

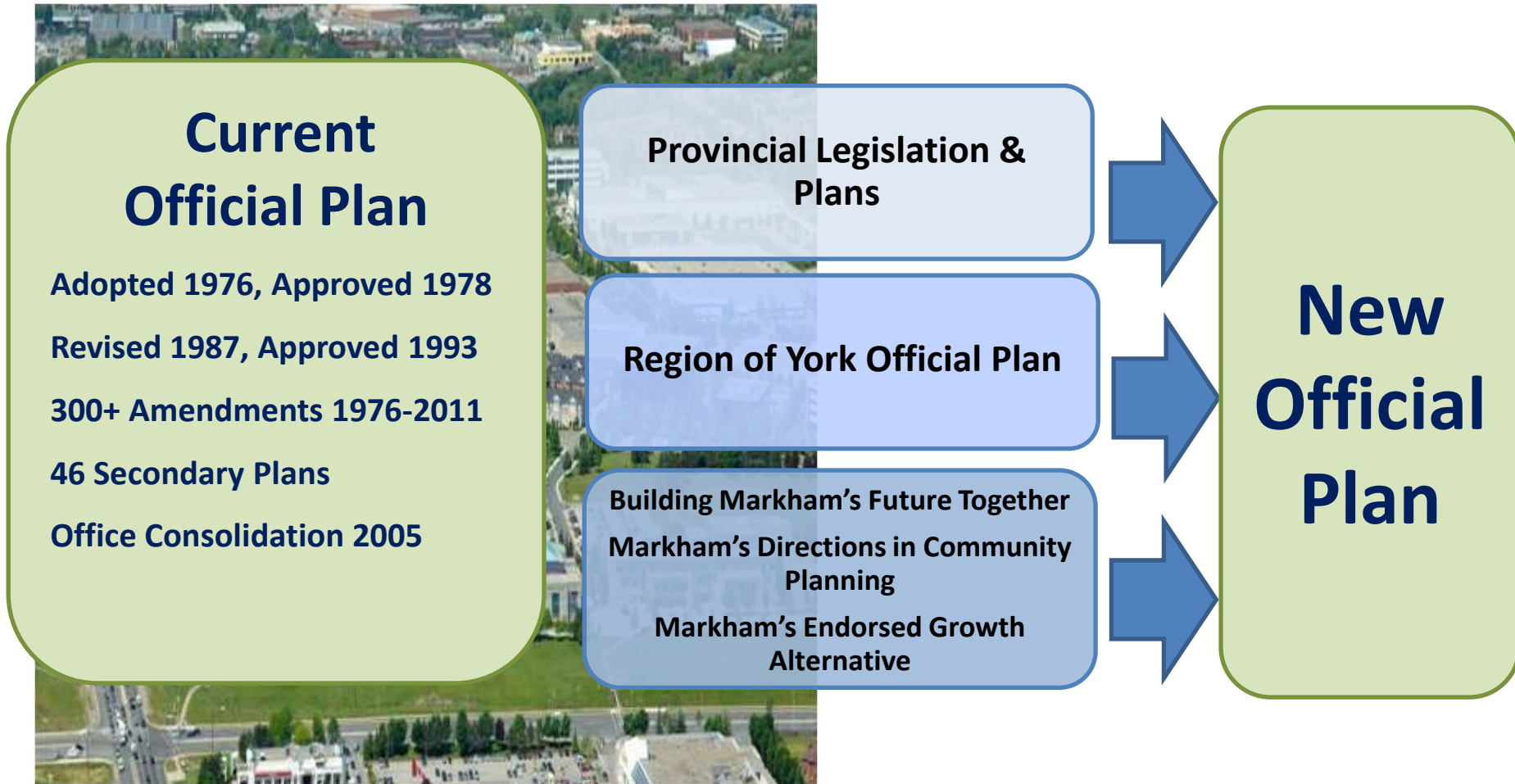


Special Meeting of Markham Council

April 12, 2011

Planning Policy Context

Why is Markham preparing a new Official Plan?



York Region Official Plan (ROP)

How does the ROP affect Markham's Official Plan?

- Growth forecasts and densities
- Intensification and housing targets
- Centres and corridors
- Urban Area expansion
- Regional roads and transit facilities
- Protection of employment lands
- Regional Greenlands System

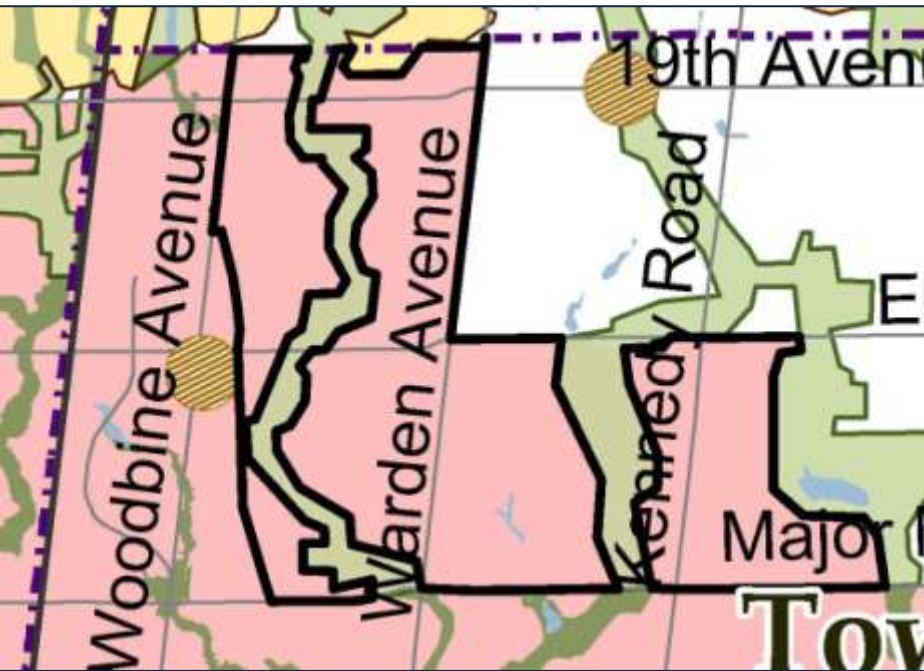
Markham Growth Forecasts: Population and Employment

Year	Population	Employment
2006	273,000	144,800
2009	303,000	160,000
2031	421,600	240,400

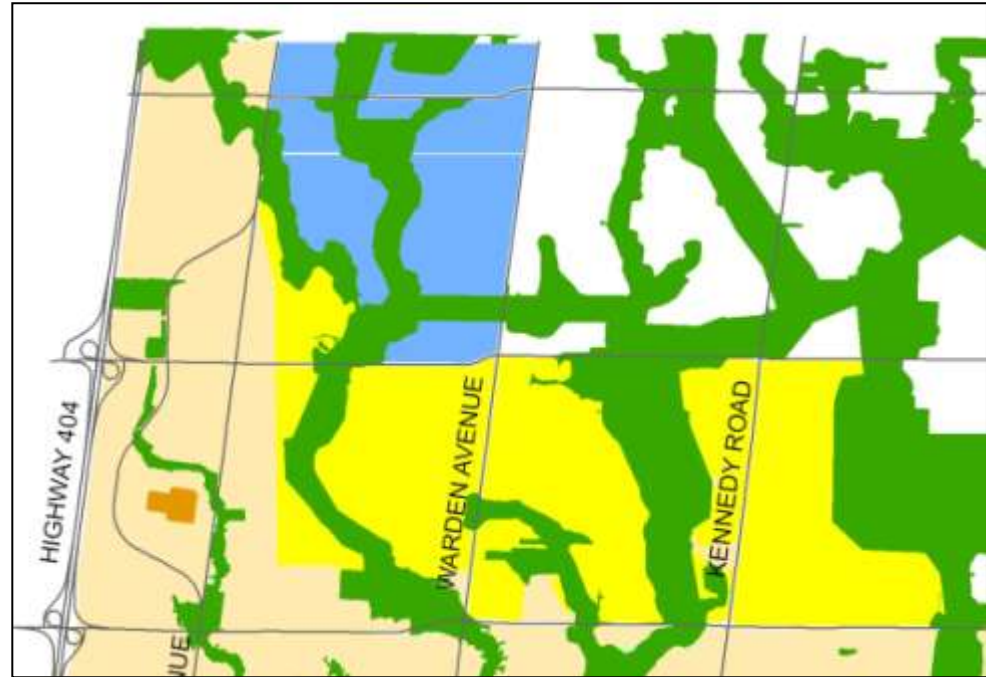
Source: York Region Official Plan and Town of Markham

Future Expansion of Markham's Urban Area

**Regional Official Plan
Amendment No.3**



**Markham Endorsed
Growth Alternative**



Integrating Corporate Strategies With the New Official Plan

How should other strategic initiatives be related to the Official Plan?



greenprint



- Economic Competitiveness Strategy
- Integrated Leisure Master Plan
- Greenprint – Community Sustainability Plan
- Diversity Action Plan
- Markham Transportation Strategic Plan
- Master Servicing Study
- Culture Plan
- Storm Water Management Guidelines
- Financial Strategy
- Climate Action Plan



Basis for a New Official Plan

What policy requirements will be addressed through the new Official Plan?

- ✓ Conform with provincial legislation, Plans
- ✓ Conform with Region of York Official Plan
- ✓ Incorporate Council's endorsed growth alternative to 2031
- ✓ Address Markham's preferences in community planning
- ✓ Rationalize existing Secondary Plans
- ✓ Establish a policy context for updating Markham zoning by-laws

Policy Directions for a New Official Plan

Build Sustainable Communities

- Align intensification and transportation services
- Increase housing choices
- Sustainable design, development, infrastructure
- Compatible form and function of development
- Appropriate mixing of land uses
- Integrate natural and cultural heritage
- Increase live-work opportunities
- Healthy economy



Policy Directions for a New Official Plan

Protect the Natural Environment and Agricultural Lands

- Protect a Markham Greenway System
- Implement senior government Plans - Greenbelt Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine, ROP (Greenlands System)
- Integrate watershed planning
- Reserve lands for continued farming and accommodate agricultural activity
- Facilitate options for urban agriculture





Policy Directions for a New Official Plan

Increase Travel Choices

Markham Transportation Strategic Plan

- Increase travel choices - support patterns of growth and land use that reduce travel requirements and encourage travel by transit, cycling and walking
- Optimize use of transportation system to increase efficiency of moving people and goods
- Reduce environmental impacts of transportation
- Promote liveable, active and healthy communities



Policy Directions

- Integrate land use and transportation planning
- Influence travel behaviour via policies, education and services
- Pursue transit culture – priority for transit, active travel modes
- Review strategic improvements to road network
- Manage parking supply
- Facilitate goods movement
- Improve road safety
- Phase development to transit delivery
- Support sustained transit funding



Policy Directions for a New Official Plan

Employment and the Economy

- Retain existing business and accommodate new employment
 - Protect existing business park lands
 - Add new business park lands
 - Promote intensification
- Attract business activity in key sectors
- Focus office development on rapid transit
- Support integration of retail development in preferred locations and forms
- Support “Main Street” revitalization and development

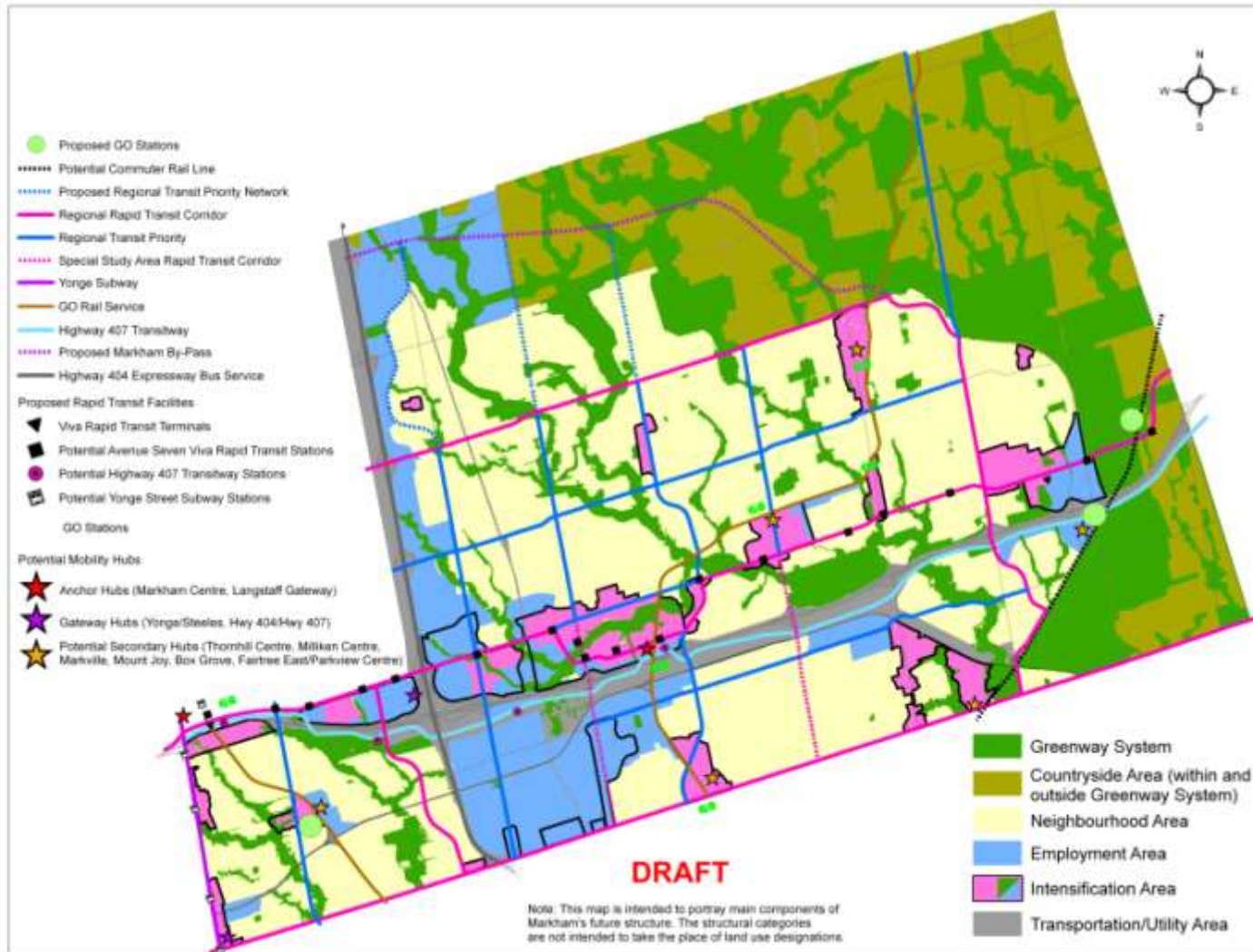
Information,
Entertainment
and Cultural
Industries

Finance &
Insurance

ICT and
Life Sciences
Convergence

Professional,
Scientific and
Technical Services

Markham's Future Structure



Strategic Objectives to Guide Official Plan Process



Guide

Review

Process

Official Plan

Towards a Sustainable Community

Strategic Objective – Leadership and innovation



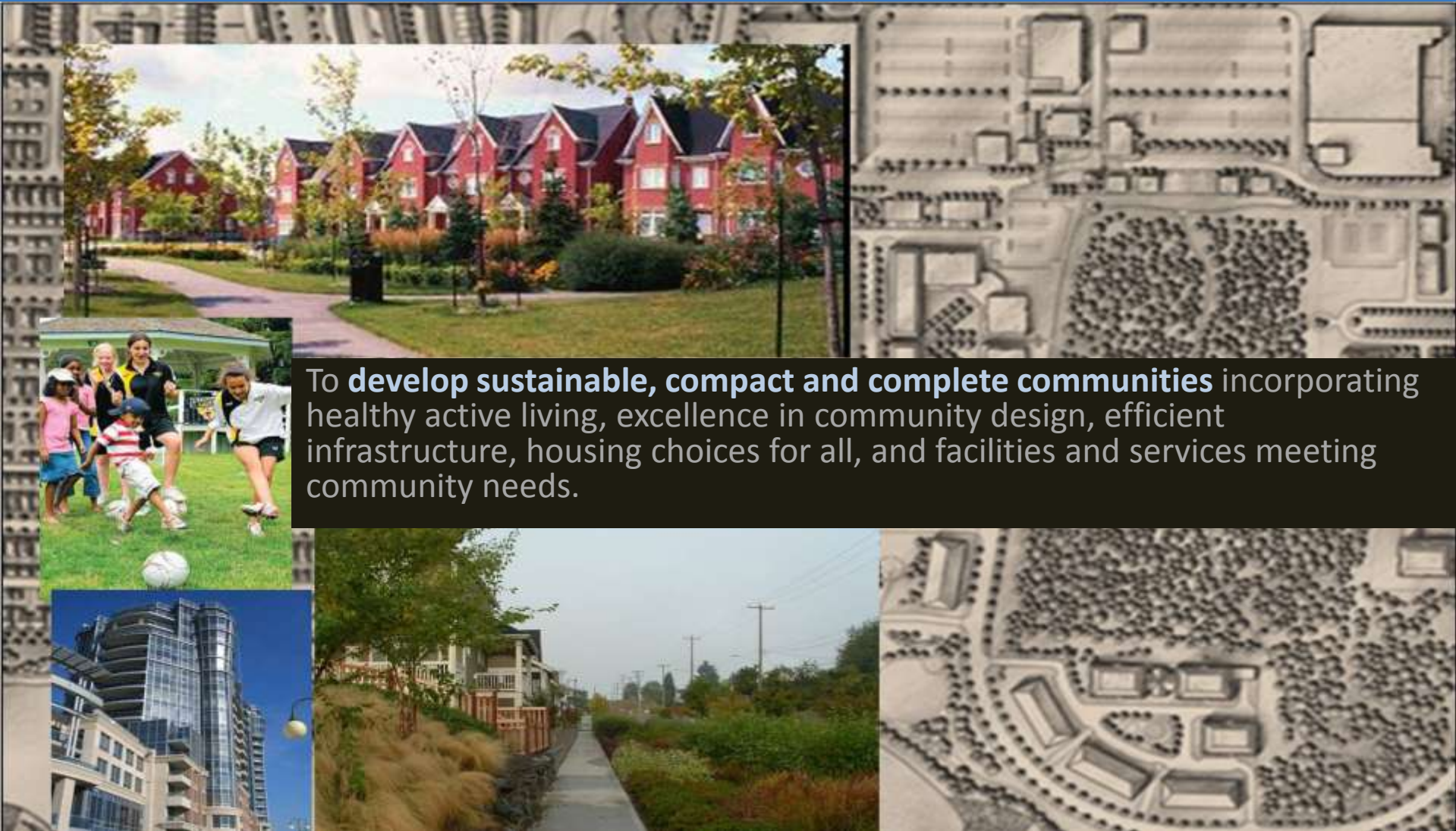
To promote and expand upon Markham's **leadership and innovation** in urban planning, urban design, civil engineering, and development standards and compliance, and the integration of planning and development with all aspects of municipal management and operations.



Official Plan

Towards a Sustainable Community

Strategic Objective – Develop sustainable, compact, complete communities



Official Plan

Towards a Sustainable Community

Strategic Objective – Establish an inter-connected Greenway System



To **establish an inter-connected Greenway System** within Markham, protecting and enhancing existing natural heritage and hydrologic features and supporting biodiversity.



Strategic Objective – Effectively move people and goods



To **effectively move people and goods** within and beyond Markham by providing residents, employees and businesses with choices and accessibility in travel and movement, with particular attention to the promotion of increased transit ridership and active travel, including cycling and walking.



Strategic Objective – Increase adaptability in the community



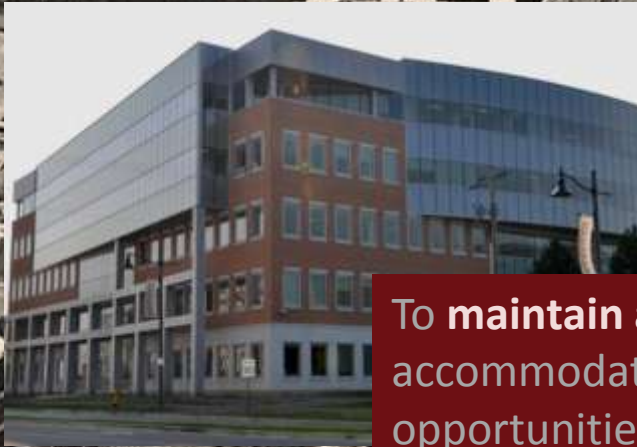
To **increase adaptability in the community** through green infrastructure (water, waste, energy), innovative technology, resource conservation and other sustainable practices to address long term climate change impacts.



Official Plan

Towards a Sustainable Community

Strategic Objective – Maintain a prosperous and competitive economy



To **maintain a prosperous and competitive economy**, by accommodating a balanced and diverse range of employment opportunities, protecting employment lands, supporting a knowledge-based economy and promoting culture and tourism.



Strategic Objective – Sustain a local food system



To **sustain a local food system** by protecting agricultural lands, encouraging urban food production and supporting complementary agri-business activities.



Strategic Objective – Celebrate the Town's unique character



To **celebrate Markham's unique character** by protecting cultural and heritage resources, establishing landmarks and creating attractive and engaging public spaces to foster interactions between people and connections to their community.

Strategic Objective – Celebrate cultural diversity



To **celebrate cultural diversity** and uniqueness in Markham through planning for the needs of all members of the community.



Strategic Objective – Engage the community



To **engage the community** in the continuing process of planning and growth management, including the preparation of the new Official Plan.



Official Plan

Towards a Sustainable Community

Strategic Objective – Manage growth and development

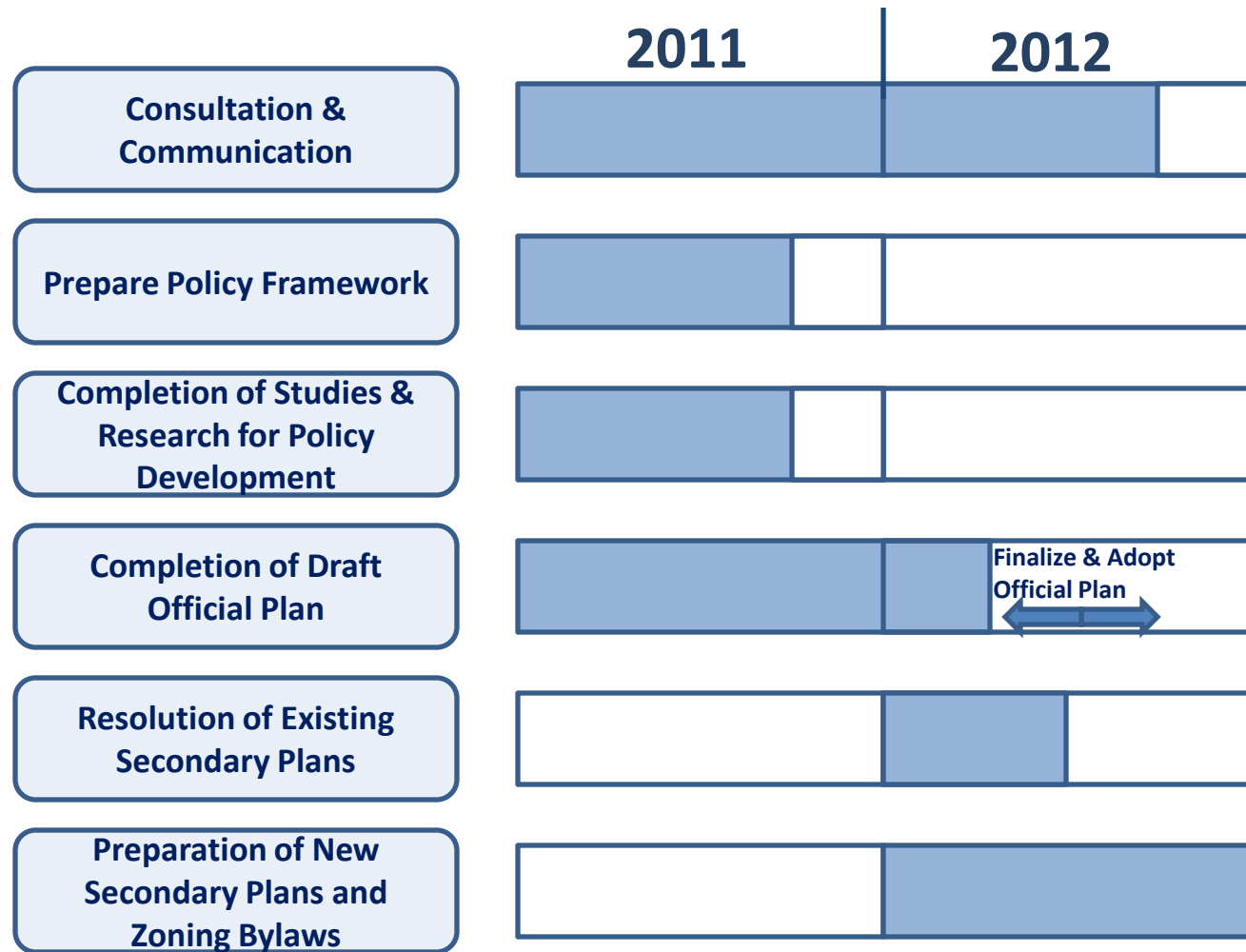


To **manage growth and development** through monitoring, phasing and the delivery of public infrastructure and community services.





Program for Preparing a New Official Plan



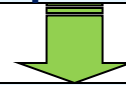
Consultation: Spring 2011



**Special Meeting
of Council**
April 12, 2011



Consultation
Community, Industry Groups,
Agencies,
First Nations and Metis,
Town Departments



Report, June 2011
to Development Services Committee on consultation



Further Consultation
to be scheduled when a draft Official Plan is prepared

New Markham Official Plan

**Thank You,
Submissions, Discussion.....**

