

Regional Context

Why we need to grow differently

York Region has a number of important decisions to make about growth over the next 25 years. We need to think about growth through a sustainability lens and design our communities to enhance liveability and quality of life.

This approach requires the Region and its partners to:

- ensure that a minimum of 40% of growth occurs through intensification in our existing built-up areas
- strengthen connections between land-use, transit, built form, public health, natural heritage and pedestrians
- develop new standards for construction and development that use green technologies to improve air quality and energy and water efficiency
- integrate land use, infrastructure, environment and fiscal planning
- protect and enhance the natural environment, through our Greening and Securement Strategies and an updated Natural Heritage System
- focus on the economy and jobs and provide human services

Regional Successes - Leading the Way

The Region has already established a strong foundation for sustainability and city-building through the following initiatives:

- Sustainability Strategy
- Climate Change in York Region: Adapting to a Different Reality, Discussion Paper
- Transit-Oriented Development Guidelines
- Enhancing York Region's Structure: A Guide to Developing Area Municipal Intensification Strategies
- Best Practices for New Communities, Discussion Paper
- Public Transit and VIVA Rapid Transit
- Water for Tomorrow
- Greening and Land Securement Initiatives
- Human Services Plan/Housing Strategy
- Corporate Clean Air Strategy
- LEED Buildings Program & Retrofits
- Smart Commute Initiative
- Centres and Corridors Strategy
- Waste Diversion Strategy
- Future subway extensions to Vaughan Corporate Centre and Richmond Hill Centre

