



WE MAKE MILTON

Living in Milton:
Background and
information report



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Introduction

This is the We Make Milton Background and Information report for the Living in Milton theme. It has been prepared as part of Stage 3 of our new Official Plan project and it explores the current context for living in Milton and some of the current planning opportunities and challenges related to this theme. It presents a series of Big Questions about how to manage change to the year 2051, in accordance with new land use planning vision 'Choice Shapes Us'.

The Living in Milton Big Questions report complements this document. The Big Questions report looks at current provincial, regional, and local plans/policies, as well as current planning practices from municipalities in other jurisdictions to help address planning opportunities and challenges. It identifies policy considerations that could be used in our new Official Plan to address what we call Big Questions.

Both Living in Milton reports will be used for our next round of engagement and consultation with the community.

About Living in Milton

The focus of Living in Milton is on land use planning matters related to our day-to-day lives in Milton (where we live, socialize, play, and worship) and how our daily needs are met. The Living theme also goes beyond the day-to-day and looks at how our new Official Plan can more broadly support a high quality of life and sense of community for Miltonians, while addressing current/future planning challenges, such as climate change, healthy living, and housing affordability.

In the context of our new planning vision, it is anticipated that many people will want to live and grow old in Milton because of the housing choices available. In 2051, residents will have options for where to live in Milton - a new townhouse with a view, a certified green condo close to a GO station, a basement apartment in Sherwood, a historic home near downtown, or a lot in the rural area. Through the development of what we call 'complete communities', residents will also have more choice when it comes to services, amenities, and recreation.

A complete community is one where people live, work and play, and where the car is left at home in favour of walking, cycling and public transit. They are supported by compact form, a mix of uses, higher densities and a range of housing types.



What are Big Questions?

Big Questions are critical policy questions about how to manage change and achieve our land use Vision, Choice Shapes Us, to the year 2051. Big Questions are open-ended and have no simple "right answer". They emerged from extensive consultation and reflect what is important to Miltonians. By answering the Big Questions, we will identify new policy directions that are Milton-specific.



From conversations with our community to-date in Stages 1 and 2, concerns were raised related to the theme of Living in Milton, such as:

- Addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation in our neighbourhoods and community areas;
- Considering the short and long-term impacts of Covid-19;
- Creating complete communities;
- Encouraging flexibility and creativity in the land use planning approvals process, yet also providing clarity and certainty for new development;
- Enhancing the vibrancy, design, and aesthetics of Milton;
- Ensuring compact and sustainable development;
- Increasing public gathering spaces and public art;
- Increasing sports/recreational facilities and parks;
- Providing a broader range of more affordable housing types/forms;
- Recognizing diversity and being equitable, inclusive, and accessible to all people, regardless of ages and ability;
- Retaining youth and improving their quality of life by providing for specific land use needs/wants; and
- Supporting rural residents/communities, and improving livability across Rural Milton.

Brief historical overview

Pre-European History

Ontario's municipalities, including Milton, have been built on traditional Indigenous territories. When we examine Milton's history and where we have historically lived, the Indigenous People who are the traditional owners and continuing stewards of the lands, waters, and resources which make up Milton today must be acknowledged. Milton is located within the homelands of the Mississaugas of the New Credit, a distinct group within the Anishinaabe peoples - one of the largest Aboriginal Nations in North America. Before contact with Europeans and until the late 1600s, the Mississaugas occupied a territory situated inland from the north shore of Lake Huron, just to the west of Manitoulin Island and east of Sault Ste. Marie.¹

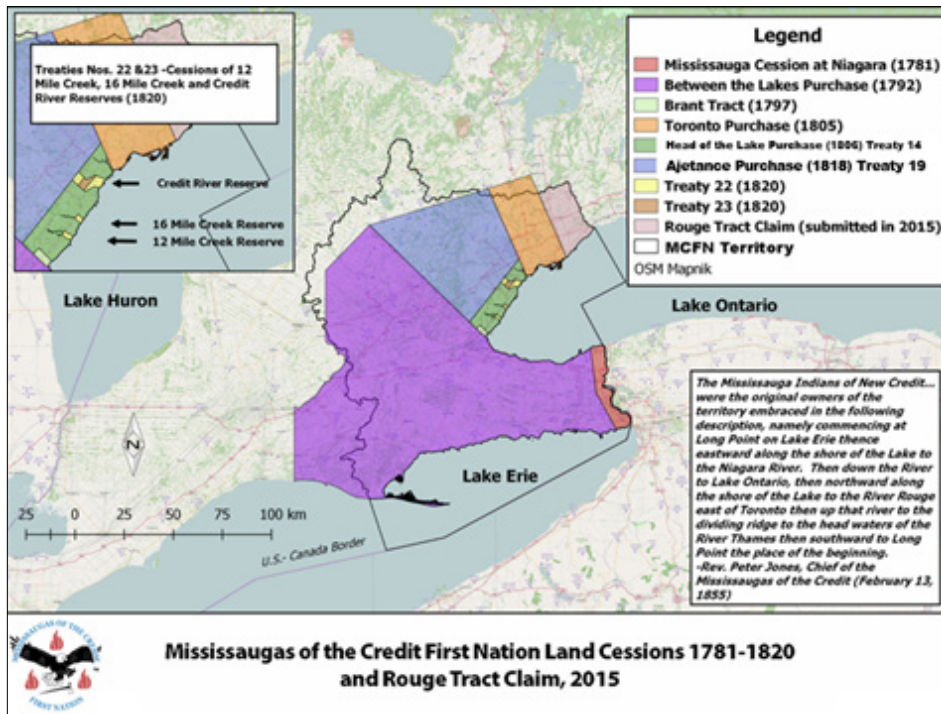
Early European settlers began to settle here in the late 1700s and early 1800s eventually establishing treaties with the Indigenous Peoples. These treaties transferred large areas of land to the Crown and defined ongoing rights and obligations for both, as well as rules of governance.

According to The History of the Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation, the name 'Mississauga' has been given two possible meanings. One interpretation is the Eagle Clan of the Ojibway Nation. A second interpretation refers to the mouth of the Mississagi River, which was an important fishing location for the Mississauga people.

¹<http://mncfn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/The-History-of-MNCFN-FINAL.pdf>

Map 1 shows that Milton sits within Treaty 19 and Treaty 14. Treaty 19, known as the Ajetance Purchase, was signed on October 28, 1818 by representatives of the Crown and Anishinaabe peoples.² Treaty 14, known the Head of the Lake Purchase, was signed on September 12, 1806 by representatives of the Crown and certain Mississauga peoples.³

Map 1: Town of Milton Boundaries Related to Treaties 14 and 19



Milton grew into a thriving agricultural community centred around the Martins' grist mill. The family became very influential. The first post office was built in 1836, which required a formal name for the settlement. Milton was chosen in honour of the English poet John Milton a favourite author of the Martin family.

([Milton Historical Society](#))

Historic townships

Milton's settlement history is also tied to farming and the development of resource industries such as logging, lime and quarry operations, brickyards, and the establishment of commercial centres. By 1818, what is now known as Milton was located across four growing Townships within Halton County. Since the history of Milton is important, and since the stories behind our growth could be recognized in the new Official Plan, a brief description of the former townships that make-up Milton today is provided below.

Trafalgar Township

Trafalgar Township was first settled in 1806; yet it wasn't until 15 years later that Jasper Martin and his family immigrated to Canada from New Castle, England and settled here in 1821. Jasper Martin received a grant of 100 acres on the West Branch of Sixteen Mile Creek in 1822. He then bought another 100 acres and established a grist mill. The area soon became a service center for the agricultural community, known as Milltown. In 1837, it had a population of approximately 100. By the early 1850's Trafalgar Township had more than 4,500 people living amongst several villages - some of which are still evident (Auburn/Agerton, Boyne, Omagh and Drumquin).

² <https://www.ontario.ca/page/map-ontario-treaties-and-reserves>

³ <https://www.ontario.ca/page/map-ontario-treaties-and-reserves>

Township of Esquesing

The Township of Esquesing was settled in 1819, with new residents arriving from the British Isles. Only a small part of the former Township of Esquesing is now in the Town of Milton, yet it is significant because it contains the interchange of Hwy. 401 and Highway 25 (which is the Milton 401 Industrial Park) and the Maplehurst Provincial Correctional Centre. These lands were initially agricultural and contained the Hamlet of Peru.⁴

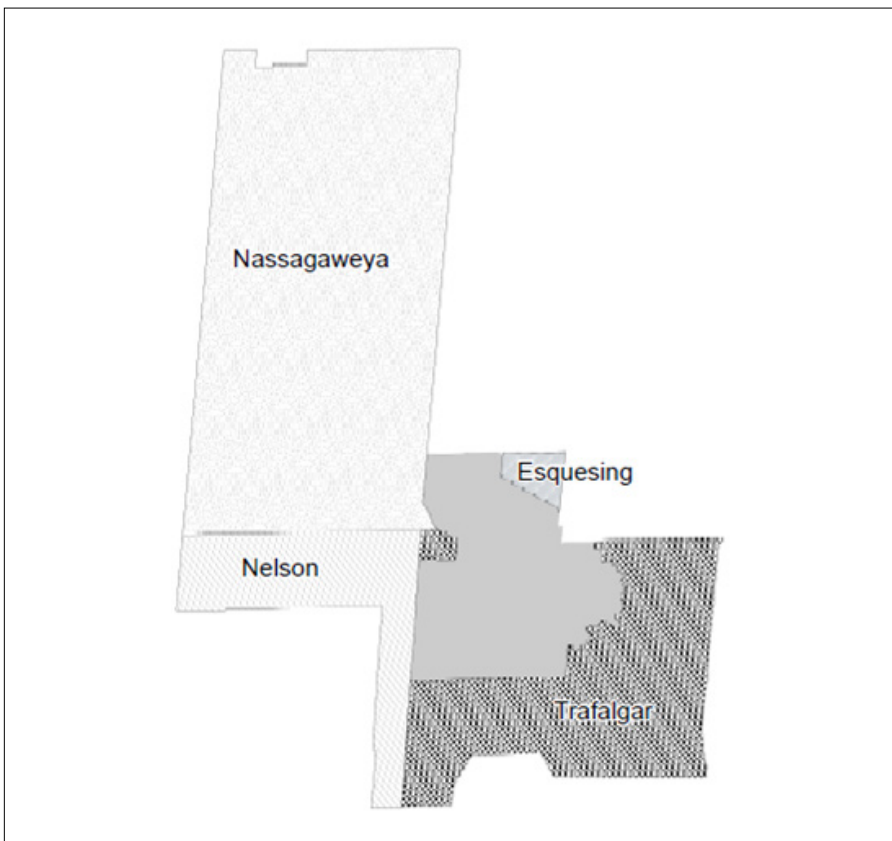
Township of Nassagaweya

The former Township of Nassagaweya was first surveyed in 1819. Its name was derived from the Mississauga word 'nazhesahgewayyong', meaning 'river with two outlets.'⁵ The majority of the Township is above the Niagara Escarpment, and was known for its high-quality farmland. In the early years, there was also considerable logging in the Township and, following the extension of the Credit Valley Railway, there grew a significant lime industry. In terms of urban centres, Campbellville was the largest, yet the villages of Brookville, Moffat, Darbyville and Knatchbull served the surrounding farming community as well.

Township of Nelson

The former Township of Nelson was settled in 1806 and named after a famous English Admiral.⁶ A small portion located within present day Milton while the majority now belongs to the City of Burlington.

Map 2: Former Townships in Milton



The name **Esquesing** comes from the original Indigenous name 'Ishkwessin', meaning "that which lies at the end."

The first draft map in 1819 recorded the Township as **Nasigiweya**. The first history of the township (published in 1869) spelled it the same. There are also early deeds and legal documents that spell it as **Nasagiweya**. When the historical society was formed in 1981 the decision was made to use this spelling. The change in spelling to **Nassagaweya** appears to be sometime between 1838 and 1858.

(Nassagaweya Historical Society)

⁴Text from 2008 Consolidated Official Plan

⁵https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nassagaweya_Township,_Ontario

Urban growth and expansion

Milton was incorporated into a Town in 1857 and by 1869, there was a population of 1,000. Milton grew slowly to about 1,370 people in 1901 and 1,654 people by 1911. Following the Second World War, new housing for veterans was developed and by the time Highway 401 was extended to Milton, the population reached around 6,600.

In 1974, with the creation of regional government, parts of the townships and the old Town of Milton were amalgamated to create Milton as it is today. This change had a profound impact. Although they are now part of Milton, each of the former Townships has its distinct history, geography, uniqueness, and character.

Over the past three decades, Milton's has grown substantially. Much of this growth is the result of multiple urban boundary expansions since the Halton Urban Structure Plan was adopted by the Region in 1994 and the extension of regional water/wastewater infrastructure in 2001.



A review of current population, demographic, and other socio-economic data for Milton is provided in the following pages. An exploration of future growth as well as requirements for managing this growth is provided in the Growing in Milton report.



View of Main Street in downtown Milton.

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halton_County,_Ontario

Living in Milton today

Population, distribution and growth

Population

For many years, Milton has been one of the fastest growing municipalities in Ontario and Canada. Table 1 shows how our population has changed since 2001. Milton continues to experience significant growth, and in 2020, our population was 136,871.

Table 1: Population of Milton (1996 to 2020)

Year	Population	Source
1996	32,104	Statistics Canada
2001	31,471	Statistics Canada
2006	53,939	Statistics Canada
2011	84,362	Statistics Canada
2016	110,128	Statistics Canada
2021	132,979	Statistics Canada

Table 2 shows the growth rate of Milton for varying intervals between 2001 and 2020. Compared to the provincial rate of 4.6 per cent and national rate of five per cent⁷, Milton's growth rate has been significant for more than two decades.

Table 2: Milton's growth rate (2001 to 2020)

Range	Population Growth (people)	Population Growth (percentage)
2001 to 2006	22,468	71.4
2006 to 2016	56,189	56.5
2016 to 2021	22,851	20.7

Distribution

Table 3 and Map 3 below show how the current population is distributed across Milton.

Table 3: 2020 Population distribution across Milton

Area of Milton	Proportion (percentage)
Town-wide (all of Milton)	100
Urban Milton (urban area only)	93
Rural Milton (all lands outside Urban area including hamlets)	Seven
Hamlets only	Two

Source: Environics, 2020

Urban vs. rural
These are key planning terms established by the province.

See [page 11](#) for more.

Clearly, the majority (93 per cent) of residents live in urban Milton where there is a wide range of densities within Urban Milton. Some areas have significantly more population (as shown in darker

⁷ Statistics Canada.

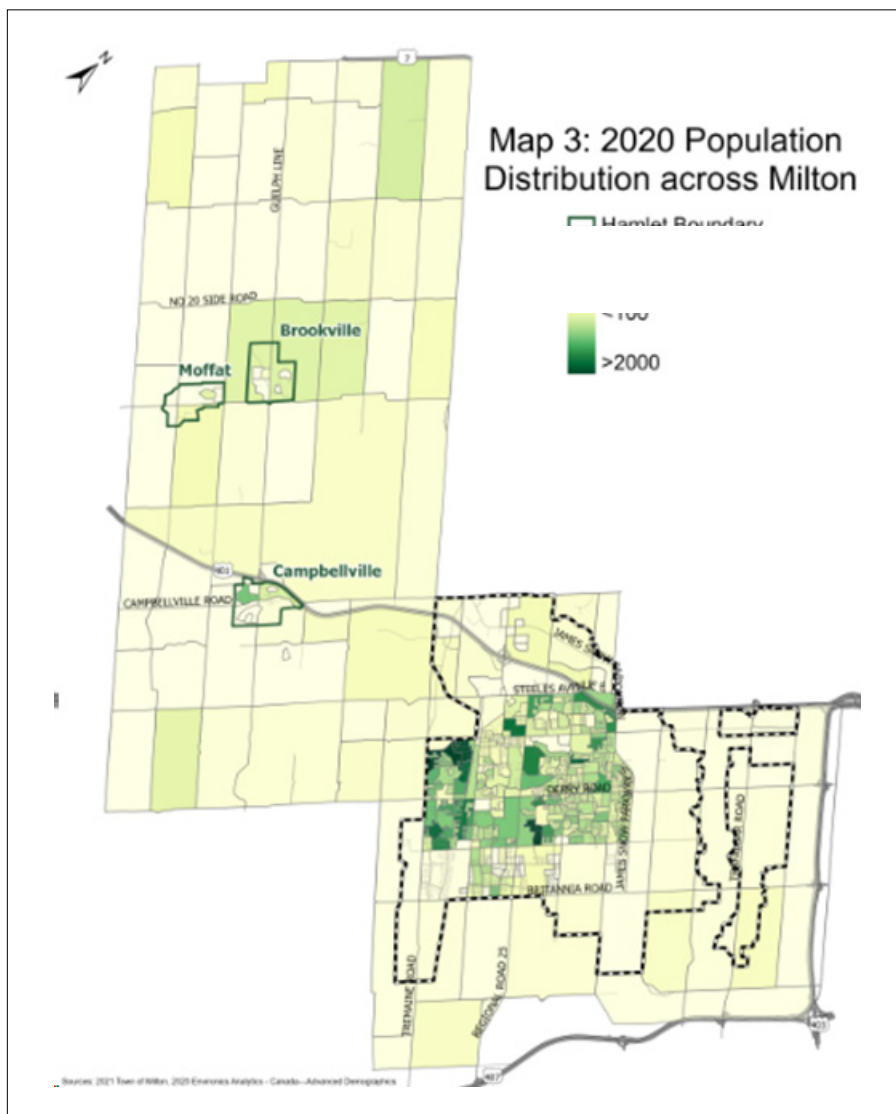
shades of green) due to the type and form of housing that has been developed.

Future growth

According to recent projections from the Province, the planned population of the Region of Halton as a whole is 1,100,000 by the year 2051⁸. This represents an increase of 551,565 people (or a 100 per cent growth rate) from the Region's population of 548,435 in 2016.

This means that Milton will remain one of the fastest growing communities in Ontario. It also means that we have the opportunity to provide a wide range of living and housing choices and that this can be explored through We Make Milton.

Map 3: 2020 Population Distribution across Milton



Growth projections from the Province are allocated by the Region of Halton to all four local municipalities. Allocations are currently being determined as part of the ongoing Regional Official Plan Review and Municipal Comprehensive Review. Through this exercise, the planned population of Milton to the year 2051, will be determined.

Density means the number of people in a defined area. In Map 3, we are looking at the range of densities across Milton.



The Growing in Milton reports identify and explore Big Questions about how to manage future growth locally.

⁸ A Place to Grow, Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, Schedule 3

More about where people live

Consisting of 365 square kilometers, Milton is located west of downtown Toronto, on Highway 401, and in the heart of Canada's most significant technology cluster, known as the Toronto-Waterloo innovation Corridor. Milton is also on the edge of the Niagara Escarpment, a United Nations (UNESCO) World Biosphere Reserve, and along the Bruce Trail. These are just a few of the features that draw people to Milton and make it a place where so many want to live.

Although it is clear that the majority of residents live in what is called urban Milton, we've also heard through our community engagement efforts that many residents have a strong preference for living in what is called rural Milton. The following is a land use planning explanation of what we mean by urban Milton and rural Milton and a description of where exactly people live in each.

Settlement areas

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) sets the rules for land use planning in Ontario and provides policies to manage growth that must be implemented by Milton. It establishes two different types of settlement areas: Urban and Rural. These are areas where growth has historically been concentrated and areas that must continue to be the focus of future growth. The PPS definition for Settlement Area is:

"Settlement areas shall be the focus of growth and development."

(Section 1.1.3.1, PPS)

Urban areas and rural settlement areas within municipalities (such as cities, towns, villages and hamlets) that are:

- a) *Built-up areas where development is concentrated and which have a mix of land uses; and*
- b) *Lands which have been designated in an official plan for development over the long-term planning horizon.*

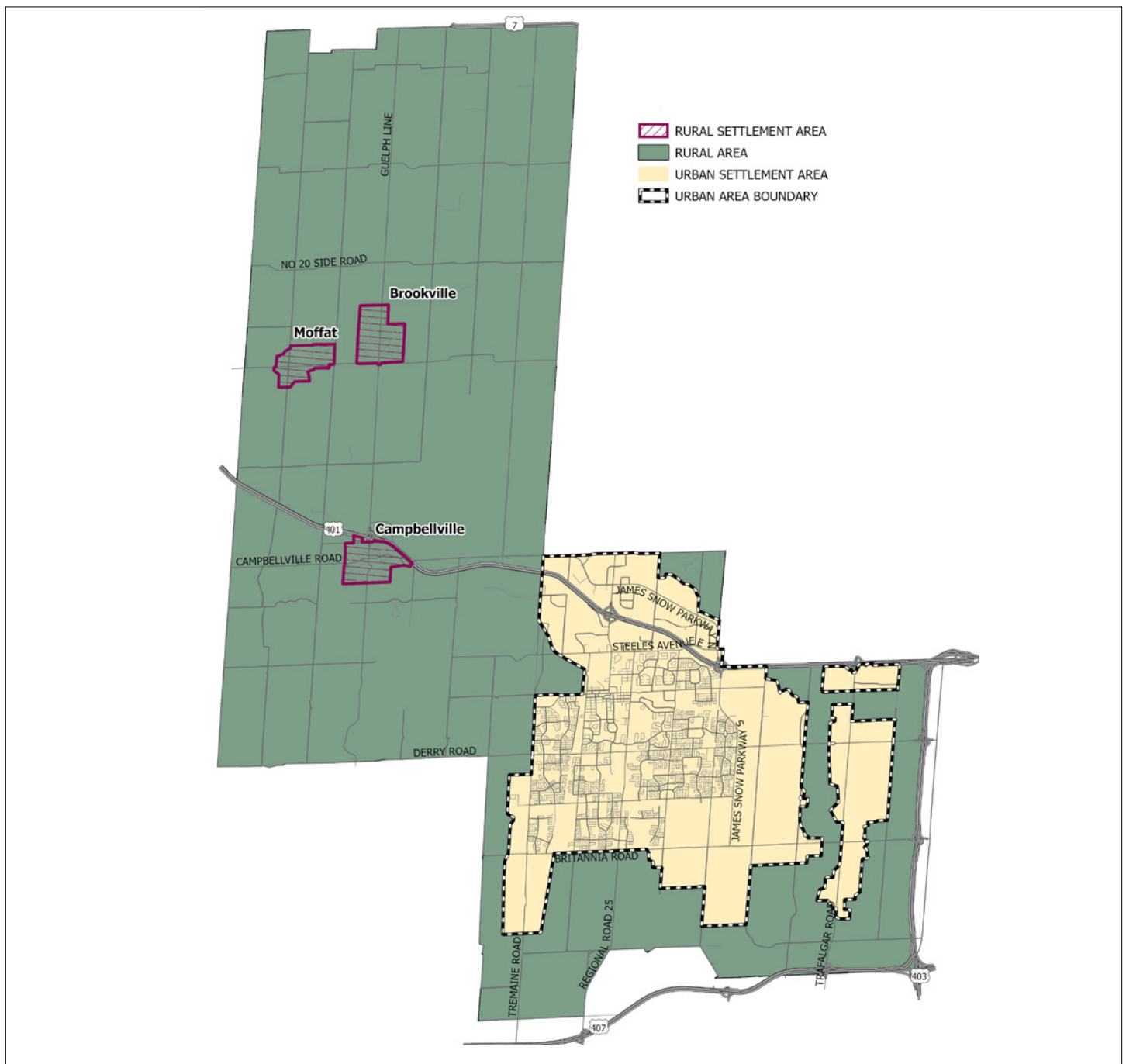
Map 4 shows the boundaries of Milton's Urban Settlement Area and the Rural Settlement Areas. In Milton, 95 per cent of the current population lives in Settlement Areas.

Urban Milton

The exact boundary of Milton's Urban area, as shown on Map 4, is determined by the Region of Halton and identified on Map 1E of the Regional Official Plan (ROP).

Milton's urban area has evolved over time and the existing urban area boundary is currently under review by Halton Region. There are provincial and regional planning requirements for urban areas that must be addressed by our new Official Plan.

Map 4: Milton's Urban and Rural Settlement Areas

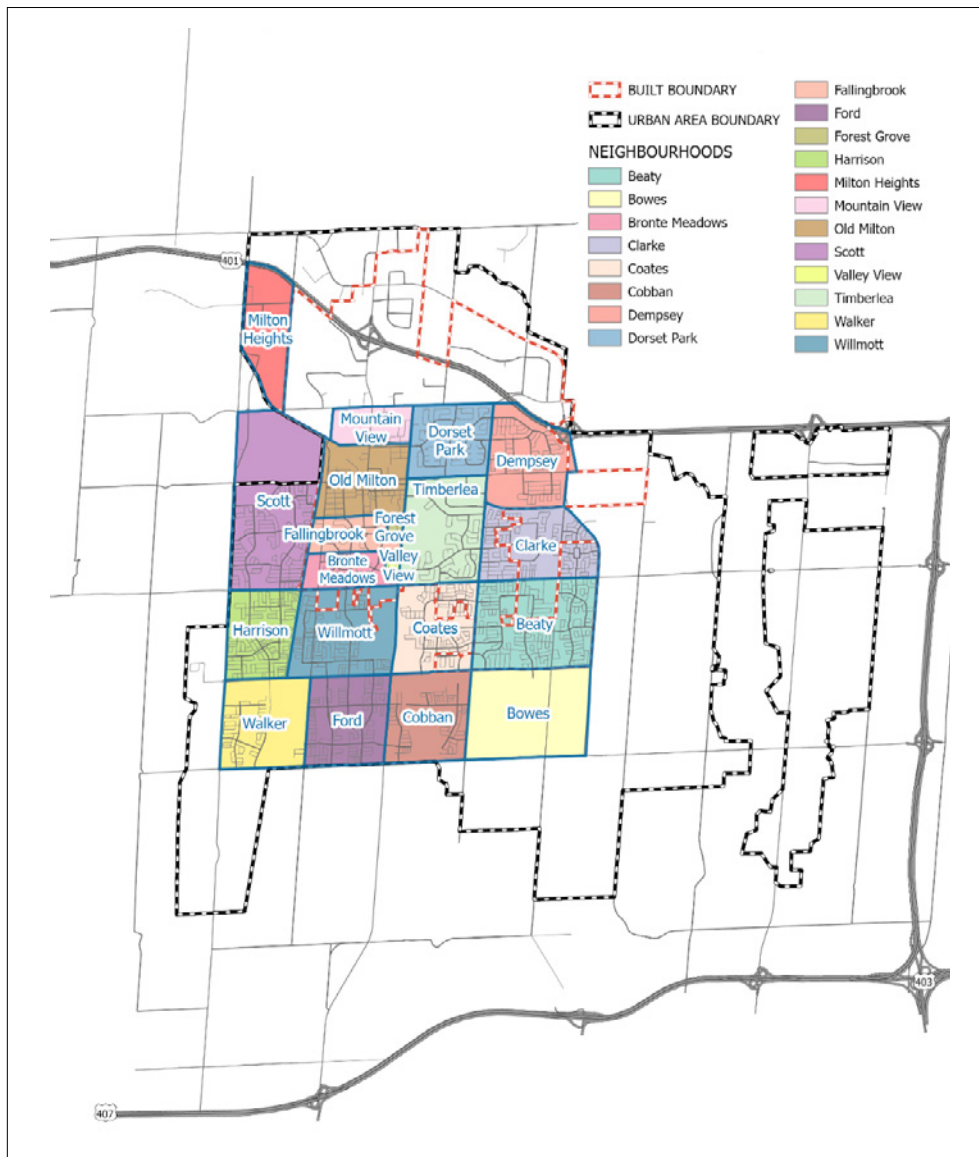


Urban neighbourhoods

If we look more closely at where people are living in urban Milton, we can see that a pattern of residential neighbourhoods has evolved, as shown in Map 6, which are centred around the original historic townsite of Milton (also called the Established Urban area). As required by the Region of Halton, this growth has been managed over the past 20 years through the preparation of secondary plans, as discussed in more detail below.

To read a description of each of Milton's urban residential neighbourhoods, refer to [Appendix A.1](#) of this report.

Map 5: Neighbourhoods in Milton as of 2020



Downton Milton is identified in the existing Official Plan as a character area.

What does this mean?

Character areas are defined as existing developed or planned areas within the Town, which have a distinct land use function and a unique, identifiable character that is different from the surrounding area.

There are many existing residential areas that have been identified as mature neighbourhoods.

What does this mean?

Mature neighbourhoods are defined by the existing Official Plan as older residential areas characterized by predominantly single-detached dwellings generally on large lots, and other built and natural qualities that collectively provide a distinct and recognizable character.

On Oct. 19, 2020, Milton Council enacted Official Plan Amendment No. 60 which updated policies to better manage development in Mature Neighbourhoods and Character Areas. These policies will be carried forward in the new Official Plan.

[View Report DS-043-20](#), which provides background to the study and an overview of updated Official Plan policies.

Secondary plan areas

The development of many of Milton's existing neighbourhoods is the result of detailed planning to achieve the development of complete communities and the realization of our local growth objectives. Over the past several decades, Milton has been preparing and implementing Secondary plans (also called surveys) for new growth areas.

What is a secondary plan? While Milton's Official Plan provides an overall vision and policy direction for Town-wide growth over a long period of time, our secondary plans establish a second layer of more detailed policies for the development of specific geographic areas within the planning horizon (Figure 4). The preparation of Secondary plans is required by the Region of Halton Official Plan prior to development of new community areas.

Figure 1: Hierarchy of local planning documents



Policy 48 of the Region of Halton Official Plan states:

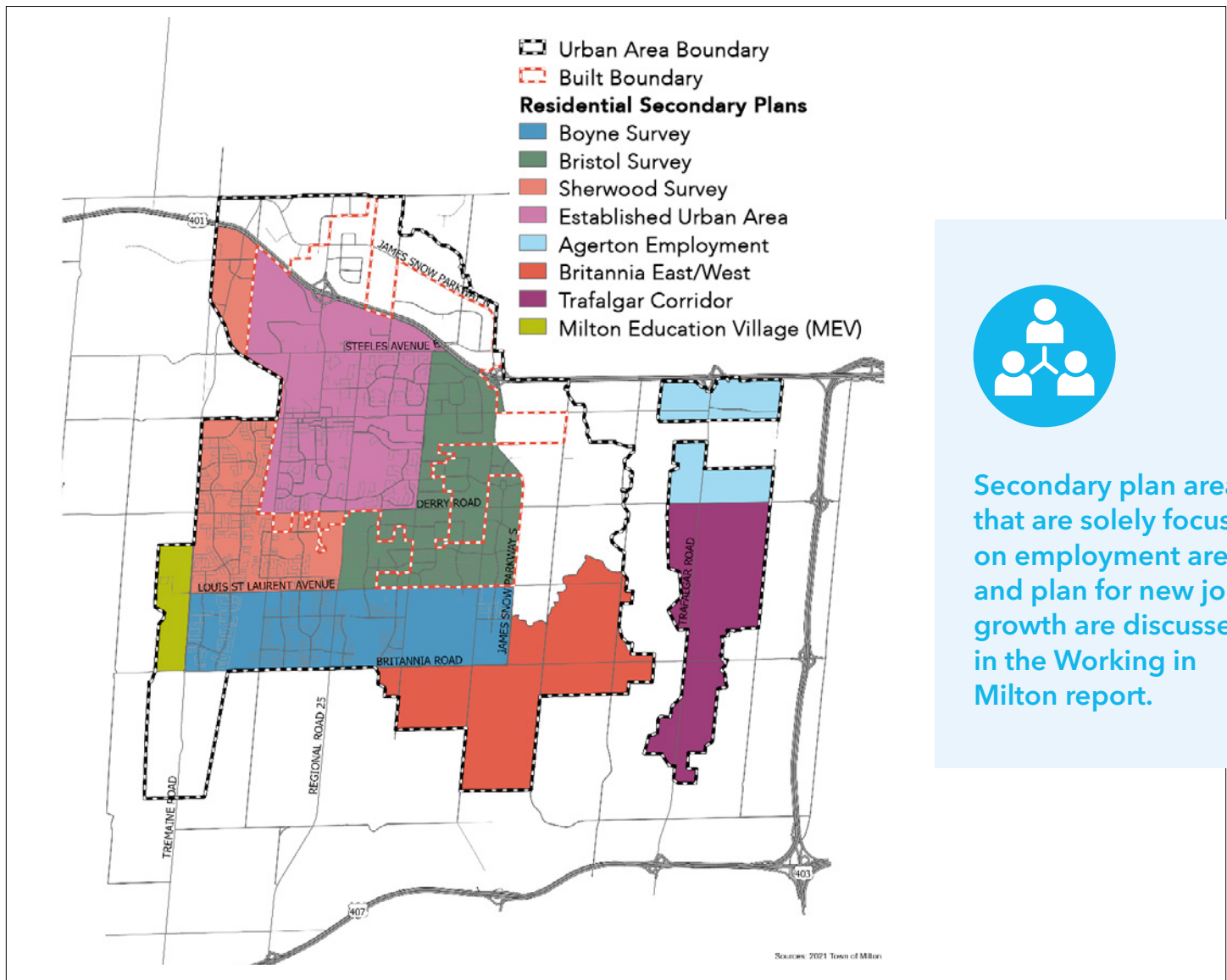
Area-Specific Plans such as secondary plans are to be prepared by the local municipalities for settlement areas such as new communities.

Map 7 shows the boundaries of Milton's existing Secondary Plan Areas. Those areas shaded in different colours have been prepared for new residential or mixed-use neighbourhoods. These are the areas where people live in Milton today, or will live in the future. Secondary plan Areas that are not shaded have been or will be prepared for the development of Milton's employment areas (i.e., places for people to work) and are discussed in the 'Working in Milton' Reports.

To read a description of each of Milton's secondary plan areas, including status of development, refer to [Appendix A.2](#) of this report.

A mixed-use building combines different uses in the same building. This is also called vertical mixed-use. A mixed-use block or neighbourhood combines complimentary land uses (i.e., residential, commercial, institutional) and building types (mixed- or single-use). This is also called horizontal mixed-use.

Map 6: Residential or Mixed-use Secondary plan Areas in Milton



Notable about Milton’s secondary plan areas is that some are nearly fully developed - and have been for some time - while others won’t even start developing until later this decade, in accordance with the growth and phasing policies of the Region of Halton Official Plan. The identification of new Designated Greenfield Areas and preparation of Secondary plans will be required for Milton’s next stage of urban expansion; however, this is currently being evaluated by the Region through its ongoing ROPR and MCR. Once determined by the Region, Milton will explore various local growth management options in the Growing in Milton report.

Rural Milton

The following is a description of where exactly people live in rural Milton, which is the planning term for all of the lands outside of Milton’s urban area. The PPS definition for rural area is:

A system of lands within municipalities that may include rural settlement areas, rural lands, prime agricultural areas, natural heritage features and areas, and resource areas.

Milton’s rural area is shown on Map 3 (page 13) and about seven per cent of Milton’s total population (9,040 people) currently lives in rural Milton.

Living in the rural area

Excluding the rural settlement areas (i.e., hamlets or villages), about five per cent of Milton's total population lives in the remainder of rural area. This is about 3,306 people, as shown on [Table 3](#). [Map 3](#) also shows the distribution of this population across the Rural area. Although the population is very small relative to urban Milton, the geographic size of the Rural area is notably more significant. In fact, Milton is overwhelmingly rural when it comes to land area. Out of the 36,524 hectares, representing the entire geographic area of Milton, 28,216 hectares makes up the rural land area (including the hamlets), which represents 77 per cent of the total land area.

Residential development in the rural area is generally characterized by single residential housing units on large lots. These lots have historically been developed through the creation of estate lot subdivisions and the severance of existing lots. Some residential units are associated with an active farm or other agricultural use; however, many are not.

A significant portion of the rural area is protected by either the Provincial Greenbelt Plan or the Niagara Escarpment Plan, as well as the Regional Natural Heritage System. Some residential dwellings have existed on lots in these areas for an extended period of time. New lot creation and/or residential development is permitted under some conditions in certain land use designations established by these plans; however, in most cases, it is restricted.

Limited growth is anticipated for the rural area over the planning horizon. Instead, the PPS directs growth to Milton's urban area and the rural settlement areas. By directing growth to settlement areas, Milton is protecting other lands for rural living and other uses including resource conservation and environmental protection.

Rural settlement areas

Rural settlement areas are part of Milton's rural area. According to the PPS:

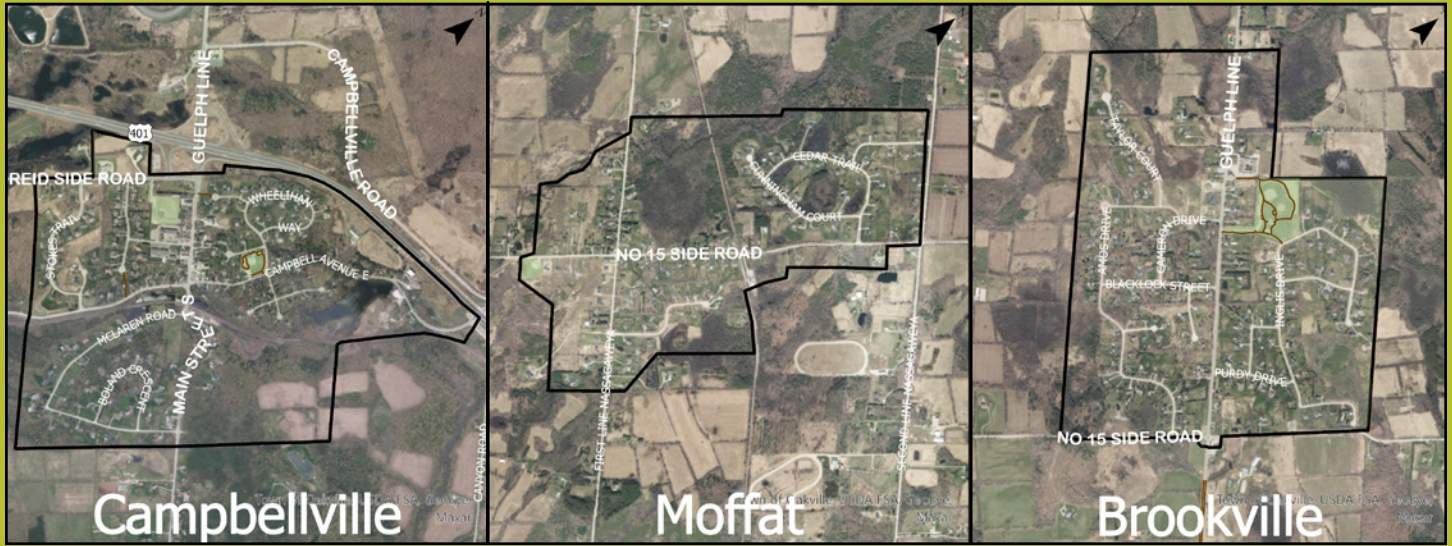
Rural settlement areas are built-up areas within the rural area where development is concentrated and which have a mix of land uses. They are also known as hamlets or villages.

Maps 8-10 show the boundaries of Milton's rural settlement areas, or hamlets as they are called by the existing Official Plan, which include Brookville, Campbellville, and Moffat. As discussed earlier, historical development has been concentrated in these areas for a very long time – prior to the establishment of Milton as it currently exists. Each rural settlement area has its own unique history to be shared and celebrated.

According to one of our We Make Milton project stakeholders: "People move to the country for a certain quality of life. The rural is a huge mixed-use area where there is a continual need to balance sustainability and prosperity with liveability."

There are provincial and regional planning requirements for rural areas and hamlets/villages that must be addressed by our new Official Plan. Some of these requirements are reviewed later in this report and in more detail in the Big Questions Reports.

Figures 2, 3, and 4: Milton's rural settlement areas/hamlets



To read a description of each of Milton's rural settlement areas, refer to [Appendix A.3](#) of this report.

About two per cent of the current population lives within Milton's hamlets, and while our hamlets won't grow significantly during the planning horizon, they are to be the focus of any future growth for Milton's rural area, in accordance with Section 1.1.4.2 of the PPS:

In rural areas, rural settlement areas shall be the focus of growth and development and their vitality and regeneration shall be promoted.

Who lives in Milton?

What follows is not a comprehensive demographic overview of Milton. Rather, some notable characteristics are highlighted as they explain a little bit more about who lives in Milton today and help us identify important planning considerations for the future. Where it is noteworthy, differences between the urban and rural populations are identified.

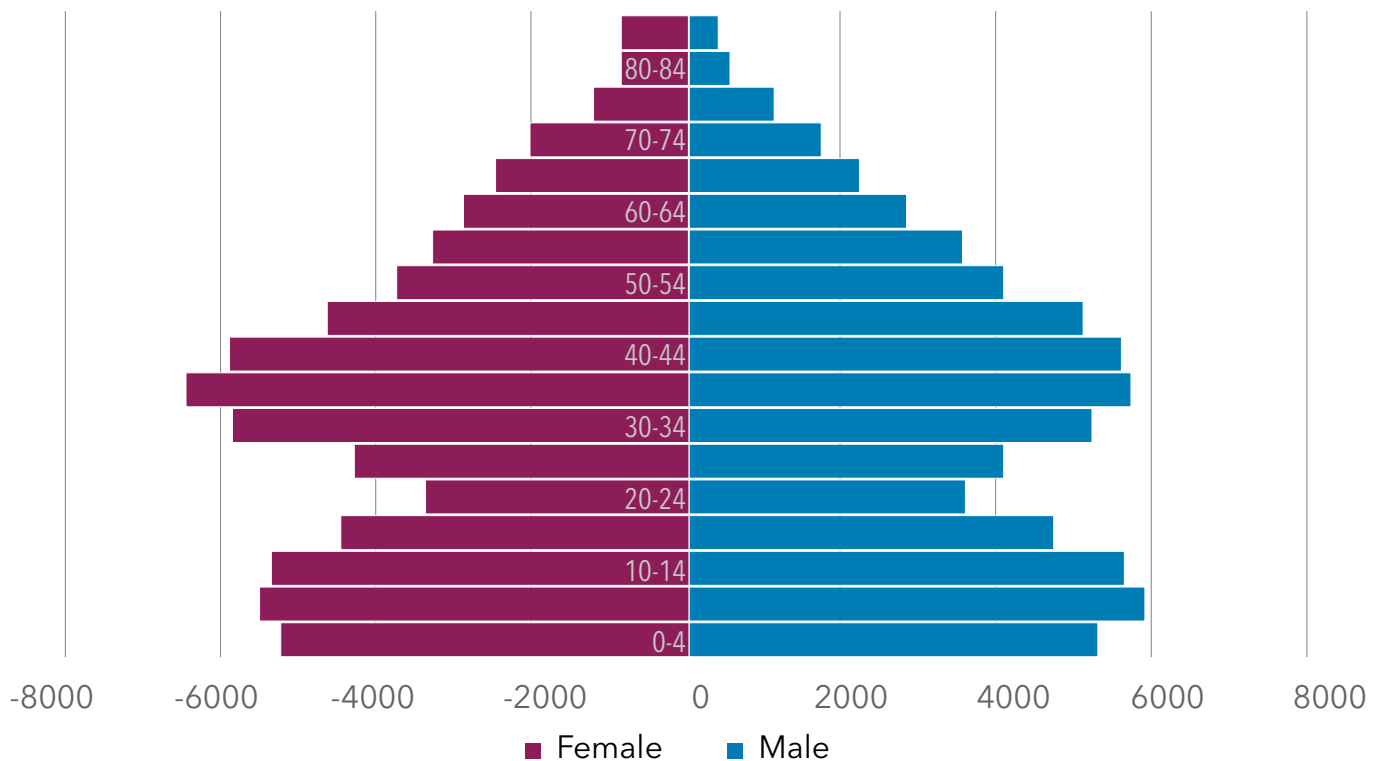


Age and sex

According to reports prepared in 2019 by Community Development Halton (a regional non-profit organization focused on building and strengthening Halton), Milton has a significant younger population and the lowest percentage of seniors (9.2 per cent) compared to other municipalities in the Region.⁹ Notably, between 2001 and 2016, the number of children and youth in Milton more than doubled.¹⁰ The report also highlighted that Milton has the highest percentage (21.6 per cent) of couple families with three or more children amongst all local municipalities in Halton Region.

Examining more recent data from 2020, Figure 5 shows the age distribution of Milton's current population across the entire Town. The pyramid also shows how the population is further distributed by sex.¹¹

Figure 5: Age distribution in Milton - Town-wide (2020)



The median age group of Milton's population is 30 to 34. Clearly, we remain a young community. In fact, when we look at the pyramid, we can see that a significant portion of Milton is under the age of 65. Only 10 per cent of the population is 65 and older. Much of the population (59 per cent) is between the ages of 20 and 64, while the remaining 31 per cent of the population is 19 and younger.

What is also interesting about age distribution graphs is that the shape of a pyramid forms when the population is growing. From the data, we can see that Milton has a growing senior population, but also has a growing population of youth and young adults. Over the planning horizon (to the year 2051) it is expected that the senior population will continue to grow.

We can also see from Figure 3 that the ratio of females to males in the Town is very close to 1:1. The female population in Milton is 68,835 and the male population is 68,036 and this ratio is relatively similar for all age groups.

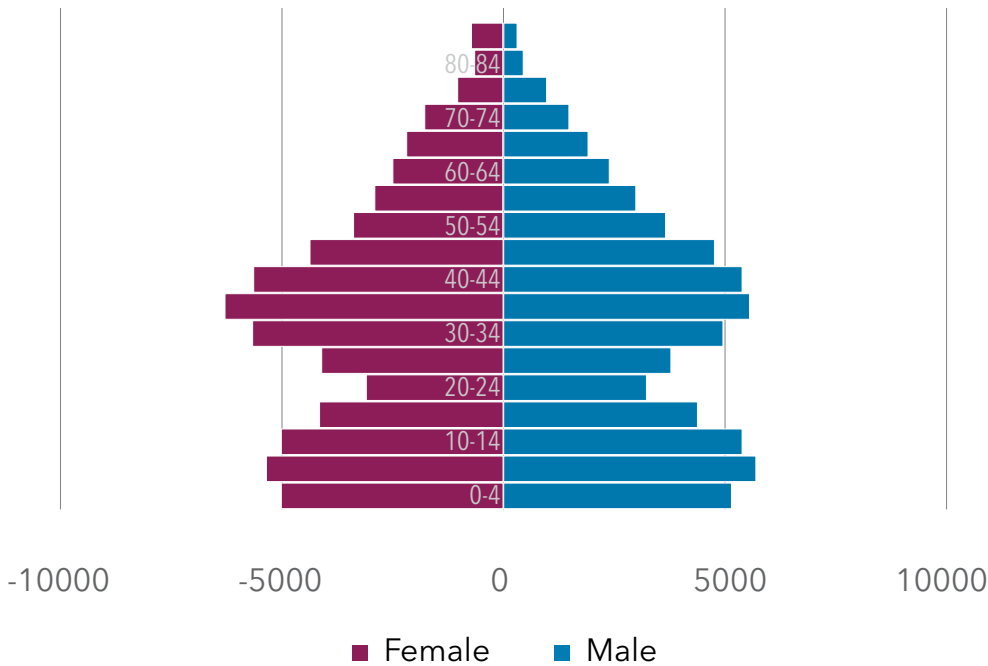
⁹ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Seniors", February 2019, page 3.

¹⁰ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Children and Youth", February 2019, page 4.

¹¹ Defined by Statistics Canada as referring to sex assigned at birth based on a person's reproductive system and other physical characteristics <https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3Var.pl?Function=DEC&Id=24101>

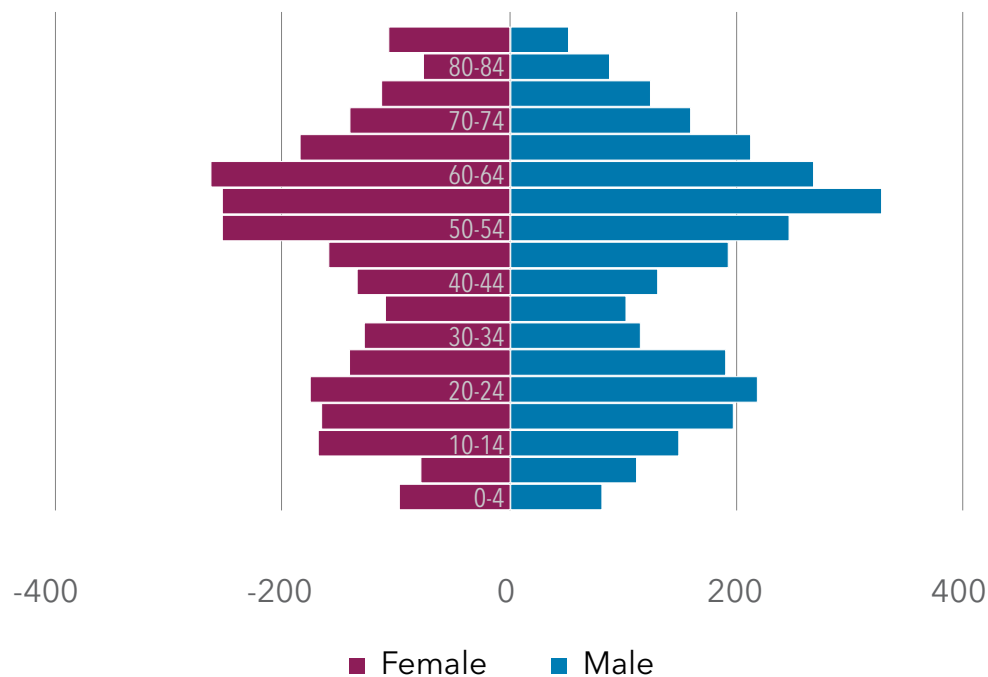
Looking more specifically at Milton’s urban area, Figure 6 below shows the age-sex pyramid. For comparison, the age-sex pyramid for the rural area in Figure 7.

Figure 6: Age distribution - urban area (2020)



Providing for the needs of an aging community was one of the top 45 priorities we heard during our listening, learning and visioning work. Retaining and supporting youth was also on the top 45 list.

Figure 7: Age distribution - rural area (2020)

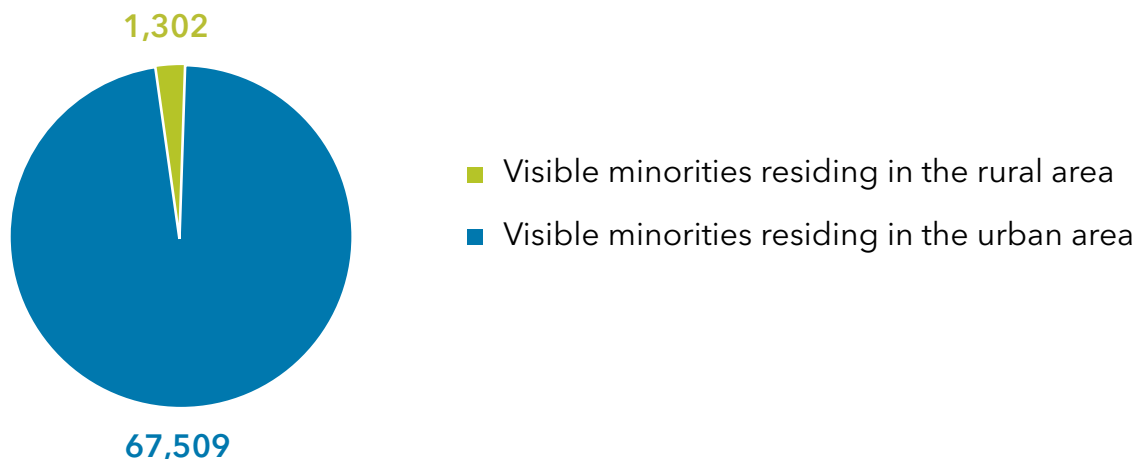


When we compare urban Milton to rural Milton, we can see that age distribution is quite different, and there is a much larger senior population in the Rural area as well as a much smaller youth population. There is also a slightly larger male population in the rural area for some age groups in particular.

Ethnicity

Based on 2020 data, a total of 68,881 Milton residents identifies as a visible minority. This is equivalent to 50 per cent of the Town's current population, and far surpasses the national average of 22.3 per cent.¹³ Milton's visible minority population consists mainly of the following groups: South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, Latin American, Arab, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean and Japanese. As shown in figure 8, the majority of those who identify as a visible minority reside in the urban area.

Figure 8: Visible Minority Population in Milton



In terms of languages spoken, English is the mother tongue for 92.6 per cent of the population, down from 97.6 per cent in 2006.¹⁴ Immigrant languages with the most notable proportions of native speakers are German (8.0 per cent), Welsh (2.9 per cent), Spanish (2.5 per cent), Polish (1.9 per cent), Scottish (15.9 per cent), Filipino Tagalog (1.7 per cent), Portuguese (1.4 per cent), Mandarin Chinese (1.1 per cent), and Italian (1.0 per cent).¹⁵

Newcomers

36 per cent of Milton's population were born outside Canada. According to a report, prepared by Halton Community Planning in 2018, over one quarter (27.5 per cent) of all recent immigrants in Halton choose to live in Milton.¹⁶ According to the same report, recent immigrants in Halton from different countries appear to have some preferences in their settlement decisions. Over 66 per cent of newcomers from Pakistan call Milton home and about 40 per cent of newcomers from India settled in Milton.¹⁷

¹² According to Statistics Canada, visible minority mean "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour". <https://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p3Var.pl?Function=DEC&Id=45152>

¹³ Statistics Canada, 2016.

¹⁴ Environics 2020.

¹⁵ Environics 2020.

¹⁶ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Newcomers", February 2018, page 7

¹⁷ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Newcomers", February 2018, page 7

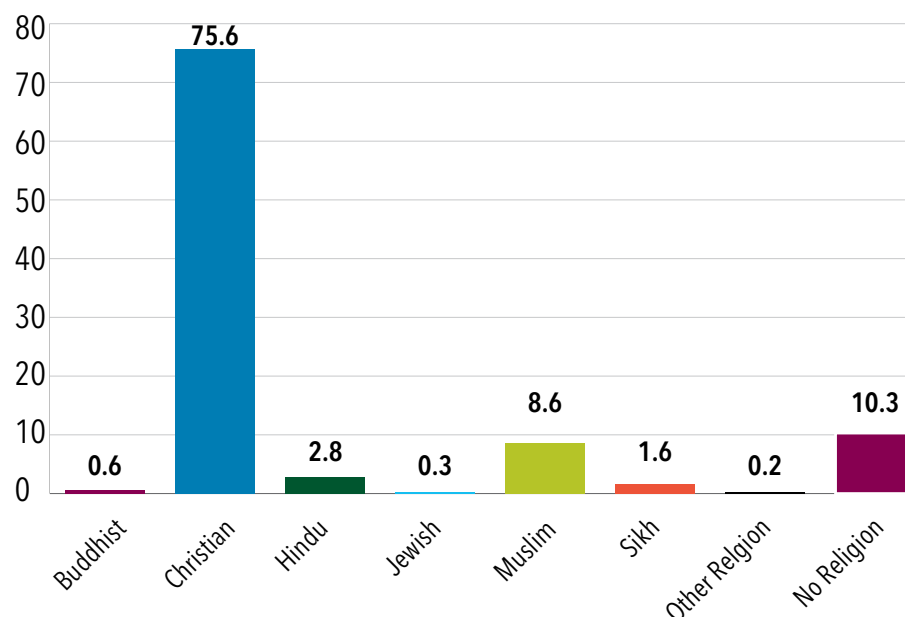
To understand our faith community's evolving needs, Milton launched a Place of Worship Survey in 2020, which identified specific challenges faith groups face in regard to establishing places of worship.

[Read more in Council Report PD-015-21](#)

Religious affiliation

According to recent data, the religious affiliation of Miltonians is summarized in the following figure. While the majority (76 per cent) of residents identify as Christian, another 14 per cent identify as either Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jewish, or 'other'.

Figure 9: Breakdown of Milton's Religious Affiliations



Education and income

Milton residents are also more educated and have a higher average household income than most other Canadians:

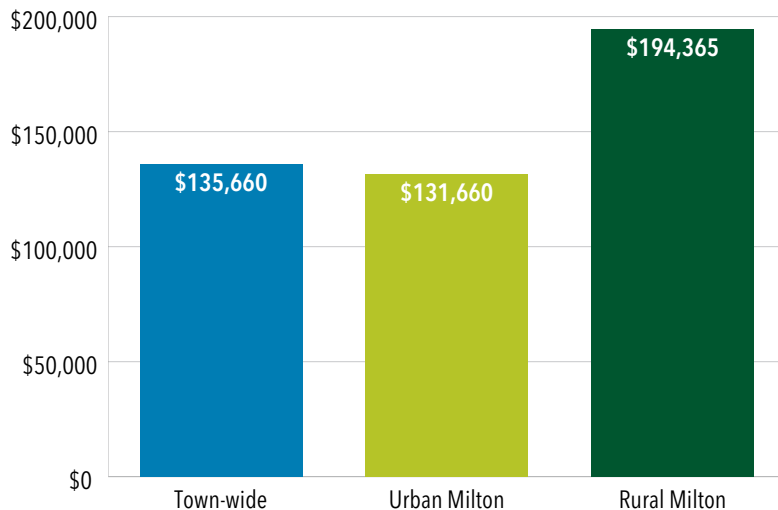
- 75 per cent of Milton's population has a post-secondary education (i.e., a certificate program, college diploma, or graduate/postgraduate university degree). This compares to a Canadian average of 68 per cent.¹⁸
- The 2020 average total income of households in Milton (after tax) was \$135,660. This compares to a Provincial average of \$80,322.¹⁹

As shown in Figure 7, the average total income of households in Rural Milton is higher than the average income of households in Urban Milton.

¹⁸ "Education Indicators in Canada: An International Perspective 2018" (PDF). Statistics Canada. December 11, 2018. p. 32. Retrieved August 27, 2019.

¹⁹ CMHC, adapted from Statistics Canada

Figure 10: Average Household Income in Milton



Quality of life and wellbeing

In terms of the Living in Milton theme, a great deal of community input received so far is focused on matters related to quality of life and community wellbeing. Through Stage 1 and 2, many of the top 45 priorities identified had to do with important factors that contribute to quality of life in Milton. These factors include affordability and housing choice, climate change, options for parks and recreation, urban design, and more. Providing more choice to Miltonians, in accordance with our newly endorsed land use planning vision statement, will also support the overall provincial goal to enhance quality of life for Ontarians. According to the PPS:

The long-term prosperity and social wellbeing of Ontario depends upon planning for strong, sustainable and resilient communities for people of all ages, a clean and healthy environment, and a strong and competitive economy.

Therefore, the following is an overview of key planning topics related to quality of life and wellbeing that were identified through our consultation and engagement. These topics have culminated into a series of Big Questions for Living in Milton, which are presented below. The planning topics and their associated Big Questions are examined further in the Living in Milton Big Questions report, to identify how they can be addressed by Milton's new Official Plan.

Affordability and housing choice

We have heard that there are many families/individuals in Milton that are unable to keep up with financial demands. According to a paper examining Income Inequality and Poverty, prepared by Community Development Halton (CDH) in 2018, poverty rates among Halton's local municipalities vary (Figure 10). While Oakville had the highest poverty rate at the time (9.7 per cent or 18,700 individuals) it was followed by Milton at 8.7 per cent or 9,400 individuals.²⁰ Figure 10 shows that the poverty rate for Milton has increased significantly since 2005.²¹

²⁰ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Income Inequality and Poverty", November 2018, page 12.

²¹ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Income Inequality and Poverty", November 2018, page 12.

The following additional findings in the CDH Inequality and Poverty paper are notable:

- Milton has the highest poverty rate for seniors at 7.8 per cent;²²
- Milton has the highest percentage of working poor²³ at 5.7 per cent;²⁴ and
- Children aged seven to 14 in Oakville and Milton have the highest poverty rate at 12.8 per cent.²⁵

One of the greatest affordability challenges facing Ontario today, and particularly the GTA, is the cost of housing. In terms of home ownership, prices in Canada have been soaring for several years. In fact, according to the Canadian Real Estate Association, as of February 2021, the average price for a home in the GTA (which includes Milton) is \$941,100. This compares to a national average of \$678,091. Rental housing can also be unattainable. Almost 40 per cent of tenant households in Ontario spend over 30 per cent of income on rent, which is not affordable and takes away from the ability to pay for other necessities.

Providing more housing choice in Milton is not only part of our land use planning vision for the future (i.e., Choice Shapes Us), it is also a key component of what makes a complete community. Through Stages 1 and 2 of We Make Milton, there has been a lot of input about the need to provide a wider range of housing choices, locally.

"By 2051, housing types and forms will continue to evolve. Who knows what people will want in terms of housing choice. Therefore, it is important to give people options, including low and mid-rise."

"Cost of housing is another concern that needs to be addressed. We need more housing options, from entry level, to executive, to seniors, and affordable options."

"In terms of housing for seniors, there are few low-rise apartment buildings and the ones that do exist are in poor condition."

"Our family owns a large rural property and we are interested in providing an additional residential unit on the property for family members."

"The HATCH (Halton Access to Community Housing) housing program in Halton is wonderful, but the waitlist is years long and no one is able to move because that's not something they can afford."

"Can we consider integrated housing - i.e., buildings that integrate more affordable housing types? Affordable housing must be safe, secure, affordable, and family oriented. Variety in neighbourhoods is healthy."

Quotes are from We Make Milton Stakeholder Committee members, Fall 2020.

²² Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Income Inequality and Poverty", November 2018, page 26.

²³ Working poor is defined by Statistics Canada as individuals with an after-tax income below the After-tax Low Income Measure (LIM-AT) and earning an annual working income of over \$3,000.

²⁴ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Income Inequality and Poverty", November 2018, page 33.

²⁵ Community Development Halton, "Our Halton 2018: Income Inequality and Poverty", November 2018, page 29.

²⁶ Statistics Canada, 2016 Census.

What do we mean by housing choice? We mean a mix of housing types to accommodate diverse needs. We mean safe and affordable housing options for all Miltonians. According to the PPS, the term housing options is defined as:

A range of housing types such as, but not limited to single-detached, semi-detached, rowhouses, townhouses, stacked townhouses, multiplexes, additional residential units, tiny homes, multi-residential buildings. The term can also refer to a variety of housing arrangements and forms such as, but not limited to life lease housing, co-ownership housing, co-operative housing, community land trusts, land lease community homes, affordable housing, housing for people with special needs, and housing related to employment, institutional or educational uses.

As discussed earlier, there is a diverse group of people who have different needs to consider when providing housing choices, including:

- Young adults
- Students
- Young families
- Multi-generational families
- Seniors
- Different income groups
- Residents with special needs

On June 6, 2019, the Ontario government passed Bill 108, the More Homes and Choices Act. Extensive amendments were made to shorten approvals, incentivize the building of a variety of housing types, and provide certainty in the calculation of development levies. This is discussed further in the Living in Milton Big Questions report.

In 2015, nine years after the Growth Plan came into effect, several indicators were identified and measured to assess implementation of the plan's policies. According to the Province:

Indicators help measure progress in relation to the Growth Plan's more qualitative policies (e.g., the location of major office buildings, planning for a mix of housing), or in relation to the vision and principles embedded in multiple policies throughout the plan (e.g., complete communities).

One of the indicators identified is mix of housing types completed each year. Recent data is available that looks at the housing mix in Milton (Figure 12) and when we compare it to historical data (Figure 11), Milton's housing mix has changed over the past four years, largely from the construction of higher-density row houses and apartments, as shown by the modest increase in construction of apartments and townhouses over single detached units.

Figure 11:
Housing Types in Milton, 2016

Source: Statistics Canada

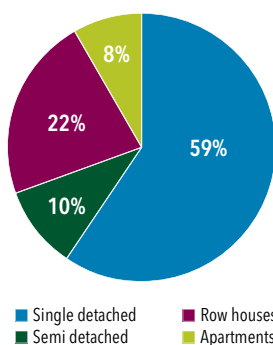


Figure 12:
Housing Types in Milton, 2020

Source: Environics

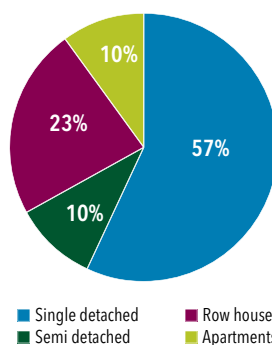
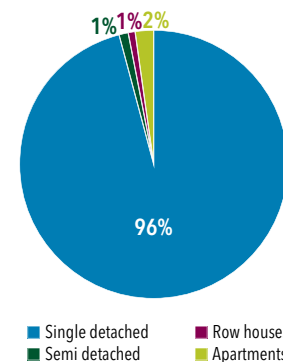


Figure 13:
Housing Types in Rural Milton, 2020

Source: Environics

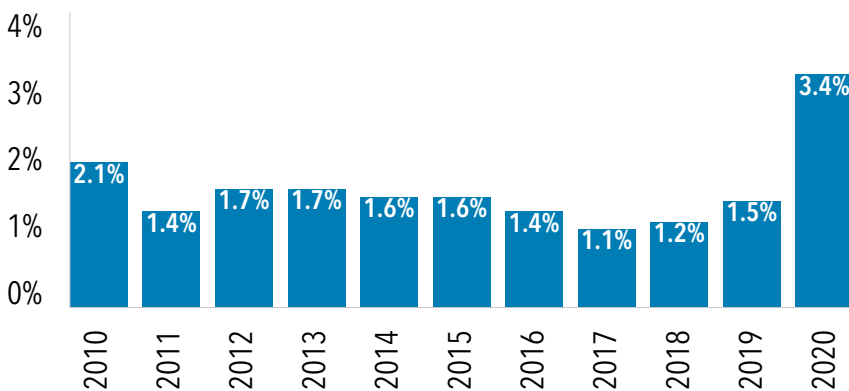


When we compare urban and rural Milton in terms of the mix of housing types available, there is a big difference. Figures 12 and 13 show that there is much less housing mix in rural Milton, as over 96 per cent of dwellings are single-detached. This is due largely in part to Provincial policy, growth limitations, and servicing constraints; however, there is an opportunity to explore housing choice in both areas through We Make Milton.

According to the Region of Halton’s 2020 State of Housing Report, it is interesting to note that new home sales in Milton accounted for 92.7 per cent of all sales in the region; yet only 12.7 per cent of those sales were at or below the affordable threshold with an average price of \$369,904.

In addition to home ownership, we can also examine rental vacancy rates to understand the range of housing choice available to Miltonians. One of the reasons that individuals in Ontario have difficulty in finding a place to live is the lack of adequate, affordable rental housing. According to Statistics Canada, a vacancy rate of three per cent is generally considered the minimum for a healthy rental market; yet in 2019, Halton’s vacancy rate for purpose-built rental apartments was 1.9 per cent.

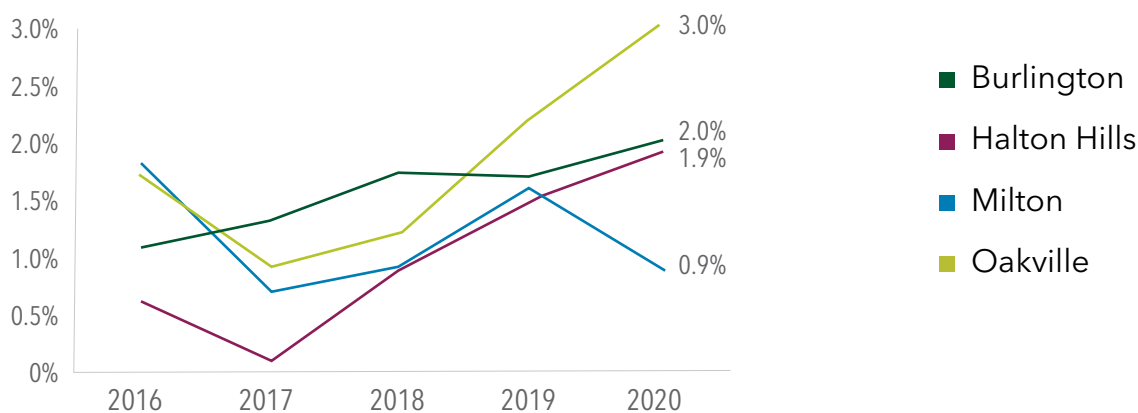
Figure 14: GTA Vacancy Rate 2020



Source CMHC Rental Market Survey

In 2019, prior to Covid-19, the Region’s State of the Housing Report, shows that Milton’s individual vacancy rate was 1.6 per cent - a 0.6 per cent increase from 2018. However, according to the 2020 State of Housing Report, vacancy has since dropped to 0.9%. As we continue to recover from the pandemic, we will have a better understanding of long-term impacts on rental demand and supply and in the present time, there is a clear need to explore how we can increase the supply of more affordable rental housing in Milton over the planning horizon.

Figure 15: Overall vacancy rates by local municipality for private townhouses and apartments



²⁷ Community Development Halton, Community Lens, Bulletin #165, January 2020

²⁸ <https://www.halton.ca/Repository/2020-State-of-Housing-Report>

Although affordability is part of the solution for providing more housing choice, some people may need their housing coupled with supportive services to maintain it. In 2019, Milton completed a Supportive Housing Study to ensure the Official Plan meets the certain housing needs and complies with legislation. Policies updated through the study will be carried forward in the new Official Plan.

[Click here to view Report PD-010-19](#), which provides background to the study and an overview of updated Official Plan policies.

All of the above background and information raises our first Big Question for We Make Milton, which will be explored further in our Big Questions Report in order to identify policy considerations for our new Official Plan:

Big Question #1:

How can the new Official Plan enable a wider choice of housing types, tenures, and affordability to meet the diverse housing needs of Milton?



Climate Change and Resiliency

On July 22, 2019, Milton Council declared a Climate Change Emergency and called for immediate action in the fight against climate change. The list of specific directives coming out of the declaration includes the need to “consider all opportunities to include language in future policy-planning work that acknowledges climate change”. This includes We Make Milton.

Provincial planning policy also requires Milton to plan for the impacts of climate change. According to the PPS:

Planning authorities shall support energy conservation and efficiency, improved air quality, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and preparing for the impacts of a changing climate through land use and development patterns. (Section 1.8.1)

Across the community, we also heard that addressing climate change, and even more broadly the topic of sustainability, through Milton’s new Official Plan is a significant priority. We received many comments and ideas about why and how Milton’s new Official Plan should and must address the realities of climate change and ensure more sustainable development into the future.

"The Town has declared a climate change emergency - how will that be addressed through the new Official Plan?"
- We Make Milton Stakeholder Committee Member, 2019

"We know it is getting windier, wilder, and wetter. We have seen flooding on the lakefront of Oakville. In Burlington, one rain effect impacted hundreds of residents with flooded basements and roads. Ice storms and wind events impact large trees and power lines, sometimes resulting in power outages. Extreme heat events have been on the increase, which again impact the most vulnerable people in our community. We have heard from the agricultural communities about drought, dry spells and then flooding in their fields."
- Halton Environmental Network Submission on the We Make Milton Visioning Report, 2020

"The We Make Milton Official Plan Project must define a sustainable approach to growth and development. Building sustainability into Milton's Official Plan will take courage and determination, but Milton has already taken steps down this path. The Town received unanimous support from Council, to become a member of the FCM's Partnership for Climate Protection."
- Sustainable Milton Submission on the We Make Milton Visioning Report, 2020

"We could be doing a lot more."
- Member of the Milton Youth Task Force, 2021

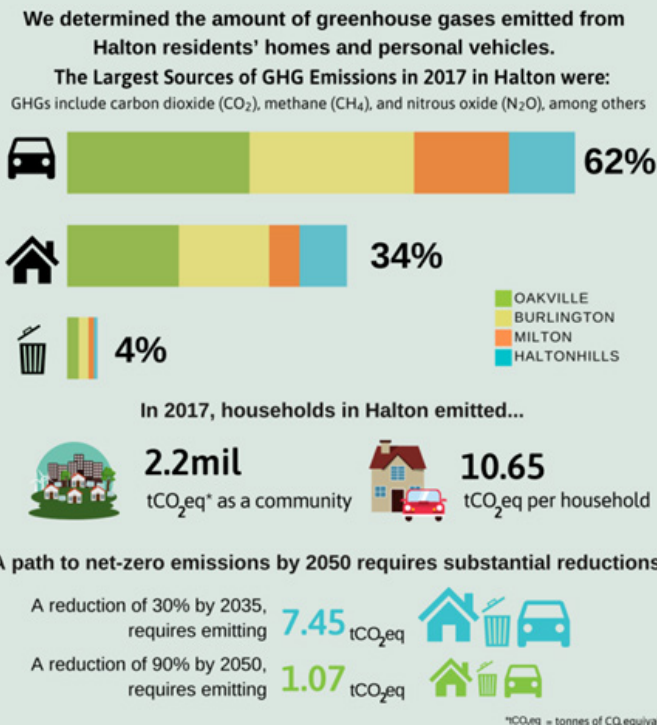
"Under the Paris Agreement, the Government of Canada has committed to reducing energy emissions by 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030, and the Province of Ontario has stated their target for 2030 as 37 per cent below 1990 emissions levels. The Region of Halton and the Town of Milton must do their part to achieve these targets."
- Sustainable Milton Submission on the We Make Milton Visioning Report, 2020

In fact, the realities of climate change are already here. Changing weather patterns and "windier, wilder, and wetter"²⁹ weather will continue to impact our health and safety, infrastructure, economy, and environment. The way we live is contributing to climate change and the impacts of climate change will continue to affect our overall quality of life. The infographic in Figure 16 below is taken from the Halton Climate Collective (HCC) and shows the findings of the first ever local greenhouse gas inventory undertaken in 2017 to determine the amount of greenhouse gases emitted from Halton Region residents. The findings show that Halton's residential homes accounted for 34 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions that year.

To respond to the climate change emergency, the Government of Canada has joined over 120 countries in committing to be net-zero emissions by 2050, including all other G7 nations. What is net-zero? According to the federal government:

Achieving net-zero emissions means our economy either emits no greenhouse gas emissions or offsets its emissions, for example, through actions such as tree planting or employing technologies that can capture carbon before it is released into the air. This is essential to keeping the world safe and livable for our kids and grandkids.

Figure 16: Halton Climate Collective Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory 2017 Results



Responding to climate change requires two complementary approaches - mitigation and adaptation, which can be described as:

- Mitigation involves lowering our contribution to climate change by avoiding and reducing greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere in order to prevent global warming to more extreme temperatures.
- Adaptation is about altering our behavior, systems, and - in some cases - ways of life in order to manage the risks of climate change impacts and build resilience to future change.

When we talk about uncertain and changing global conditions and the need to adapt and be resilient, we should also consider the long and short-term impacts of COVID-19 on land use planning across Milton.

³⁰ <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/climate-plan/net-zero-emissions-2050.html>

Since early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented major community challenges, particularly for disadvantaged groups, such as the need to reduce contagion risks, provide basic access and delivery services during lockdowns, support physical and mental health, and provide affordable alternatives for households with reduced incomes.

Planners use the term “resilience” to describe a system’s ability to absorb sudden economic, social or environmental changes and many communities today have goals and strategies to increase their resilience.

Many of us have discovered over the past year and a half that living in walkable urban neighborhoods with convenient access to natural areas, services, parks, activities, and social connections have helped provide the support to cope with the pandemic. These land use and neighbourhood qualities not only increase disaster resilience but also help achieve other community goals including affordability, economic opportunity and environmental protection.

The above raises our second Big Question for We Make Milton:

The Resilient Cities Catalyst is an American non-profit organization that “works with communities around the world to determine, design, and implement priority actions that will support vibrant and healthy communities in ordinary times, and safeguard the things we most value in the extraordinary times”.

[Learn more](#)

Big Question #2:

How can the new Official Plan promote climate change mitigation and adaptation in our communities and neighbourhoods?

How can we offer environmentally-friendly choices for living in Milton? How can we be more resilient to future environmental hazards and health risks?

Big Questions about climate change mitigation and adaptation have also been identified for the Growing, Moving, and Working themes, and are explored from these perspectives in upcoming We Make Milton reports.



History and cultural heritage

Miltonians are proud of our history and cultural heritage. Indigenous communities, European settlers, and the establishment of our early townships have left layers of rich history throughout Milton, which continue to serve as a source of civic pride, and provide other important environmental, economic, and social benefits to the community. In fact, through our We Make Milton engagement work so far, we heard from many stakeholders and community members that there is a need for the Official Plan to promote and protect heritage resources.

“Milton’s history is important. We must value these unique aspects of Milton and learn from history.”

- Halton Environmental Network Submission on the We Make Milton Visioning Report, 2020

“We believe Miltonians, as a whole, have little knowledge of those who lived here first. We would like to enhance that knowledge.”

- Sustainable Milton Submission on the We Make Milton Visioning Report, 2020

In Ontario, the wise use and management of cultural heritage resources over the long term is identified as a key provincial interest and the PPS provides land use planning policy direction to protect them. For example, according to Section 2.6.1 of the PPS:

Significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved.

Built heritage resources are defined by the PPS as:

A building, structure, monument, installation or any manufactured or constructed part or remnant that contributes to a property’s cultural heritage value or interest as identified by a community, including an Indigenous community.

Cultural heritage landscapes are defined by the PPS as:

A defined geographical area that may have been modified by human activity and is identified as having cultural heritage value or interest by a community, including an Indigenous community. The area may include features such as buildings, structures, spaces, views, archaeological sites or natural elements that are valued together for their interrelationship, meaning or association.

Much work has been done by Milton staff, Council, and the larger community to protect, conserve, promote, and raise awareness of Milton’s history and cultural heritage:

- Milton staff have created a [Heritage Register](#), which identifies properties that have historic interest or architectural value in our community and help us to protect heritage resources when they are affected by development proposals. There are close to one thousand properties included on the Register, and it continues to grow.
- Map 7 shows where our heritage properties are located. While the bulk are in Downtown Milton and within the mature neighbourhood area, there are other significant heritage clusters in the hamlets of Campbellville, Moffatt and Brookville. Currently, the village of Omagh is also undergoing a study to determine its status as a historical character area.

Map 7: Heritage Properties in Milton



Milton has two local historical societies (the Milton Historical Society and the Nassagaweya Historical Society), which are volunteer-based organizations dedicated to preserving, collecting, researching, and interpreting local historical information or items.

Together, members from each of the historical societies and other volunteers form Heritage Milton. The group works with Town staff to:

- Advise on the heritage significance of properties;
- Review studies about the impact of development on heritage;
- Promote heritage conservation;
- Research the history of properties; and
- Share educational and historical information with property owners.

In 2016, a Heritage Master Plan was prepared by a volunteer Ad Hoc Task Force, which serves as a strategy for the management heritage resources. It identifies several actions to be implemented by different groups, including Town staff.

Notwithstanding the significant work done to-date, the third Big Question deals with this topic as part of We Make Milton:

Big Question #3:

How can Milton's new Official Plan better acknowledge and respect the many layers of Milton's unique cultural heritage? How can we balance the need to conserve our cultural heritage resources with the need to adapt to modern lifestyle choices?



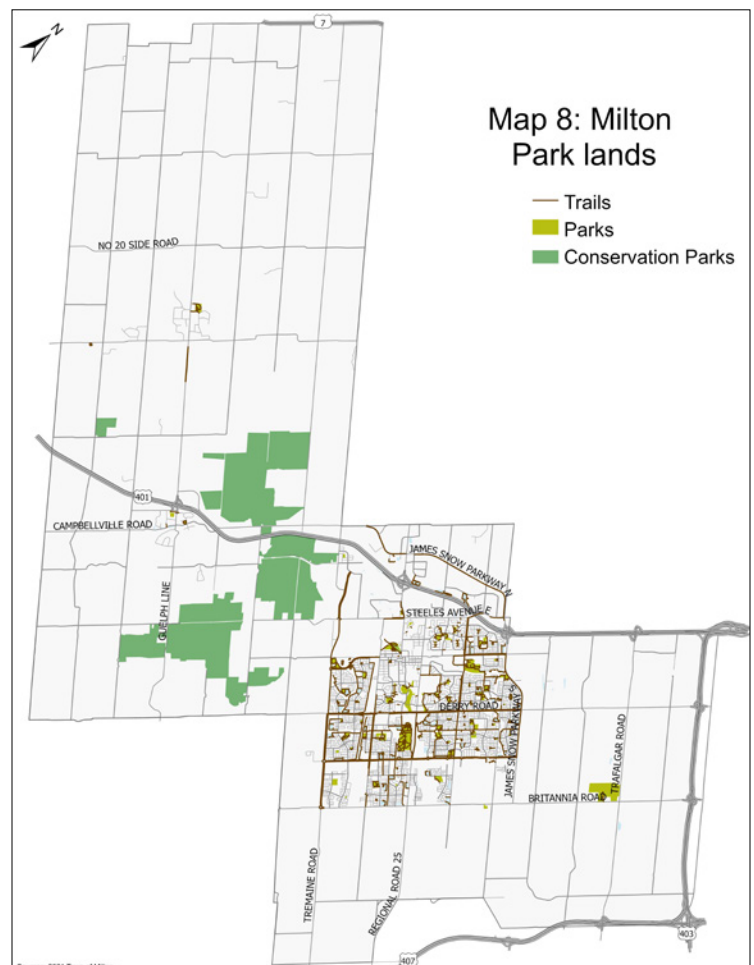
Parks and recreation

Parks and recreation facilities play an important role in supporting healthy and active lifestyles and overall quality of life and wellbeing for Miltonians by providing:

- Spaces and equipment for physical activity through organized and informal recreation sports fields, play structures, and courts;
- Places for friends, neighbours, and communities to interact, socialize, and build stronger social ties; and
- Connections to the outdoors and access to the calming/healing benefits of the natural environment.

Currently, the Town has approximately 97 developed parks totaling more than 280 hectares, which provide active and passive amenities such as sports fields, courts, playground areas, spray pads, outdoor gathering spaces, multi-use pathways and more, as shown on Map 8. The Town also offers a range of indoor recreation opportunities through its recreation facilities and community centres, which include fitness centres, weight rooms, meeting rooms and event spaces.

Map 8: Milton Park Lands



The importance of parks and recreation facilities will remain constant as we continue to grow. Milton develops new parks and invests in upgrades and improvements to existing parks and open spaces as required based on new growth, demand, and input from residents.

In 2021, Milton invested over \$4.2 million in parks. One new park development (Cobban Neighbourhood Park) and one park redevelopment, (Moorelands Park) are going through the design and public engagement process. Additionally, the following six parks are being constructed:

- Benjamin Chee Chee Park
- Coulson Park
- Coxe Boulevard Park
- Kingsleigh Park
- Omagh Park
- Sam Sheratt Trail (Drury Park)

There were many comments received during engagement efforts about the provision of parks and recreation facilities today:

"In terms of the community facilities, they are there, but after parents pay rent, food, transportation, and other needs, there isn't enough money for recreation and activities and programs. Youth need places to go and things to do. Places they can visit easily and affordably."

"Summer is easier to find space, but winter is a challenge. It is also challenging to have to turn kids away from the sport and club simply due to lack of space. In general, there is a shortage of facilities for youth sports in Milton."

"In the 44 years that we have lived in Milton the town has done a good job overall providing for the citizens; parks, play areas, walking and hiking paths."

"Urban squares and POPS (Privately Owned Public Spaces) should be included in the Town's hierarchy of parks."

"We can also think differently about parks. Active sports fields are expensive and we can be more strategic about providing places for passive recreation, taking advantage of stormwater management ponds - for example."

"One of the biggest challenges moving forward is/will be the availability of facilities and amenities. We don't have enough for all of the youth in Milton. Need tennis, table tennis, pool halls, racquet ball courts."

Milton plans for future parks and outdoor recreation facilities by using parkland provision standards in the official plan. These standards allow the Town to focus on acquiring high quality parkland within new urban developments while balancing park allocation and distribution within intensification areas. In March 2021, Council approved a Parks and Recreation Target of 1.75 hectares per 1,000 population for outdoor recreation and park facility uses.

Much of Milton's parkland is dedicated or funded through the land development process under the legislative authority of the *Planning Act*. Sections 42 and 51 of the *Planning Act* allow the Town to use of the following tools to obtain parkland:

- Parkland Dedication - Milton can require the dedication of land for parks and recreational purposes at the time of the development. This means the developer must transfer a predetermined amount of land to Milton no cost. The amount of land that can be required is defined by the Act and varies depending upon the use; and
- Cash-in-lieu (CIL) - Instead of land, Milton can require the payment of the cash value of the land (referred to as cash-in-lieu payments) where land dedication on the site is impractical or the Town could make better use of the money to acquire parkland or improve the capacity of existing parks elsewhere in the community.

As the *Planning Act* does not provide enough land to achieve the Town's parks and recreation target, the Town has negotiated financial agreements with the development community to provide additional parkland to meet the Town's outdoor recreation and parkland needs.

Milton's secondary planning process ensures that we are well positioned to respond to the needs of our growing community. Through the process, agreements are made with developers to establish the parkland required to be dedicated or funded, including the conceptual distribution of park locations by park type, as well as the timing and conditions of conveyance.

In 2019, the Province introduced a new tool under the *Planning Act* called Community Benefit Charges (CBCs). CBCs can be used outside of Parkland Dedication and DCs to fund community services, such as parks. The CBC system replaces the previous Section 37 bonusing provisions under the *Planning Act*. By passing a CBC by-law, Milton can charge a percentage of the value of the property being developed for a very wide range of uses.

Should a municipality choose to use CBCs, they have until September 2022 to pass a CBC By-law under Section 37(2) of the *Planning Act*. Should municipalities choose not to use CBCs, (as in Milton's case) they will still be able to rely on development charges (DCs) and parkland dedication in order to support new development.

Additional land, above the parkland provision target, is required for the provision of indoor recreation and library facilities such as arenas, indoor turf, gymnasiums and libraries. Through the use of development charges, the Town is able to collect monies from development applicants to recover the growth-related costs of expanding municipal services to new residential and non-residential developments. These costs include the cost for land used for recreation and library facilities. Development charges also provide funding for the development of the parkland and the construction of park amenities and both indoor and outdoor recreation facilities. These development charges are applicable to all lands within Milton and may be required for the:

- Construction of a new building or structure;
- Addition or alteration to an existing building that increases the number of residential units or increases the non-residential total floor area; and
- Redevelopment of a property or making interior alterations that result in a change of use of all or part of a building or structure, including tenant fit-outs.

In 2018, the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) released a policy on healthy communities, which states that “year-round access to services and facilities providing safe active and passive places to engage in healthy physical activity, to be outside, connect socially, and build community” is part of a ‘Healthy Community’. However, the idea of healthy communities goes well beyond providing parks and recreation. According to CIP, a healthy community is:

A place where healthy built, social, economic, and natural environments give citizens the opportunity to live to their full potential,” regardless of their socially, culturally, or economically defined circumstances. A healthy community allows “people to come together to make their community better for themselves, their family, their friends, their neighbours, and others. A healthy community creates ongoing dialogue, generates leadership opportunities for all, embraces diversity, connects people and resources, fosters a sense of community, and shapes its own future.

<https://cip-icu.ca/Files/Policy-2018/policy-healthy-eng-FINAL.aspx>

Taking into consideration recent policy changes, updated targets, and on-going construction projects, Big Question #4 has been identified:

Big Question #4:

How can the new Official Plan further support the availability of parks and recreational facilities across Milton’s growing and evolving communities? Are there any other ways to encourage healthy and active lifestyles choices in Milton?



Places of worship

Places of worship also play an important role in community building and overall wellbeing. While Milton is diverse in the range of faith groups that reside here, there is a common desire among all faiths to strengthen community spirit and create a better place to live. Over the next 20 years, different groups will continue to serve the spiritual needs of Miltonians (i.e., prayer, worship) and provide physical spaces for gathering.

Through Stages 1 and 2, we heard many comments about the need for more places of worship in Milton:

"I see Milton as a place with happy people who are active, friendly and have a sense of belonging, which is supported by spirituality. This means accessible places of worship, where spirituality is obtained as well as other services (counselling, mentoring, etc.)."

"We need to have masajids (mosques) in every ward - religious places need to be provided for people to come to togetherness."

"For thousands of Miltonians, religion and spirituality is central and very important. We believe this makes us a better community that looks out for the needs of everyone. Therefore, we need more places of worship in Milton. Multiple independent studies have shown that people that associate with religion (regardless of the religion or faith group) have higher markers of wisdom, happiness, and meaning."

"I would love to see spiritual/prayer rooms added to public spaces such as community centres, libraries, hospital and so forth, so that members of any faith group can utilize and take advantage of when they are in these spaces. This would allow members of any faith group to practice their religion freely in a designated area in the public space and this would create a sense of inclusion."

The PPS provides a provincial policy framework for the creation healthy, liveable, and safe communities, and recognizes that places of worship are part of their development. Section 1.1.1 states that:

Healthy, liveable, and safe communities are sustained by accommodating an appropriate affordable and market-based range and mix of institutional uses (including places of worship and cemeteries).

In response to the feedback we received, staff conducted an online survey for faith leaders in the fall of 2020 to better understand the evolving needs of their communities. The survey found that many newer faith groups are looking for a location for their place of worship. The main concerns expressed were regarding the availability of affordable and ready zoned lands that would permit places of worship within the settlement area.

On Mar. 1, 2021, the findings of the Faith Leaders Survey were presented in a [report to Council](#).

Figures 17 and 18 below provide some of the key findings.

Figure 17: Long Term Goals for Local Faith Groups

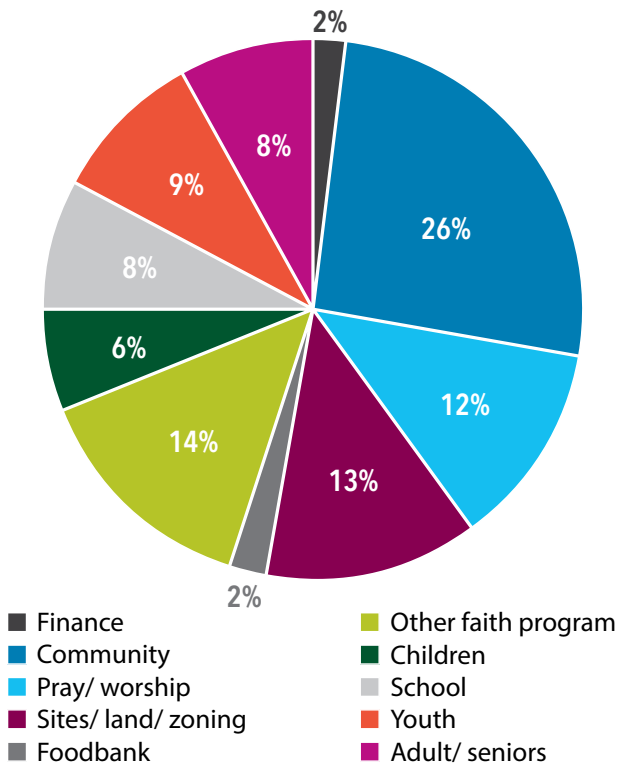
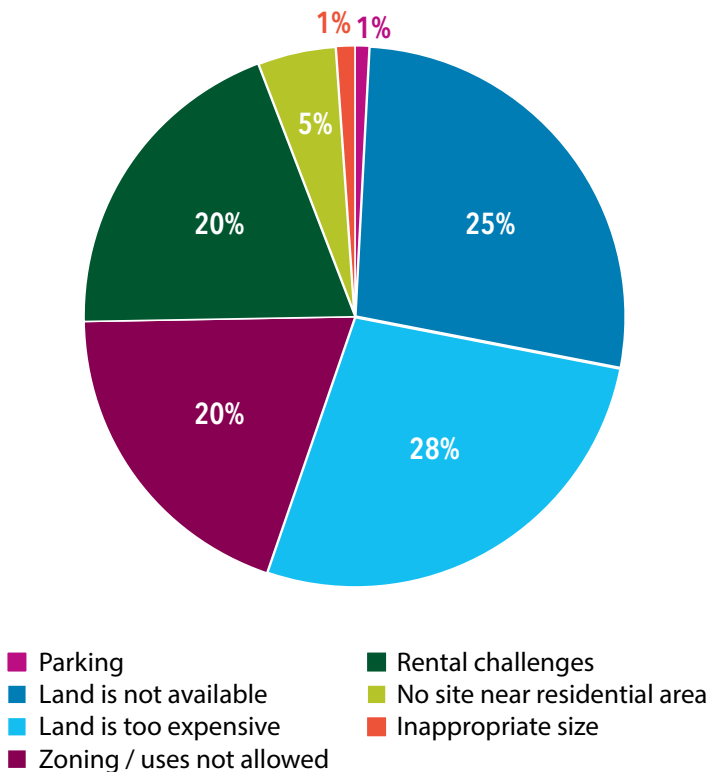


Figure 18: Current barriers to establishing Places of Worship



“Financial constraints (due to the cost of buildings and land), scarcity of space for the development of worship spaces that also need space to facilities for additional community services. Also we have been renting from the town, the school board and other churches for 9 years. It is difficult to provide great service to the community when we do not have a permanent location. I realize that there is a lot of space designated for the development of residential housing. What I would like to see is spaces of land in these high development areas that are zoned as institutional and for places of worship.”

(Quote from resident in response to 2020 Place of Worship Study)

Milton must have a supportive and flexible policy framework to address the current needs of our faith groups and to provide choice to our residents. In recognition of the engagement input collected so far, through [Report PD-015-2](#), staff have identified the need to undertake additional research about how our new Official Plan will address planning for places of worship. As such, Big Question #5 is:

Big Question #5:

How can the new Official Plan help address the land needs of Milton's diverse faith groups? How can we help provide more choice by facilitating and supporting the establishment of new places of worship?



Rural living

In addition to our significant and growing urban area, Milton has extensive rural uses and natural environment areas. As noted earlier, Rural Milton makes up 77 per cent of Milton's total land area. This rural area is part of what makes us diverse. It is part of the reason we are able to offer living choices and part of the reason why 'Choice Shapes Us'. Milton's rural area provides us with unique advantages over other GTA municipalities.

Livability is important to residents of rural Milton. Our rural area is not simply a resource for agriculture, aggregates, and natural environment, and it is not just occupied by farmers. Although the population of rural Milton is 9,040 (seven per cent of the Town's overall population), many have chosen to live in the rural area, or in our hamlets/villages, for a certain quality of life.

The Province has a vision for rural areas and communities like Milton's. According to Ontario's Growth Plan for the GGH:

Strong, healthy and prosperous rural communities are also vital to the economic success of the GGH and contribute to our quality of life. This Plan recognizes and promotes the important role of rural towns and villages as a focus of economic, cultural and social activities that support surrounding rural and agricultural areas across the GGH. Opportunities to support a diversified rural economy should be promoted by protecting farmland and the viability of the agri-food sector in rural areas. Healthy rural communities are important to the vitality and wellbeing of the larger region.

Through our We Make Milton engagement work so far; we also heard a lot about livability in rural Milton today:

"Living would rank number one for the average rural resident. People move to the country for a certain quality of life. The rural area is a huge mixed-use area where there is a continual need to balance sustainability and prosperity with liveability."

"The urban-rural divide in Milton is significant. The northern rural part of Milton has its own distinct identity too."

"We also need to think about connections between municipalities. This includes connectivity to broadband which continues to be an issue in rural Milton."

"Residents in the rural area and countryside would like option to have second units: in homes, in ancillary buildings and with garden suites. This comes with the understanding that the septic system would have to be adequately sized."

Based on what we have heard, there are certain opportunities and challenges specific to living in Rural Milton that could potentially be addressed through We Make Milton, including the following:

- Protecting and promoting the unique character and heritage of Rural Milton
- Achieving complete communities to the extent possible
- Expanding the range of housing choice available in Rural Milton
- Providing opportunities to age-in-place in Rural Milton
- Providing places and spaces for events and social interaction in rural Milton
- Improving access to high-speed internet connectivity
- Sustaining the Niagara Escarpment Plan

There are other rural planning topics related to economic prosperity, agricultural diversification, transportation, environmental protection, and resource management. These topics are explored in the other We Make Milton Big Question reports.

To examine where and how the Official Plan can address the above considerations, the following Big Question has been identified:

Big Question #6:

How can Milton's new Official Plan recognize and support Milton's unique rural area?
How can we improve livability, achieve more complete communities, and provide greater choice to rural residents?

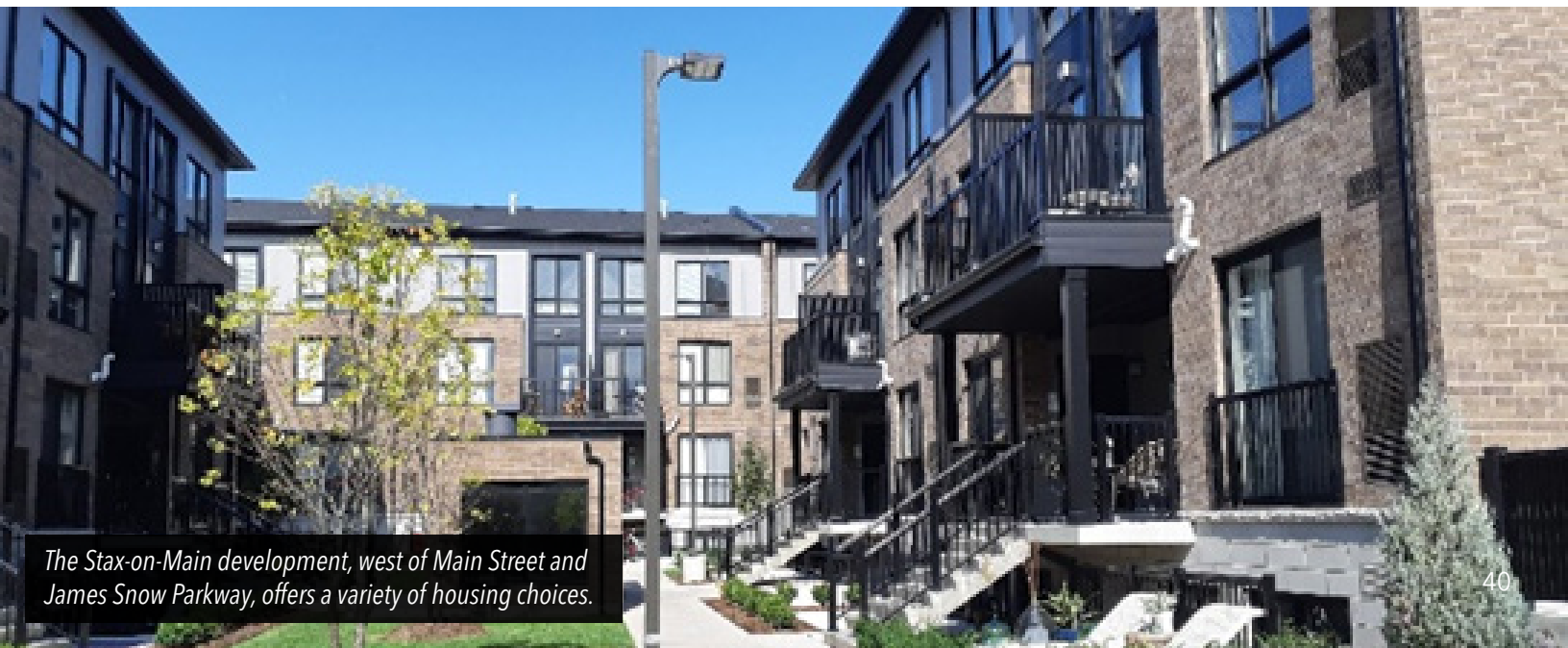


Urban design and creating places

Urban design is about the creation of our built environment. It involves the arrangement, appearance, and function of buildings, streets, landscaping/streetscaping, and publicly accessible spaces - both individually and in how they relate to each other collectively.

Good urban design enriches our quality of life and everyday experiences. Good urban design facilitates a built form that is contextually appropriate, through size, shape, scale, and building features. When done well, urban design creates people-friendly places that are attractive, well-functioning and sustainable. For example, Figure 19 below shows a recent housing development in Milton that has been recognized for providing an enhanced living environment through good urban design.

Figure 19: Stax-on-Main Townhouses (West of Main Street and James Snow Parkway)



The Stax-on-Main development, west of Main Street and James Snow Parkway, offers a variety of housing choices.

Through We Make Milton, there has been a mix of input regarding the overall look, feel, and experience of urban design in Milton today, as summarized by the following quotes:

"In terms of aesthetics, there are many places in Milton that are not beautiful at all. We need to work on gate/entryways, and the downtown looks dirty and unkempt. There is a very jumbled nature to how Milton has evolved. It looks unintentional and like people are not at the centre of design. The result gives Milton a bad reputation."

"I am very thankful to live in one of the most beautiful towns in the world."

"I see some promising projects for Milton. Well done! Let's make it a more lively and active town"

"There is a "cool factor" missing from Milton. The City of Kitchener is an example of a place that has the "cool factor". Years ago, downtown Kitchener was seedy and it is now vibrant, exciting, and cool. This created an environment for entrepreneurs and start-ups. Downtown Kitchener has transformed."

While architecture focuses on buildings, urban design focuses on relationships between buildings and on the spaces they create beside each other. This is often called the 'public realm'. The Ontario Professional Planners Institute defines the public realm more specifically as:

Publicly owned places and spaces that belong to and are accessible by everyone. These can include municipal streets, lanes, squares, plazas, sidewalks, trails, parks, open spaces, waterfronts, public transit systems, conservation areas, and civic buildings and institutions. It can be a passive environment, such as sitting at a cafe, or an active environment, such as cycling in a bike lane, or a combination of both. It can also be an interior space such as a library or a recreation centre, or an exterior space such as a multipurpose trail or a public square.³²

³² <https://ontarioplanners.ca/OPPIAssets/Documents/Calls-to-Action/Healthy-Communities-and-Planning-for-the-Public-Realm.pdf>

Figures 20, 21, 22 and 23: Examples of the public realm in Milton



Residential units in Milton fronting onto Gastle Park.



Commercial plaza at Derry Road and Holly Road.



Ruhl Drive at Bronte Street South.



Downtown Milton. Main Street facing east towards Martin.

During Stages 1 and 2 of We Make Milton, we also heard ideas about the public realm. In particular, we heard about its importance in terms of enabling social interaction and human connection:

“There is an emotional connection that we have lost as a community, which stems from a lack of societal encounters and trust-building and creating a place where people feel like they belong.”

“COVID-19 is also placing a lot more demands on improving internal and external connections, the public realm and providing more places for outdoor interactions and social activity.”

“There is a broader, meta-level connection that should be recognized, which is in regard to human-to-human connections and spirituality. This connection can be nurtured through the provision of gathering spaces, large events, and festivals.”

The public realm certainly plays an important role in promoting a sense of place and community. A well-designed public realm can promote civic pride and support healthy living, and can make spaces feel like places where people want to gather and socialize.

In addition to social benefits, there are also economic benefits from good urban design. Section 1.7.1 (e) of the PPS states that the long-term economic prosperity of Ontario should be supported by “encouraging a sense of place” and by “promoting well-designed built form”.

Many municipalities across Ontario address urban design through official plan policies and urban design guidelines, including Milton. Our existing Secondary plans are supported by area-specific Urban Design Guidelines.

Milton has also undertaken several planning studies to explore opportunities for intensification, public realm improvements and cultural heritage conservation and enhancement – all of which address urban design in various ways.

Through our engagement, we have also heard that there is a need to ensure that Milton is a more accessible community. What do we mean by this? According to the Government of Canada, accessibility in our country “is about creating communities, workplaces and services that enable everyone to participate fully in society without barriers.”³³

Unlike Official Plan policies or Zoning By-law regulations, Urban Design Guidelines are an expression of Milton’s urban design goals and expectations; however, unlike policy and zoning provisions, they are not binding.

“There is an emotional connection that we have lost as a community, which stems from a lack of societal encounters and trust-building and creating a place where people feel like they belong.”

“COVID-19 is also placing a lot more demands on improving internal and external connections, the public realm and providing more places for outdoor interactions and social activity.”

In 2005, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) was passed by the Provincial government with the objective of improving accessibility for all Ontarians by identifying, removing, and preventing barriers faced by persons with disabilities by the year 2025. In particular, the AODA sets Provincial standards for accessibility focusing on the following land use related matters:

- Transportation
- Built environment, including buildings and public spaces



This report will focus on accessibility in the built environment and readers should refer to the Moving in Milton report for a discussion on transportation related accessibility topics.

³³ <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/accessible-canada.html>

Disability is defined in the AODA as:

A physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses, or activities. The AODA uses the same definition of disability as the Ontario Human Rights Code.

The AODA also defines "barrier" as:

Anything that prevents a person with a disability from fully participating in all aspects of society because of his or her disability, including a physical barrier, an architectural barrier, an information or communications barrier, an attitudinal barrier, a technological barrier, a policy or a practice.

Across Ontario, disability impacts the lives of many residents, and the number of people with disabilities is increasing. Today, 15.5 per cent of Ontario's population has a disability and this number will continue to grow as the population ages.³⁴

Within the GTA, Milton is uniquely known for having a significant deaf population because it is home to one of Ontario's four schools for the deaf. The E.C Drury School for the deaf is located at 255 Ontario Street and provides both residential and day programs serving just under 200 elementary and secondary deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

The 2020 PPS also provides important direction on the importance of accessibility on quality of life. In particular, it states that, healthy, liveable and safe communities are sustained in Ontario by:

Improving accessibility for persons with disabilities and older persons by addressing land use barriers which restrict their full participation in society. (Section 1.1.1.f)

Notably, in addition to identifying the need to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities, this PPS policy also recognizes the importance of accessible environments for older persons. As previously discussed, Milton has a growing population of seniors. Therefore, it will be increasingly important to ensure that the accessibility needs of older people are considered and addressed as we grow.

Finally, an exploration of urban design matters in Milton requires us to examine how we can better consider equity in the design of local places and spaces. What do we mean by equity? According to BC Healthy Communities (a non-profit team of planners, public health specialists and community engagement practitioners), equity is:

The fair distribution of opportunities, power and resources to meet the needs to all people, regardless of age, ability, gender, income, education level, culture or background. This means providing support based on an individual's level of need, instead of providing everyone the same amount of support. Governments traditionally focus on providing equal services to all residents. In contrast, an equity lens considers how services and resources can be distributed to those that need them the most.³⁵

"Milton could showcase accessibility here in Town and demonstrate to the rest of the world how important our deaf community is and how to be leaders in accessibility."

- We Make Milton Stakeholder Committee member, 2020

³⁴ <https://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/documents/en/mcsc/publications/accessibility/AboutAODAWeb20080311EN.pdf>

³⁵ PlanH Supporting Equity in Planning and Policy https://planh.ca/sites/default/files/equity_action_guide.pdf

Equity-seeking groups face barriers to equal access, opportunities and resources due to discrimination and actively seek social justice and reparation. According to BC Healthy Communities in the North American context, some communities that would be considered equity-seeking groups are:

- Indigenous communities
- Communities of colour and racialized groups
- Individuals experiencing poverty and low income
- Youth
- Women
- Seniors
- Newcomers
- Individuals whose first language is not English or who have low literacy
- People with disabilities and/or mobility needs
- Individuals experiencing homelessness
- Individuals with mental illness and/or addictions
- Two Spirit and LGBTQIAP+

https://planh.ca/sites/default/files/equity_action_guide.pdf

BC Healthy Communities published a guide for municipalities across British Columbia called “Supporting Equity in Planning and Policy”. According to this document, there are many opportunities to consider equity through urban design. This is because:

The public spaces between built form is where much of the day-to-day activities and social interactions occur in communities, and the design of these spaces plays a major role in how people experience their community.³⁶

Design guidelines typically address safety, accessibility, aesthetics, character, heritage, infrastructure, sustainability, and mobility, for example, but according to the Supporting Equity Guide, we can also address equity through design through the following ways:

- Meaningful community engagement will aim to ensure that perceptions of safety, physical health and mental health are considered in infrastructure and design of public space
- Applying an equity lens to the design of public spaces can promote social participation, a sense of safety for all, and equitable access to community amenities
- Design guidelines and development area plans can be used to provide access to goods and services, environmental amenities such as natural light and clean air, and healthy foods
- Urban design can also be used to provide opportunities for physical activity and community gathering

³⁶ Ibid

Many of the urban design topics - and all of the topics identified through this Background and Information paper, in fact - will arguably lead to a higher quality of life and happier lives for Miltonians. This sentiment comes from our November 2019 Visioning Night event keynote speaker Charles Montgomery, author of "Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design". The book explores the intersection between urban design and happiness challenges planners, policymakers, and developers to look at local placemaking, planning and design challenges through the lens of happiness in order to incorporate wellbeing principles into design, policy and planning.

<https://thehappy.city.com/the-book/>

The above has raised Big Question #7 for We Make Milton:

Big Question #7:

How can the new Official Plan help achieve urban design excellence? How can we create a cohesive and memorable built environment and strong sense of place? How can we provide more accessible and equitable living choices for all Miltonians?



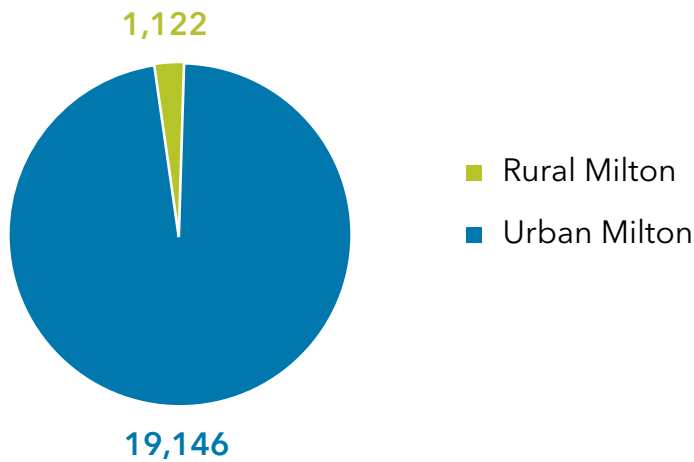
Youth in Milton

Over the past 20 years, as Milton has grown, there has been a tremendous increase in young people below the age of 20. In fact, between 2006 and 2016, the youth population of Milton grew by 227 per cent.³⁷ Today, there are 20,268 youth between the ages 10 and 19 living in Milton³⁸, which represents about 15 per cent of our total population. The majority of these youth live in Urban Milton, as shown in Figure 24.

³⁷ #MiltonYouth Final Report, 2018, Town of Milton, page 4.

³⁸ Environics, 2020

Figure 24: Youth Population, Urban versus Rural



It is expected that the youth population in Milton will continue to grow rapidly. When we look at the age-pyramid for Milton (shown earlier on [page 19](#) of this report), we can see that many people are under the age of 10 and will become youth in the next five to ten years. In addition, with the future development of a Laurier University and Conestoga College Campus in Milton's Education Village (MEV), it is predicted that an increased number of youth ages 17 to 19 will be staying or coming to Milton for post-secondary studies.³⁹

Recognizing the importance of Milton's youth and the need to support their overall wellbeing, Milton staff undertook a #MiltonYouth project in 2018, which involved extensive research with nearly 20 per cent of the youth population at the time. According to the findings:

The youth highlighted Milton as a safe, youth-friendly community with strengths in its connection to nature and parks, and availability of structured activities for youth. Areas of improvement were identified as a desire for the expansion of public transit services, the development of public space for youth to "hang out", additional opportunities for youth discounts on goods and services and the need to develop communication strategies that are relevant to connecting with Milton youth.

Using the information from #MiltonYouth, a Milton Youth Strategy was prepared and endorsed by Council in 2019, which provides a framework, in collaboration with community organizations, to address specific needs. Many of the recommendations deal with service and program delivery, the safety and inclusivity of public spaces; communication and engagement, and providing leadership opportunities.

³⁹ #MiltonYouth Final Report, 2018, Town of Milton, page 4.

We Make Milton project team is providing youth with meaningful opportunities to engage in the new Official Plan Project and to help demonstrate how new land use planning policies will affect their lives. To-date, multiple meetings with the Milton Youth Task Force have been held to identify and discuss issues that are important to them. Some of these are highlighted below.

"Protecting the environment is important. We need to guide development to help achieve the sustainability and net-zero climate change goals set by the government of Canada."

"Some of the issues that would prevent me from staying in Milton are the lack of post-secondary opportunities and the current transportation system. I might live in Milton when I am older if I can work in an office."

"I love the new OP vision statement overall. And it is good to keep wanting more. Some of my priorities for the future include a more connected/regional transit system, indigenous engagement, supporting small businesses, protecting natural areas (trails and the escarpment), providing education and housing for students, and more teen-friendly places."

"Overall, the guiding principles in the Visioning Report are great. I like the idea of supporting local arts, culture, and recreation. I also think Milton could be a more "advanced Town. I support the idea of planning for a "smart city" here in Milton."

The needs of youth must receive as much priority as the needs of people of other ages. Therefore, we will continue to work with Milton's Youth Task Force, other members of the youth community, and local youth-friendly or youth focused organizations as We Make Milton continues to progress. With assistance from the Youth Task Force, the following Big Question has been identified:

Big Question #8:

How can the new Official Plan help provide for the needs and choices of youth living in Milton today? How can we make Milton more youth-friendly?



Summary of Big Questions

The following is a summary of the 13 Big Questions identified as a result of our review of today's context for Living in Milton:

<p>Big Question #1 (Affordability and housing choice)</p>	<p>How can the new Official Plan enable a wider choice of housing types, tenures, and affordability to meet the diverse housing needs of Milton?</p>
<p>Big Question #2 (Climate change and resiliency)</p>	<p>How can the new Official Plan promote climate change mitigation and adaptation in our communities and neighbourhoods? How can we offer environmentally-friendly choices for living in Milton? How can we be more resilient to future environmental hazards and health risks?</p>
<p>Big Question #3 (History and cultural heritage)</p>	<p>How can Milton's new Official Plan better acknowledge and respect the many layers of Milton's unique cultural heritage? How can we balance the need to conserve our cultural heritage resources with the need to adapt to modern lifestyle choices?</p>
<p>Big Question #4 (Parks and recreation)</p>	<p>How can the new Official Plan further support the availability of parks and recreational facilities across Milton's communities? Are there any other ways to encourage healthy and active lifestyles choices in Milton?</p>
<p>Big Question #5 (Places of worship)</p>	<p>How can the new Official Plan help address the land needs of Milton's diverse faith groups? How can we help provide more choice by facilitating and supporting the establishment of new places of worship?</p>
<p>Big Question #6 (Rural living)</p>	<p>How can Milton's new Official Plan recognize and support Milton's unique rural area? How can we improve livability, achieve more complete communities, and provide greater choice to rural residents?</p>
<p>Big Question #7 (Urban design)</p>	<p>How can the new Official Plan help achieve urban design excellence? How can we create a cohesive and memorable built environment and strong sense of place? How can we provide more accessible and equitable living choices for all Miltonians?</p>
<p>Big Question #8 (Youth)</p>	<p>How can the new Official Plan help provide for the needs and choices of youth living in Milton today? How can we make Milton more youth-friendly?</p>

The Living in Milton Big Questions report explores these 8 Big Questions further from a land use perspective in order to identify various policy considerations that could be implemented as we prepare a new Official Plan for Milton.

Appendix A: Detailed information about where people live in Milton

Appendix A.1: Where people live in urban Milton

Name	Timing and status of development	Location	Land uses, defining features and places
Old Milton - also known as the established urban area			
Old Milton	1850s - 1900s 1900s - 1950s Some infill and redevelopment since 2000	Within the Built-up Area and what is also known as Milton's Established Urban Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mix of commercial, residential, institutional, and other land uses • Main Street Commercial Area • Location of many events, including Milton Farmers' Market Downtown Milton Street Festival • A mix of building types and styles • Identified as a 'Character Area' (see below) in the existing Official Plan because of the unique characteristics, including built and cultural heritage resources • Several parks and open spaces, including Chris Hadfield, Rotary, Victoria, and Centennial Park (i.e., Mill Pond Gazebo) • Several Schools • Town Hall • Sixteen Mile Creek and Floodplain • Milton Fairgrounds • CN and CP Rail Lines
Mountain View	1940s - 1970s Some infill and redevelopment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mix of low density residential, commercial, and institutional uses • Regional Natural Heritage System • Kingsleigh Park • Several Schools • Identified as a 'Mature Neighbourhood' (see below) in the existing Official Plan • Niagara Escarpment views
Fallingbrook	1950s - 1970s Some infill and redevelopment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mix of low and medium density residential, commercial and employment uses • JM Denyes School and Brian Best Park • Identified as a 'Mature Neighbourhood' (see below) in the existing Official Plan • Milton Fairgrounds • Regional Natural Heritage System • Sixteen Mile Creek and Floodplain

Name	Timing and status of development	Location	Land uses, defining features and places
Bronte Meadows	1970s - 1980s Some infill and redevelopment	Within the Built-up Area and what is also known as Milton's Established Urban Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mix of low and medium density residential, commercial and employment uses • Several schools and parks including Bronte Meadows Park • Sports facilities including John Tonelli Sports Centre • Identified as a 'Mature Neighbourhood' (see below) in the existing Official Plan • Regional Natural Heritage System • Sixteen Mile Creek
Forest Grove	1950s - 1970s		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predominantly low density residential
Valley View	1970s		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predominantly low density residential
Dorset Park	1978 - 1980s		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low, medium and high density residential • Commercial uses including several plazas and some institutional uses • Several parks, walking trails, and schools
Timberlea	1970s - 2000s Some infill and redevelopment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low and medium density residential • Commercial land uses including the Milton Mall and other plazas • Regional Natural Heritage System • Allendale Long Term Care Facility • Milton Go Station • Several schools including Milton Public School, E.C. Drury School for the Deaf • Milton Active Senior Centre • Milton Police Station • Several parks and connected multi-use trails • CP Rail line
Bristol Secondary Plan Area			
Dempsey	2000 - 2019	<p>Partially within the Built-up Area</p> <p>Partially within the Designated Greenfield Area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium and high density residential • Commercial uses including big box • Some mixed-use, live work units • First Ontario Arts Centre Milton and Main Library • Milton Memorial Arena and Milton Leisure Centre • Several schools • Several parks including Lion's Sports Park and woodlots • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor • Regional Natural Heritage System • Pedestrian bridge over CP rail line connecting to Clarke Neighbourhood

Name	Timing and status of development	Location	Land uses, defining features and places
Clarke	2000 - 2017	Partially within the Built-up Area Partially within the Designated Greenfield Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium and high density residential • Commercial uses including Thompson Square Shopping Plaza • Some mixed-use, live work units • Several schools • Several parks including Clarke Neighbourhood Park North/South • Regional Natural Heritage System • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor
Beaty	2000 - 2017 Some additional development is planned		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium and high density residential • Commercial plazas • Library - Beaty Branch • Several schools • Several parks including Beaty Neighbourhood Park North/South and Bennett Park and woodlots • Regional Natural Heritage System • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor
Coates	2005 - 2015 Some additional development is planned		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium and high density residential • Commercial plazas • Several schools • Several parks including Coates Neighbourhood Park North/South, Bristol District Park, and a multi-use pathway system along 16 Mile Creek and north/south gas corridor • Regional Natural Heritage System • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor
Sherwood Secondary Plan Area			
Milton Heights	1880s - 1970s Some additional development is planned	Within the Designated Greenfield Area Partially within the Built-up Area Partially within the Designated Greenfield Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low and medium density residential • Some commercial, institutional and industrial uses • Regional Natural Heritage System • No municipal servicing in some areas • Built and cultural heritage resources as a result of industrial past • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor

Name	Timing and status of development	Location	Land uses, defining features and places
Scott	2007 - 2014	Within the Designated Greenfield Area Partially within the Built-up Area Partially within the Designated Greenfield Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low and medium density residential • Some schools and parks • Commercial plazas • Sherwood Community Centre and branch library • Sherwood District Park • Escarpment views • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor
Harrison	2007 - 2017		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium density residential • Commercial plazas • Close to Mattamy National Cycling Centre, future Milton Education Village • Escarpment views • Schools and parks • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor
Willmott	2009 - 2017		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium and high density residential • Commercial plazas • Milton District Hospital • Several parks and sports facilities including the Milton Sports Centre and Milton Community Park • Several schools • Regional Natural Heritage System • Milton Pipeline Trail within gas corridor
Boyne Secondary Plan Area			
Walker	2016 - TBD Under development	Within the Designated Greenfield Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a currently developing Secondary Plan Area • Medium and high-density residential units are in various phases of planning and construction • Parks and open spaces • Institutional uses including schools • Mixed Use Nodes • Regional Natural Heritage System • Trail system along 16 Mile Creek and stormwater system • Boyne active transportation link over the CN rail line connecting to the Walker and Ford Neighbourhoods
Ford	2015 - TBD Under development		
Cobban	2018 - TBD Under development		
Bowes	2019 - TBD Under development		

Appendix A.2: Residential and mixed-use secondary plan areas in Milton

Survey/ Secondary Plan Area	Adoption and Approval Dates	Land Uses, Building Types, and Densities (Planned or Existing)	Timing/ Status of Development
Bristol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted by Milton Council 12/15/1998 Approved by Regional Council 09/22/1999 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Table 4 for more detailed description of existing neighbourhoods in the Bristol Secondary Plan Area 	Largely built out
Sherwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted by Milton Council 07/26/2004 Approved by Regional Council 12/03/2004 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Table 4 for more detailed description of existing neighbourhoods in the Sherwood Secondary Plan Area 	Largely built out - with the exception of Milton Heights
Boyne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted by Milton Council 06/14/2010 Approved by Regional Council 09/07/2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Table 4 for more detailed description of existing neighbourhoods in the Boyne Secondary Plan Area 	In Progress
Central Business District (including the Urban Growth Centre /Major Transit Station Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted by Milton Council 01/25/1999 Approved by Regional Council 11/23/1999 Consolidated in 2008. Amended by OPA 31 in 2010 and by OPA 46 in 2017 Under review based on the recommendations of the on-going Milton Mobility Hub Study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A mix of commercial, residential, institutional, and other land uses Main Street Commercial Area A mix of building types and styles Planned to accommodate significant future growth, subject to a future amendment per the Mobility Hub Study 	Infill and intensification
Trafalgar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted by Milton Council 03/25/2019 Awaiting Regional Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently undeveloped Planned as a Transit Supportive Area Low, Medium and High Density Residential & Mixed Use Densities Neighbourhood uses such as Parks and Open Spaces Institutional uses Commercial uses Regional Natural Heritage System 	2021-2031

Survey/ Secondary Plan Area	Adoption and Approval Dates	Land Uses, Building Types, and Densities (Planned or Existing)	Timing/ Status of Development
Agerton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not yet adopted or approved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently undeveloped Planned as a Transit Supportive Area with Mixed Use (Residential and Employment) and Employment areas Medium to high densities New proposed GO Station Neighbourhood uses such as Parks and Open Spaces, Institutional, Commercial Regional Natural Heritage System 	2021-2031
Milton Education Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted by Milton Council 12/14/2020 Not yet approved by Regional Council Subject to Minister's Zoning Order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location of key institutional use including the Mattamy National Cycling Centre and the future Laurier University campus Medium and High-Density Residential Parks and Open Spaces Mixed Use Innovation District Village and Neighbourhood Centres, Regional Natural Heritage System 	2021-2031
Britannia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary Plan Program is in progress. 		2021-2031

Appendix A.3: Where people live in rural Milton

Hamlet	Historical notes	Location	Land uses, building types, and densities defining features, places and/or characteristics
Campbellville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Named for John Campbell, who settled in 1832 Became a village centre, with a sawmill, blacksmith shop, tavern and general store In 1849, a post office was established Incorporated and municipal government was formed in 1914 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the former Township of Nassagaweya South of 401 and Main Street North 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly single detached residential dwellings on large and small lots Main Street Commercial uses Conservation Area Nested within the Niagara Escarpment. Tourist destination for hiking and cycling Home of Mohawk Racetrack and Crawford Lake Conservation Area
Moffat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Originally referred to as Gomorrah. Village name was changed in honour of local blacksmith James Moffatt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the former Township of Nassagaweya At the crossroad of 15th Side Road and 1st Line Located along Greenbelt Route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farms and rural estate homes Rural landscapes Neighbourhood park, yoga studio and bakery
Brookville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First settled in 1831 by Elias and Joan Easterbrook. General store and hotel established in 1852. In 1900, a fire destroyed four buildings, leaving Town Hall and the general store. The hall was moved and reconstructed in 1987. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the former Township of Nassagaweya. North of the intersection of Guelph Line and Fifteen Sideroad. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farms and rural estate homes Commercial uses Rural landscape Equestrian farms Brookville School Brookville Park



MILTON

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Development Services Department,
Policy Planning Division.

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