prohibited | • Prohibited | • Prohibited |
| ***Group 2— Moderate Risk Land Uses*** | • Prohibited | • Prohibited | • Permitted with Best Management Practices & a groundwater monitoring program* |
| ***Group 3— Low Risk Land Uses*** | • Prohibited | • Prohibited | • Permitted with Best Management Practices* |
| ***Other Prohibitions*** | • Construction of new sanitary sewage systems<br>• Spreading or storage of biosolids, septage or manure<br>• Installation of new septic systems | • None | • None |
| ***Other Restrictions*** | • New residential development over 20 units will be required to undertake a monitoring program of groundwater quality for a period of at least five years after completion of the development | • New residential development over 20 units will be required to undertake a monitoring program of groundwater quality for a period of at least five years after completion of the development | • None |

* *As prescribed in Region's Guidelines for Hydrogeological Studies and Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection.*

(3.1) Amend this Plan to incorporate the appropriate recommendations of the approved Drinking Water Source Protection Plans affecting *Halton*, to comply with the provisions of the Clean Water Act.

(4) Extend the protection of Wellhead Protection Zones, based on Sections 145(2) and 145(3) of this Plan, for municipal wells serving neighbouring municipalities and request similar protection from neighbouring municipalities for municipal wells serving residents of *Halton*.

(5) Require that any *development* proposal that has the potential to release or discharge contaminants to affect the quality of groundwater be subject to a review by the *Region* to assess the risk of such uses to potentially contaminate the groundwater system in *Halton*. As a result of such an assessment, the proponent may be required to carry out a hydrogeological study to the satisfaction of the *Region* and implement its recommendations which may result in a prohibition or restriction of the proposed use, or an agreement to adopt best management practices as prescribed by the *Region*.

(6) Undertake in partnership with the *Conservation Authorities* and in consultation with the Local Municipalities in *Halton* and other municipalities in the respective watersheds, the preparation of *Watershed Plans* and incorporate by amendment to this Plan appropriate recommendations of the *Watershed Plans* to:

a) define water quality objectives,

b) refine the boundaries of the Regional Natural Heritage System in accordance with *policies* of this Plan,

c) identify opportunities for and constraints to *development*,

d) address the *cumulative impact* of *development*,

e) estimate the *development capacity* of the watershed based on defined water quality objectives,

f) undertake a water budget analysis,

g) recommend implementation strategies,

h) provide directions for the carrying out of Sub-watershed Studies, and

i) identify best management practices to minimize stormwater volumes and contaminant loads from both urban and rural uses.

(7) Require that all *Watershed Plans* be submitted to Regional Council for approval.

(8) Identify, jointly with the *Conservation Authorities* and Local Municipalities, those sub-watershed areas that are or may be subject to problems as a result of existing conditions or impending *development*.

(9) Require the Local Municipalities to carry out, prior to or as part of an *Area-Specific Plan* process where applicable, Sub-watershed Studies for those sub-watershed areas identified under Section 145(8) to:

a) provide an inventory of existing geology, hydrology, hydrogeology, limnology, *fish habitats* and other environmental data,

b) establish water quality targets in accordance with the *Watershed Plan*,

c) determine base flows to maintain water quality and existing ecological conditions,

d) recommend appropriate storm water management techniques in accordance with provincial guidelines,

e) refine the boundaries of the Regional Natural Heritage System and identify other constraints under which *development* may not be permitted, in accordance with *policies* of this Plan,

f) provide detailed guidelines for *development* design and construction, and

g) establish procedures for monitoring water quality and quantity before, during, and after *development*.

(10) Encourage the protection and enhancement of *watercourses* and headwaters areas as an integral component for maintaining natural hydrological processes within a watershed.

(11) Monitor, in consultation with the appropriate agencies, the overall health of *watercourses* in *Halton* and include the result of such monitoring in the *Region*'s State of Sustainability Report.

(12) Promote the regeneration of natural areas near *watercourses*.

(13) Monitor, in conjunction with the Province and *Conservation Authorities*, the amount of ground and surface water extraction within *Halton* through the granting of water-taking permits and advocate the adoption of a sustainable limit on water-taking within *Halton*.

(14) Promote best management practices in *agricultural operations* that minimize the impact to ground and surface water systems.

(15) Develop Golf Course and Recreational Facilities Best Management Guidelines to promote environmental stewardship and to minimize impact to ground and

surface water systems in the design, construction and operation of new or existing golf courses and driving ranges.

(16) Promote the protection of the water quality in water bodies receiving treated effluent from wastewater treatment plants.

(17) Consider the impact of *development* on *fish habitat* and ensure compliance with the Federal Fisheries Act.

(18) Enact By-laws on the use and pricing of municipal water that encourage water conservation, maintain full cost recovery, and reduce peak demands.

(19) Undertake programs to promote:

a) [Section number not in use.]

b) [Section number not in use.]

c) [Section number not in use.]

d) the conservation of water use by residential, commercial and industrial water users;

e) [Section number not in use.]

f) public awareness of water conservation; and

g) safe drinking water programs among residents serviced by private individual wells.

(20) [Section number not in use.]

(21) Encourage the Local Municipalities to require low water use landscaping in site plans.

(22) Consider the implications of *development* on the water quality of Burlington Bay and work collaboratively with other jurisdictions in advancing the implementation of the Hamilton Harbour (Burlington Bay) Remedial Action Plan.

(23) Restrict *development* and *site alteration* in or near sensitive surface and ground water features and require the proponent to carry out an Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with *policies* of this Plan and, undertake where appropriate, hydrogeological and hydrological studies to protect, improve or restore such features.

## *Land*

**146.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To protect unique *landforms* such as the Niagara Escarpment permanently.

(2) To allow a wide range of possible land uses in *settlement areas* yet maintain an environment free from degradation through various uses of land.

(3 To preserve certain landscapes as part of *Halton*'s *Cultural Heritage Resources*.

(4) To implement, in part, the environmental *goals* and *objectives* of this Plan through strategic land acquisitions;

(5) To promote the concept of a Regional trail system by providing the needed connections, through acquisitions or *easements*, between local trails and/or inter-regional trails such as the Bruce Trail and the Waterfront Trail.

(6) To protect significant *tree*-covered areas as a natural resource and promote the enhancement of *woodland* coverage in *Halton*.

(7) To promote the conservation and wise economic use of *trees* consistent with the ecological and environmental *goals*, *objectives* and *policies* of this Plan.

(8) To promote a linked system of *woodlands* in *Halton* where appropriate.

(9) To maintain and manage a system of Regionally owned forests.

(10) To promote soil conservation and minimize soil erosion.

(11) To ensure that *development* takes place on sites that are safe from soil contamination.

(12) To protect and utilize *mineral aggregate resources* in accordance with Sections 107 through 112 of this Plan.

(13) To protect agricultural lands where appropriate.

**147.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) [Section number not in use.]

(2) Establish, jointly with the Local Municipalities and local historical organizations, criteria for identifying and means for preserving those rural and urban landscapes that are unique, historically significant and representative of *Halton*'s heritage. The preservation of rural landscape should have regard for *normal farm practices*.

(3) Adopt and maintain, in consultation with the *Halton* community and in collaboration with the appropriate agencies, a Land Securement Strategy that would identify how the overall environmental quality of *Halton* can be enhanced

through acquisitions of land ownership or land management rights through purchases, conservation *easements*, or private-public partnership agreements.

(4) Recognize, encourage and protect *forestry* both as an essential conservation land use and as a potentially significant resource industry.

(5) Recognize and protect *trees* as a renewable natural resource essential to the health and welfare of *Halton* residents, wildlife and rural environment, and to this end:

a) Enact, in cooperation with the Local Municipalities, a Regional *tree* conservation by-law to regulate the removal of *trees* in regulated areas within *Halton*.

b) Encourage the Local Municipalities to enact their own *tree* conservation by-laws to regulate *tree* removal within the Urban Area;

c) Monitor, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities and appropriate agencies, the amount and quality of *tree* cover in *Halton* on a regular basis and report the results as part of the State of Sustainability Report.

d) Promote and support the preparation by private landowners of *Forestry* Management Plans for established *woodlands*.

e) Support the Local Municipalities in requiring that all *development* proposals, to the maximum degree possible, preserve existing *trees* and plant additional *trees* in accordance with good *forestry* management practice.

e) Support the Local Municipalities in requiring that all *development* proposals, to the maximum degree possible, preserve existing *trees* and plant additional *trees* in accordance with good *forestry* management practice.

f) Require all *development* proposals to submit, at the time of initial application, an inventory of *trees* on site and a *tree* saving and planting plan unless the *development* will not result in the removal of any *trees*.

(6) Promote the planting of new *trees*, and to this end:

a) Implement, in conjunction with the Province, Local Municipalities and *Conservation Authorities* in *Halton*, a *woodland* stewardship program to promote *tree* conservation, *tree* planting and reforestation on private properties on a voluntary basis.

b) Retain *treescapes* along major transportation corridors, replace *trees* cut down for public works and, wherever possible, develop new *treescapes* consistent with safe and aesthetically pleasing road or corridor design.

c) [Section number not in use.]

d) Promote the development of *treescapes* along streams and valleys so as to reduce flooding and excessive soil erosion, maintain stream banks and slope stability, and provide suitable *fish habitat*.

e) Promote the close association of *forestry* with *farming* as mutually supportive and compatible activities, subject to the control of grazing within *woodlands*.

f) Promote reforestation programs on lower classes of Agricultural Soil.

(7) Discourage recreational activities within *woodlands* where such activities will adversely affect forest health.

(8) Maintain *Halton*'s Regional Forests in their natural state as much as possible and in accordance with good *forestry* management practices.

(9) Seek opportunities to enhance *Halton*'s Regional Forests through dedication or donation by landowners.

(10) Maintain, jointly with the Local Municipalities, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the appropriate *Conservation Authorities*, a management plan for *Halton* Regional Forests to ensure conservation and good *forestry* practice while permitting a limited range of passive, compatible recreation uses.

(11) Encourage the Provincial government to maintain property tax incentives affecting *tree*-covered lands to promote stewardship of *woodlands*, *wetlands* and other hydrological features.

(12) Enact, or encourage the Local Municipalities to enact, by-laws that:

a) regulate the removal of topsoil;

b) restrict the stripping or mining of agricultural soils; and

c) restrict activities that erode, deplete, render inert, or contaminate soils.

(13) Support the Local Municipalities in their efforts to control siltation and soil erosion through appropriate permits.

(14) Encourage the *Conservation Authorities* to consult the public in the development of *policies* to implement regulations under the Conservation Authorities Act.

(15) Identify, as part of the statutory mandate of Halton Medical Officer of Health and jointly with the Local Municipalities and the Province, locations in *Halton* of closed landfill sites and other potentially contaminated sites from previous uses.

(16) Require Local Official Plans to identify on a schedule all known landfill sites and to include *policies* requiring appropriate studies prior to the consideration of any *development* proposals on or within 500m of such sites.

(17) Require that, prior to the *Region* or Local Municipality considering any *development* proposals, the proponent undertake a process in accordance with the *Region*'s Guidelines (Protocol) for Reviewing Development Applications with Respect to Contaminated or Potentially Contaminated Sites and any applicable Provincial legislation, regulations and guidelines to determine whether there is any potential contamination on the site and the steps necessary to bring the site to a condition suitable for its intended use.

(18) Consider approval for *development* proposals only when the *development* site complies with Provincial guidelines, Regional standards and other requirements regarding soil and groundwater quality.

## *Solid Waste Management*

**148.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To effect an attitudinal change that will regard waste as a resource in transition waiting to be reclaimed and for which re-use or alternative uses are available and desirable.

(2) To implement an integrated and sustainable waste management system of collecting, processing and disposing of municipal *solid waste* that incorporates the principle of reduce, reuse, recycle and resource recovery and is environmentally beneficial, socially acceptable and economically optimal.

(3) [Section number not in use.]

(4) To promote among residents, consumers and businesses in *Halton* the concept of a conserver society that is based on the prudent, efficient and sustainable use of the earth's resources and the principles of reduce, reuse, recycle and resource recovery.

(5) [Section number not in use.]

(6) To promote the environmental, social and economic benefits of resource conservation and recovery.

(7) [Section number not in use.]

(8) To extend the life span of *Halton*'s Waste Management Site for as long as possible through the continuous application of the principles of reduce, reuse, recycle and resource recovery.

(9) To provide a system for managing residential *solid waste* generated within *Halton* in the most environmentally responsible, socially acceptable and cost-effective

manner and based on the principle of maximizing the economic potential of *solid waste* and utilizing landfill only as a last resort.

(10) [Section number not in use.]

(11) To include education, promotion and marketing as part of *Halton*'s *Solid Waste* Management Strategy.

(12) To consider and evaluate any new waste management facilities within *Halton* on the basis of need, public safety, environmental and social impact, and compatibility with the *goals* and *objectives* of this Plan.

**149.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Pursue, in conjunction with appropriate agencies, other levels of government and the Local Municipalities, public education programs on the concepts of: waste as a resource, conserver society, principles of reduce, reuse, recycle and resource recovery, sustainability, and *Halton*'s *Solid Waste* Management Strategy.

(2) [Section number not in use.]

(3) Develop and update regularly a *Solid Waste* Management Strategy to establish targets for the reduction and diversion from landfill of *solid waste* and to recommend programs and plans, including financial considerations, for achieving such targets in the most cost-effective manner.

(4) Establish and maintain a broad-based *Solid Waste* Advisory Committee, consisting of residents at large and business representatives, to advise Regional Council in developing the *Solid Waste* Management Strategy, in pursuing the *objectives* and implementing the *policies* of this Plan, and on matters related to *solid waste* management.

(5) Encourage consumers and businesses, and require all Regional departments and agencies, to the extent possible, to select goods and products that:

a) contain a high proportion of recycled and secondary material, including the use of recycled aggregate in construction projects;

b) contain the least amount of packaging;

c) contain minimal or no hazardous or toxic substance;

d) can be readily reused or recycled; and

e) have the least impact on the environment.

(6) Develop programs to encourage and facilitate the commercial, industrial and institutional sectors in *Halton* to:

a) adopt the principle of reduce, reuse, recycle and resource recovery;

b) separate their *solid waste* for re-use, recycling and composting; and

c) dispose of the remainder at *Halton*'s Waste Management Site and other appropriate locations.

(7) Develop, jointly with the Province, the Local Municipalities and the *development* industry, and adopt guidelines for the design of communities and buildings that will facilitate source separation, collection, storage, and transportation of *solid waste*.

(8) Require Local Official Plans to direct *solid waste* processing and long term storage facilities to industrial areas with safeguards for the environment and human health.

(9) Support the development of long term viable markets for resources recovered from *solid waste*.

(10) Investigate and evaluate resource recovery techniques, including energy from waste facilities with cogeneration of heat and electric power, as an option for maximizing the economic potential of *solid waste*.

(11) Provide, jointly with the Local Municipalities as required, a cost-effective, integrated system for managing *solid waste* generated within *Halton*, consisting of:

a) collection from residential sources material that is separated into appropriate categories,

b) transportation of material to various processing or storage facilities for recycling and re-use,

c) transportation of remaining material to the Halton Waste Management Site,

d) operation and maintenance of the Halton Waste Management Site, as shown on Map 1, for the receipt, processing, storage and disposal of *solid waste* from all sources within *Halton*,

e) operation and maintenance of depots, as required, for the receipt and transfer of *solid waste* including household hazardous material, and

f) operation and maintenance of *solid waste* processing and storage facilities, as required, including composting of organic material.

(12) [Section number not in use.]

(13) Consider and evaluate new waste management facilities in *Halton* only in areas outside the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area and after studies have been completed based on the *goals*, *objectives* and *policies* of this Plan and in compliance with the provisions of the Environmental Assessment Act and other Provincial legislation.

(14) Require an amendment to this Plan for the establishment and operation of any new landfill facilities in *Halton*, except in the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area, where such uses are prohibited.

(15) [Section number not in use.]

(16) Manage closed waste management sites owned by the *Region* and rehabilitate them in accordance with the long term end uses suggested by Local Official Plans and this Plan, and in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of the Environment.

## *HUMAN SERVICES*

### *Goals and General Policies*

**150.** The *goals* of the *Region* are:

(1) To achieve a sustainable state of health for all on the basis of a clean environment, economic prosperity, social equity, public safety and provision of opportunities for individuals to develop their maximum potential.

(2) To develop and maintain healthy communities by fostering physical, social and economic conditions that will enhance the state of well-being and the quality of life for the residents of *Halton*.

(3) To advance health promotion and disease prevention as the primary means of achieving optimal health status, with support and treatment services being the remedial measures.

(4) To ensure that *human services* are delivered locally and responsive to people's changing needs in a financially and socially responsible and timely manner.

**151.** The *Region* recognizes that the planning and provision of *human services* involve other levels of government and *public agencies*, as well as the private and voluntary sector. They may require partnership, consultation, coordination, cooperation and integration. The *human and social services goals*, *objectives* and *policies* in this Plan reflect Regional Council's commitment to the concept of Healthy Communities and its relationship with land use planning.

**152.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Develop, jointly with the Local Municipalities, and adopt Healthy Communities Guidelines in accordance with the characterization under Section 31, which include, among other things:

a) description of general characteristics of a healthy community,

b) desirable mix of land uses within the community,

c) community design features that will promote integration of the community and accessibility by residents to services within and outside the community through *active transportation* and public transit,

d) physical design features that will promote health and safety of the community's inhabitants,

e) land use regulatory tools for promoting the shared use of land or facility by compatible uses or activities to facilitate the local delivery of *human services*,

f) suggested level of service and facility requirement for the provision of *human services* over the full human lifecycle and under special circumstances, and

g) other community features, facilities, programs and plans that will promote a healthy lifestyle based on the principles of sustainability, including access to local food supplies, reduction in automobile use, use of renewable energy sources, measures of conservation and stewardship of the environment.

(2) Require the Local Municipalities in their preparation of *Area-Specific Plans* or Official Plan policies related to *intensification* and proponents of major *development* in submitting their applications, to have regard for the Healthy Communities Guidelines.

(2.1) Co-ordinate among the Local Municipalities and senior levels of government the long term planning and provision of community *infrastructure*, *public service facilities*, and *human services* required to support growth in *Halton*, including developing guidelines for the preparation of community *infrastructure* plans under Section 77(5)p).

(3) [Section number not in use.].

(4) Establish and maintain broad-based advisory committees to provide advice to Regional Council on the delivery of *human services*.

(5) Develop, jointly with the Local Municipalities, service agencies, and other *human services* planning organizations, a region-wide *human services* information system using local information services to support the coordination and integration of *human services* across the *Region*.

## *Basic Material Support*

**153.** The *objective* of the *Region* is to strive for the provision of the following for all residents of *Halton*:

(1) safe and accessible *Affordable Housing*,

(1.1) access to local healthy food,

(2) a safe, accessible and affordable transportation system to provide access to employment opportunities, social interaction and all basic *human services*, and

(3) employment opportunities to earn adequate income to support basic material needs.

**154.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Support the provision of *Affordable Housing* through *policies* in Sections 84 to 86 of this Plan.

(1.1) Support the provision of access to local healthy food through *policies* in Sections 101(4)h), 101(5)c) and 152(1)g) of this Plan.

(2) Support the provision of a basic level of public transportation service through *policies* in Sections 171 to 173 of this Plan.

(3) Support the provision of employment opportunities through *policies* in Sections 168 to 170 of this Plan.

(4) Support Provincial and Federal legislation, programs and services designed to provide an adequate level of basic material support.

## *Public Safety*

**155.** The *objective* of the *Region* is to plan for an environment with the highest level of personal safety and security for its inhabitants.

**156.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Require all proponents of *development* to have regard for the Healthy Communities Guidelines in considering and providing physical design features that promote safety and security.

(2) Encourage the Local Municipalities to develop Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) guidelines for use in their site plan approval process.

(3) Promote community based programs for increasing safety and security of individual neighbourhoods.

(4) Support the coordination of emergency health, ambulance, fire, police and social services in *Halton*.

(5) Prepare and maintain an Emergency Plan governing the responsive action to and the provision of essential services during an emergency or pandemic, and coordinate such efforts with the Local Municipalities and emergency response agencies.

## *Social Support Services*

**157.** The *objective* of the *Region* is to identify and support, in coordination with the Local Municipalities, Province, Federal government and community agencies, a range of services that will enhance the social functioning of all *Halton*'s inhabitants.

**158.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Prepare, adopt and update regularly, in cooperation with other social services planning organizations and networks, strategic plans to coordinate and integrate the provision of social services and programs in accordance with the *goals*, *objectives* and *policies* of this Plan.

(2) Encourage the location of human support services and facilities in local communities and in areas easily accessible by public transit.

(2.1) Encourage the integration and co-location of *human services* facilities where appropriate.

(2.2) Support projects that address the social and economic needs of the vulnerable sector of the population and the equitable distribution of public facilities and services in all parts of the *Region*.

(3) Encourage the development of residential facilities that will foster the integration of persons with *disabilities* into the life of the community.

(4) Support, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities and appropriate agencies, the provision of an adequate range and level of locally delivered, responsive services and facilities in easily accessible locations to enable residents, especially the elderly and persons with *disabilities*, to lead satisfying, productive lives.

(5) [Section number not in use.]

(6) [Section number not in use.]

(7) Encourage the Province, Federal government and other *public agencies* to increase current funding levels for *human services* so as to close any existing service gaps and meet future needs resulting from growth.

## *Involvement in Public Decision-Making*

**159.** The *objective* of the *Region* is to promote public awareness of Regional affairs and services and to provide opportunities for all sectors of the community to participate in municipal decision making.

**160.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Ensure an effective public information and communication program to increase the public's knowledge of and participation in Regional affairs and Regional services.

(2) Continue to incorporate public consultation in Regional decision-making processes.

(3) Recognize community diversity and develop a communication strategy to involve all sectors of the public in decision-making processes.

(4) Recognize linguistic diversity within the community and towards this end:

a) continuously improve the use of multi-lingual telephone services;

b) consider the production of Regional materials in multi-languages;

c) encourage Regional staff to perform sign language and cultural interpretation services;

d) support local community agencies providing cultural interpretation and translation services; and

e) implement an Inclusion Strategy to ensure that the *Region*'s customer services and business practices respond to the growing diversity in the *Halton* community.

(5) [Section number not in use.]

(6) Provide that meetings of Regional advisory committees be open to the public and be held, where possible, during the evenings.

(7) Maintain citizen representation on advisory committees.

(8) Encourage and foster public participation, by all sectors of the public, in all aspects of physical and social development, at all stages of the process, including *policy* formulation, service delivery and program evaluation.

## *Cultural and Recreational Services*

**161.** The *objective* of the *Region* is to support the provision of a diverse range of accessible cultural and recreational facilities and services.

**162.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Recognize the role of the *Conservation Authorities* and Local Municipalities in the provision of recreational facilities and services within *Halton*.

(2) Encourage the coordination of recreational services in *Halton* between the *Conservation Authorities* and Local Municipalities to avoid duplication and to increase diversity in programming.

(3) Encourage the *Conservation Authorities* and Local Municipalities to consult the public regularly, through surveys or research, regarding the range of and demand for recreational services in *Halton*.

(4) Include in the Healthy Communities Guidelines provisions for cultural and recreational services.

(5) Encourage the Local Municipalities to ensure that opportunities exist for all people to participate in and have access to a variety of leisure, spiritual and cultural enrichment activities.

(6) Seek full community access to, and encourage the use of, all public facilities and schools by non-profit groups and individuals in the community to provide a service which adds to the cultural, recreational and social quality of life.

(7) Support programs and activities that promote understanding of different linguistic and ethno-cultural groups among residents in *Halton*.

(8) Develop services and programs to address barriers due to cultural or ethnic backgrounds, income level, literacy or *disability*.

## *Health Services*

**163.** The *objective* of the *Region* is to provide opportunities for all inhabitants of *Halton* to attain a status of optimal health that encompasses a healthy environment, healthy lifestyles, mental wellness and adequate access to health care.

**164.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Monitor the health status of *Halton*'s residents regularly through the State of Sustainability Report and other health status reports.

(2) Prepare, adopt, and update regularly, in cooperation with other health services planning organizations, strategic plans to coordinate the delivery of health services by the *Region* and other health care delivery programs.

(3) Encourage the Local Municipalities to design their communities to provide ample opportunities for a range of physical activities by all age groups of the inhabitants.

(4) Encourage and support information and education programs that focus on injury prevention, health promotion and chronic disease prevention and promote healthy lifestyles, mental health and healthy behaviours.

(5) Support the establishment of environments and policies that promote health and prevent injuries, diseases, mental illnesses and addictions.

(6) Encourage and support the involvement of the community in the development of health promotion strategies and initiatives that enhance the health of the individual and the community at large.

(7) Encourage and support community based programs such as home care, meals on wheels, and a mix of home support services to enable individuals to maintain independence and remain at home as long as possible.

(8) Encourage and support the establishment, within communities and at locations accessible by *active transportation* or public transit, of facilities that provide a comprehensive range of community health care and support services.

(9) Support the Local Health Integration Networks serving *Halton* in the long term planning of major health care facilities in *Halton*.

(10) Support, in conjunction with the Local Health Integration Networks serving *Halton*, the establishment of an appropriate range and supply of accessible health care facilities in *Halton*.

## *CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES*

**165.** The *goal* for *Cultural Heritage Resources* is to protect the material, cultural and built heritage of *Halton* for present and future generations.

**166.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To promote awareness and appreciation of *Halton*'s heritage.

(2) To promote and facilitate public and private stewardship of *Halton*'s heritage.

**167.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Maintain, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities, local historical organizations, and municipal heritage committees a list of documented *Cultural Heritage Resources* in *Halton*.

(2) Inform promptly the appropriate government agencies, First Nations and Municipal Heritage Committees of *development* proposals that may affect defined *Cultural Heritage Resources* and known archaeological sites.

(2.1) Establish and implement guidelines (protocol) for consulting with First Nations on relevant planning applications in accordance with Provincial legislation, regulations and guidelines.

(3) Require that *development* proposals on adjacent *lands* to protected *Cultural Heritage Resources*:

a) study and consider the preservation, relocation and/or adaptive re-use of historic buildings and structures based on both social and economic costs and benefits;

b) incorporate in any reconstruction or alterations, design features that are in harmony with the area's character and existing buildings in mass, height, setback and architectural details; and

c) express the *Cultural Heritage Resources* in some way, including: display of building fragments, marking the traces of former locations, exhibiting descriptions of former uses, and reflecting the former architecture and uses.

(4) Prepare an Archaeological Management Plan to inventory, classify and map significant *archaeological resources* and areas of archaeological potential in *Halton* and to provide direction for their assessment and preservation, as required, and update such a Plan as part of the statutory five-year review of this Plan.

(5) Encourage the Local Municipalities to prepare, as part of any *Area-Specific Plan* or relevant Official Plan amendment, an inventory of heritage resources and provide guidelines for preservation, assessment and mitigative activities.

(6) Prior to *development* occurring in or near areas of archaeological potential, require assessment and mitigation activities in accordance with Provincial requirements and the Regional Archaeological Management Plan.

(7) Maintain and operate a Regional facility to, through collection management, research, exhibits and programming:

a) preserve the material and cultural heritage of *Halton*,

b) acquire and share knowledge of *Halton*'s historical and natural world, and

c) encourage discovery, appreciation and understanding of *Halton*'s heritage.

(8) Develop a coordinated heritage signage and heritage promotion program in *Halton*.

(9) Ensure that the protection of *Cultural Heritage Resources* has regard for *normal farm practices.*

## *ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*

**168.** The *goal* for economic development is to achieve sustainable economic prosperity for *Halton* on the basis of its competitive location, innovative businesses, skilled labour force, high quality *infrastructure*, sustainable natural resources, a positive business environment, and a diversified economic base.

**169.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To continuously increase the innovative capacity of *Halton*'s businesses and the knowledge base and skill level of *Halton*'s labour force in response to a changing global economy.

(1.1) To create a competitive economic environment that promotes entrepreneurship, new business formation, retention and growth of existing businesses, and the location of new strategic businesses in *Halton*.

(1.2) To attract cultural, recreational, institutional, tourism, and higher education investments that enhance *Halton* as a location of choice for employers and skilled labour and as a place to visit.

(1.3) To promote economic activities that strengthen and diversify the economic base of *Halton*.

(1.4) To protect an adequate land base to support *Halton's* and its Local Municipalities' economic competitiveness and to serve long term employment land needs in *Halton*, especially at strategic locations along major transportation corridors.

(2) [Section number not in use.]

(3) [Section number not in use.]

(4) To provide necessary *infrastructure*, as permitted by the *Region*'s financial capability, in support of the timely *development* of *Employment Areas* and *Halton's* economic base.

(5) To coordinate government programs, policies, regulations and plans that facilitate economic development, business innovations and training of *Halton's* labour force.

(6) To forge strong links among the business, government, environment and education sectors in support of a healthy, sustainable economy.

(7) [Section number not in use.]

(8) [Section number not in use.]

(9) [Section number not in use.]

(10) To promote economic activities that provide diverse, high quality employment opportunities as well as a greater match by type between employment and residential growth.

(11) To promote and support the tourism industry in *Halton*, including hospitality, attractions, festivals, events, sports, recreation, eco-tourism and agricultural and retail activities.

(12) To promote and support the *agricultural industry* in *Halton*, including local farmers markets.

**170.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Support the continuous education and training of *Halton*'s labour force.

(2) Establish short and long term employment forecasts in accordance with Section 77(1) of this Plan and specify such forecasts by type to respond to global and regional economic trends.

(2.1) Monitor, through regular reports to Council, the attainment of employment forecasts developed under Section 77(1) using the employment data base under Section 170(9).

(3) Ensure, through *municipal comprehensive reviews* described under Section 77(7) and through provisions in Local Official Plans and Zoning By-laws, a ten-year supply of employment lands at all times for the *Region* as a whole.

(4) Encourage the Local Municipalities to phase the *development* of employment lands concurrent with nearby residential lands.

(4.1) Consider strategic investment in *infrastructure* to enhance the timely *development* of employment lands.

(4.2) Protect employment lands for economic development during the current planning period to 2051 in accordance with Sections 83, and 83.1, of this Plan.

(5) Prepare and update regularly, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities and in consultation with the business and education sectors and the general public, an Economic Development Strategic Plan that will include:

a) an assessment of the current economic health of the *Region* based on information from the State of Sustainability Report and the monitoring reports under Section 170(2.1),

b) an assessment, based on available sources and information, of global, national and regional economic trends and structural changes in the economy,

c) identification of the growth sectors, new economic opportunities for *Halton*, and necessary adjustments in human resources, *infrastructure*, land supply and government policies to take advantage of such opportunities,

d) identification of possible impact of the changing economy on existing businesses and industries in *Halton* and necessary remedial action,

e) direction for the Joint *Infrastructure* Staging Plan, and

f) an agenda for action by the various stakeholders, including the business, government and education sectors.

(6) Encourage the establishment of regular liaison and discussion among the heads of Regional and Municipal Councils in *Halton* and representatives of the business community.

(7) Participate with municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area in the development of strategies, plans and programs to promote the Greater Toronto Area as a large, diverse, competitive and dynamic economy and to attract direct foreign investments.

(8) Maintain, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities, an up-to-date inventory of vacant employment lands.

(9) Maintain a data base of employment, employment lands and employment land absorption in *Halton* through regular surveys.

(9.1) Ensure the provision of necessary information and related services to assist and encourage new business formation, new businesses to locate, and existing businesses to remain and expand, in *Halton*.

(10) Encourage and direct office, commercial, cultural and institutional uses and compatible industrial uses to locate within *Intensification Areas*.

(11) Monitor housing supply and employment categories in *Halton* to ensure that labour forces employed in *Halton* can find *Affordable Housing* accommodation locally.

(12) Encourage the Local Municipalities to:

a) ensure, through studies, land designation and revisions to their Zoning By-laws, that retail needs of residents are satisfied within the municipality or *Halton*;

b) make provisions for the redevelopment and rehabilitation of older industrial areas; and

c) implement plans and programs for the preservation, improvement, redevelopment and/or revitalization, as the case may be, of downtown core area(s).

(13) [Section number not in use.]

(14) Monitor the opportunities and constraints on future expansion of existing businesses within *Halton*, and, within the *policies* of this Plan, promote the growth of these businesses within *Halton*.

(15) Recognize the importance of entrepreneurship and the contribution by small businesses to the local economy and support plans and programs to maintain and strengthen their role.

(16) Promote *Halton* as a tourist and recreational destination for both its own residents and outside visitors based on the following themes:

a) scenic beauty including the Niagara Escarpment and a rural countryside,

b) extensive trails,

c) a strong and diversified *agricultural industry* offering authentic farm experience,

d) waterfront,

e) major four-season outdoor and indoor recreational facilities,

f) *Halton*'s *Cultural Heritage Resources*, museums and other cultural attractions, and

g) local goods and products.

(17) Establish and maintain a broad-based Tourism Advisory Committee to identify regional tourism opportunities and develop a tourism development action plan.

## *TRANSPORTATION*

**171.** The *goal* for transportation is to provide a safe, convenient, accessible, affordable and efficient transportation system in *Halton*, while minimizing the impact on the environment and promoting energy efficiency.

**172.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To develop a transportation system that will encourage Regional unity and satisfy inter-regional transportation demands.

(2) To develop a balanced transportation system that:

a) reduces dependency on automobile use;

b) includes a safe, convenient, accessible, affordable and efficient public transit system that is competitive with the private automobile; and

c) promotes *active transportation*.

(3) To provide a safe, economic and efficient *highway* network for both people and goods movements with an acceptable level of service.

(4) To improve transportation network efficiency through both *travel demand management* and *transportation supply management* strategies.

(5) To increase accessibility to major areas of employment, shopping, government services, culture and recreation.

(6) To support seamless public transit services in *Halton* that:

a) provide a high level of service internally within *Halton*,

b) include continuous enhancements of the GO Transit system within *Halton*,

c) are connected to a *higher order transit* network throughout the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area,

d) are complemented and supported by a network of *active transportation* facilities, and

e) are fully integrated both internally and externally in terms of fare and service.

(7) [Section number not in use.]

(8) To achieve a level of public transit usage that averages at least 20 per cent of all daily trips made by *Halton* residents by year 2031.

(9) To support the early introduction of public transit service in new *development* and redevelopment areas and in *Intensification Areas*.

(9.1) To ensure *development* is designed to support *active transportation* and public transit.

(9.2) To integrate transportation planning, land use planning and investment in *infrastructure*.

(10) To promote land use patterns and densities that foster strong live-work relationships and can be easily and effectively served by public transit and *active transportation*.

(11) [Section number not in use.]

(12) To support the provision of public transit service, within reasonable walking distance and at reasonable cost, to all sectors of the public, including persons with a physical disability.

(13) To ensure that the planning, *development* and design of the transportation system take into account social, economic and environmental factors as well as the needs of the agricultural community and consider, where appropriate, alternative design standards consistent with *policies* of this Plan.

(14) To develop transportation corridors as shared-use facilities with other linear *utilities*.

(14.1) To promote, in conjunction with the Province and other municipal jurisdictions, a safe and efficient network for goods movement in *Halton* and the surrounding region.

(15) To support a safe and efficient railway network for the movement of goods and people.

(16) To facilitate convenient access by *Halton* residents and businesses to major air transportation facilities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area and surrounding region.

**173.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Adopt a Functional Plan of Major Transportation Facilities, as shown on Map 3 and described in Table 3, for the purpose of meeting travel demands for year 2021 as well as protecting key components of the future transportation system to meet travel demands beyond year 2021. The alignments of entirely new sections of transportation facilities shown on Map 3 are conceptual only. The geometrics, design and construction of Provincial Freeways and Highways are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation, and descriptions of these facilities in Table 3 are for information purposes only.

(1.1) Work with the Province and Local Municipalities to plan for and protect *planned corridors* and rights-of-way for transportation and transport facilities, as shown on

Map 3, to meet current and projected needs. *Development* shall not preclude or negatively affect the use of the *planned corridor* for the purpose(s) for which it was identified or being actively planned.

(1.2) Require Local Municipalities, in consultation with and to the satisfaction of the Province, to develop official plan policies that provide protection for *planned corridors*, including those identified in Section 173(1.4) of this Plan, to ensure that *development* shall not predetermine or preclude the planning and/or implementation of the corresponding transportation facilities and *planned corridors* on Map 3.

(1.3) Work with the Province and Local Municipalities to continue to support the completion of Provincial transportation corridor EA Studies.

(1.4) Identify the following *planned corridors* on Map 3:

a) the Highway 413 Corridor and the Northwest GTA Transmission Corridor, consisting of: a corridor protection area that reflects the Highway 413 Focused Analysis Area (2020) and the Northwest GTA Transmission Corridor Narrowed Area of Interest (2020) and that is intended to be protected and refined until such time as the final locations of the Highway 413 Corridor and the Northwest GTA Transmission Corridor are confirmed. The final confirmed rights-of-way for the Highway 413 and Northwest GTA Transmission Corridor will be protected indefinitely with the highway lands designated under the PTHIA.

b) the Halton-Peel Boundary Area Transportation Study (HPBATS) Corridor, consisting of a corridor protection area necessary to protect for transportation improvements.

(1.5) Ensure that *development* within the areas identified in Section 173(1.4) and shown on Map 3 of this Plan will not preclude or negatively affect the planning and/or implementation of the *planned corridors* for the purpose(s) for which they are identified.

(1.6) Automatically update the *planned corridors* and associated corridor protection areas as shown on Map 3, without amendment to this Plan as follows:

a) where preferred alignments and ancillary features have been determined through an *Environmental Assessment Act* process and the identified corridors have been subsequently designated as facilities under the relevant provincial Acts or policies, at which time lands not required for the designated corridors and ancillary features are removed from the corridor protection areas; or

b) through the phased release of lands as determined by the Province, and provided that the release of lands meets the criteria under Section 173(1.5) of this Plan.

## TABLE 3 FUNCTION OF MAJOR TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

| Facility Type | Function | General Design Criteria |
|---|---|---|
| Provincial Freeways | • Serve mainly inter-regional travel demands<br>• Accommodate all truck traffic<br>• Accommodate *higher order transit* services and high-occupancy-vehicle lanes<br>• Carry high volumes of traffic<br>• Connect Urban Areas in different regions | • Full access control<br>• Minimum 4 travel lanes<br>• Noise-*sensitive land uses* to be discouraged along right-of-way |
| Provincial Highways | • Serve mainly inter-regional travel demands<br>• Accommodate all truck traffic<br>• Accommodate *higher order transit* services and high occupancy vehicle lanes<br>• Carry high volumes of traffic<br>• Connect Urban Areas in different regions | • High degree of access control<br>• Transit-supportive, high density, mixed use *development* to be encouraged along right-of-way within urban areas<br>• Right-of-way requirements vary |
| Major Arterials | • Serve mainly inter-regional and regional travel demands<br>• May serve an *Intensification Corridor*<br>• Accommodate all truck traffic<br>• Accommodate *higher order transit* services and high occupancy vehicle lanes<br>• Connect Urban Areas in different municipalities<br>• Carry high volumes of traffic<br>• Distribute traffic to and from Provincial Freeways and Highways<br>• Accommodate *active transportation* | • High degree of access control<br>• Transit-supportive, high density, mixed use *development* to be encouraged along right-of-way within urban areas<br>• Right-of-way requirements up to 50m<br>• Pedestrian *infrastructure* as well as on and/or off road cycling facilities where possible |
| Multi-Purpose Arterials | • Serve a mix of functions of Major Arterials and Minor Arterials<br>• Accommodate *active transportation* | • Intermediate degree of access control<br>• Transit-supportive, high density, mixed use *development* to be encouraged along right-of-way<br>• Right-of-way requirements up to 50m<br>• Pedestrian *infrastructure* as well as on and/or off road cycling facilities where possible |

| Facility Type | Function | General Design Criteria |
|---|---|---|
| Minor Arterials | • Serve mainly local travel demands<br>• May serve an *Intensification Corridor*<br>• Accommodate local truck traffic<br>• Accommodate local transit services<br>• Connect Urban Areas within the same municipalities<br>• Carry moderate to high volumes of traffic<br>• Distribute traffic to and from Major and Multi-Purpose Arterials<br>• Accommodate *active transportation* | • Intermediate degree of access control<br>• Right-of-way requirements up to 35m unless specifically identified in a Local Municipal Official Plan<br>• Pedestrian i*nfrastructure* as well as on and/or off road cycling facilities where possible |
| *Higher Order Transit* Corridors | • Serve inter-municipal and inter-regional travel demands by public transit<br>• Serve an *Intensification Corridor*<br>• Accommodate *higher order transit* services<br>• Connect *Urban Growth Centres* and Mixed Use Nodes | • Exclusive right-of-way for transit vehicles where possible<br>• Transit-supportive, high density, mixed use *development* to be encouraged around stations<br>• Connection of *active transportation* facilities and transportation and transit *infrastructure,* at stations. |
| Major Transit Stations | • Part of the *higher order transit* network<br>• Serve inter-municipal and inter-regional travel demands by public transit<br>• Complements *Intensification Areas* | • Connecting the *higher order transit* service with other transportation modes<br>• Facilities for mode transfers such as bicycle parking, automobile drop-off / pick-up<br>• Surrounded by transit-supportive, high density, mixed use *development* to ensure the viability of a high level of transit services<br>• Connection of *active transportation* facilities and transportation and transit *infrastructure* |
| Rail Lines | • Serve all types of people and goods movements by rail at the regional or national scale<br>• Accommodate commuter rail movement to *Urban Growth Centres* in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area and the surrounding region | • Grade separations at intersections with other major transportation facilities, where warranted<br>• Noise- or vibration-*sensitive land uses* to be discouraged along right-of-way<br>• Transit-supportive, high density, mixed use *development* to be encouraged around Major Transit Stations |

(2) Ensure that the *development* of the transportation system in and around *Halton* supports the *development* of *Intensification Areas*.

(3) Encourage the respective agencies having jurisdiction over any major transportation facilities of regional significance in *Halton*, including but not necessarily limited to those shown in Map 3, to have regard to the contents of

Table 3 of this Plan and to consult the *Region* in the planning, design and construction of such facilities.

(4) Adopt a Right-of-Way Plan of *Arterial Roads*, as shown on Map 4, for future *highway* widenings to support a balanced transportation system and to serve travel demands to year 2021.

(5) Secure through the *development* process and, where necessary, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities:

a) *Arterial Road* rights-of-way of widths as shown on Map 4; when securing these rights-of-way, it is the general *policy* of the *Region* that lands be acquired of equal distance on either side of the centreline of the original road allowance but circumstances such as topographical features, building locations, transit stations or stops, facilities for *active transportation*, *sensitive land uses*, a change in the right-of-way requirement or other factors may result in more lands being secured from one side of the road than the other;

b) daylighting triangles measured 15m by 15m at the intersection of a Major *Arterial Road* with another *highway*;

c) *Arterial Road* rights-of-way, additional to those under Section 173(5)a), for:

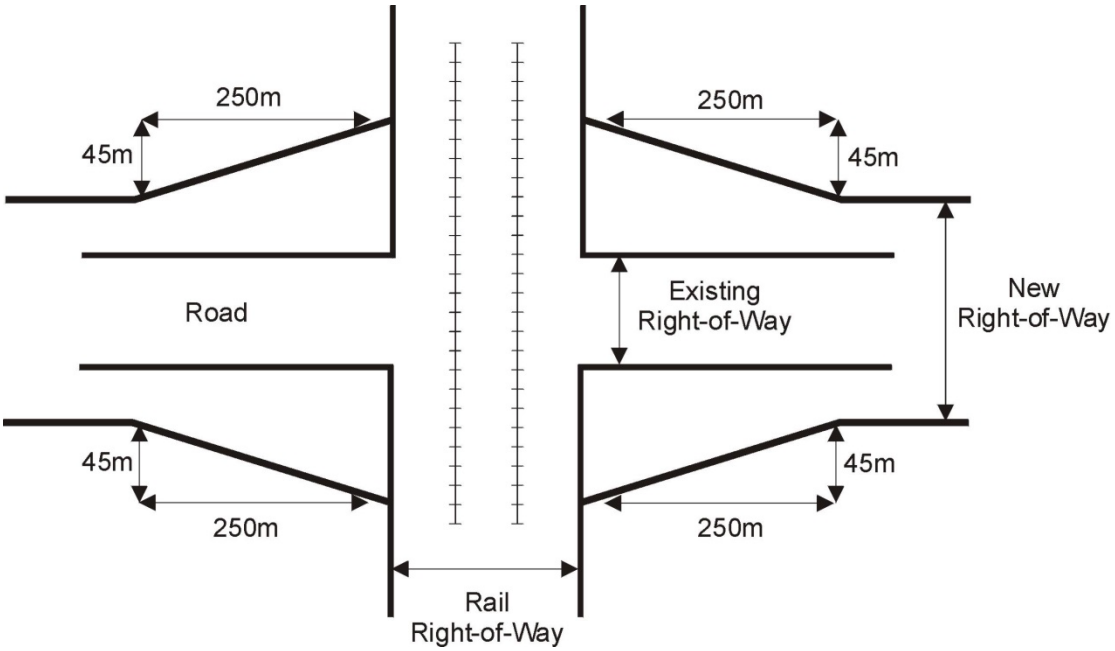
[i] future grade separations at the crossing of an *Arterial Road* with a rail line, with general dimensions as shown in Figure 3;

[ii] turning lanes and channelization at intersections;

[iii] traffic control devices or other *utility* locations; and

d) *Arterial Road* rights-of-way on alignment and of width that are based on engineering studies completed for *development* approval to the satisfaction of the *Region* and may be in addition to those shown on Map 4.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY REQUIREMENTS FOR FUTURE RAILWAY GRADE SEPARATIONS**




(5.1) Amend Maps 3 and 4 and Table 3 to reflect:

a) the requirements of the transportation system to meet travel demands for year 2041, upon completion of the Region's Transportation Master Plan.

b) the requirements of the transportation system to meet current and future travel demands, consistent with the appropriate recommendations of the Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan, any inter-regional transportation network environmental assessment, and the Region's Transportation Master Plan.

| |
|---|
| c) Where the Province through the Environmental Assessment process has identified a preferred transportation route, the Region and the Local Municipalities shall undertake the necessary amendments to protect for the route in their respective Official Plans. |
| *The version of Section 173(5.1)c) above represents the wording supported by the Region and is held under appeal for adjudication by the Ontario Land Tribunal as part of Case No. PL140744. For the version of this Section as approved by the Minister, please refer to the Minister's Decision dated November 24, 2011.* |

(6) Adopt a set of *Highway* Dedication Guidelines to guide the specific application of Section 173(5). *Development* process under Section 173(5) includes plans of subdivision and condominium, part-lot control applications, consents, site plan approvals, minor variances, and Parkway Belt West Plan and Niagara Escarpment Plan applications.

(7) In conjunction with the Province and the Local Municipalities, establish, and require proposed *developments* to comply with, minimum setback standards, parking provision *policies*, access control *policies*, and applicable design criteria for major transportation facilities in *Halton* consistent with the function and design criteria as described in Table 3.

(8) In conjunction with the Local Municipalities, restrict access of land uses to *Arterial Roads* in accordance with Council-adopted access management *policies* that balance providing access to land uses, meeting urban design objectives within *Urban Growth Centres* or Mixed Use Nodes and maintaining a satisfactory level of service for traffic on the *Arterial Road*.

(9) [Section number not in use.]

(10) Coordinate with the Province, Metrolinx and the Local Municipalities the planning, *development* and funding of both *highway* and inter-regional *higher order transit* projects in *Halton* to ensure the provision of a balanced transportation system with an acceptable level of service.

(11) Consult the neighbouring regional, county and local municipalities in the planning and design of transportation facilities at or near the common boundaries.

(12) Develop and implement, in conjunction with the Province, Metrolinx and the Local Municipalities, *travel demand management* initiatives to reduce travel by single-occupant vehicles and to reduce congestion on *Halton's* transportation network.

(13) Require, in the planning and design of *Arterial Roads* in *Halton*, the consideration of incorporating *transportation supply management* measures to maximize network efficiency, give priority to transit vehicles, and increase safety.

(14) In cooperation with the Province, Metrolinx and Local Municipalities, develop and implement a strategic plan for *intelligent transportation systems*, including action plans for emergency road closures, in *Halton*'s transportation network.

(15) In conjunction with the Province, Metrolinx and Local Municipalities, identify and implement a network of high-occupancy-vehicle lanes in *Halton* as part of a connected inter-regional network.

(16) Implement, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities, a network of cycling facilities in *Halton* by requiring, in any re-construction or widening of *Arterial Roads*, that consideration be given to the inclusion of such facilities within the Arterial right-of-way.

(16.1) Implement, in conjunction with the Province, Metrolinx and the Local Municipalities, a network of *active transportation* facilities in *Halton* that is integrated with public transit services and *Intensification Areas*.

(17) Require, in the environmental assessment of any *Arterial Road* project, to address whether there are other transportation alternatives and how the project would implement the transportation *goals*, *objectives* and *policies* of this Plan and to consider, where appropriate, alternative design standards to mitigate environmental and social impact.

(18) Maintain programs to continually improve safety on *Halton*'s *Arterial Road* network.

(19) Monitor and report to Council annually on the overall performance of *Halton*'s transportation system.

(20) Require the Local Municipalities to provide in their Official Plan or appropriate *Area-Specific Plans*:

a) *policies* related to the provision of transit service addressing general locations and anticipated levels of service,

b) transit-supportive corridors with appropriate *policies* and Zoning By-laws to encourage *active transportation* and transit usage, and

c) a network of *active transportation* facilities in the Urban Area(s) that serves a transportation function and provides convenient access to *Intensification Areas* and transit routes.

(20.1) Support the planning and coordination of public transit service and urban design such that all residences are within 400m walking distance of a transit stop.

(21) Require the Local Municipalities to:

a) ensure that collector roads in the Urban Area are provided approximately mid-block between *Arterial Roads* to maximize the accessibility of transit service to local residents;

b) include in the site plan approval process a review of how the proposal has maximized *active transportation* opportunities and transit access to the site;

c) direct the development of transit-supportive land uses to the *Intensification Areas*;

d) as permitted by its financial capability, introduce transit service early in *development* areas to promote the use of public transit and reduce the need for additional private automobiles;

e) adopt parking *policies* in the *Intensification Areas* that would promote *active transportation* and the use of public transit; and

f) support *intensification* by extending transit services to *Intensification Areas* and areas where transit-supportive *development densities* will be achieved.

(22) Require the proponent of any *development* considered to have a transportation impact to carry out a detailed transportation study to assess the impact of the proposal and to recommend necessary improvements to the transportation network and services consistent with the *goals*, *objectives* and *policies* of this Plan.

(23) Participate with the Province, Metrolinx and other municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area in the planning and *development* of an inter-regional transportation network, including a *higher order transit* system throughout the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

(23.1) Work with the Province, Metrolinx and Local Municipalities towards the implementation of the Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan, subject to the *Region*'s ability to meet its financial obligations under that Plan and its investment strategy, and adequate financial support by the senior levels of government.

(24) Support and invest, in partnership with the Province, Metrolinx and other upper-tier or single-tier municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, in the continuous service and network enhancement of the Provincial GO Transit system.

(25) Secure, through the *development* process and/or strategic property acquisitions, the necessary rights-of-way and sites for transit stops and stations and commuter parking or mode transfer facilities for the implementation of local and inter-regional transit systems within *Halton*.

(26) [Section number not in use.]

(27) Seek Provincial and Federal funding and advocate other revenue sources to support strong local transit systems characterized by:

a) a good state of repair,

b) excellent feeder services to the inter-municipal/inter-regional *higher order transit* network, and

c) timely services for new and existing communities.

(28) Investigate, jointly with the Local Municipalities, Metrolinx and the Province, the integration of fare and service among local and inter-regional transit systems, and the need for and feasibility of a single transit operating authority in *Halton*.

(28.1) Pursue the implementation of the 20 per cent transit usage target by:

a) identifying, through regular update to the Transportation Master Plan, the *infrastructure* needed to support increased transit usage;

b) monitoring, as part of the annual report on the performance of the Regional transportation system under Section 173(19), public transit usage and performance of transit systems operating within *Halton*;

c) working closely with the Province and Metrolinx to ensure that inter-regional transit facilities are implemented and services provided in a timely fashion;

d) seeking changes to the Development Charges Act and other legislation to remove barriers in funding capital and operating costs of public transit services within *Halton*;

e) promoting, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities, public transit usage through the Sustainability Advisory Committee under Section 141(7);

f) taking into consideration the funding needed to support increased public transit usage in preparing the financing plan for new growth under Section 77(15); and

g) recognizing that a balanced transportation system in *Halton* is an important strategic *goal* of Council and an *objective* in the *Halton* Corporate Plan.

(29) Support the adaptation of all transportation systems to make them fully accessible to persons with a physical disability.

(30) Support, through coordination and/or provision, a transportation service for *Halton* residents who, because of physical, developmental and/or medical conditions, cannot utilize the conventional transit services even after their adaptation for persons with a physical disability.

(30.1) In conjunction with the Province, Metrolinx and other municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, plan and implement an efficient, safe and integrated transportation network for goods movement by rail, road, water and air.

(31) Support the provision of a safe and efficient railway network by:

a) securing grade separations of railways and *Arterial Roads* where warranted;

b) supporting the continuous monitoring and necessary actions to improve the safety of the movement of dangerous goods by rail; and

c) ensuring, where possible, compatible land uses adjacent or in proximity to railway corridors and terminal facilities including railway yards and inter-modal terminals.

(32) Require proposed *development* adjacent or in proximity to railway lines/yards/terminals or within railway rights-of-way to ensure that appropriate safety measures such as setbacks, berms and security fencing are provided to the satisfaction of the *Region* and the Local Municipality to mitigate any safety concerns by the railway agency and/or abutting residents.

(33) Investigate, jointly with municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, the following issues related to air transportation:

a) existing operational deficiencies of the system of airports in or near the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area,

b) *Halton*'s role in a local airport authority,

c) the role of Burlington Air Park, as identified by symbol on Map 3, in *Halton* and within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area airport system, taking into account social, economic and environmental impact,

d) options for maximizing the utilization of John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport, and

e) improved *highway* and transit access to Lester B. Pearson International Airport and John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport.

(34) Review and comment on any proposal of water transportation service for commuters based on its compatibility with the *goals*, *objectives* and *policies* of this Plan.

## *ENERGY AND UTILITIES*

**174.** The *goal* for energy and *utilities* is to encourage and ensure the conservation and wise economic use of energy and to minimize *adverse effects* caused by its provision.

**175.** The *objectives* of the *Region* are:

(1) To guide *development* and transportation services so that energy consumption is held to a minimum.

(2) To reduce energy used in public and private buildings.

(3) To promote the use of those forms of energy that pose the least environmental risk.

(4) To achieve active participation of energy conservation by all residents and businesses in *Halton*.

(5) To take an active part in decisions regarding the planning and development of *utility* corridors in *Halton*.

**176.** It is the *policy* of the *Region* to:

(1) Recognize the importance of energy and *utility* provision, but assist in minimizing possible impacts of *utility* corridors and generating facilities, and to this end:

a) Act as coordinator of the interests of the Local Municipalities and work in conjunction with *utility* providers in the process of selecting sites and routes.

b) Coordinate with the Local Municipalities, agencies, *utility* providers and developers the design, construction, operation and maintenance of all *utility* services to minimize community and environmental impact and to ensure timely and cost-efficient services to the public.

c) Endorse the principle of multiple-use *utility* corridors and trenches and secure the cooperation of agencies and developers having authority in this matter.

d) Promote within the Urban Area, where appropriate, the availability and use of transmission corridors for recreational purposes.

e) Seek participation and early consultations on any energy-generating facilities which could affect the *Region*.

f) Urge those authorities having jurisdiction, as permitted by legislation, over the planning and development of *utility* facilities and corridors affecting *Halton*, to have regard for the *goals*, *objectives* and *policies* of this Plan.

g) Require that Local Official Plans include, for lands within or adjacent to *utility* corridors or generating facilities, *policies* that address public safety, environmental protection and air quality.

h) Urge the Province to retain all major facilities for the generation or transmission of energy/*utility* under the provisions of the Environmental Assessment Act.

(1.1) Within the Parkway Belt West Plan Area, identify and protect future linear facilities for energy and *utility* purposes, as per Sections 139.4 and 139.5 of this Plan.

(2) Facilitate energy conservation by:

a) including energy conservation as a criterion in evaluating private and public undertakings of regional significance,

b) encouraging all levels of government to provide recreational opportunities locally in *Halton* to discourage long distance trips for short term recreational purposes,

c) promoting compact growth, live-work relationship and locally accessible services,

d) encouraging the Local Municipalities to adopt energy conservation *policies*, including building guidelines in new *developments*, treescaping and site plan criteria, to improve the efficiency of energy use,

e) encouraging *public agencies*, private industries and individuals to participate in energy conservation programs,

f) evaluating and implementing cost-effective resource recovery techniques including the use of recycled wastes and waste by-products such as methane gas as an energy source,

g) applying energy conservation techniques in Regional facilities and projects, and

h) supporting energy conservation research projects and encouraging the Federal and Provincial governments to provide funds for such projects.

(3) Support the use of the principles of sustainability in evaluating proposals for alternative energy sources.

(4) Investigate, through the Sustainability Advisory Committee, energy conservation measures and alternate energy generation methods that would minimize impact to the environment.

(5) Develop, in conjunction with the Local Municipalities, guidelines for coordinated municipal responses to renewable energy proposals under the Green Energy Act and the Environmental Assessment Act.

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