

Halton IGMS Draft Evaluation Framework: Policy Tests to Assess the 2041 Refined Growth Concepts

DRAFT Integrated Growth Management Strategy: Growth Concept Evaluation Framework Overview

The Halton Region Integrated Growth Management Concept Evaluation Framework will be used to evaluate the four Growth Concepts generated as part of the Land Needs Assessment analysis portion of the Regional Official Plan Review.

The Framework is organized by themes, each with specific objectives, evaluation questions, and measures. The themes are representative of key directions and the objectives are drawn from the Growth Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement and the Regional Official Plan. Each concept will be tested to determine whether and how each concept meets the objectives through the use of criteria in the form of policy-based questions and a corresponding measure for each question. The concept that best achieves the objectives and the Region's Planning Vision will be ranked the highest.

The Framework will not be used to address the common criteria that can be adequately addressed by all Growth Concepts. The Growth Concepts are to be refined in accordance with the following criteria that are common to all Growth Concepts, including:

- Goals and Objectives set out by the Province and implemented through the Halton Regional Official Plan;
 - Maintain the Natural Heritage System and Greenbelt boundaries as currently mapped;
 - Meet or exceed the minimum provincial policy targets;
 - Support compact, complete communities;
 - Provide a range of housing choice and affordability;
 - Plan for current levels of intensification and density achievement as minimum benchmarks going forward.
- The Schedule 3 forecasts and planned growth in the Region to 2031; and
- Prioritization of growth in built-up areas;

Given these shared foundational criteria, the Framework will be used to assess the Growth Concepts to meet those common criteria. The criteria critical to providing a mechanism to permit ranking of the Growth Concepts in relation to each other, have been identified and are grouped under four overarching themes:

1. Regional Urban System & Local Urban Structure
2. Infrastructure & Financing
3. Agriculture, Environment & Climate Change
4. Growing the Economy & Moving People and Goods

For the purposes of all documents related to the Integrated Growth Management Strategy (IGMS), infrastructure means water, wastewater and transportation, unless otherwise stated.

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Theme 1	Objectives	Evaluation Questions How well does the concept:	Measures
Regional Urban System & Local Urban Structure	Support Regional and Local Urban Structure	Promote appropriate intensification to meet the full range of current and future needs?	The concept that best meets or exceeds transit supportive densities in UGCs, MTSAs, and potential transit priority corridors will be ranked the highest.
		Locate new development to enhance access to employment areas?	The concept that locates employment development close to existing or potential priority corridors and provides opportunities for multi-modal access will be ranked the highest.
		Locate new development to enhance access to commercial and community services?	The concept that locates new residential development close to existing or potential priority corridors and provides opportunities for multi-modal access will be ranked the highest.
		Support the intent of local urban structure?	The concept that best reflects the intent of the local urban structure will be ranked the highest.
	Protect overall employment land supply	Adapt to economic shift in employment types as a result of changes in employment trends?	The concept that protects existing employment and supports opportunities for new employment forms will be ranked the highest.
		Balance the need to achieve the vision of MTSAs without compromising overall employment land supply?	The concept that can best accommodate the target population and jobs for the gross developable area within MTSAs will be ranked the highest.
		Balance the increased emphasis on mixed-use development without compromising overall employment land supply?	The concept that best protects critical existing employment uses while accommodating demand for mixed use development will be ranked the highest.
	Provide a Range of Identifiable, Inter-Connected, Complete Communities	Demonstrate support of logical and orderly progression of urban growth?	The concept that supports locating urban development contiguous with existing built up areas will be ranked the highest.
		Demonstrate support for an open space corridor or urban separator?	The concept that supports maintenance of contiguous Natural Heritage and Agricultural lands will be ranked the highest.
	Provide the opportunity to develop Healthy Communities	Contribute to a pattern of development that supports health and well-being objectives, like public and personal safety?	The concept that supports the greatest opportunity for a diversity of land uses, appropriate mix and densities of housing, and promotes a multi-modal transportation system that supports active transportation and transit use will be ranked the highest.
	Provide a Range of Choice for Housing, Jobs and Leisure	Demonstrate opportunities for a mix of jobs, housing and services?	The concept that supports a greater degree of access and choice for housing, employment and leisure will be ranked the highest.

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Theme 2	Objectives	Evaluation Questions How well does the concept:	Measures
Infrastructure & Financing	Optimize current infrastructure capacity	Make best use of existing water/wastewater and transportation infrastructure?	The concept that maximizes the use of existing capacity prior to the upgrade or expansion of infrastructure will be ranked the highest.
		Effectively expand on the existing planned infrastructure established through approved Master Plans and related studies?	The concept that makes best use of existing or planned infrastructure and that can be most easily expanded to service new development areas will be ranked the highest.
	Cost-effective replacement and/or expansion of infrastructure	Enable the coordinated construction of transportation and water/wastewater infrastructure?	The concept that best supports coordinated construction of transportation and water/wastewater infrastructure to meet development demands will be ranked the highest.
	Sustainable long-range financial planning and asset management	Minimize capital cost for water/wastewater, and transportation infrastructure?	The concept with the lowest capital cost for water/wastewater and transportation infrastructure required, while achieving a balance between community development costs and benefits will be ranked the highest.
		Minimize operating and maintenance costs for infrastructure?	The concept with the lowest operating and maintenance costs will be ranked the highest.
		Ensure financial sustainability for the Region and Local Municipalities	The concept with the least negative (most positive) net financial impact on the Region and its Local Municipalities will be ranked the highest.
	Support Regional Phasing	Allows for the phasing of needed infrastructure in a manner that integrates both transportation and water/wastewater infrastructure?	The concept with the best opportunity for phasing and scheduling with other planned infrastructure projects will be ranked the highest.
	Sound and Sustainable Infrastructure Planning	Provide for good infrastructure planning approaches. For example, maximizing wastewater gravity systems, minimizing pumping, and maximizing operational flexibility and reliability?	The concept that best supports a sustainable, long term infrastructure planning strategy will be ranked the highest.
Theme 3	Objectives	Evaluation Questions How well does the concept:	Measures
Agriculture, Environment, & Climate Change	Protect the integrity and minimize impact on the agricultural land base and system	Minimize fragmentation of agricultural lands?	The concept that retains the largest amount of contiguous agricultural land possible will be ranked the highest.
		Protect Prime Agricultural Land?	The concept that protects and avoids Prime Agricultural Land to maintain the most productive and fertile soils for agriculture will be ranked the highest.
		Protect and maximize the amount of agricultural lands?	The concept that maximizes the amount of agricultural lands to support the Agricultural System will be ranked the highest.

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		Limit the proximity of incompatible uses to the Agricultural System?	The concept that limits proximity of land uses sensitive to agricultural operations (e.g. noise, odour) will be ranked the highest.
		Protect the integrity of the Agricultural System and agri-food network?	The concept that recognizes the interconnectedness of agricultural and food assets and has the least impact on the Agricultural System will be ranked the highest.
	Enhance the Natural Heritage System to strengthen key features and areas and reduce the impact of new development	Protect the greatest overall area of natural heritage system from disturbance?	The concept that retains the greatest overall area possible of natural heritage lands will be ranked the highest.
	Reduce carbon emissions and address air quality	Minimize emissions through supporting intensification and compact form development within the built boundary?	The concept that best creates opportunities for residential uses, employment uses, and community services to be located in close proximity to one another and supported by existing or planned transit service will be ranked the highest.
		Minimize emissions through maximizing transportation efficiency and alternatives?	The concept that generates the fewest lane kilometres provides transit-supportive densities and generates opportunities for multi-modal access will be ranked the highest.
		Maintain resiliency to impacts of extreme weather events	Protect the Natural Heritage System to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events?
Protect the Natural Heritage System to reduce the risk of flooding?			The concept that supports a contiguous Natural Heritage System will be ranked the highest.
Consider impacts on Region’s Mineral Resource Areas		Minimize impact of mineral extraction on new development?	The concept that limits proximity of incompatible uses to mineral aggregate operations and mineral extraction areas will be ranked the highest.
		Protect agricultural areas that support aggregate extraction as an interim use?	The concept that retains areas for mineral extraction, which can be rehabilitated to high value agricultural areas, will be ranked the highest.
Theme 4	Objectives	Evaluation Questions How well does the concept:	Measures
Growing the Economy & Moving People and Goods	Promote transit-supportive densities	Encourage growing transit ridership demand through compact form development that supports transit oriented development and mixed use directed to nodes and corridors?	The concept that directs new mixed use and residential development to nodes and corridors will be ranked the highest.
	Promote multi-modal transportation	Promote a multi-modal transportation network that supports all modes including active transportation and transit?	The concept that locates new residential development closest to nodes and corridors will be ranked the highest.

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	network that supports all modes of transportation		
	Facilitates goods movement	Prioritize the use of existing Regional roads that exhibit the greatest potential for people/goods movement capacity?	The concept that supports connectivity between Regional roads, rail and highways will be ranked the highest.
		Accommodate land extensive and freight dependent employment that require direct access to rail and highways?	The concept that enhances the connectivity of goods related and land extensive employment areas located adjacent to or near major goods movement facilities and corridors will be ranked the highest.
	Ensure the availability of sufficient lands to accommodate forecasted employment growth	Protect employment areas around highway corridors, rail corridors and transit?	The concept where employment areas have direct access to rail and highways and are near existing or planned transit facilities will be ranked the highest.

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Relevant Policies – Halton Regional Official Plan, Growth Plan and Provincial Policy Statement			
Urban Structure	Infrastructure & Financing	Agriculture, Environment, & Climate Change	Growing the Economy & Moving People and Goods
ROP 31 72 (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (9) (10) (10.1) 77 (2.4) b) d), (7) f) 77.4 (2) 78 (1) (3) (4) (9) (11) 81 (1) (7.2) (10) (10.1) 155 Growth Plan: 2.2.1.4 a) d) 2.2.3.1 a) b) c) 2.2.4.2 2.2.4.8 2.2.4.9 a) d) 2.2.4.10 2.2.5.1 b) 3.2.3.2 b) d) e) PPS 1.1.1 a) b) c) 1.1.3.2 a) 1. 5. 1.1.3.3 1.1.3.4 1.1.3.8 a), b) 1.3.1 a) c) 1.3.2.1 1.8.1 a) b) c) e)	ROP 72(5) 77 (7) b.2) c) f), (15) 77.4 (3) 81 (7.3) a) 87 88 89 (1) (8) (10) (10.1) (23) 169(4) 170(4.1) 172 (9.2) Growth Plan 2.2.1.3 b) c) 2.2.2.4 e) 2.2.6.4 2.2.8.3 a) b) c) d) e) g) 3.2.1.1 3.2.1.2 3.2.2.1 3.2.3.1 3.2.5.1 a) b) 3.2.6.1 3.2.6.2 a) b) PPS 1.1.1 e) g) 1.1.3.2 a) 2. 1.1.3.3 1.1.3.6 1.1.3.7 b) 1.1.3.8 b) 1.1.5.5 1.3.1 d) 1.3.2.1 1.4.1 b) 1.4.3 c) d) 1.6.1 1.6.3 1.6.6.1 d) e) 1.6.6.2 1.6.7.2 1.6.8.1 1.6.8.5 1.7.1 b)	ROP 77 (7) a) b) b.1) d) e) f) g) 77.4(5) 91 99 (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (7) (9) (11) (18) 101 (1.6) (1.9) (2) g) (3) (4) 107 (2) (3.1) 110 (1) (6) (6.1) 111 114 114.1 (1) (2) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (12) (13) (14) (15) (17) 142 (2) (3) (4) (8) 176(2) Growth Plan 2.2.1.4 a) f) 2.2.8.3 e) f) h) j) k) l) 4.2.2.2 4.2.6.2 4.2.6.3 4.2.6.4 4.2.6.6 4.2.6.7 4.2.8.6 4.2.10.1 b) e) f) g) h) i) PPS 1.1.1 h) 1.1.3.2 a) 3. 1.1.3.8 c) e) 1.1.5.7 1.7.1 h) 1.8.1 e) 2.1.1 2.1.2 2.3.1 2.3.5.1 2.3.6.2 2.4.4.1 2.5.1 2.5.4.1 3.1.3	ROP 72 (2) (7) (10) 77.1 77.4 (2) (5) 78 (1) (5) (6) (8) 81 (8) 139.7 (1) 142 (6) 143 (4) 172 (2) (3) (9.1) (14.1) (15) 173 (30.1) Growth Plan 2.2.4.8 2.2.4.10 2.2.5.1 a) 2.2.5.8 2.2.7.1 3.2.2.2 3.2.2.4 3.2.3.2 b) d) 3.2.4.1 3.2.4.3 4.2.10.1 b) PPS 1.1.3.2 a) 4. 5. 6. 1.1.3.8 a) 1.3.1 b) 1.3.2.1 1.3.2.3 1.4.3 d) 1.5.1 a) 1.6.5 1.6.7.1 1.6.7.4 1.6.8.2 1.7.1 f) 1.8.1 b) c) e)