

GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE (GGH) REGION LAND- USE PLANNING AND AGRICULTURE IN THE ONTARIO CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN



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Our goal is to build a legacy for our children -- one that includes.....

- Protecting thousands of acres of prime farmland so farmers can prosper**
- Preserving our watersheds, rivers and forests to protect the water we drink and the air we breathe**
- Promoting recreation, sports and tourism by establishing a trail system, open spaces and parklands”**



OUR REGION | OUR COMMUNITY | OUR HOME

A DISCUSSION DOCUMENT FOR THE 2015 CO-ORDINATED REVIEW

- THE GROWTH PLAN FOR THE GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE
- THE GREENBELT PLAN
- THE DAN RIDGES WERRAND CONSERVATION PLAN
- THE NIAGARA I/LZ JARVIS PLAN

[Ontario.ca/landuseplanningreview](http://ontario.ca/landuseplanningreview)



Co-ordinated Land Use Planning Review

- **GBP, NEP, ORMCP, Growth Plan**
- **17 Town hall session between February 27 and May 28 2015**
- **Presentations to Advisory Panel by +50 Stakeholder Groups**
- **+20,000 submissions and write-ins**
- **Numerous tours and site visits by Panel through Greenbelt region**

What Were We Looking At?

- **Protecting agricultural land, water and natural areas**
- **Keeping people and goods moving, and building-cost effective infrastructure**
- **Fostering healthy, liveable and inclusive communities**
- **Building communities that attract workers and create jobs**
- **Improving implementation and better aligning the plans**
- **Addressing climate change and building resilient communities**

What Did We Hear(about climate and food)?

- **Harmonize terms(language) across the plans and the PPS**
- **Align the plans and their implementation with other provincial initiatives (e.g., Big Move, Climate Change, Housing Strategy, OMB review and PPS, 2014)**
- **Re-evaluate (increase)the density and intensification targets in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe**
- **Integrating land use and transportation planning to promote transit – oriented development to reduce greenhouse gas emissions**
- **Protection of Rural and Agricultural Lands**
 - require specific policies to meet challenges and realize opportunities

What Did We Hear con't.....

- **Urban(Municipal GVTs, Development, Planning, OHBA)**
 - Develop(task force) a standard land budget methodology
 - Facilitate a way for “complete communities” to exist consistently
 - Update building code allowing “greener” technology for new and old!
 - “ JUST TELL US THE RULES”
 - Invest in “complete streets” (i.e., biking and walking networks) to minimize motor use
 - The need for connection between urban densities, transportation and transit oriented design and reducing greenhouse gas emissions


What Did We Hear con't.....

- **Rural and Agriculture(Farm Community, Rural GVTs, Land Owners)**
 - Tighter protection of agricultural lands
 - Enhance rural infrastructure: high-speed internet, transit corridors to facilitate larger vehicles, increasing water line access, updating irrigation systems , natural gas access, 3 phase power
 - Enable opportunities for Agriculture “Complete Communities”
 - recognizing the impact of ecosystem services , particularly on agricultural lands, toward climate change mitigation and adaptation goals (e.g., carbon sequestration, groundwater recharge, wildlife habitat, etc.)

Where to next?

- **Government is in control!**
 - legislation/regulation/policy
 - collaboration is key!!!
 - **Stakeholder engagement is important!**
 - extensive public consultations did influence panel report
 - **Policies need to be “Living Policies”**
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Putting An Agricultural Lens On It

- **Consideration of Agriculture needs in decision making going forward.**
 - **Agriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)**
 - **Focus on maintaining/enhancing Agriculture Systems
(Ag complete community)**
 - **Need for public awareness/education**
 - **More Importantly.....**
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Be Bold!!!!

**JUST BECAUSE
YOU'RE TRASH
DOESN'T MEAN
YOU CAN'T DO
GREAT THINGS.**

**IT IS CALLED
GARBAGE CAN,
NOT GARBAGE
CANNOT.**



Thank You!

