RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report No. LPS89-09 re: “Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 38 Timeline for Public and Agency Consultation” be received for information.

REPORT

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Regional Council with an update on ongoing and upcoming public and agency consultations for the completion of Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 38 (ROPA 38).

Background

A two-stage process has been undertaken to bring the Regional Official Plan into full conformity with the Provincial Growth Plan and Greenbelt Plan and also to fulfill the five-year statutory review required under Section 26 of the Planning Act. The first stage of the process was completed on June 3, 2009, when Council adopted Regional Official Plan Amendment 37, which is currently awaiting provincial approvals. The second stage of the process began on June 24, 2009, when Council endorsed a preferred land use scenario under the Sustainable Halton Phase 3 process and a set of directions for revisions to the Regional Official Plan, which collectively form the basis for preparing ROPA 38. A draft version of ROPA 38 will be released for public consultation by the end of September 2009. The final version will be presented to Council for consideration and adoption at its meeting on December 16, 2009.

Public and Agency Consultation

Under Section 26 of the Planning Act, the Region is required to hold a Public Meeting as part of the statutory five-year review of its Official Plan to provide the public with an opportunity to comment upon the required revisions. Under Section 17 of the Planning Act, the Region is further required to hold an Open House to provide the public with information and materials on ROPA 38.
and a Public Meeting to provide the public with an opportunity to make representations with respect to the proposed amendments contemplated by ROPA 38.

The first statutory Public Meeting, under Section 26 of the Planning Act, to discuss the required revisions to the existing Regional Official Plan, is scheduled to take place on September 30, 2009, in the Halton Room, Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, starting at 9:30 a.m.

For public convenience, four Open House sessions have been planned (satisfying Section 17 of the Planning Act), each running from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., on the following dates and locations:

- October 14, 2009, at Milton Seniors’ Activity Centre, 500 Child’s Drive, Milton
- October 15, 2009, at the Hall, Mold-Masters Sportsplex, 221 Guelph Street (Hwy #7), Halton Hills
- October 20, 2009, at St. Bernadette School, 1201 Heritage Way, Oakville
- October 21, 2009, at St. John School, 653 Brant Street, Burlington

The second statutory Public Meeting, under Section 17 of the Planning Act, to hear public representations concerning the proposed amendments to the existing Regional Official Plan is scheduled to take place on December 2, 2009, in the Halton Room, Halton Regional Centre, 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville. It is recommended that this meeting start at 1:30 p.m. The December 2, 2009 statutory Public Meeting is very important as it permits Council adoption of ROPA 38 on December 16, 2009, fulfilling our obligations of the six-month extension outlined in Report LPS36-08 and under the terms of the settlement agreement with the South and Southwest Georgetown landowners.

Notice of the Public Meetings and Open House sessions will appear in local newspapers and on the Region’s Website.

In addition to the statutory requirements for public consultation, staff will be working closely with the Inter-Municipal Liaison Committee (IMLC), Local Municipal partners, Provincial staff and area Conservation Authorities through an Inter-Municipal Technical Committee established through the Sustainable Halton process. Staff has already engaged various stakeholders, such as the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee on specific topics of concern, and will continue the dialogue with all interested parties and individuals, including consultation with the First Nations throughout the ROPA 38 process.

To allow staff time to incorporate public input and prepare for the final release of ROPA 38 on November 25, 2009, formal comments from each Local Municipality on ROPA 38 are required by the end of October 2009. To assist Local Municipalities in formulating their responses, Regional staff will be presenting highlights of the draft ROPA 38 and will undertake discussions with each Local Municipal Council in early October. Written submissions from all other stakeholders on ROPA 38 are due on November 12, 2009.

Attachment #1 of this report outlines a proposed timeline for the ROPA 38 public and agency consultation process.
FINANCIAL/PROGRAM IMPLICATIONS

Sufficient funding required to undertake the Sustainable Halton Growth Plan and the Official Plan Review has been approved under T8023A (Growth Management Study).

RELATIONSHIP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN

This report addresses Goal 1, Theme 1 of the 2009 Planning and Public Works Committee Plan - Develop and implement a “Made in Halton Plan” to control and manage growth by outlining a public and agency consultation timeline that also meets the requirements of the Planning Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Glenn
Director, Planning Services and Chief Planning Official

Mark G. Meneray
Commissioner of Legislative & Planning Services and Corporate Counsel

Approved by

Pat Moyle
Chief Administrative Officer

If you have any questions on the content of this report, please contact: Ron Glenn Tel. # 7966
Haiqing Xu Tel. # 7208