

APPENDIX A: Provincial Policy and Growth Plan Excerpts

Provincial Policy Statement

The Provincial Policy Statement (2020) ('PPS') is intended to promote a policy led system, which recognizes that there are complex relationships among environmental, economic and social factors in land use planning. The PPS encourages the wise management of land to achieve efficient development and land use patterns by directing growth to settlement areas and by promoting a compact development form.

The subject lands are located within a settlement area, which are to be the focus of growth and development (policy 1.1.3.1). The land use patterns within the settlement area based on densities and a mix of land uses that, among other matters, efficiently use land and resources, appropriately use the infrastructure and public service facilities that are planned or available and are transit supportive.

Part V: Policies

1.1 Managing and Directing Land Use to Achieve Efficient and Resilient Development and Land Use Patterns

1.1.1 – Healthy, liveable and safe communities are sustained by:

- a) promoting efficient development and land use patterns which sustain the financial well-being of the Province and municipalities over the long term;
- b) accommodating an appropriate affordable and market-based range and mix of residential types (including single-detached, additional residential units, multi-unit housing, affordable housing and housing for older persons), employment (including industrial and commercial), institutional (including places of worship, cemeteries and long-term care homes), recreation, park and open space, and other uses to meet long-term needs;
- c) avoiding development and land use patterns which may cause environmental or public health and safety concerns;
- d) avoiding development and land use patterns that would prevent the efficient expansion of *settlement areas* in those areas which are adjacent or close to *settlement areas*;
- e) promoting the integration of land use planning, growth management, *transit-supportive* development, *intensification* and *infrastructure* planning to achieve cost-effective development patterns, optimization of transit investments, and standards to minimize land consumption and servicing costs;
- f) improving accessibility for persons with disabilities and older persons by addressing land use barriers which restrict their full participation in society;

- g) ensuring that necessary *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* are or will be available to meet current and projected needs;
- h) promoting development and land use patterns that conserve biodiversity; and
- i) preparing for the regional and local impacts of a changing climate.

1.1.2 Sufficient land shall be made available to accommodate an appropriate range and mix of land uses to meet projected needs for a time horizon of up to 25 years, informed by provincial guidelines. However, where an alternate time period has been established for specific areas of the Province as a result of a provincial planning exercise or a *provincial plan*, that time frame may be used for municipalities within the area.

Within *settlement areas*, sufficient land shall be made available through *intensification* and *redevelopment* and, if necessary, *designated growth areas*.

Nothing in policy 1.1.2 limits the planning for *infrastructure*, *public service facilities* and *employment areas* beyond a 25-year time horizon.

1.1.3 Settlement Areas

Settlement areas are urban areas and rural settlement areas, and include cities, towns, villages and hamlets. Ontario's settlement areas vary significantly in terms of size, density, population, economic activity, diversity and intensity of land uses, service levels, and types of infrastructure available.

The vitality and regeneration of settlement areas is critical to the long-term economic prosperity of our communities. Development pressures and land use change will vary across Ontario. It is in the interest of all communities to use land and resources wisely, to promote efficient development patterns, protect resources, promote green spaces, ensure effective use of infrastructure and public service facilities and minimize unnecessary public expenditures.

1.1.3.1 *Settlement areas* shall be the focus of growth and development.

1.1.3.2 Land use patterns within settlement areas shall be based on densities and a mix of land uses which:

- a) efficiently use land and resources;
- b) are appropriate for, and efficiently use, the infrastructure and public service facilities which are planned or available, and avoid the need for unjustified and/or uneconomical expansion;
- c) minimize negative impacts to air quality and climate change, and promote energy efficiency;
- d) prepare for the *impacts of a changing climate*;
- e) support active transportation;
- f) are transit-supportive, where transit is planned, exists or may be developed; and
- g) are freight-supportive.

Land use patterns within *settlement areas* shall also be based on a range of uses and opportunities for *intensification* and *redevelopment* in accordance with the criteria in policy 1.1.3.3, where this can be accommodated

1.1.3.3 Planning authorities shall identify appropriate locations and promote opportunities for *transit-supportive* development, accommodating a significant supply and range of *housing options* through *intensification* and *redevelopment* where this can be accommodated taking into account existing building stock or areas, including *brownfield sites*, and the availability of suitable existing or planned *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* required to accommodate projected needs.

1.1.3.4 Appropriate development standards should be promoted which facilitate *intensification*, *redevelopment* and compact form, while avoiding or mitigating risks to public health and safety.

1.1.3.5 Planning authorities shall establish and implement minimum targets for *intensification* and *redevelopment* within built-up areas, based on local conditions. However, where provincial targets are established through *provincial plans*, the provincial target shall represent the minimum target for affected areas.

1.1.3.6 New development taking place in *designated growth areas* should occur adjacent to the existing built-up area and should have a compact form, mix of uses and densities that allow for the efficient use of land, *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*.

1.2 Coordination

- 1.2.1 A coordinated, integrated and comprehensive approach should be used when dealing with planning matters within municipalities, across lower, single and/or upper-tier municipal boundaries, and with other orders of government, agencies and boards including:
- a) managing and/or promoting growth and development that is integrated with *infrastructure* planning;
 - b) economic development strategies;
 - c) managing natural heritage, water, agricultural, mineral, and cultural heritage and archaeological resources;
 - d) *infrastructure*, *multimodal transportation systems*, *public service facilities* and *waste management systems*;
 - e) ecosystem, shoreline, watershed, and Great Lakes related issues;
 - f) natural and human-made hazards;
 - g) population, housing and employment projections, based on *regional market areas*; and

- h) addressing housing needs in accordance with provincial policy statements such as the Policy Statement: Service Manager Housing and Homelessness Plans.

1.4 Housing

1.4.1 To provide for an appropriate range and mix of *housing options* and densities required to meet projected requirements of current and future residents of the *regional market area*, planning authorities shall:

- a) maintain at all times the ability to accommodate residential growth for a minimum of 15 years through *residential intensification* and *redevelopment* and, if necessary, lands which are *designated and available* for residential development; and
- b) maintain at all times where new development is to occur, land with servicing capacity sufficient to provide at least a three-year supply of residential units available through lands suitably zoned to facilitate *residential intensification* and *redevelopment*, and land in draft approved and registered plans.

Upper-tier and single-tier municipalities may choose to maintain land with servicing capacity sufficient to provide at least a five-year supply of residential units available through lands suitably zoned to facilitate *residential intensification* and *redevelopment*, and land in draft approved and registered plans.

1.4.2 Where planning is conducted by an upper-tier municipality:

- a) the land and unit supply maintained by the lower-tier municipality identified in policy 1.4.1 shall be based on and reflect the allocation of population and units by the upper-tier municipality; and
- b) the allocation of population and units by the upper-tier municipality shall be based on and reflect *provincial plans* where these exist.

1.4.3 Planning authorities shall provide for an appropriate range and mix of *housing options* and densities to meet projected market-based and affordable housing needs of current and future residents of the *regional market area* by:

- a) establishing and implementing minimum targets for the provision of housing which is *affordable to low and moderate income households* and which aligns with applicable housing and homelessness plans. However, where planning is conducted by an upper-tier municipality, the upper-tier municipality in consultation with the lower-tier municipalities may identify a higher target(s) which shall represent the minimum target(s) for these lower-tier municipalities;
- b) permitting and facilitating:

1. all *housing options* required to meet the social, health, economic and well-being requirements of current and future residents, including *special needs* requirements and needs arising from demographic changes and employment opportunities; and
 2. all types of *residential intensification*, including additional residential units, and *redevelopment* in accordance with policy 1.1.3.3;
- c) directing the development of new housing towards locations where appropriate levels of *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* are or will be available to support current and projected needs;
 - d) promoting densities for new housing which efficiently use land, resources, *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*, and support the use of *active transportation* and transit in areas where it exists or is to be developed;
 - e) requiring *transit-supportive* development and prioritizing *intensification*, including potential air rights development, in proximity to transit, including corridors and stations; and
 - f) establishing development standards for *residential intensification*, *redevelopment* and new residential development which minimize the cost of housing and facilitate compact form, while maintaining appropriate levels of public health and safety.

1.6 Infrastructure and Public Service Facilities

- 1.6.1 *Infrastructure and public service facilities* shall be provided in an efficient manner that prepares for the *impacts of a changing climate* while accommodating projected needs.

Planning for *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* shall be coordinated and integrated with land use planning and growth management so that they are:

- a) financially viable over their life cycle, which may be demonstrated through asset management planning; and
- b) available to meet current and projected needs.

- 1.6.3 Before consideration is given to developing new *infrastructure* and *public service facilities*:

- a) the use of existing *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* should be optimized; and
- b) opportunities for adaptive re-use should be considered, wherever feasible.

- 1.6.4 *Infrastructure* and *public service facilities* should be strategically located to support the effective and efficient delivery of emergency management services, and to ensure the protection of public health and safety in accordance with the policies in Section 3.0: Protecting Public Health and Safety.
- 1.6.5 *Public service facilities* should be co-located in community hubs, where appropriate, to promote cost-effectiveness and facilitate service integration, access to transit and *active transportation*.

1.6.7 Transportation Systems

- 1.6.7.1 *Transportation systems* should be provided which are safe, energy efficient, facilitate the movement of people and goods, and are appropriate to address projected needs.
- 1.6.7.2 Efficient use shall be made of existing and planned *infrastructure*, including through the use of *transportation demand management* strategies, where feasible.
- 1.6.7.3 As part of a *multimodal transportation system*, connectivity with and among *transportation systems* and modes should be maintained and, where possible, improved including connections which cross jurisdictional boundaries.
- 1.6.7.4 A land use pattern, density and mix of uses should be promoted that minimize the length and number of vehicle trips and support current and future uses of transit and *active transportation*.

1.6.8 Transportation and Infrastructure Corridors

- 1.6.8.1 Planning authorities shall plan for and protect corridors and rights-of-way for *infrastructure*, including transportation, transit and electricity generation facilities and transmission systems to meet current and projected needs.
- 1.6.8.3 Planning authorities shall not permit *development* in *planned corridors* that could preclude or negatively affect the use of the corridor for the purpose(s) for which it was identified.

New *development* proposed on *adjacent lands* to existing or *planned corridors* and transportation facilities should be compatible with, and supportive of, the long-term purposes of the corridor and should be designed to avoid, mitigate or minimize negative impacts on and from the corridor and transportation facilities.

Growth Plan (2019)

The Growth Plan is a long-term plan that intends to manage growth, build complete communities, curb sprawl and protect cultural heritage resources and the natural environment.

The Growth Plan provides policies for where and how to grow, directing population and employment growth to urban areas and rural settlement areas with delineated built boundaries on full municipal services (policy 2.2.1). The subject lands are located within a “Built-Up Area.”

Section 2.2 – Policies for Where and How to Grow

2.2.1 – Managing Growth

2.2.1.2 Forecasted growth to the horizon of this Plan will be allocated based on the following:

- a. the vast majority of growth will be directed to settlement areas that:
 - i. have a *delineated* built boundary;
 - ii. have existing or planned *municipal water and wastewater systems*; and
 - iii. can support the achievement of *complete communities*;

- c. within *settlement areas*, growth will be focused in:
 - i. *delineated built-up areas*;
 - ii. *strategic growth areas*;
 - iii. locations with existing or planned transit, with a priority on *higher order transit* where it exists or is planned; and
 - iv. areas with existing or planned *public service facilities*;

2.2.1.4 Applying the policies of this plan will support the achievement of *complete communities* that:

- a) feature a diverse mix of land uses, including residential and employment uses, and convenient access to local stores, services, and *public service facilities*;
- b) improve social equity and overall quality of life, including human health, for people of all ages, abilities, and incomes;
- c) provide a diverse range and mix of housing options, including second units and *affordable* housing, to accommodate people at all stages of life, and to accommodate the needs of all household sizes and incomes
- d) expand convenient access to:
 - i. a range of transportation options, including options for the safe, comfortable and convenient use of active transportation;
 - ii. public service facilities, co-located and integrated in community hubs;
 - iii. an appropriate supply of safe, publicly-accessible open spaces, parks, trails, and other recreational facilities; and

- iv. healthy, local, and affordable food options, including through urban agriculture;
- e) ensure the development of high quality compact built form, an attractive and vibrant public realm, including public open spaces, through site design and urban design standards;
- f) mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, build resilience, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and contribute towards the achievement of low-carbon communities; and
- g) integrate green infrastructure and low impact development.

2.2.2.3 – Delineated Built-up Areas

All municipalities will develop a strategy to achieve the minimum intensification target and *intensification* throughout *delineated built-up areas*, which will:

- a) encourage *intensification* generally to achieve the desired urban structure;
- b) identify the appropriate type and scale of development and transition of built form to adjacent areas;
- c) identify *strategic growth areas* to support achievement of the intensification target and recognize them as a key focus for development;
- d) ensure lands are zoned and development is designed in a manner that supports the achievement of *complete communities*;
- e) prioritize planning and investment in *infrastructure* and *public service facilities* that will support *intensification*; and
- f) be implemented through official plan policies and designations, updated zoning and other supporting documents.

2.2.3 – Urban Growth Centres

1. *Urban Growth Centres* will be planned:

- a) as focal areas for investment in regional *public service facilities*, as well as commercial, recreational, cultural and entertainment uses;
- b) to accommodate and support the transit network at the regional scale and provide connection points for inter-and intra-regional transit;
- c) to serve as high density major employment centres that will attract provincially, nationally or internationally significant employment uses; and
- d) to accommodate significant population and employment growth.

2. *Urban growth centres* will be planned to achieve, by 2031 or earlier, a minimum density target of 200 residents and jobs combined per hectare.

2.2.4 – Transit Corridors and Station Areas

1. The *priority transit corridors* shown in Schedule 5 will be identified in official plans. Planning will be prioritized for *major transit station areas* on *priority transit corridors*, including zoning in a manner that implements the policies of this Plan.

9. Within all *major transit station areas*, development will be supported, where appropriate, by:
 - a. planning for a diverse mix of uses, including second units and *affordable housing*, to support existing and planned transit service levels;
 - b. fostering collaboration between public and private sectors, such as *joint development* projects;
 - c. providing alternative development standards, such as reduced parking standards; and
 - d. prohibiting land uses and built form that would adversely affect the achievement of *transit-supportive* densities.
10. Lands adjacent to or near to existing and planned *frequent transit* should be planned to be *transit-supportive* and supportive of *active transportation* and a range and mix of uses and activities.
11. In planning lands adjacent to or near *higher order transit* corridors and facilities, municipalities will identify and protect lands that may be needed for future enhancement or expansion of transit *infrastructure*, in consultation with Metrolinx, as appropriate.

2.2.6.3 – Housing

To support the achievement of complete communities, municipalities will consider the use of available tools to require that multi-unit residential developments incorporate a mix of unit sizes to accommodate a diverse range of household sizes and incomes

Section 3 – Policies for Infrastructure to Support Growth

3.2.1 – Integrated Planning

1. *Infrastructure* planning, land use planning and *infrastructure* investment will be co-ordinated to implement this Plan.
2. Planning for new or expanded *infrastructure* will occur in an integrated manner, including evaluations of long-range scenario-based land use planning, environmental and financial planning, and will be supported by relevant studies and should involve:
 - a) leveraging *infrastructure* investment to direct growth and development in accordance with the policies and schedules of this Plan, including the achievement of the minimum intensification and density targets in this Plan;
 - b) providing sufficient *infrastructure* capacity in *strategic growth areas*;
 - c) identifying the full life cycle of *infrastructure* and developing options to pay for these costs over the long-term; and
 - d) considering the impacts of a changing climate.
3. *Infrastructure* investment and other implementation tools and mechanisms will be used to facilitate *intensification* and higher density development in *strategic*

growth areas. Priority will be given to *infrastructure* investments made by the Province that support the policies and schedules of this Plan.

4. Municipalities will assess *infrastructure* risks and vulnerabilities, including those caused by the impacts of a changing climate, and identify actions and investments to address these challenges, which could be identified as part of municipal asset management planning.
5. The Province will work with public sector partners, including Metrolinx, to identify strategic infrastructure needs to support the implementation of this Plan through multi-year infrastructure planning for the transportation system and public service facilities.

3.2.2 – Transportation General

1. *Transportation system* planning, land use planning, and transportation investment will be co-ordinated to implement this Plan.
2. The *transportation system* within the *GGH* will be planned and managed to:
 - a. provide connectivity among transportation modes for moving people and for moving goods;
 - b. offer a balance of transportation choices that reduces reliance upon the automobile and promotes transit and *active transportation*;
 - c. be sustainable and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging the most financially and environmentally appropriate mode for trip-making and supporting the use of zero- and low-emission vehicles;
 - d. offer *multimodal* access to jobs, housing, schools, cultural, and recreational opportunities, and goods and services;
 - e. accommodate agricultural vehicles and equipment, as appropriate; and
 - f. provide for the safety of system users.
4. Municipalities will develop and implement *transportation demand management* policies in official plans or other planning documents or programs to:
 - a. reduce trip distance and time;
 - b. increase the *modal share* of alternatives to the automobile, which may include setting *modal share* targets;
 - c. prioritize *active transportation*, transit, and goods movement over single-occupant automobiles;
 - d. expand *infrastructure* to support *active transportation*; and
 - e. consider the needs of *major trip generators*.