

HALTON TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN: “THE REGION IN MOTION”

The Regional Municipality of Halton developed the Halton Transportation Master Plan: “The Region in Motion.” The plan incorporates components of the New Vision for Urban Transportation, including an emphasis on more compact mixed-use urban form, less dependence on the single-occupant automobile use, and sustainable financing methods to implement the strategies in the plan.

A dedicated team of engineers and planners led by the Region of Halton’s Manager of Transportation Services and Infrastructure Planning provided the vision and direction to successfully guide this study to completion while gaining community buy-in and support for the plan. This has resulted in a 20-year Transportation Master Plan that was adopted by Council in July 2004.

The purpose of the Halton Transportation Master Plan (HTMP) study was to develop a dynamic integrated transportation strategy that considered all modes of travel. The study provides the Region with the strategies, policies and tools needed to manage traffic safely, effectively and cost efficiently. It provides for a range of transportation choices to meet the needs of Halton residents in conformity with the Official Plan and the Region’s Strategic Plan. The HTMP integrates transportation and land use planning and is founded on the notion of sustainable development, which “meets the need of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need.” The transportation network is based on a proper balance between providing transportation alternatives, protecting the natural environment, enhancing economic competitiveness, and fostering a healthy, equitable society. The HTMP is different than traditional master plan studies in that it encourages people to change their travel characteristics and to be aware of the consequences if they do not. The HTMP is driven by goals, constraints, and consequences. It focuses on an alternate approach on how to prioritize the Region’s capital program and ensure that transit and other alternatives to the single occupant vehicle are maximized. The HTMP is a product of a significant amount of public consultation. This yielded valuable information with respect to the direction and vision for transportation in Halton and formed the foundation for the HTMP.