

# ROPSU

## Region of Peel Official Plan Strategic Update

### Message From the Commissioner of Planning

This is the sixth in a series of newsletters on the Regional Official Plan Strategic Update (ROPSU) process.

We are nearing completion of a key element of the ROPSU process: the human services component. Proposed human services

amendments were released in June for consultation.

An exciting new development continuing from ROPSU is the Liveable Peel initiative. As a first step, the Planning department held a workshop with Regional Councillors to begin a long-

term planning process to respond to the challenges we face due to growth, aging and immigration.

I encourage you to visit our Web site at [peelregion.ca/planning](http://peelregion.ca/planning) for more information on ROPSU and Liveable Peel.



**Nick Tunnacliffe,**  
Commissioner of Planning



### New Proposed Human Services Amendments

Contact Wendy Ren, Planner at Ext. 4358 or [wendy.ren@peelregion.ca](mailto:wendy.ren@peelregion.ca)

The Region of Peel Planning department held public consultation events on the proposed new Official Plan human services amendments.

The purpose of the open houses was to let the public and stakeholders meet one-on-one with Peel Planning staff to provide comment and to ask questions about the amendments.

The proposed human services amendments to the Regional Official Plan were created to address human services issues resulting

from rapid growth and shifting demographic patterns, such as an aging population and increased multiculturalism. They also seek to respond to changing provincial legislation and initiatives in human services areas. Other issues addressed by the amendments are increasing fiscal pressures and the Region's response to stakeholder input.

Open houses were held on June 22 in Caledon at the Caledon Community Centre, June 29 in Brampton at Brampton City Hall and July

5 in Mississauga at the Central Library.

In addition to the open houses, a statutory public meeting was held on July 8 in Council chambers prior to the Regional Council meeting. The public and stakeholders were able to ask questions and provide comments at this meeting.

Any comments received at the open houses and public meeting will be used to present Regional Council with the final version of the proposed amendments in September.

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## Liveable Peel Council Workshop Charts Long-Term Course

Contact Naheeda Jamal, Planner at Ext. 4024 or [naheeda.jamal@peelregion.ca](mailto:naheeda.jamal@peelregion.ca)

On April 29, the Region of Peel Planning department held a workshop with Regional Councillors and key staff from other Regional departments, Peel Police, Conservation Authorities and area municipal planning staff.

The first aim of the workshop was to present the challenges facing the region such as growth, an aging population and immigration. The implications that these and other changing demographics may have on Regional programs and services over the long-term was discussed.

The second aim of the workshop was to begin to develop a long-term sustainable Regional vision and a proactive strategy that balances social, economic and environmental considerations that affect quality of life in the Peel.

**Liveable Peel Is:  
“...a long-term sustainable vision and a proactive strategy that balances social, economic and environmental considerations to ensure a high quality of life...”**

Services must be responsive to community needs into the future.

The workshop began with a presentation from Arvin Prasad, Director of Planning Policy and Research. The main messages of the presentation were:

- The pace of growth and changing demographics due to immigration and aging are placing significant and changing demands on Peel’s services
- To maintain a liveable Region, infrastructure and human services must keep pace with growth pressures and the needs of residents
- Research must be undertaken to understand the impacts of growth on services and to develop strategies to maintain Peel’s quality of life

The presentation also emphasized the importance of sustainability, which seeks to balance social, economic and environmental considerations. Sustainability means thinking long-term (30-50 years out) so decisions made today do not compromise options open to future generations.

Following the

presentation, attendees of the workshop were engaged in an interactive facilitated discussion. The purpose of the discussion was to allow participants to identify:

- Their vision for Peel over the next 30 to 50 years
- The aspects of Peel that should be improved to build a more liveable future
- Ways to address the impacts of growth, aging and immigration on Regional programs and services over the long-term
- How Regional Council could move forward on a Liveable Peel initiative

Participants were then asked to interview each other on each of the four areas identified above. The results of the interviews were shared with the group.

Many of the ideas and values expressed by participants discussion were summarized by the facilitator. This provided direction on how to proceed with developing a long-term sustainable vision and proactive strategy that could form the basis of a Liveable Peel initiative.

By the conclusion of the workshop, many participants expressed the need to develop a long-term vision and proactive strategy to maintain the Region’s quality of life.

To view the Liveable Peel presentation visit [peelregion.ca/planning](http://peelregion.ca/planning)



## Transportation for Persons with Disabilities: Next Steps

Contact Wayne Chan, Manager of Transportation Planning at Ext. 4405 or wayne.chan@peelregion.ca

The Region of Peel, through its Social Services department, is a provider of specialized transit service to persons with disabilities. TransHelp, as the service is known, provided over 200,000 trips to persons with disabilities in 2001. That amounts to nearly 55% of all trips that were provided by public and non-profit services to persons with disabilities for that year. The average cost for the Region to provide one trip on TransHelp is about \$25.

In 2001, TransHelp was allocated a budget of \$5.1 million net in the Regional budget. That amounts to 0.8% of the tax levy for Regional services on the property tax bill. The new requirements of the *Ontarians With Disabilities Act*, in combination with the aging population in the Region, will almost double the transportation demand for persons with disabilities in the next ten years. Therefore, the Region will be facing a tremendous increase in costs to accommodate this increasing demand.

In order to better understand why the need for TransHelp services will grow so rapidly and to investigate ways to manage the increase, the Planning department commissioned a report entitled, *Study of*

*Transportation for Persons with Disabilities*. The study is part of the Long Range Transportation Planning component of the ROPSU process.

On May 13, Regional Council received the study report. The report recommended the following to Council:

- Continue to expand TransHelp’s service as well as utilizing commercial taxi service and co-ordinate with other agencies to provide transit service to persons with disabilities
- Take full advantage of the efforts and investment of Mississauga and Brampton Transit in developing accessible conventional transit services
- Establish a specialized transit planning office to

develop and provide services to residents

An expanded transportation program for persons with disabilities will increase the net costs of specialized transit service for the taxpayers of Peel Region. The net annual cost of the program in ten years is estimated to be \$8.9 million (in 2001 dollars), compared to a net annual cost of \$5.1 million in 2001. With this increased expenditure, the level of service provided would be increased by approximately 75% and better meet the growing need for TransHelp.

For a full report please contact the Regional Clerk’s office at (905) 791-7800



Transhelp in Mississauga

**“TransHelp... provided over 200,000 trips to persons with disabilities in 2001.”**

**“The average cost for the Region to provide one trip on TransHelp is about \$25 while the cost for a trip on conventional transit is \$2.50.”**

Transportation Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities in Peel		
Transportation Service Provider	Annual Trips Provided (2001 study estimate)	Percent of Total Trips Provided
<b>Peel Region TransHelp</b>	<b>232,000</b>	<b>55%</b>
<i>Caledon Community Services</i>	<i>20,000</i>	<i>5%</i>
<i>Mississauga &amp; Brampton Transit</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>0%*</i>
<i>Accessible Taxis</i>	<i>40,000</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Private Bus Operators</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>1%</i>
<i>Community-Based Agencies</i>	<i>122,000</i>	<i>29%</i>
<b>Total Trips Provided for persons with disabilities</b>	<b>420,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Due to rounding

## Regional Official Plan Monitoring Process Underway

Contact Grant Moore, Planner at Ext. 4645 or [grant.moore@peelregion.ca](mailto:grant.moore@peelregion.ca)

As part of the ROPSU process, a Planning department work group has been preparing a Monitoring Report since March 2004. The report reviews key policies of the Regional Official Plan and links them to indicators to determine progress in achieving the plan's general goals and objectives.

For example, when considering policies dealing with reduce, reuse, and recycle (the 3R's) the indicators are:

- The actual and projected diversion rate of waste from landfill
- The actual and projected tonnage from recycling

Where quantitative indicators are not available, activities have been identified which show support for policies e.g., redevelopment and expansion of Jack Darling Park in Mississauga as an indicator of enhanced recreation opportunities.

To date, the work group has focused its efforts on reviewing Regional Official Plan policies and identifying appropriate indicators. Consultation has occurred primarily with other Planning staff, other Regional departments, and the conservation authorities. The group now has a working draft of the Report which recently was shared with the management team of the Planning department,

representatives of the conservation authorities and the area municipalities. Further consultation is planned with stakeholders.

Over the summer, the work group will concentrate on completing the report. External input will be reviewed and included where appropriate.

Currently, efforts are being concentrated on summarizing findings, identifying conclusions and suggesting a process by which monitoring can be done on an on-going basis. A key component will be a summary document for the public which is currently being developed.



### *Send us your comments or get on the mailing list by:*

**Mail:** 10 Peel Centre Dr., 6th Fl.  
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9

**Phone:** Naheeda Jamal, Planning department at  
905-791-7800, Ext. 4024

**Fax:** 905-791-7920

**E-mail:** [ropsu@peelregion.ca](mailto:ropsu@peelregion.ca)

**Visit the Peel Planning department Web site to receive up to date information on upcoming events.**



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**Region of Peel**  
Working for you