



*Brampton's Response to the  
Provincial Growth Plan*

# **How Should Brampton Grow? Workshop #4: Protecting What is Valuable: Natural Heritage and Conservation Policy Review**

**DRAFT SUMMARY REPORT**

Thursday, October 23rd, 2008  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Windsor Ballroom B, Courtyard Marriott,  
90 Biscayne Cres., Brampton

Prepared by Lura Consulting

This workshop summary was prepared by Lura Consulting. Lura is providing third-party facilitation services as part of the City of Brampton's Response to the Provincial Growth Plan. This summary captures the key discussion points from Workshop #4 on October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2008. If you have any questions or comments regarding the summary, please contact either:

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## I Introduction

The City of Brampton's Planning, Design and Development (PD&D) Department is currently undertaking a Growth Plan conformity exercise to implement the policies of the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. One component of this exercise is public engagement. On February 27<sup>th</sup> 2008, Brampton Mayor Susan Fennell hosted a Town Hall Meeting attended by over 300 participants to launch the public engagement process. . The City held the first public workshop, an Introductory Workshop, on April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008. The purpose of Workshop #1 was to inform participants of the goals, policies and changes required by the Provincial Growth Plan and to obtain input on how participants would like to see the Growth Plan's policies implemented in Brampton.

On October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2008, the City hosted *Workshop #4 Protecting What is Valuable Natural Heritage and Conservation Policy Review*, the fourth in a series of public workshops as part of the Growth Plan public engagement process. The purpose of Workshop #4 was:

- To inform participants of the goals and policies required by the Provincial Growth Plan relating to natural systems, recreational and urban open space, cultural heritage and resource conservation.
- To inform participants about Brampton's current policies to address natural heritage and conservation policies.
- To obtain input on how participants would like to see the Growth Plan's policies implemented in Brampton.

This workshop report provides a summary of the feedback received at Workshop #4.

## 2 Workshop Format

The workshop was held from 6pm to 9pm in the Windsor Ballroom B, at the Courtyard Marriott in Brampton. Participants were asked to register ahead of time with staff from Planning, Design and Development. A total of 26 participants attended the workshop. The room was set up with nine roundtables seating 5-6 participants at each table, along with one or two City staff. Each participant was given a workshop package, which included:

- "How Should Brampton Grow?" pamphlet
- "How Should Brampton Grow?" Newsletter #2
- Copy of the workshop presentation
- Relevant sections of Brampton's Official Plan
- Copy of the Section 4 "Protecting What is Valuable" from Places to Grow
- Workshop workbook (containing an introduction to the workshop topic, the workshop agenda and discussion questions)
- Evaluation form.

Information panels on natural heritage features were set up for attendees' viewing before and during the workshop. Copies of the Provincial Growth Plan were available at each table. The workshop agenda is provided in Appendix 1.

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At 7:00 p.m., Adrian Smith, Director of Planning and Land Development Services, gave brief opening remarks, welcomed the participants and invited them to actively engage in the workshop discussions and freely share ideas. Mr. Smith noted that the results of this workshop would inform the staff's information and recommendations to Council on Brampton's environmental issues and how Brampton should update its natural heritage and conservation policies in the City's Official Plan.

### Questions and Answers During Opening Remarks

**Q: I noticed at the registration table that developers and residents are identified. Did everyone receive the same information?**

*A: There is only one contact list; we identify the stakeholder groups when someone registers and we try to ensure a mix of stakeholder perspectives at each table. All participants have received the same information.*

**Q: Concerning the Brampton Brick quarry application, how does extracting shale protect natural heritage?**

*A: The City is required to respond to the Provincial Policy Statement and Growth Plan. In section 4.2.4 of the Growth Plan, aggregate resources are identified as something that needs to be considered. This does not mean aggregate resources trump all else. Current policies allow for potential extraction, but not at the expense of all else. Each quarry needs a license from the Province and rezoning, which will include the consideration of impacts to the community.*

Lead facilitator David Dilks gave a brief introduction explaining the purpose and process for the workshop. In addition to participating during the interactive portions of the workshop, the participants were encouraged to submit written comments using the workbooks at the conclusion of the workshop or by November 13<sup>th</sup> 2008 if more time was desired to provide feedback.

At 7:15 pm, Janice Given, Manager, Growth Management and Special Policy, and Susan Jorgenson, Manager of Environmental Planning presented an overview of the City's natural heritage initiatives and policies – "Natural Heritage and Conservation Policy Review – which was followed by a few questions of clarification from participants (summarized in Section 3).

Following the presentation and questions and answers, participants then took part in interactive roundtable discussions. The participants then addressed the following questions in an interactive roundtable discussion, directed by Mr. Dilks and facilitated by assigned staff at each table.

Questions for discussion:

- 1. Growth and environmental conservation is legislated by PPS, Growth Plan and Greenbelt Plan, and land use planning must balance increased populations, compact urban form, intensification and redevelopment, transit-supportive densities, efficient transportation and transit systems, sufficient employment and industrial lands, resource use and economic prosperity in conjunction with natural heritage system protection.**

- a) ***What approaches would you suggest to create jobs to ensure economic prosperity while providing greater protection of our natural and cultural resources?***
  - b) ***What can other levels of government; the business community and our residents do to help overcome these challenges?***
2. ***Is there anything that you think the City of Brampton needs to add to its initiatives to meet the Growth Plan policies?***
3. Education and community engagement are key factors in protecting our natural and cultural heritage resources, providing recreational and open spaces, conserving our resources and creating a culture of conservation.  
***How could Brampton engage the community to encourage residents and businesses to share in 'Protecting What is Valuable' in Brampton?***

Following the discussions, a presenter from each table reported highlights of their discussions back to the main group. Highlights and summaries from each table's comments were recorded and projected live on screen by Lura staff.

The workshop ended with brief closing remarks by Janice Given, Manager of Growth Management and Special Policy. Ms. Given thanked the participants for their contributions, noting that a discussion paper would be posted to the project website in November and that the City would welcome further feedback at that time. Ms. Given also briefly described a future exercise planned as part of the development of an environmental master plan.

The workbooks collected from the six tables were used to generate the following summary of feedback. Individual written comments were also considered in developed the summary.

### **3 Summary of Feedback**

#### **3.1 Presentation Q and A**

After the City Staff presentation on "Natural Heritage and Conservation Policy Review," the following questions were raised by participants:

**Q: What is the definition of open space?**

*A: Following the City of Brampton's Official Plan, open space includes: natural systems, wood lands, wetlands, and active park land.*

**Q: How does the City quantify "what is valuable"? Is there a ranking system? How does the City compare protection options?**

*A: The City does not apply economic values to natural resources. Each case is unique. We review each option and consider trade-offs between impacts. We look at the entire natural system and what is needed to protect the system. Ecosystem based "sub-watershed" planning also considers what is valuable and needs protection.*

**Q: Is the 'cash in lieu' option available to all developers? Is there a limit?**

*A: The City follows tight rules according to the Provincial Planning Act. A maximum of 5% of land or 1 hectare per 300 units can be provided in land or equivalent cash in lieu. We use the opportunity to balance efforts across the City and maximize what we can achieve through the development process, but we can only negotiate within the Planning Act limits.*

**Q: Does the City have an estimate of the cost to maintain the City's parks and open space?**

*A: The City does track such expenses within the budget process, but we do not have the numbers here tonight.*

**Q: Does the City specify targets for the amount of natural area it will maintain? I think there is only 11% natural area left. I recommend the City aims for 14%.**

*A: At this point, no specific target has been set. There are some 6000 acres of parkland and open space, with many opportunities for purchasing parkland. The science based sub-watershed planning process helps us identify what areas we need to protect.*

**Q: Do we know the ratio of paved vs. natural trail (e.g. soft stone) pathways in the City?**

*A: We don't have those specific numbers here tonight, however the City aims to provide extensive opportunities for active transportation. Paving is desirable for biking and accessibility. We also provide passive recreation with less paving. The type of pathway also depends on the natural system hosting the path and what impacts are likely.*

**Q: Are there plans for ground water preservation? Is water scarcity a recognized issue?**

*A: The City does have ground water protection policies. Although most of the City is on municipal services and few residents use wells, we still recognize this is a significant issue for households with wells. We require hydrogeological studies in the planning of each new community to determine if there are any issues to protecting our natural heritage system and ground water resources. We promote low impact development and sustainable storm water management. The Region of Peel has jurisdiction to protect the well water supply.*

**Q: We need to consider the larger context, not just within the City boundaries, but the entire region and the whole of southern Ontario. We need to use our land efficiently.**

*A: You can see on the display boards that we have provided the larger context of the region, and broader provincial lands.*

**Q: There are hundreds of acres in the greenbelt. Shale extraction jeopardizes the Credit River water system.**

*A: The Greenbelt policies allow for aggregate extraction, but as noted earlier, a license would need to be applied for and potential impacts examined.*

**Q: “Open spaces” are not all natural eco-systems. How will the City ensure natural assets are secured? There needs to be prioritization.**

*A: The City has several categories of open spaces, not all are treated equally. Some of the maps on display here show some segmentation of the various types of open space.*

### **3.2 Common Themes from Roundtable Discussions**

There were several common themes emerging from the roundtable discussions, including:

- Promote intensification and mixed-use development.
- Direct high density uses to appropriate locations, such as the downtown/Urban Growth Centre.
- Consider establishing natural heritage protection targets.
- Conduct an urban tree study and increase tree planting.
- Use incentives and to promote the green economy and green buildings (e.g. LEED certified).
- Give additional focus to water quality and quantity.

Aggregated responses to each discussion question are presented below.

#### **3.2.1 Balancing Economic Prosperity While Protecting Nature**

Question #1a:

***What approaches would you suggest to create jobs to ensure economic prosperity while providing greater protection of our natural and cultural resources?***

- Encourage/require high density development, and intensification.
- Accommodate more growth in less sensitive areas.
- Support the green economy: introduce economic policies, subsidies and grants for renewable energy systems, green buildings, green business and green development, e.g. eco-industrial parks and strategic partnerships consisting of renewable energy/cogeneration networks; rebates for LEED standard buildings; carbon tax like policies.
- Create identifiable and marketable employment lands.
- Provide clear rules and goals. Natural heritage regulations should not be a moving target.
- Focus on dependable public transit that is just not dependent on buses to attract businesses.
- Discourage warehouse employment. Instead promote institutional employment, high density employment (e.g. offices) and jobs that have a sustainable future.
- Protected high quality natural heritage will attract progressive businesses.
- Fully adopt the recommendations of the Pembina Institute (2006, 2007, 2008), the Canadian Urban Institute (2005) and the Neptis Foundation (2006), by limiting the development, and especially, expansion of hard infrastructure (impermeable surfaces) such as road and highway expansions.
- Conduct a full-cost analysis of new growth in Brampton, i.e. triple bottom line financial, social and ecological.
- Create more opportunities for people to live and work in Brampton.

- Encourage jobs that promote a culture of conservation such as building bike paths from waste (from out of style interlocking brick, and discarded concrete slabs, broken asphalt).
- Promote green roofs on flat roofed industrial buildings.
- Train young people in trades with a program that teaches them construction, service, and organizational skills by working on a natural/cultural park (e.g., in Norval).
- Economic prosperity does not have to only mean growth.
- Preserve/conservate our natural heritage for the longest time conceivable. Extraction of our mineral resources (shale) should only occur if there is a genuine need.
- Question the Province's model for growth.

### **3.2.2 How Others Can Help Address These Challenges**

Question #1b:

***What can other levels of government; the business community and our residents do to help overcome these challenges?***

- More public education on environmental protection.
- Stronger government policies to reduce pollution.
- Employers could provide more incentives for employees, (e.g. showers for bikers).
- Increase government funding to conservation authorities.
- Business can take part in campaigns like Earth Day, smart commute day, community day and volunteerism.
- Partner with multiple sectors of society, government and NGO's to adopt a Genuine Progress Index (GPI) and Green Systems of Natural Capital Accounts.
- Work with Stats Canada and Pembina Institute and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority to use economic arguments to protect Brampton's Natural Heritage.
- Implement community allotment gardens/sustainable agriculture.
- Protect every piece of natural watershed in Brampton.
- Regulate destructive practices, offer incentives for innovative solutions (LEED and green roof incentives).
- Connect bicycles to Norval. After the North-south Bramwest parkway is built, designate Winston Churchill north of Hwy #7 as one lane, with the other lane for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Establish the Norval greenbelt as a vast, connected protected land. Restore the ecosystem in disturbed areas. Government, businesses and residents can work together to make Norval greenbelt public land. Connect the Credit River watershed from Halton Hills, through Brampton, to Mississauga. Brampton residents and businesses will be proud to host the most extensive urban watershed preservation park in Ontario.
- Homebuilders and buyers should be demanding green homes. New developments should all be required to be green (LEED standard). The new sub-urban development should have pedestrian self-sufficiency. No more individual driveways and garages, cars should be parked in a neighbourhood parking lot.
- Businesses could truck-pool, residents could car pool. An empty gravel truck on a return trip should not be allowed.
- Build a network that makes reusing resources easy. Plan for infrastructure that distributes waste to re-users and recyclers.

- Plazas should have to make the automobile less convenient – more trees in the front, parking lots in the remote background.
- Construction and renovation could use more recycled material.

### 3.2.3 *New Initiatives*

Question #2:

***Is there anything that you think the City of Brampton needs to add to its initiatives to meet the Growth Plan policies?***

- Add more bike lanes on main roads – functional, not just recreational.
- Explore cross-hatching to facilitate pedestrian movement.
- Increase tree planting programs.
- Improve public transit.
- More mixed-use zoning.
- Develop an urban tree canopy study.
- Ensure strong water quality and quantity protection policies, both urban and rural.
- Discourage traditional grass lawns that require water and high energy inputs.
- Use cost sharing and block planning to afford sustainable development initiatives.
- Direct high density uses to appropriate locations, such as the downtown/urban growth centre.
- Identify likely future Council direction to review best practices for national policies and what other municipalities or conservation authorities are doing.
- Include water quality and quantity as a target.
- Be precise for what is to be saved, and provide clarity for protected features, such as greenways and natural connectors, woodlots, wet lands, etc.
- Promote low impact development and LEED certified buildings.
- Support the TRCA in its acquisition of natural heritage lands/farmlands and cores, corridors and habitat patches.
- Use sustainability funding (from Federal gas tax) as well as funds from levies and from tree protection by-law taxes/penalties to restore natural heritage system lands in Brampton.
- Implement ecological restoration for derelict sites and underutilized parks in Brampton.
- Adopt development controls (strong ones) for greenfield sites adjacent to core habitat patches/woodlots/ESA's/ANSI's, etc to buffer these lands from invasive species, pollution, noise and climate change impacts.
- Clearly define what the specific criteria and indicators of ecosystem planning may be – what will it mean/look like for NW Brampton?
- Create networks of 'eco-villages' which is the most appropriate scale for investing in and implementing green technology and innovation.
- Adopt conservation thresholds for land use planning - educate land use planners, engineers and transit planners and Council on natural capital and natural heritage.
- Do not lump natural heritage lands with 'open space'. Natural heritage lands deserve separate and special attention.
- Increase development charges and use strategically.

- Develop uncompromising tree and watershed protection plans. Decide the fate of shale, protect the prosperity of wildlife, and establish a vast conservation park in the watersheds of NW Brampton and Norval.
- Shale quarry rezoning applications should have to assess several non-greenbelt sites.
- Study ground water and make an inventory.
- LEED and green roof incentives.
- Plan not only for a NS Bramwest Parkway, plan also for a heritage bike route.
- Engage youth in meaningful green industries or cultural activities.
- Compact Smart cars or other efficient vehicles could be given priority lanes or favoured parking.
- Preserve/conservate our natural heritage for the longest time conceivable. Extraction of our mineral resources (shale) should only occur if there is a genuine need.
- Penalty fines for idling vehicles.

### **3.2.4 Engaging the Community**

Question #3:

***How could Brampton engage the community to encourage residents and businesses to share in 'Protecting What is Valuable' in Brampton?***

- Conduct school programs on how to use transit.
- Add an environmental charge to the tax bill, to get the attention of taxpayers.
- Involve all residents. Especially engage new Canadians.
- City should lead by example, e.g. lighting, recycling, LEED standards.
- Promote recycling within businesses.
- Provide incentives to encourage participation in programs, e.g. coupons for local businesses.
- Conduct a competition to reduce personal/business carbon footprint.
- Support community gardens and locally grown food.
- Promote environmentally themed community events.
- Improve the infrastructure of pathways, (e.g. signage that is appropriate for non-English speakers).
- Use better communication tools.
- Use the local media, e.g. Guardian, multilingual, multicultural newspapers, and also TV.
- Involve religious groups.
- Help people connect with local green spaces close to their home.
- Use the schools as a resource and communication outlet.
- Promote the concept of common ownership of natural heritage and our need to protect it.
- Work with existing NGO's and community groups, rate payers association and all stakeholders, including special interest groups, like First Nations/Aboriginals and residents.
- Form strategic partnerships for sustainability- incentives for local sustainability businesses (see: [www.partnersinprojectgreen.com](http://www.partnersinprojectgreen.com)).
- Work with the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network and other environmental NGO's and technical specialists and stakeholders, including OCETA ([www.oceta.ca](http://www.oceta.ca)), Community Environmental Alliance of Peel, SUDA ([www.suda.ca](http://www.suda.ca)), and university professors and sustainability institutes/specialists, to protect, manage and enhance natural heritage lands in Brampton.

- Have mentorship programs for students and residents who want skills and knowledge in environmental related field.
- Create community sustainability plans for residential submissions/communities to manage their waste, air pollution, ecological footprint/human activity on a weekly and monthly basis. Provide log books so they can track their progress (written in multiple languages and provide incentives/rewards for positive human behaviour).
- A public notification in the local paper does not engage the community. Make sure that the residents of NW Brampton are fully informed of planning issues and deadlines for public input. The Brampton Guardian does not reach this area.
- Fund arts and culture in the streets.
- Offer free theatre tickets to cyclists and pedestrians.
- Recognise participants who take green action with signs, plaques, awards, etc. that displays civic pride.

#### **4 Summary and Next Steps**

At Workshop #4, participants provided suggestions and ideas for City staff to consider in the City's efforts to achieve the Provincial Growth Plan goals related to natural heritage and conservation policy. In fall 2008 and winter 2009, the PD&D Department will host additional public workshops to address other aspects of the Provincial Growth Plan goals. Related discussion papers will be posted to the City's website early in 2009, providing a further opportunity for public comments.

## Appendix I – Workshop #4 Agenda

### Workshop Purpose:

- To inform participants of the goals, policies and changes required by the Provincial Growth Plan relating to natural systems, recreational and urban open space, cultural heritage and resource conservation.
- To inform participants about Brampton's current policies to address natural heritage and conservation policies.
- To obtain input on how participants would like to see the Growth Plan's policies implemented in Brampton.

6:30 p.m.     **Sign In and Open House**

7:00 p.m.     **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
John Corbett, Commissioner, Planning, Design & Development

7:05 p.m.     **Workshop Purpose and Agenda Review**  
David Dilks, Lura Consulting, Facilitator

7:10 p.m.     **Presentation: Natural Heritage and Conservation Policy Review**  
Janice Given, Manager, Growth Management, City of Brampton  
Susan Jorgenson, Manager, Environmental Planning, City of Brampton

7:50 p.m.     **Questions of Clarification**  
City of Brampton  
David Dilks, Lura Consulting, Facilitator

8:00 p.m.     **Roundtable Discussion**  
Led by David Dilks, Lura Consulting, Facilitator

8:40 p.m.     **Roundtable Discussion Highlights**  
Led by David Dilks, Lura Consulting, Facilitator

8:55 p.m.     **Next Steps and Closing Remarks**  
Janice Given, Manager, Growth Management and Special Policy

9:00 p.m.     Adjourn

## Appendix 2 – Verbatim Text from Roundtable Worksheets

Below are written comments on the worksheets handed in from the roundtables.

### Table 1

#### 1a) Economic security and protection of natural/cultural resources

- Meadowvale Office Centre/Head Offices
- Plan for these uses
- Low land use
- Many employees
- Knowledge-based business as opposed to industrial uses that use a lot of land/few employees
- University/education centre- set aside land

#### 1b) Government and business challenges

- [No response]

#### 2) Initiatives to meet Growth Plan policies

- Drive density higher
- Policies to promote intensification to downtown/UGC
- Direct high density uses to appropriate locations
- Brownfield policies to promote redevelopment
- Incentive policies
- Woodlot protection
- Preservation of existing features
- Cost sharing/block planning
- Precision for what is to be saved, more clarity for protected features.

#### 3) 'Protecting What is Valuable'

- Tax Bill! Add a charge to tax bill for environmental, then they'll pay attention
- Use it (appropriately), want to protect it
- Parks programs/schools use- emphasis
- Ownership!! Protect what you value

### Table 2

#### 1a) Economic security and protection of natural/cultural resources

- Focus on public transit to attract business, car pooling
- Discourage \warehouse development, promoting institutional employment
- Jobs that have a future (sustainable)
- More education
- Carbon tax policy that rewards green and taxes harmful actions
- Jobs for educating the public on environmental issues
- Public education in schools

1b) Government and business challenges

- Stewardship within Peel and education (school)
- Stewardship for everyone
- Government allows positions and policies to stop different forms of pollution

2) Initiatives to meet Growth Plan policies

- New forms of transportation
- Energy efficient buildings, local materials construction (LEEDS initiative)
- Prioritising development
- No grass, works with the carbon footprint

3) 'Protecting What is Valuable'

- Stewardship being increased in the City's part
- Green fairs
- Websites

**Table 3**

1a) Economic security and protection of natural/cultural resources

- Growth in least sensitive area to protect natural heritage
- Promote intensification and density
- Protect high quality natural heritage to attract jobs producing land uses/business to Brampton
- Identifiable/marketable employment areas, natural heritage features
- Need clear goals and rules- targets for natural heritage are not moving targets

1b) Government and business challenges

- [No response]

2) Initiatives to meet Growth Plan policies

- Urban tree canopy strategy
- Policy amendment or council directive on a regional city based modern exercise [?]
- Water quality/quantity policy in urban/rural

3) 'Protecting What is Valuable'

- [No response]

**Table 4**

1a) Economic security and protection of natural/cultural resources

- Eco-industrial parks/partnership
- Job= # people (job neutral)

1b) Government and business challenges

- Employment- diversity/local (attracting quality jobs)
- Introducing grants/financial incentives for 'green energy/projects'
- Improve industrial standards (new) (i.e. Water management/energy conservation)

- LEED standards
- Public transit integrated (bus/bike)
- Employers providing incentives (i.e. Showers)
- DC for rebates to 'green buildings'
- Community improvement areas (i.e. Intensification)

2) Initiatives to meet Growth Plan policies

- Green spaces/natural areas need to remain restored and protected
- Main transportation routes
- City-wide targets for naturalized
- Intensification targets (residential density)
- Mixed use

3) 'Protecting What is Valuable'

- Engaging new Canadians/involving all residents
- City-lead by example- lighting, recycling, LEED standards
- Community of city programs
- Recycling for businesses
- Incentives to encourage participation- i.e. food
- Community gardens- local grown food
- Community events- environmentally themed- market/promote events better
- Infrastructure- pathways, signage, Multilanguage
- Integration of environmental groups
- Competitions
- Better communication tools

**Table 5**

1a) Economic security and protection of natural/cultural resources

- We believe the wording in 1a) is misleading
- We believe that there can be a win-win outcome when the natural resources are protected without sacrificing economic factors.
- Using the latest technologies that will save money thereby increasing density, increasing dollars city earns/collect

1b) Government and business challenges

- Level of funding from levels of government to increase
- Business incentives (local environment)
- Increase funding to conservation authorities
- Government increase
- Earth day/smart commute day/ community day
- Volunteerism
- Work with local businesses- McDonalds/ Pizza Pizza
- Fun day environment- valley walks

2) Initiatives to meet Growth Plan policies

- Make the transit system better

- Mixed use zoning residential/ commercial
- Protecting of natural areas
- A survey of natural forest/ environment by the City of Brampton
- Natural areas being destroyed/ removed from development
- Increase development costs
- Increase density
- City to meet with Province to request increase to development charges

### 3) 'Protecting What is Valuable'

- Media- Guardian, multilingual, multicultural newspapers
- By example/ parents
- Religion/ churches
- Local green spaces- close to home!
- Schools

## Table 6

### 1a) Economic security and protection of natural/cultural resources

- Growth has to be accommodated- 2031 over 720,000 population
- May have to compromise in industrial areas to achieve prosperity due to development, not being able to conserve lands
- Density targets- high-rise, townhouses, mixed areas
- Issue of balance- challenge how will it happen?
- Strong leadership to make it work- municipality needs to balance all objectives- pick functions for each urban setting – each piece of lands purpose.

### 1b) Government and business challenges

- Municipality needs to have bottom-line on balance
- City needs to have control of priority on areas looked at- rural/ urban needs
- Concerned about environmental pollution- instead of driving to work/employment needs to be close enough to cycle/rollerblade.

### 2) Initiatives to meet Growth Plan policies

- Bike lanes on main roads- functional, not just recreational
- Explore cross hatching to facilitating pedestrian movement
- Improve industrial standards
- Plant trees programs

### 3) 'Protecting What is Valuable'

- Programs on how to use transit in schools- parents care for car use generation.
- Some have never used transit- how will they teach their kids
- Green tree planting days- MNR plants tree program
- Clean air to keep car in driveway- competition to conserve carbon footprint (promo tools)
- Incentive- companies promote discount transit passes or get discounts from various companies- 5% for pizza/products/services
- Shock approach- to getting community members involved- we need to focus on not that ever thing is being looked after in 'policies'.

- Put ads on Global/CTV/ROGERS CABLE 10, to get involvement- transit to get people to conference
- Waterways flooded in winter- to skate encourage outdoor activity
  - E.g. 44 acres in Kleinburg- 1 school/colleges/businesses plant section with certain species
  - 44 acre forest that was a field planted by various groups- flood plan
  - Community gardens
  - Base awareness on green space for students

## **Appendix 3 – Verbatim Text from Worksheets Submitted by Individuals**

### **Ia) Economic security and protection of natural/cultural resources**

- Adopt policies and provisions for creating eco-industrial parks and strategic partnerships consisting of renewable energy/cogeneration networks.
- Re-materialization and energy reuse systems.
- Management models and processes with 'sustainability' and industrial ecology/metabolism at their heart- utilize green economy/green business retention and attraction.
- Introduce economic policies, subsidies and grants for supporting renewable energy systems, green buildings and green development- recognize that the green building sector is one of the fastest growing sectors in the world.
- Fully adopt the recommendations of the Pembina Institute (2006, 2007, 2008), the Canadian Urban Institute (2005) and the Neptis Foundation (2006), by limiting the development, and especially, expansion of hard infrastructure (impermeable surfaces) such as road and highway expansions.
- Conduct a full-cost analysis/valuation of new growth in Brampton (NW Brampton and Mount Pleasant) consistent with good, long-term financial planning and best management practices.
- Accommodate more growth in less sensitive areas.
- High density development.
- Create identifiable and marketable employment areas- e.g. by-laws.
- Live and work in Brampton.
- Deter urban sprawl.
- Balance- natural heritage and employment.
- Mount Pleasant.
- Sustainable development to encourage proper balance for employment/economic use.
- Need clear rules and goals-important that natural heritage regulations not a moving target.
- Do not get hung up in numbers and percentages.
- Encourage jobs that promote a culture of conservation such as building bike paths from waste (from out of style interlocking brick, and discarded concrete slabs, broken asphalt).
- Promote green roofs on flat roofed industrial buildings.
- Train young people in trades with a program that teaches them construction, service, and organizational skills by working on a natural/cultural park (in Norval).
- Economic prosperity does not have to only mean growth.
- Preserve /conserve our natural heritage for the longest time conceivable. Extraction of our mineral resources (shale) should only occur if there is a genuine need.
- Question the Province's model for growth.

## **Ib) Government and business challenges**

- Partner with multiple sectors of society, government and NGO's (such as Genuine Progress/ Pembina Institute) to adopt a Genuine Progress Index (GPI) and Green Systems of Natural Capital Accounts.
- Work with Stats Canada and Pembina Institute and CVC to use economic arguments to protect Brampton's Natural Heritage- systems and species of concern .
- Create a complete database of sustainable development practices and methods to work from.
- Implement community allotment gardens/sustainable agriculture.
- Implement these through sustainable development test sites (see John Waller, York Region 2007, "Best Practices for New Communities" discussion paper.
- City: make clear what is required.
- 'Moving target' should be avoided.
- Citizens left to take burden.
- Protect every piece of natural watershed in Brampton.
- Regulate destructive practices, offer incentives for innovative solutions (LEEDs and green roof incentives).
- Connect bicycles to Norval. After the North-south Bramwest parkway is built, designate Winston Churchill north of Hwy #7 as one lane, with the other lane for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Establish the Norval greenbelt as a vast, connected protected land. Restore the ecosystem in disturbed areas. Government, businesses and residents can work together to make Norval greenbelt public land. Connect the Credit River watershed from Halton Hills, through Brampton, to Mississauga. Brampton residents and businesses will be proud to host the most extensive urban watershed preservation park in Ontario.
- Homebuilders and buyers should be demanding green homes. New developments should all be required to be green (LEEDs standard). The new sub-urban development should have pedestrian self-sufficiency. No more individual driveways and garages, cars should be parked in a neighbourhood parking lot.
- Businesses could truck-pool, residents could car pool. An empty gravel truck on a return trip should not be allowed.
- Build a network that makes reusing resources easy. Plan for infrastructure that distributes waste to re-users and recyclers. A factory with excess heat or water, or a home with some type of waste, homebuilders and renovators with reusable materials should have pipes, bike cart trails, a prosperous skinny man.
- Plazas should have to make the automobile less convenient – more trees in the front, parking lots in the remote background.
- Construction and renovation could use more recycled material.

## **2) Initiatives to meet Growth Plan policies**

- An education program for Brampton residents is critical to ensure that responsible and personal community roles in growth management and natural heritage protection are understood.
- Support the TRCA in its acquisition of natural heritage lands/farmlands and cores, corridors and habitat patches.

- Use sustainability funding (from Federal gas tax) as well as funds from levies and from tree protection by-law taxes/penalties to restore Natural heritage system lands in Brampton.
- Implement ecological restoration for derelict sites and underutilized parks in Brampton (for example- Pit and mound restoration helps restore old growth forest conditions).
- \*Why doesn't Brampton introduce/adopt ecological fiscal reform?
- Adopt development controls (strong ones) for Greenfield sites adjacent to core habitat patches/woodlots/ESA's/ANSI's, etc to buffer these lands from invasive species, pollution, noise and climate change impacts.
- Clearly define what the specific criteria and indicators of ecosystem-planning may be – what will it mean/look like for NW Brampton?
- Create networks of 'eco-villages' which is the most appropriate scale for investing in and implementing green technology and innovation.
- Adopt conservation thresholds for land use planners- EDUCATE land use planners, engineers and transit planners and council on natural capital and natural heritage
- Do not lump natural heritage lands with 'open space'. Natural heritage lands deserve separate and special attention.
- Develop urban tree canopy study- with Region of Peel.
- Identify future council direction for staff to review national policies in light of what other municipalities or conservation authorities are doing.
- Modelling exercise.
- Water quality and quantity- other than best practices (e.g. Waterloo; looked at where growth was occurring and turns out that it was moving into protected areas).
- Protect greenways and connectors.
- SWM development; low impact development.
- LEED/green policies.
- Uncompromising tree and watershed protection plans. Decide the fate of shale, protect the prosperity of wildlife, and establish a vast conservation park in the watersheds of NW Brampton and Norval.
- Shale quarry rezoning applications should have to assess several non-greenbelt sites.
- Study ground water and make an inventory.
- LEED and green roof incentives.
- Plan not only for a NS Bramwest Parkway, plan also for a heritage bike route.
- Engage youth in meaningful green industries or cultural activities.
- Compact Smart cars or other efficient vehicles could be given priority lanes or favoured parking.
- Preserve /conserve our natural heritage for the longest time conceivable. Extraction of our mineral resources (shale) should only occur if there is a genuine need.
- Penalty fines for idling vehicles.

### **3) Protecting What is Valuable**

- Work with existing NGO's and community groups, ratepayers association and all stakeholders, including special interest groups, like First Nations/Aboriginals and residents.
- Form strategic partnerships for sustainability- incentives for local sustainability businesses (see: [www.partnersinprojectgreen.com](http://www.partnersinprojectgreen.com)).

- Work with the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network and other environmental NGO's and technical specialists and stakeholders, including OCETA ([www.oceta.ca](http://www.oceta.ca)), Community Environmental Alliance of Peel, SUDA ([www.suda.ca](http://www.suda.ca)), and university professors and sustainability institutes/specialists, to protect, manage and enhance natural heritage lands in Brampton.
- Have mentorship programs for students and residents who want skills and knowledge in environmental related field.
- Create community sustainability plans for residential submissions/communities to manage their waste, air pollution, ecological footprint/ human activity on a weekly and monthly basis. Provide log books so they can track their progress (written in multiple languages and provide incentives/rewards for positive human behaviour).
- A public notification in the local paper does not engage the community. Make sure that the residents of NW Brampton are fully informed of planning issues and deadlines for public input. The Brampton Guardian does not reach this area.
- Fund arts and culture in the streets.
- Offer free theatre tickets to cyclists and pedestrians.
- Recognise participants who take green action with signs, plaques, awards, etc. that displays civic pride.