
DRAFT
York Region Official Plan

September 17, 2009
City of Vaughan
Public Information Session

Feedback

Feedback

- ❑ What is the Region's position on protecting the existing Oak Ridges Moraine and growing the Greenbelt?
 - ❑ Region has supported the ORMCP since 2001. 69% of York region is within the Greenbelt and ORMCP, so there isn't a lot of room to grow the Greenbelt into.
- ❑ LEED standards should be as high as possible.
- ❑ Re: Slide 8 on Significant Woodlands in the OP - concern that woodlands were salted in King Township. How do we prevent human damage to significant woodlands (i.e. sabotage)?
- ❑ Are there plans to secure significant woodlands, and are there reserve funds to protect them?



Feedback

- ❑ Are there plans to secure significant woodlands, and are there reserve funds to protect them?
 - ❑ Region has a pro-active Greenlands securement program and has been very successful in acquiring or conserving key strategic lands
- ❑ Region and province need to take more responsibility for Greenlands, i.e. compensation for land owners.
- ❑ Need a balance between green objectives and economic vitality
- ❑ How was the target of 70 people and jobs per hectare determined (for new development areas)? i.e. in relation to the provincial requirement of 50 people and jobs.



Feedback

- ❑ Concern regarding America Avenue in Vaughan (south of Teston Road) – slated for a Highway 400 flyway. Where is the consideration for public health?
 - ❑ Believe public consultation is a farce and residents have no meaningful input into decisions.
 - ❑ There was an EA for the flyway, with a meeting in Mid-March. At this meeting, there was a presentation informing residents of transportation issues in Vaughan and York Region, and it was indicated a Vaughan Committee was looking to address them. Three weeks later, a recommendation was made that the overpass be built.





Feedback

- People's backyards directly abut the Intersection where bridge is to be built. Bedroom windows will face traffic and traffic lights. School's are nearby.
- Overpass being built there is ridiculous, given Teston Rd overpass recently built.
- Teston Road on- and off-ramps are actually on Cityview Drive. Traffic overflow will therefore be using America Avenue instead of Teston Road in reality.
- America Avenue will be considered a mid-block collector, with traffic of approximately 500-800 cars per hours in rush hour. This 100% residential street be treated as highway.
- Wary of how strongly air quality is actually considered and frustrated that concern won't be addressed.



Feedback

- When are local municipalities supposed to have intensification strategies done? King Township?
 - A number of municipalities are starting this work at this time. King Township will be commencing this in October or November this year
- What is the deadline for public comments on the Official Plan?
 - The end of September
- Re: Community Energy Projects (i.e. solar) – Provincial feed-in tariffs are to be finalized next week, therefore theoretically individuals can start small local energy projects very shortly. Does Region have plans to facilitate such projects?





Feedback

- Very early in the process and the Province will need to articulate more of its plans for these projects
- What plans exist for Regional Roads that connect to Viva thoroughfares (i.e. Highway 7, Yonge Street), such as Highway 27 and King Road? Suggestion of bike lanes.
- Clarification from slide 14 – what does 3-7 years supply of housing mean?
- Are White belt lands outside the areas indicated with stars on the conceptual map not required for development within the 25 year planning horizon?
 - No



Feedback

- Stormwater management – what are the alternatives?
 - Concern over large unsightly storm water ponds, we are looking at a variety of alternatives including lot level conveyances and soak-away pits and engineered wetlands
- Regarding Slokker woodlands in Nobleton at 15th Sideroad & 8th Concession – lands were sold to TRCA & York Region, trees were planted, but then TRCA granted permission for Metrus to dump soil on these trees. How can something like this be prevented in the future?
 - Better communications between the agencies should avoid this in the future. The lands will be replanted after the filling





Feedback

- ❑ Stormwater ponds suggestion: Aurora Environmental Committee released a scientific report approximately 2 years ago on alternative stormwater pond management, which included very helpful diagrams, and encouraged wildlife integration.
 - ❑ No need to reinvent the wheel. Difference of night and day in Aurora for stormwater ponds that have been 'retrofitted'.



Feedback

- ❑ Toronto's competition for green building resulted in building such as the Kortright Centre for Conservation which don't need stormwater ponds, since wetlands are used for natural stormwater management. Can we design suburbs in this way, without stormwater ponds, sewers, etc.?
- ❑ Re: Public transportation – if transit is provided, we can't expect it to be completely effective right away. Needs time for people to shift away from car dependency. Don't be discouraged!

