



The Regional Municipality of Halton

Report To:	Chair and Members of the Planning and Public Works Committee
From:	Mitch Zamojc, P. Eng., Commissioner, Public Works
Date:	February 8, 2010
Report No. - Re:	PW-10-10 - Halton Region Transportation Master Plan (2031) - The Road to Change.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Report No. PW-10-10 re: "Halton Region Transportation Master Plan (2031) - The Road to Change" be received for information.
2. THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Report No. PW-10-10 to the City of Burlington, Town of Halton Hills, Town of Milton and Town of Oakville for their information.

REPORT

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to notify Council of the formal commencement of the Transportation Master Plan (2031) – The Road to Change, the guiding principles to be used in the development of the Master Plan, and the consultation process.

Background

The purpose of the Transportation Master Plan (the Plan) is to develop a sustainable and integrated plan that considers all modes of travel (automobile, transit, cycling, and walking) to accommodate growth in the Region to the year 2031, as established through ROPA 38. The Plan will provide the strategies, policies and tools required to meet the Region's transportation needs safely, effectively, and cost efficiently.

The key objectives of the Plan will include:

- Promoting alternative modes of transportation;
- Optimizing the road network to minimize congestion;
- Ensuring a minimum road network level of service standard is met; and
- Adoption of design, maintenance and operating practices and strategies to extend the useful life of roadway investments.

In achieving these objectives, the Plan will identify a transportation strategy to be incorporated into the 20-year Roads Capital Program.

To comply with the *Environmental Assessment Act*, the Plan development will be undertaken in accordance with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process (October 2000, as amended in 2007). Through this process existing problems/opportunities will be defined, alternative solutions will be evaluated, and an optimum transportation system will be identified to the year 2031.

Guiding Principles

The Guiding Principles provide a foundation for the development of the Plan and were presented to members of Council for their input at a Special Meeting of the Planning and Public Works Committee on January 20, 2010. The Guiding Principles will be further reviewed with the public at the first round of Public Information Centres in March 2010.

The draft Guiding Principles consist of:

Balanced Needs

- Provide high-quality transportation services for active transportation, transit, road users and goods movement;
- Offer a safe, convenient, accessible, affordable and efficient system to meet the daily needs of all residents;
- Offer a choice of integrated travel modes, emphasizing active transportation, public transit and carpooling; and
- Encourage road design and transit infrastructure that is supportive of transit use and active transportation.

Healthy Communities

- Promote active transportation and support transit services in residential neighbourhoods and employment areas;
- Provide a transportation system that supports a healthy and active lifestyle and addresses user safety and security; and
- Encourage a more compact urban form with land use intensification and transit - supportive nodes and corridor development.

Economic Vitality

- Ensure the Region's transportation system supports economic development;
- Enable the efficient movement of goods and services;
- Help employers improve commuter options and eliminate mobility barriers; and
- Provide for efficient movement of goods, convenient mobility of the labour force, and access to and through the Region.

Sustainability

- Protect the environment by minimizing impacts on air, water, land and natural resources;
- Provide a transportation system that gives access to sustainable transportation options; and
- Implement a monitoring system to measure and manage the successful implementation of a sustainable transportation system.

Well-Maintained Infrastructure

- Ensure Halton's transportation system is planned and developed to be maintained in a good state of repair; and
- Provide a transportation system that operates efficiently and is affordable to the Region and its existing and future development.

Project Schedule / Consultation Plan

A key component of the Plan development process will be consultation with interested stakeholders including the public, interest groups, regulatory agencies and Council.

The study work plan provides for the following consultation opportunities:

- **Council** – Three (3) Special Meetings of Planning and Public Works Committee will be held to solicit Council input at strategic points in the process. The first meeting was held on January 20, 2010. Subsequent meetings will be held in Spring 2010 and Winter 2011. The preferred transportation strategy will be presented to Council in Fall 2010.
- **Public Information Centres** - Two (2) rounds of Public Information Centres (PICs) will be held in each local municipality. The first round of PICs will be held in March 2010 and the second round will be held in the Fall 2010.
- **Public Workshop** - At the first PIC an application form will be available so that members of the public can sign up to attend the workshop. Local interest groups and members of Council (Regional and Local) will also be invited to attend. The workshop will be held in Spring 2010.
- **Municipal Advisory Group** - The purpose of a Municipal Advisory Group is to establish a steering committee comprising of Regional and Local Municipal staff to guide a coordinated Master Plan process. In light of the need for the Plan to provide facilities to accommodate the development of active transportation and transit, the input of the Municipal Advisory Group will be critical. Municipal Advisory Group meetings will be held at regular intervals throughout the study process.
- **Technical Agency Committee** - The establishment of a project Technical Agency Committee (TAC) is to ensure key agencies are informed and provide input into the study. This committee will meet twice during the course of the study.

The aforementioned consultation will fulfill and exceed the requirements of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process (October 2000, as amended in 2007). The Plan will be presented to Council for approval in the Spring of 2011.

Notice of Study Commencement/Public Information Centre #1

The first round of PICs for this project is scheduled for March 23, 25, 30 and 31, 2010 between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., with a formal presentation at 7:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Municipality	Date	Time	Location
City of Burlington	Tuesday, March 23, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Mainway Recreation Centre 4015 Mainway Burlington, (Auditorium)
Town of Halton Hills	Thursday, March 25, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Mold-Masters SportsPlex 221 Guelph Street (Hall)
Town of Milton	Tuesday, March 30, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Milton Sports Centre 605 Santa Maria Boulevard (Banquet Room)
Town of Oakville	Wednesday, March 31, 2010	Drop-in: 6:30pm Presentation: 7:00pm	Halton Regional Centre 1151 Bronte Road (Auditorium)

The Notice of Study Commencement/Public Information Centre #1 will appear in all local newspapers on March 11, 12, 18 and 19, 2010.

FINANCIAL/PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

The cost of undertaking the 2010 Transportation Master Plan will be funded from Capital account #R2414A.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports the 2010 Planning and Public Works Committee Plan Theme 1 - Control and Manage Growth for Sustainable Communities, namely Goal 2 - Strengthen the transportation systems for all modes of transportation to meet Halton's needs, 2c) Complete the 2031 Halton Transportation Master Plan using the Sustainable Halton Official Plan land use inputs addressing the needs of transportation users (pedestrians, cyclists, transit, goods movement and vehicles).

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Dennis P. Eng.
Director, Transportation Services



Mitch Zamojc P.Eng.
Commissioner, Public Works

Approved by



Pat Moyle
Chief Administrative Officer

If you have any questions on the content of this report, please contact:

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