



Summary of Public Consultation #1: York Region Transportation Master Plan Update

Summary of Public Attendees

	Aurora (11.21.06)	Georgina (11.22.06)	Vaughan (11.23.06)	TOTAL
Transportation Master Plan Attendees	39	16	44	99
Water / Wastewater Master Plan Attendees	44	13	45	102
Total Public Attendees	52	19	55	126

Public Feedback (Questionnaires and Q&A during meetings)

Land Use, Infrastructure and Communities

- Existing land use and infrastructure (urban sprawl) in the Region cannot accommodate efficient transportation
- Intensify major arteries such as Yonge Street
- Develop new liveable communities that do not rely on the automobile
- Ensure basic necessities are within a reasonable walking distance from every home
- Municipalities should create carpooling programs for neighbourhoods
- Evaluate and improve (intensification) York Region's existing infrastructure
- Reduce further urban sprawl development
- Reduce truck traffic through small communities connected to the 400 series highways
- Promote live-work communities to eliminate commuting
- Coordinate and integrate plan with other Regions (Simcoe, Durham, Peel...etc)
- Transportation information should be provided to potential home buyers

Public Transit

- Develop LRT along major corridors and nodes
- Increase service frequency
- Increase routes
- Extend transit service to rural roads and areas
- Implement dedicated lanes for Viva
- Connect York Region's public transit with other Regional Transit systems

- Connect westerly border communities to the main arteries
- Decrease travel time
- Create a seamless system
- Free door-to-door transit rides

Cycling and Walking

- Cyclists cause aggravation to drivers along Lakeshore Rd in Ballantrae
- Incorporate bicycle lanes on existing roads
- Incorporate convenient and accessible bicycle storage

Road Network

- New East-West corridor is needed
- Stop focusing on road widening projects
- Reduce width of existing and future roads
- Reduce speed limits
- Enforce strict speed limits
- Maximize productivity and efficiency of arterial roads and highways to support the movement of people, goods and services
- Incorporate a goods movement plan

Possible Solutions for Transportation Problems

- Refrain from using automobile
- Move to a major corridor such as Yonge Street
- Take public transit more frequently
- Cycle more often
- Encourage family, friends and neighbours to take transit
- Reduce car-ownership
- Carpooling
- Raise gas taxes to reduce automobile use
- Induce a tax on large vehicles such as SUVs
- Reduce idling vehicles
- Eliminate “drive-through providers” (restaurants, coffee shops...etc)
- Recognize and learn from leaders in transportation planning, such as various European Models or Curitiba, Brazil

Additional Advice for TMP

- Re-evaluate “real” population increases and make appropriate changes
- Analyze different growth scenarios

Educate the Public

- Environmental and Social Impacts
- Global Warming
- Carpooling
- Public transit information
- Alternative modes of transportation
- Inform public about the savings that can be induced by owning one less vehicle per family
- Change the attitudes of general public to support changes
- Alternative routes to reduce congestion
- Provide tours of areas to show existing and potential future development

Methods to Keep the Public Involved

- Public information meetings
- Mail / e-mail lists
- Local newspapers
- York Region Web site updates
- Internet chat forum for discussion
- Formation of Focus Groups or Committees

General Comments for PIC #1

- Well organized
- Staff were very informative and helpful
- Questions were answered to the best of the staff's abilities
- Public was receptive to input
- Good start
- Not well organized
- Ensure that public gets a chance to fully attend TMP and W/WW update presentations as well as the questions and answers session (presentation sessions should be more spaced out)

What Does “Sustainability” Mean To You?

Sustainability Feature	Number of Votes
Protect / enhance our natural environment and heritage system	12
Provide, improve and encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation, such as transit, cycling, walking, carpooling, telecommuting, etc., including incentives	10
Create disincentives for people to drive their vehicle, such as limiting parking, charging for parking, implementing tolls on freeways, etc.	7
Encourage mixed land uses to allow residents to live close to work	5
Use of the “Triple Bottom Line” (environmental, social and economic benefits) as the sustainable approach to transportation planning	5
Create a campaign to promote sustainability in our schools, general public	5
Encourage economic / job growth	4
Create a network of high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on Regional Roads for carpools, buses and taxis	4
Use advances in technology to improve efficiencies in our transportation system, such as changeable message signs, priority traffic signals for buses, etc.	3
Create higher density centres and corridors to encourage use of alternative transportation modes	2
Promote healthy and active lifestyles	1
Reduce the construction of new roads or road widening	0