

Item 12.1.2



REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW

Themes and Directions

Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
June 3, 2021

HALIFAX

CORE PROJECT TEAM

Emilie Pothier



Katie Fralic



Leah Perrin



Shilo Gempton



Kate Greene



Regional Plan Review Steering Committee

Kelly Denty, Executive Director, Planning and Development
Eric Lucic, Director, Regional Planning
Peter Duncan, Director, Infrastructure Planning
Steven Higgins, Director, Current Planning
Tanya Davis, Program Manager, Transportation Planning
Shannon Miedema, Program Manager, Energy & Environment
Kenda MacKenzie, Director, Regulatory Services, Halifax Water

Key Contributors

Ayo Aladejebi
Chris Bernard
Erin Blay
Kevin Boutilier
Mary Chisholm
Mapfumo Chidzonga
Cheryl Copage-Gehue
Meaghan Dalton
Bharathi Esakkimuthu
David Espeseth
Terry Gallagher
Marcus Garnet
Ross Grant
Richard Harvey
James Hunter
Robert Jahncke
Paul Johnston
Penelope Kuhn

Thea Langille
Jillian MacLellan
Jesse Morton
Aaron Murnaghan
Taylor Owen
Samantha Page
Justin Preece
Carl Purvis
Kurt Pyle
Leen Romaneh
Cameron Robertson
Stephanie Salloum
Amy Siciliano
Ben Sivak
Leticia Smillie
Kasia Tota
Michael Wile
Jake Whalen

OVERVIEW

- »» Why are We Here Today?
- »» How are we Engaging the Public?
- »» What are the Themes & Directions?





WHY ARE WE HERE TODAY?

We are reviewing the Regional Plan.

We are here to provide an **overview of the proposed Themes and Directions**. This is the first major deliverable of the Regional Plan Review. The Community Planning and Economic Development Committee is our primary Council advisory body. On May 20th we kicked off a month and a half long engagement period on this work.

The comment period will close on July 16, 2021.

The Halifax Regional Municipal Planning Strategy (Regional Plan) is a strategic document built on a common vision and principles for the municipality to achieve balanced and sustainable growth.

Originally adopted in 2006, the Regional Plan provided the first comprehensive guide for future growth for the entire municipality following amalgamation. It outlines where, when, and how future growth and development should take place between now and 2031.

REGIONAL PLAN TIMELINE



CURRENT RP REVIEW TIMELINE



Regional Plan Review 2020-2022

**2022 is our target for delivery of a
draft set of amendments*

Phase 1 - 2020

- Initiation
- Research
- Early Engagement

Phase 2 - 2021

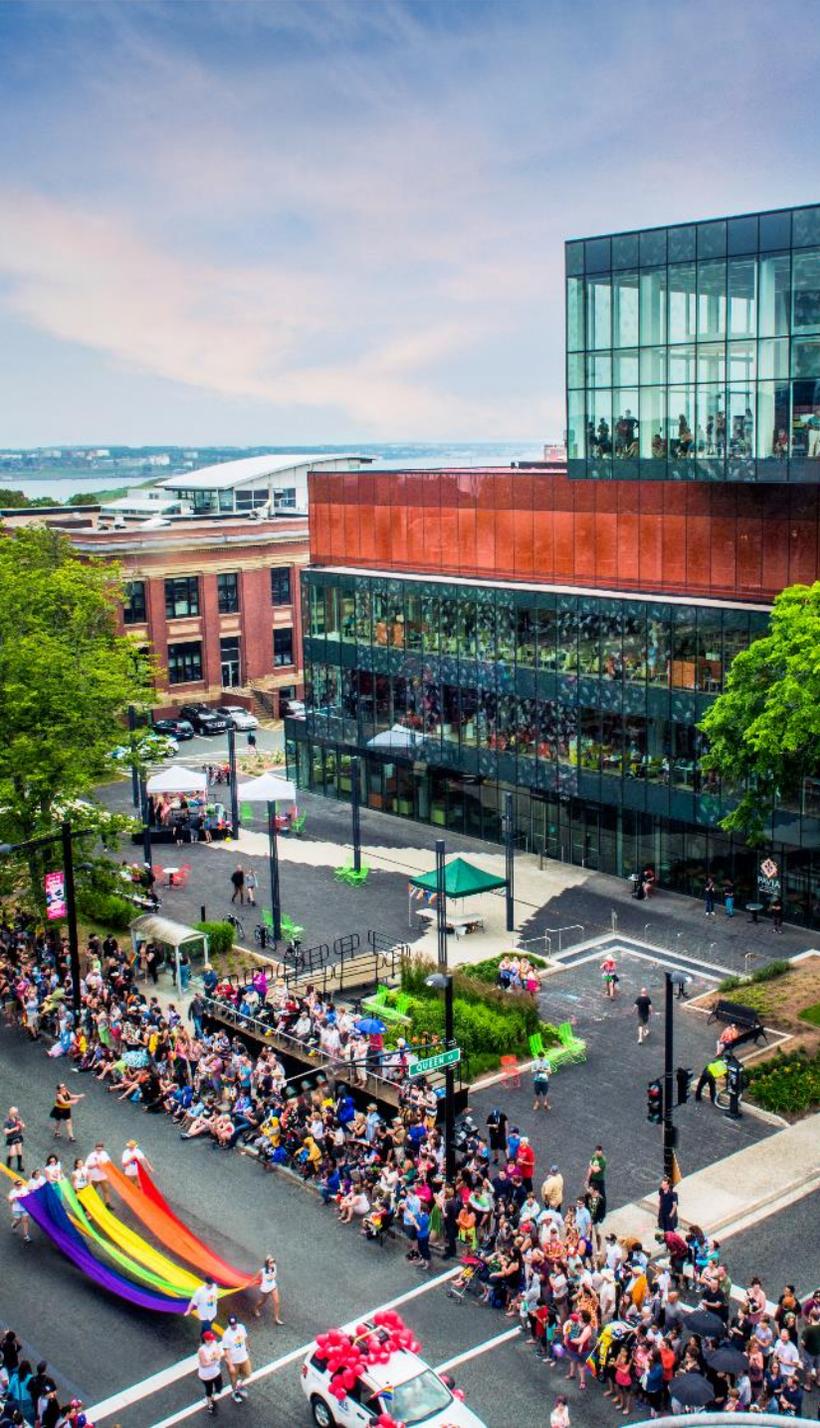
- Themes & Directions Document
- Broad Engagement
- Committee Engagement



And Here

Phase 3 - 2022

- Further Research
- Draft Amendments
- Broad Engagement
- Approval Process



HOW ARE WE ENGAGING THE PUBLIC?

Virtual Tools and Community Networks.

Social media, print media and community networks will be used to **get the word out and receive feedback**. The team will be available to provide presentations to stakeholders and community groups. The team will also consult with Standing Committees of Council, Advisory Boards and Committees, and internal staff teams.

The Regional Plan Review webpage is the primary point for engagement:

www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/regional-plan



WHAT ARE THE THEMES & DIRECTIONS?

Key Ideas, Issues and Potential Changes.

The Themes & Directions document **shares ideas about key planning issues and provides details of the work** that will be completed during the Review. The purpose of this document is to demonstrate the scope of the Regional Plan Review to the public, stakeholders, Council, and ultimately to seek feedback on the content.

The feedback will help provide focus and direction for our work during the Review.

We can decide how we want Halifax to grow.

We can make smart decisions about housing and employment and use the Regional Plan to quickly direct growth to the right places, in a way that furthers our community goals, and builds a healthy, thriving economy.

We can create change through new partnerships.

We can use the Regional Plan Review to act on new partnerships, grow in a new way, and pursue opportunities for meaningful change together.

We can make it easier for people to move.

We can use the Regional Plan to link decisions on land use and our mobility system by focusing on the movement of people, not just vehicles, be it by walking, rolling, cycling, transit or in a vehicle.

We can protect what matters.

We can use the Regional Plan to strengthen and protect important natural and cultural places and use them to shape our region's communities.

We can transform.

We can use the Regional Plan Review to help us generate ideas about how to change and transform as a community.

11 THEMES

THEME 1 

CONSIDERING THE REGIONAL SCALE FIRST



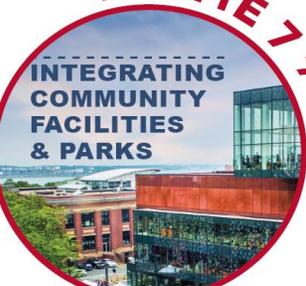
THEME 4 

TRANSFORMING HOW WE MOVE IN OUR REGION



THEME 7 

INTEGRATING COMMUNITY FACILITIES & PARKS



THEME 10 

IMAGINING HRM INTO 2050 AND BEYOND



THEME 2 

BUILDING HEALTHIER AND MORE COMPLETE COMMUNITIES



THEME 5 

SOCIAL PLANNING FOR COMMUNITY WELL-BEING



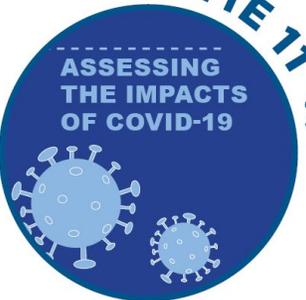
THEME 8 

ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



THEME 11 

ASSESSING THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19



THEME 3 

RECONSIDERING EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL LANDS



THEME 6 

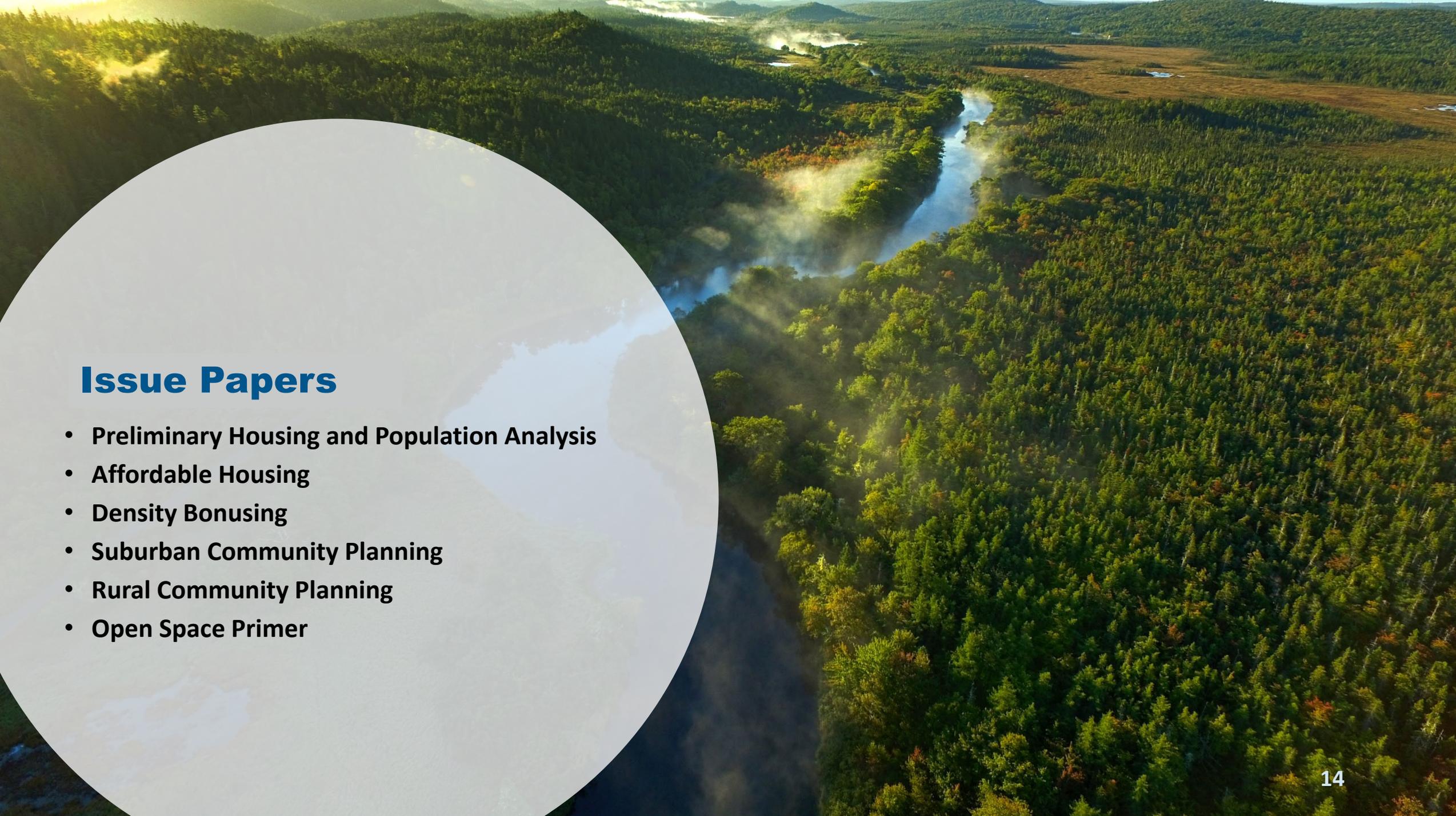
CELEBRATING CULTURE & HERITAGE



THEME 9 

LEADING THROUGH ACTION ON CLIMATE





Issue Papers

- **Preliminary Housing and Population Analysis**
- **Affordable Housing**
- **Density Bonusing**
- **Suburban Community Planning**
- **Rural Community Planning**
- **Open Space Primer**

THEMES & DIRECTIONS

Theme 1: Considering the Regional Scale

The goal of this work is to carefully consider:

- Deciding when and where growth should occur;
- Includes an assessment of population and housing growth;
- Identifies major areas for expansion of the Urban Service Boundary and future Urban Reserve designation
- Recommend a process for the development of Sandy Lake, Highway 102 West Corridor Lands and Morris Lake areas.
- Lifting the Urban Reserve on the Akoma Lands.

Biggest Moves:

Assessing growth and reviewing the Urban Service Boundary

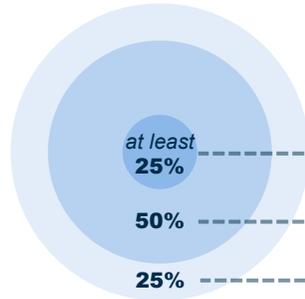
Initiating Background Study for remaining Serviced Growth Areas

Lifting of the Urban Reserve designation from the Akoma Lands



GROWTH TARGETS

REGIONAL PLAN



REGIONAL CENTRE

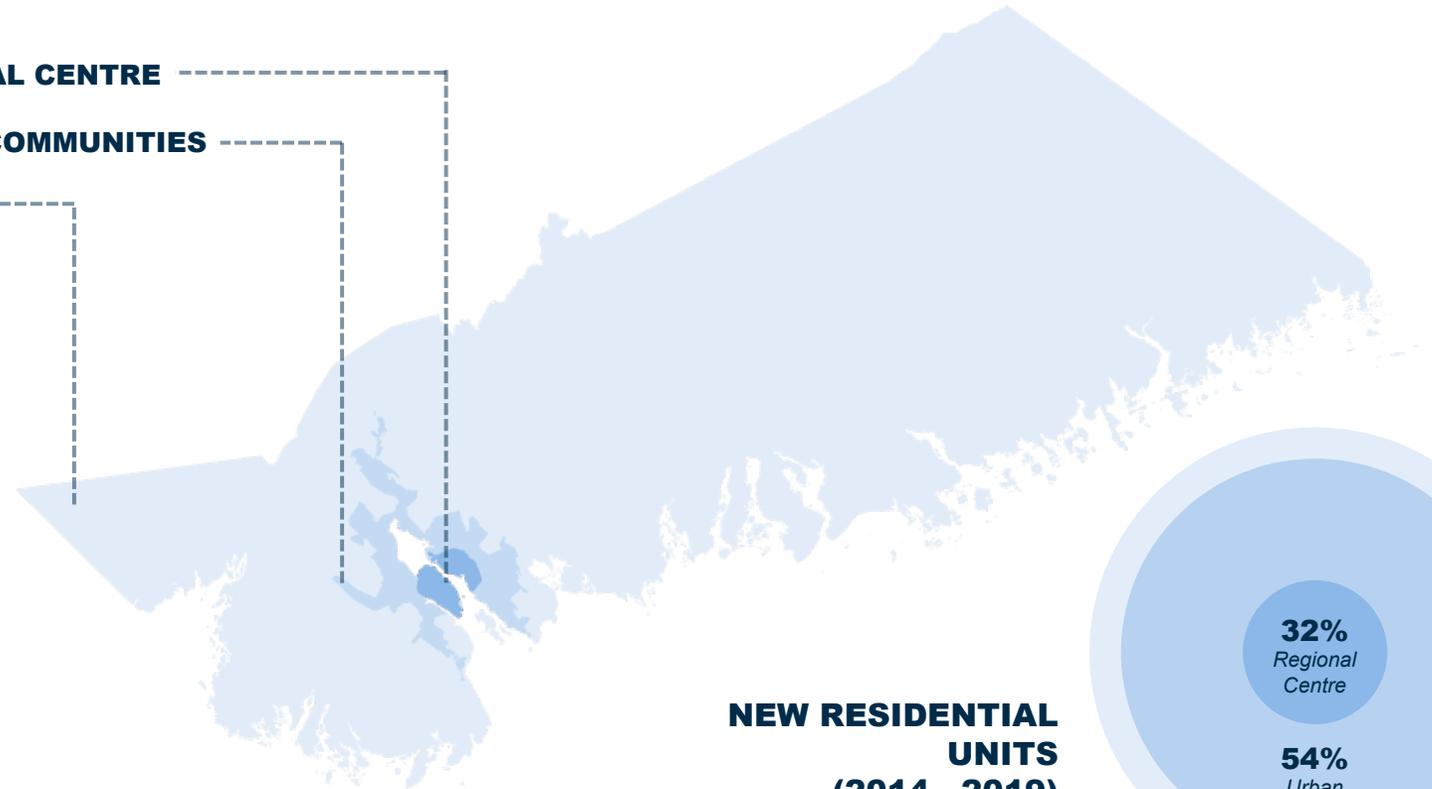
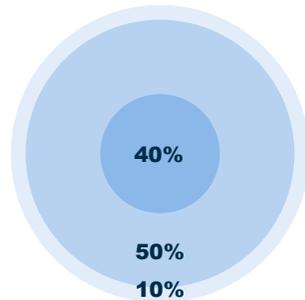
URBAN COMMUNITIES

RURAL

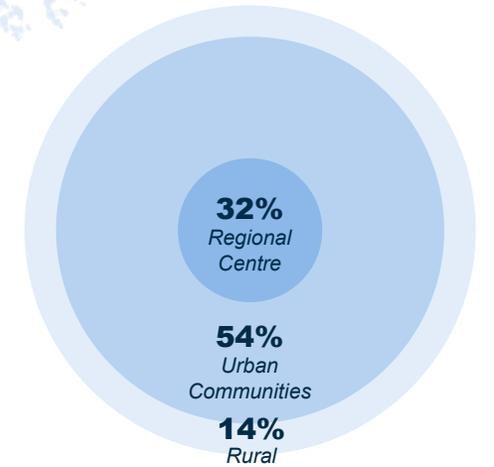
CENTRE PLAN



INTEGRATED MOBILITY PLAN



NEW RESIDENTIAL UNITS (2014 - 2019)



SCENARIO C The Future

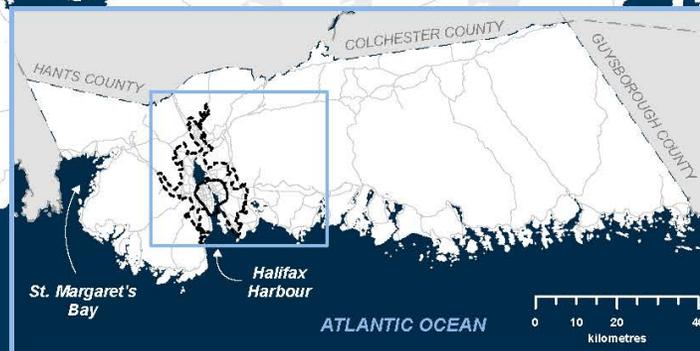
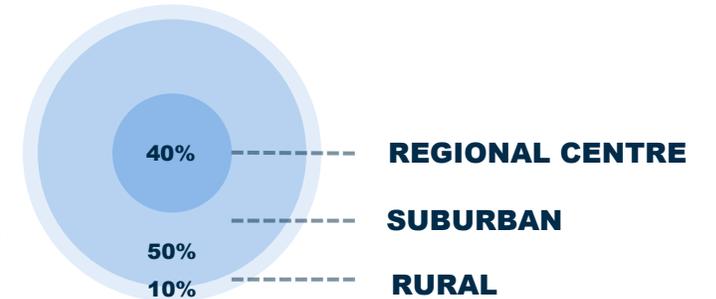
- Growth Area**
- Centre
 - Corridor
 - Higher-Order Residential
 - Downtown
 - Future Growth Node
 - BRT Walkshed
 - Future Serviced Community
 - Urban Reserve
 - Remaining Approved Development
 - Sub-Area Boundary

BRT: Bus Rapid Transit

SUBURBAN AREA

REGIONAL CENTRE

GROWTH ALLOCATION: INTEGRATED MOBILITY PLAN



PCS: NAD 1983 CSRS 2010 MTM 6 Nova Scotia
 Datum: North American 1983 CSRS
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Central Meridian: -64.5000
 Latitude of Origin: 0.0000
 Longitude of Origin: 0.0000
 False Easting: 25,000,000.0000
 False Northing: 0.0000
 Scale Factor: 0.9999
 Map Units: Metre

Map created by Halifax Regional Municipality Research & Data Group.
 The following is a graphical representation and although care has been taken to ensure the best possible quality, HRM does not guarantee the accuracy of this document.

0 1 2 4
kilometres



0 10 20 40
kilometres

THEMES & DIRECTIONS

Theme 2: Building Complete Communities

This theme provides guidance for the Plan & By-law Simplification Program and directs how intensification should occur in suburban and rural areas. The building blocks for complete communities are identified which include:

- Services and Infrastructure
- Housing
- Employment Lands
- Parks & Access to Nature
- Culture & Heritage Spaces
- Environmental Protection
- Food Security
- Transportation



Biggest Moves:

Setting up the Plan & By-law Simplification Program

Directing Intensification in Suburban and Rural Areas and reclassifying Growth Centres

Creation of Interim Design Guidelines for suburban development

Review of conservation design policies

THEMES & DIRECTIONS

Theme 8: Enhancing Environmental Protection

- Using the Green Network Plan Ecology Map to guide planning decisions
- Reviewing interactions between land use and important ecological areas and wildlife corridors
- Continue to support naturalization and green infrastructure
- Continue to support the implementation of the Urban Forest Master Plan
- Continued development of Watershed Management, Water Quality Programs
- Improved consideration of watercourses and wetlands
- Improve coastal area management



Biggest Moves:

Developing a program of study for the protection of wildlife corridors

Reviewing the Municipality's ability to protect environmentally sensitive or important lands

Improving protection for water course, wetlands and coastal areas

THEMES & DIRECTIONS

Theme 9: Leading Through Action on Climate

- Continued support for the implementation of HalifACT 2050
- Focus on opportunities to support decarbonization of transportation
- Encourage net-zero and climate resilient new construction
- Remove barriers to new technology
- Work with Emergency Management and Energy Environment Team to assess critical infrastructure vulnerability



Biggest Moves:

Establish a program of study to assess climate risks and community preparedness, including analysis of critical infrastructure.

Adopt policy to direct consideration of alternative energy systems, such as district energy and microgrids

To learn more, ask questions, join the project's mailing list and make your voice heard:

Visit: www.shapeyourcityhaifax.ca/regional-plan

Email: regionalplan@halifax.ca

Phone: 902.233.2501

Stay updated on other events and engagement opportunities by following the Halifax Regional Municipality on social media and Shape Your City.