

## SCHEDULE '2' - Climate Change Discussion Questions

Number	Question	Response
1	<p>Have you felt the impacts of climate change on your community? What impacts are of most concern to you in the next 20 years?</p> <p>For more information on this topic, please see pages <a href="#">12-15 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a>.</p>	<p>The Town of Halton Hills has and continues to experience the effects of a changing local climate. Extreme weather events, such as the 2013 ice storm, severely affected the Town's transportation network, the electrical distribution system as well as the Town's tree canopy. While the transportation network and the electrical distribution system were repaired in a relatively short period of time, the Town is still in the process of addressing damages caused to trees.</p> <p>The summer of 2016 was characterized by very low precipitation levels and several extremely hot days (over 30 degrees). In recent years, summers have also consisted of extremely hot days with more precipitation concentrated in short time periods. As a result, agricultural crop production was negatively impacted in certain rural areas of the Town. In recent years, the Town implemented the use of cooling centers to help residents and visitors combat heat related stresses.</p> <p>The Town of Halton Hills recognizes the importance of mitigating the root causes of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This has resulted in Town Council declaring a Climate Emergency in 2019, setting a net-zero by 2030 target. The Low-Carbon Transition Strategy (in progress) will identify the pathways needed to achieve this target.</p> <p>The Town finalized the Climate Change Adaptation Plan in September 2020.</p> <p>According to the preliminary findings of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, climate change, in addition to more pronounced global political, economic and social instability, will also have various local impacts within the Halton Hills community including, for example, increased average temperatures, more heat waves, more extreme rain events, and increased severity and intensity of storms.</p>
2	<p>How do you think the Regional Official Plan can help Halton respond to climate change? What</p>	<p>The Region can work collaboratively with the local municipalities to support some of the local initiatives i.e., support community energy planning, promote district energy, create complete communities, support mixed use development, green development, support an integrated regional transit system, enhance regional</p>

## SCHEDULE '2' - Climate Change Discussion Questions

	<p>mitigation and adaptation actions would you like to see embedded in the Regional Official Plan?</p> <p>For more information on this topic, please see pages <a href="#">16-21 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a>.</p>	<p>roads for multi-modal connectivity such as walking and cycling. The Region should address the effects of climate change and acknowledge the potential public health impacts in to the housing strategy (e.g. providing shelter during extreme weather events). This should be reflected in the Housing Statement that is being prepared as part of the ROP.</p> <p>The Region must also ensure that policy language is strong to stand as an effective contribution. Rather than using terms such as “promoting”, “supporting” and “encouraging”, language should be used to strongly discourage actions that result in high carbon emissions and reflect the urgency of climate change.</p> <p>The Region should look at other municipalities for examples of best practices and how to integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation in to regional land use planning (e.g. Peel).</p>
3	<p>Halton’s population is forecast to grow to one million people and accommodate 470,000 jobs by 2041.</p> <p>What do you think about policies to plan for climate change through more compact urban form and complete communities?</p> <p>In your opinion, are we growing in the right direction? For more information on this topic, please see pages <a href="#">21-25 of</a></p>	<p>The discussion on growth and development should be focused on the policies required to build complete communities.</p> <p>Policies for building complete communities should encourage mixed-use development, and reduce the reliance of single-occupancy vehicle use by investing in transit and incentivizing residents to use public transit or other modes of transportation. Alternatively, the use of electric and hybrid vehicles and the required infrastructure (i.e. charging stations) should be encouraged. The policies of the Plan should also facilitate the development of future employment areas to ensure that employment is available for future residents within the Region.</p> <p>The Region should highlight the importance of mixed use development that allows for complete communities where people can live, work and play. The concept of complete neighbourhoods emphasizes the importance of having access to day-to-day basic needs within short walking distance from residential areas. Density is not enough and the emphasis should be on creating communities that truly mix homes, businesses, and public spaces seamlessly, instead of separating specific uses from each other. In addition, when planning for growth the Region should</p>

## SCHEDULE '2' - Climate Change Discussion Questions

	<a href="#">the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a> .	look at ways to provide opportunities to implement innovative technologies that can help mitigate climate change impacts (e.g., effective storm water management, better site design using LID, and heat abatement/district energy systems). Well-planned communities can help reinforcing multimodal transportation options and smart growth principles, and help implement net-zero/energy ready development. The focus should be on the nature and quality of growth.
4	<p>What do you think the Region should do to help you reduce your greenhouse gas emissions? For example, if you typically commute by car to work or school every day, what would make you consider taking transit, biking or walking?</p> <p>For more information on this topic, please see page <a href="#">21-27 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a>.</p>	Refer to response for question #3. Town staff suggests the need for a greater emphasis on the importance of transit and the need for growth to support investment in transit infrastructure. This will reduce single occupancy vehicle use and encourage other modes of transportation such as walking, biking and transit.
5	Do you think the Region should encourage and support local renewable energy sources? If so, what should be considered?	<p>The Region should use strong language in the Official Plan to support community energy plan implementation, geothermal district energy, solar energy, and other sources of local renewable energy sources.</p> <p>This could include policies to encourage new homes to be built to solar ready standards, policies to facilitate and encourage construction of district energy infrastructure.</p>

## SCHEDULE '2' - Climate Change Discussion Questions

	For more information on this topic, please see pages <a href="#">28-29 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a> .	
6	<p>Can you provide examples of opportunities to address climate change as it relates to agriculture that you would like to see in Halton?</p> <p>For more information on this topic, please see pages <a href="#">29-30 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a>.</p>	The Town would like to see measures that increase the sequestration of carbon in soils, onsite renewable energy such as biogas, anaerobic digesters, solar, silviculture, and greenhouse gas capture systems for livestock and manure. The vulnerability of farming to climate impacts can threaten food security; policies should also support climate change adaptation through land use policy and farm support programs, for example by protecting agricultural land and improving land management, and providing supportive policies to encourage and enable on-farm diversification (e.g. crop diversity) and innovative practices in farming. Local agricultural research and development should be supported, as well as the farm to table process (e.g. local farmer's markets and agricultural tourism).
7	<p>According to the Provincial Policy Statement, planning authorities are required to consider the potential impacts of climate change in increasing risks associated with natural hazards (e.g., fires and floods).</p> <p>How can Regional Official Plan policies be enhanced to address climate change</p>	The Region should consult with conservation authorities such as, Credit Valley Conservation and Conservation Halton, who are responsible for natural hazard management. Town staff supports the opinion of local conservation authorities regarding how policies can be enhanced to address climate change impacts on natural hazards.

## SCHEDULE '2' - Climate Change Discussion Questions

	<p>impacts on natural hazards?</p> <p>For more information on this topic, please see pages <a href="#">30-32 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a>.</p>	
8	<p>Are there additional measures the Regional Official Plan should include to improve air quality?</p> <p>For more information on this topic, please see page <a href="#">32 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper</a>.</p>	<p>As mentioned, Town staff strongly suggests that policy language is updated to discourage single occupancy vehicle usage, ensure that funding is in place for multi-modal transportation infrastructure particularly around greenfield development to build effective complete communities and regional connectivity. The Region should support local municipalities in their effort to create net zero communities and promote 10-minute neighbourhoods so that residents are able to access daily amenities and services within walking distance. The Region should create policies that induce initiatives in areas including renewable energy, low carbon buildings, building retrofits and waste reduction.</p>

## SCHEDULE '2' - Climate Change Discussion Questions

General Questionnaire		
1	What do you think is the biggest climate change challenge for Halton to address through land-use planning in the next 20 years?	Please see response to question 3 in the Technical Questionnaire.
2	What do you think the Region should do to help you reduce your carbon emissions? For example, if you typically commute by car to work or school every day, what would make you consider taking transit, biking or walking?	Please see response to question 4 in the Technical Questionnaire.