ONTARIO CLIMATE CONSORTIUM

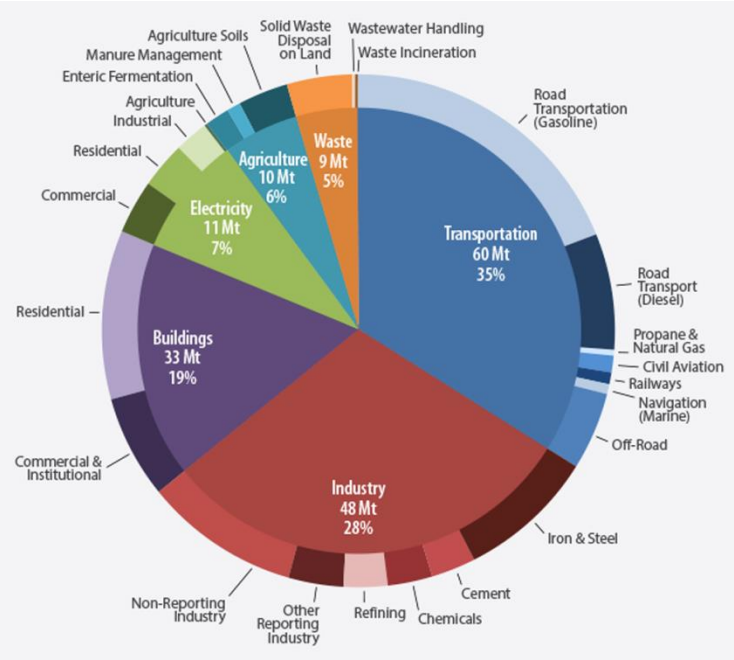
Aligning the Growth Plan and Climate Change Action Plan

Feedback from Summer 2016 Workshop

www.climateconnections.ca

With support from: YORK UNIVERSITÉ UNIVERSITY, McMaster University, Western, Region of Peel Working for you, University of Guelph, Toronto and Region Conservation for The Living City

Why is land use planning important for addressing climate change?



Land Use Planning and Climate Planning – Parallel Timelines

Breakout discussion topics

1. Education and outreach to support plan implementation
2. Regional oversight – Performance monitoring and data availability
3. Integration of land use and energy planning
4. Low carbon transportation planning
5. Integrated Watershed Management
6. Integrated Planning and Infrastructure
7. Land use planning review: summary of proposed changes

Education and outreach to support plan implementation

- Two-way flow from municipality to province and vice-versa
- Training to "mainstream" climate-friendly development ethos across municipal government
  - Stormwater management, transportation, water/wastewater
- Participatory planning with citizens, leveraging local experts, networks and resources; use of visualization tools

Local Climate Change Visioning

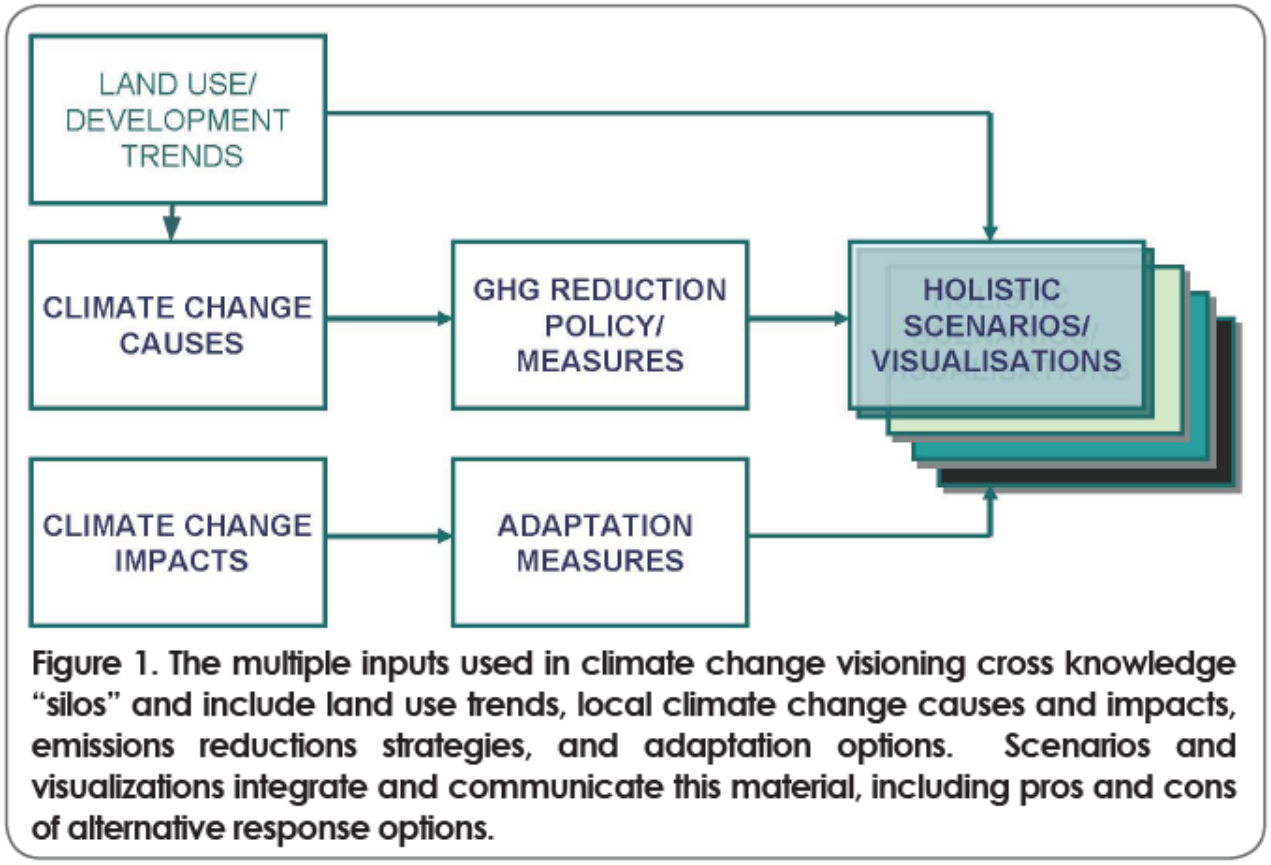


Figure 1. The multiple inputs used in climate change visioning cross knowledge "silos" and include land use trends, local climate change causes and impacts, emissions reductions strategies, and adaptation options. Scenarios and visualizations integrate and communicate this material, including pros and cons of alternative response options.

Source: Local Climate Change Visioning and Landscape Visualization – Guidance Manual. Collaborative for Advanced Landscape Planning University of British Columbia. July 2010.

Regional oversight – Performance monitoring and data availability

- Effective regional climate governance models are needed in the GGH
- Can we imagine a Pan-GGH Region Framework for Combatting Climate Change?
- More oversight over process for allocating of growth from upper to lower tier municipalities

Integration of land use and energy planning

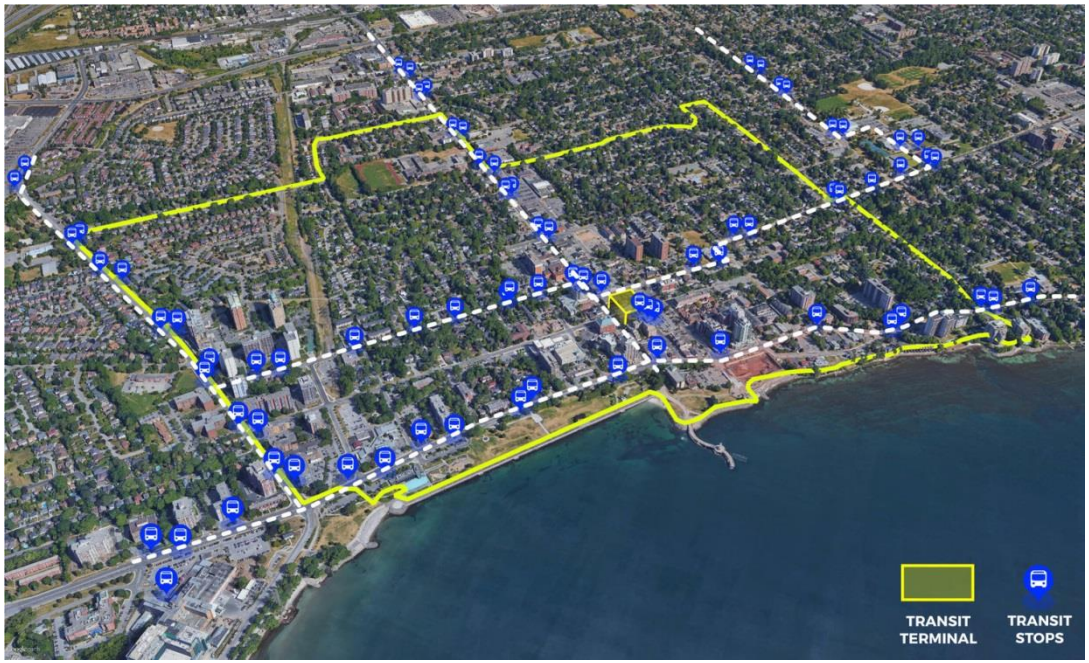
- Empower municipalities to lead through flexible policy
  - E.g. BC Energy Step Code

Integration of land use and energy planning

- Enable municipalities and LDCs to be more active in developing community energy infrastructure
  - District energy systems
  - Micro-utilities
- Lack of data constrains municipal implementation
- Proactive engagement between developers, planners and utilities around new development

Low carbon transportation planning

- Visualizing density to overcome resident pre-conceptions and objections to compact communities



Source: Canadian Urban Institute, Visualizing density. Downtown Burlington Case study. 2017.

Low carbon (food) transportation planning

- Current development pattern creates food deserts
- Need to stimulate creation of local food hubs alongside transit hubs through zoning and use of public space
- Consider Freight Village Hub to consolidate goods movement activity and reduce regional congestion

Integrated Watershed Management

- Role of existing IWM plans is unclear
- Role of CA's in developing watershed plans
- Greater guidance/direction needed on adaptation planning in the context of watershed planning.

Integrated Planning and Infrastructure

- Need to explore economic incentives for growth and infrastructure
  - Current model encourages sprawl
  - Development charges, property taxes, etc.
- Barriers to green infrastructure development baked in to existing municipal policies and guidance

Land use planning review: summary of proposed changes

- Guidance on integrating climate into OPs is needed, tailored to upper/lower tier and smaller municipal contexts
- Lack of data is a challenge, particularly with smaller muni's
- Consider requiring vulnerability assessments for infrastructure grants, but provide guidance on how-to

Questions, comments?
Lets discuss!

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