















- Markham Centre Evolution
- Our Process
- What We Heard
- Opportunities and Challenges
- Vision and Guiding Principles
- Next Steps



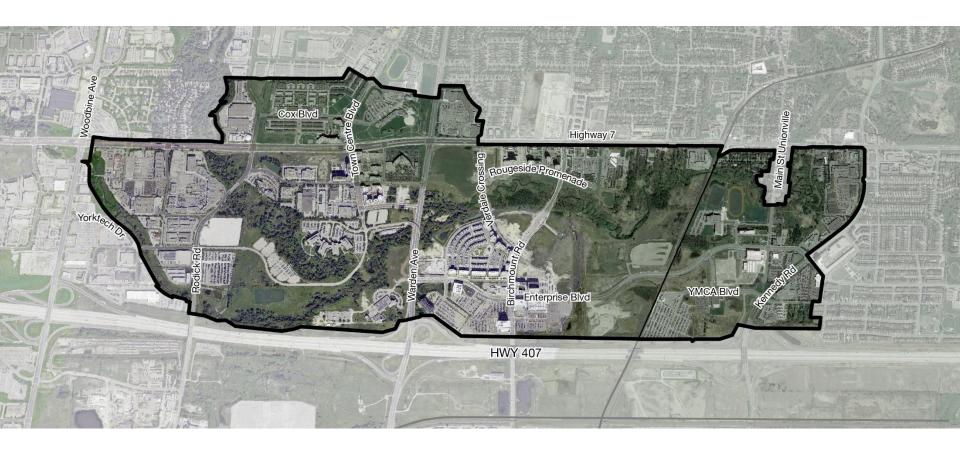


# Markham Centre Evolution



## **Markham Centre in 2020**







### **Development Success & Public Investment**







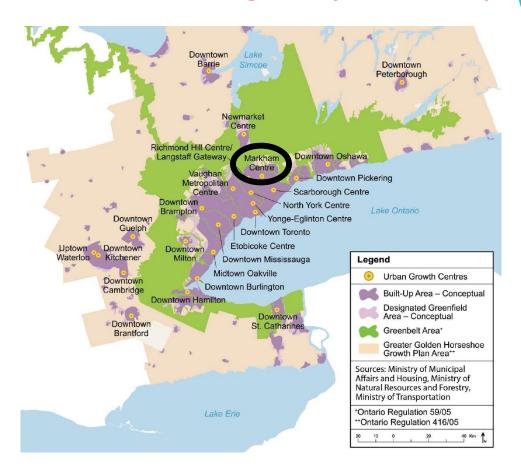




### **Broader Planning Policy Catches Up**









### **Current Development Pressures**















## **Our Process**



### **Our Process**



We are here

2019

#### 2020

#### **Initial Public Consultation**

To talk to people about their experience with Markham Centre: what do they love, what could be improved, what are their hopes for Markham Centre?

#### **Public Consultation**

- Pop-ups across the city
- Your Voice Markham website

#### Deliverable

Community Engagement Summary Report

#### **Existing Conditions Analysis**

To develop an understanding of current conditions and identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and constraints.

#### Deliverable

Existing Conditions Reports

#### **Visioning**

To develop a vision and guiding principles as the basis for creation of the Secondary Plan.

#### **Public Consultation**

- 3 virtual engagement sessions exploring different themes
- Online visioning workshop
- Downtown Markham Retail Consultation
- Your Voice Markham website
- Online Youth Design Jam (targeted at youth aged 13-19)

#### Deliverables

- Summer 2020 Engagement Report
- Vision Report



2020

#### **Development Options** O

To explore different ideas for the future of Markham Centre, including variations on built form, height and density, land use, parks and open spaces, community amenities, and transportation networks.

#### **Public Consultation\***

- Focus groups
- Pop ups in well-frequented locations (e.g., YMCA, libraries)
- Public open house
- Your Voice Markham website

#### **Deliverables**

- Development Options
- Options Consultation Summary

2021

#### **Development Concept**

To develop and refine a preferred development concept based on the feedback on options.

#### **Public Consultation\***

- · Public open house
- Your Voice Markham website

#### Deliverable

 Draft Development Concept Report 2022

#### Secondary Plan

To produce the Secondary Plan for Markham Centre to brought into force through an amendment to the Markham Official Plan.

#### **Public Consultation\***

- Statutory public meeting
- Your Voice Markham website

#### Deliverable

Markham Centre Secondary Plan

\*Future public consultation approaches will be determined based on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to use virtual platforms rather than in-person events.









#### **Today's Markham Centre is:**

- Spread out and disconnected
- Car-centric and difficult to walk around or cycle
- A place to live and work, but not enough places to play

#### Tomorrow's Markham Centre is a:

- Complete community with a mix of uses
- Meeting place and year-round destination
- Human-scale environment with seamless mobility choices







#### A great downtown includes:

- Activity from day to night, on both weekdays and weekends
- A central civic plaza/square for events and celebrations
- A mix of uses: employment, dining, education, recreation, homes
- Walkability and connectivity to transit

#### Markham Centre's precincts/character areas:

- Are missing a variety of uses
- Feel disconnected and need to be cohesive
- Need public amenities like libraries, community centres, civic squares







#### Markham Centre's neighbourhoods could be better connected through:



- The Rouge River Tributary from east to west (bike and trail paths)
- A mixed-use downtown core near the GO station that links to other anchor areas

#### We would prioritize walking and cycling in Markham Centre with:

- A complete cycling network with adequate infrastructure
- Walkways and bike paths connecting the GO station to Viva Rapidway
- Wide sidewalks, seating areas, shaded trees, ample lighting
- Year-round, all-season accessibility and maintenance





#### **Feedback on our draft Vision and Guiding Principles included:**

- The Vision should be specific to Markham Centre's identity
- Sustainability needs to be an area of focus
- A variety of built form heights are needed
- Policies should incentivize businesses to locate in Markham Centre
- There is limited diversity of housing options here



#### DRAFT VISION

Markham Centre is Markham's Downtown.

It is the heart of the city. As the centre of civic life and a hub of activity, it draws people from across Markham and the region to live, work, learn, recreate, and participate with pride in the Markham community.

As a complete community, Markham Centre consists of a healthy and vibrant mix of uses that enables people to meet their daily needs locally and within convenient walking distances.

Markham Centre's diverse parts come together to create an attractive and vibrant place, a place with a distinct sense of identity, a place where people want to be.

#### DRAFT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

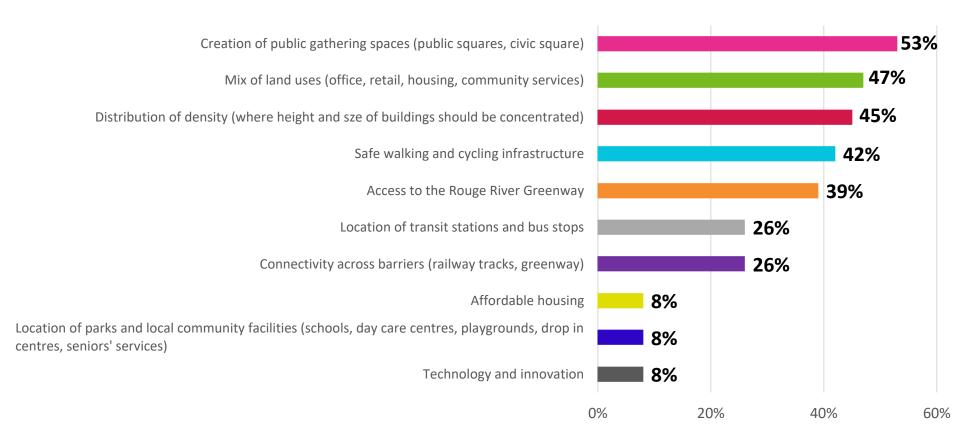
- 1. Create a place that is the heart of Markham
- 2. Support a diverse and prosperous
- 3. Support arts, culture, and recreation
- 4. Create an efficient and safe transportation system
- 5. Create a great public realm

- 6. Build neighbourhoods with access to all the things needed for daily life
- 7. Realize the full potential of the Rouge River Valley as an environmental and placemaking feature
- 8. Plan for inclusive neighbourhoods
- 9. Innovate
- 10. Lead while remembering





#### What issues are most important to you? Select up to 3.





## **Youth Design Jam**



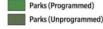
#### A youth-friendly Markham Centre would include:

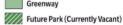


- Social gathering spaces
- Active transportation infrastructure
- Public art and cultural events/performances
- Access to nature and greenery
- More residential and commercial development

#### Youth Engagement Session: Jamboard











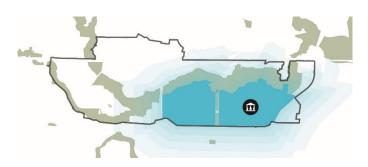


# **Opportunities and Challenges**

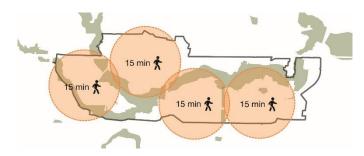


## **Opportunities and Challenges**

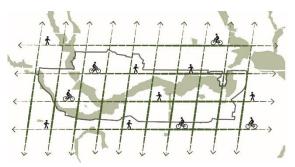




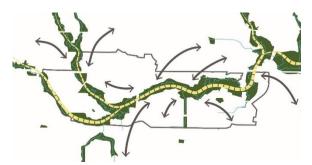
- Concentrating the focus on a downtown precinct
- Intensifying a Mobility Hub
- Anchoring the downtown with civic institutions
  & public amenities



Creating 15-Minute Neighbourhoods



- Making the active way the default mode of movement
- Building an identity with placemaking & the public realm



Realizing the potential of the greenway





# Vision and Guiding Principles





# Markham Centre is Markham's downtown.

It is the heart of the city and a vibrant, intensive, mixed use urban core.



## 1. CREATE A PLACE THAT IS THE HEART OF MARKHAM







Celebration Square, Mississauga





# 2. SUPPORT A DIVERSE AND PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

















## 3. SUPPORT ARTS, CULTURE, AND RECREATION











## 4. CREATE AN EFFICIENT AND SAFE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM











## 5 CREATE A GREAT PUBLIC REALM



West Don Lands, Toronto Amsterdam, Ned Bryant Park NYC





## 6 FOSTER DIVERSE BUILT FORM















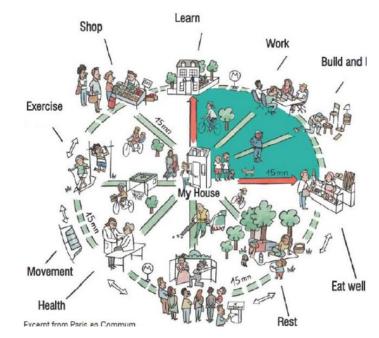




## 7. BUILD NEIGHBOURHOODS WITH ACCESS TO ALL THE THINGS NEEDED FOR DAILY LIFE



**Canoe Landing Centre, Toronto** 







# 8 REALIZE THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE ROUGE RIVER VALLEY AS AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND PLACEMAKING FEATURE









## 9. CHAMPION SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE









## 10. PLAN FOR INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE NEIGHBOURHOODS





Regent Park, Toronto

**Durand, Hamilton** 





# 11. TRANSITION FROM SUBURBAN TO URBAN







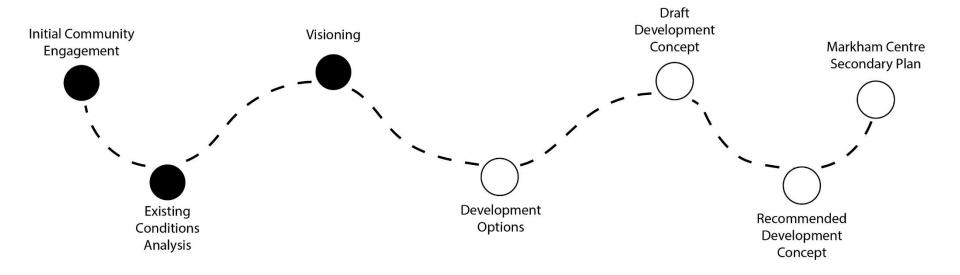


## **Next Steps**



## **Next Steps**









## Thank you!

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