



Exploring Growth Management Roles in Ontario: Learning from "Who Does What" Elsewhere

A Call for Action on Growth Management

Growth management is an essential ingredient of Smart Growth policy and action. Using the recently completed Policy Paper, *Exploring Growth Management Roles in Ontario: Learning from "Who Does What Elsewhere"*, the Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI) recommends the following actions for federal, provincial and municipal consideration:

1. The Province should require a *long term strategy* for growth management that includes complementary policies, targeted funding, tools to make it work, and public education. These policies should include:
 - A 50 year plan.
 - Consideration of urban and rural form utilizing boundaries, buffers, rural settlement area policies/incentives and tools for urban intensification.
 - Planning for growth on an inter-regional basis.
 - Improved regional-scale coordination of land use, transportation (including transit) and major infrastructure planning.
2. For growth management to be successful at the municipal level, powerful and effective new tools are required:
 - Stronger application of urban growth boundaries using new approaches, such as, carrying capacity, where appropriate.
 - Identification of Priority Funding Areas to: guide provincial, municipal and private investment; to stimulate creation of transit-supportive nodes, brownfields redevelopment, and infill development; and reinforce the wise use of public infrastructure.
 - Permanently defined greenlands systems across southern Ontario along with a range of protective strategies. The Living Legacy program in northern Ontario is an excellent model to guide planning for southern greenlands.
 - Appropriate taxation and financial incentives to maintain farming, where appropriate, in areas of rapid urbanization.

- Appropriate taxation and financial tools to stimulate the provision of affordable housing, particularly rental housing for low income households.
3. Recognizing the diversity of Ontario, development of appropriate planning tools and processes which facilitate desired economic growth in rural and northern Ontario.

Copies of the paper will be available on the OPPI website in the "What's New" and "OPPI Initiatives/Policy Development" sections: www.ontarioplanners.on.ca on Wednesday, October 10, 2001.

