



# Envision Durham, 2041

Our Region. Our Plan. Our Future.

The Municipal Comprehensive Review of the  
Durham Regional Official Plan



# What is Envision Durham?

- Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR)
- Establishing a progressive, forward-looking planning vision for the Region to 2041 – including imbedding climate change considerations
- Significant Provincial policy initiatives have happened since the last MCR
- Planning Act requires that the Region undertake a Provincial Plan conformity exercise







# What will Envision Durham accomplish?

- Address a variety of strategic Regional land use planning and development matters, under the following themes:
  - Growth Management;
  - Housing;
  - Agricultural/Rural System;
  - Environment/Greenlands System;
  - Climate Change/Healthy Neighbourhoods; and
  - Transportation System.
- Climate change considerations are important under each theme





# Environment/Greenlands System

- Incorporate the new Growth Plan NHS additions
- Updates to the Greenbelt Plan NHS, including:
  - Minor Greenbelt boundary adjustments
  - Addition of Urban River Valleys
- Review the Water Resource System mapping
- Watershed Planning







# Climate Change/Healthy Neighbourhoods

- Provincial Climate Change Action Plan
- Provincial Plans requirements
- Provincial Guidance
  - Community emissions reduction planning
  - Low impact development
  - Green infrastructure
- Regionally-led initiatives





# Climate Change/Healthy Neighbourhoods

- Discussion Paper is currently in development
  1. Communicate why climate change is an important consideration for land use planning in Durham Region.
  2. Seek stakeholder input on how to best implement provincial requirements.
  3. Seek stakeholder input on land use policy directions proposed in various Regional initiatives.







# Envision Durham Process/Next Steps

- Complete Project Terms of Reference
- Consultant Engagement
- Project Initiation and Outreach
- Discussion Papers and Stakeholder Consultation
- Draft Policies
- Public Agency Review, Response and Policy Refinement
- Official Plan Adoption
- Ministry Approval



# Slides for CAC Official Plan Workshop Presentation

Kelly's Comments



**My era: “You can’t put that on Television!”**

# My era: “You can’t put that on Television!”

## Modern version: “You can’t put that in an OP!”

- Encouragement of PV production on buildings and ground mounted
- Solar Orientation of buildings to optimize PV production
- Street orientation to optimize PV production
- Reduction of Urban Heat Islands
- Reflective roofs and vegetated flat roofs
- New House Resilience Standards (see ICLR report)
- Net Zero energy new buildings
- District energy systems
- New storm water management techniques
- Storm water management Fees
- Urban tree canopy targets
- Urban tree protection programs
- Local Improvement Charge programs for building retrofit
- Electric Vehicle Targets
- Renewable Natural Gas production
- Wind power generation onshore and off shore
- Smart city measures
- Design of all future infrastructure to meet projected climate conditions
- Differential Development Charges to encourage density and infill
- Green infrastructure in all new developments
- Transit friendly community design
- Reflective pavement and surfaces
- Encouragement of ride sharing
- Electric vehicle programs
- Encouragement of autonomous vehicles
- Broadband and telecom for smart communities
- Energy self-sufficiency for Durham
- Electric powered public transit
- Light rail public transit across all lakeshore communities
- Endorsement of the Durham Community Energy Plan
- Endorsement of the Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan
- etc. etc. etc.



# The Other Side of Complexity – Lessons for OP Writers

- We have changed the chemistry of our atmosphere.
- We are cooking the Earth.
- We must work on mitigation and adaptation at the same time.
- We are now experiencing the early symptoms.
- Things will get worse. We are locked into major changes and very serious consequences.
- This is not BAU. These are extraordinary times that call for extraordinary measures. Tinkering is not useful. Speed and scale are essential.
- OPAU is not acceptable.

# My Message

- Be expansive
- Be detailed
- Endorse and cite other policies/programs
- Be creative
- Be aggressive
- Be ambitious
- Be the solution
- This is a once-in-a-career opportunity



# Questions