Engagement Insights Report

Insights and recommendations for consideration in the preparation of a new Region of Niagara Official Plan.

REGION OF NIAGARA DECEMBER 10, 2020



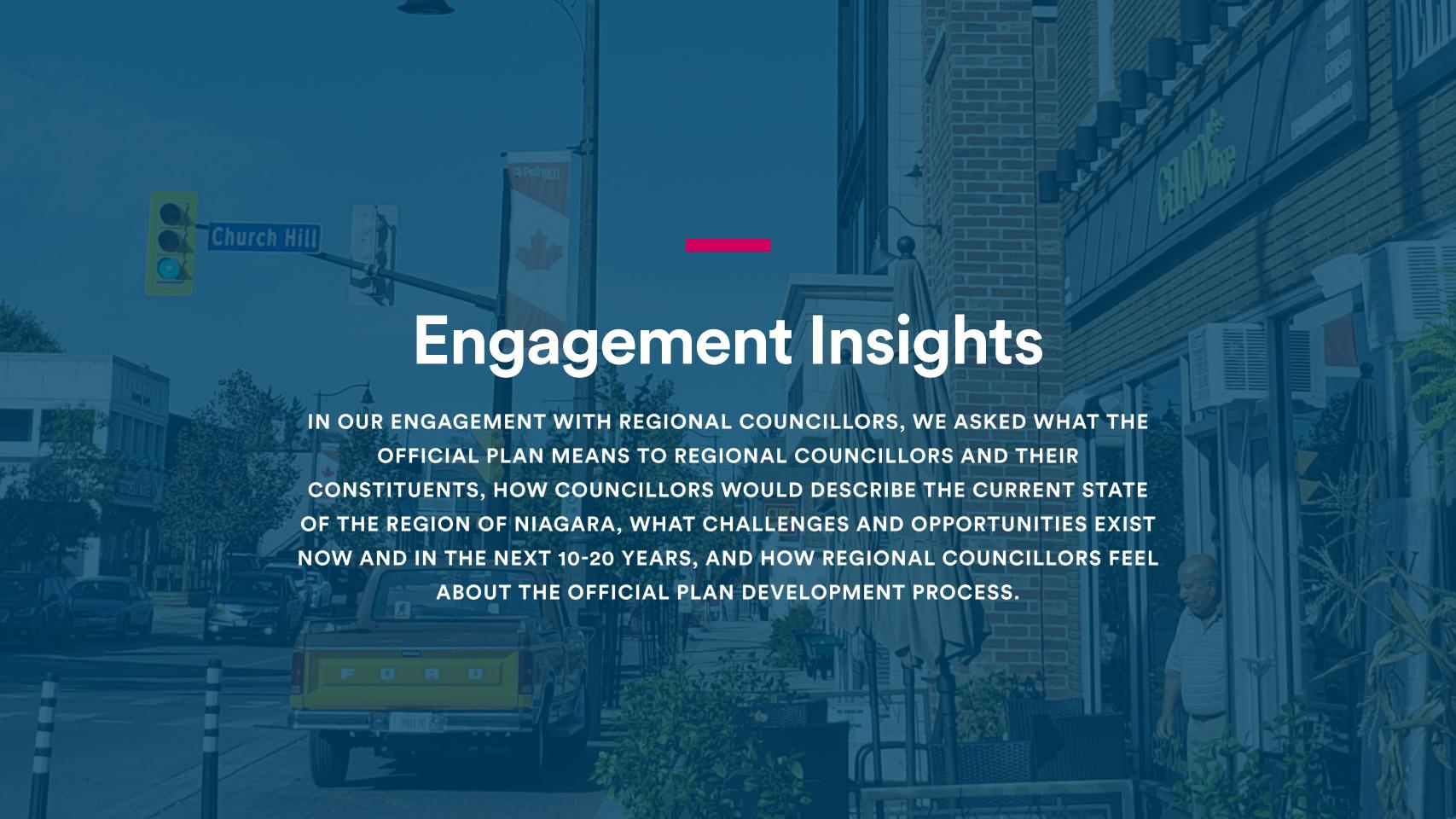












INSIGHT 1

Build a sustainable Official Plan, guided by a shared vision, to provide a road map for a strong future

INSIGHT 2

Provide clarity on
Regional roles and
support active municipal
collaboration for
managing balanced,
thoughtful, and
sustainable growth

INSIGHT 3

Build a more socially inclusive region by focusing more attention on matters like affordability, diversity, and equity

INSIGHT 4

Maintain the Region's quality of life, and make planning for vibrant, connected communities a priority

INSIGHT 5

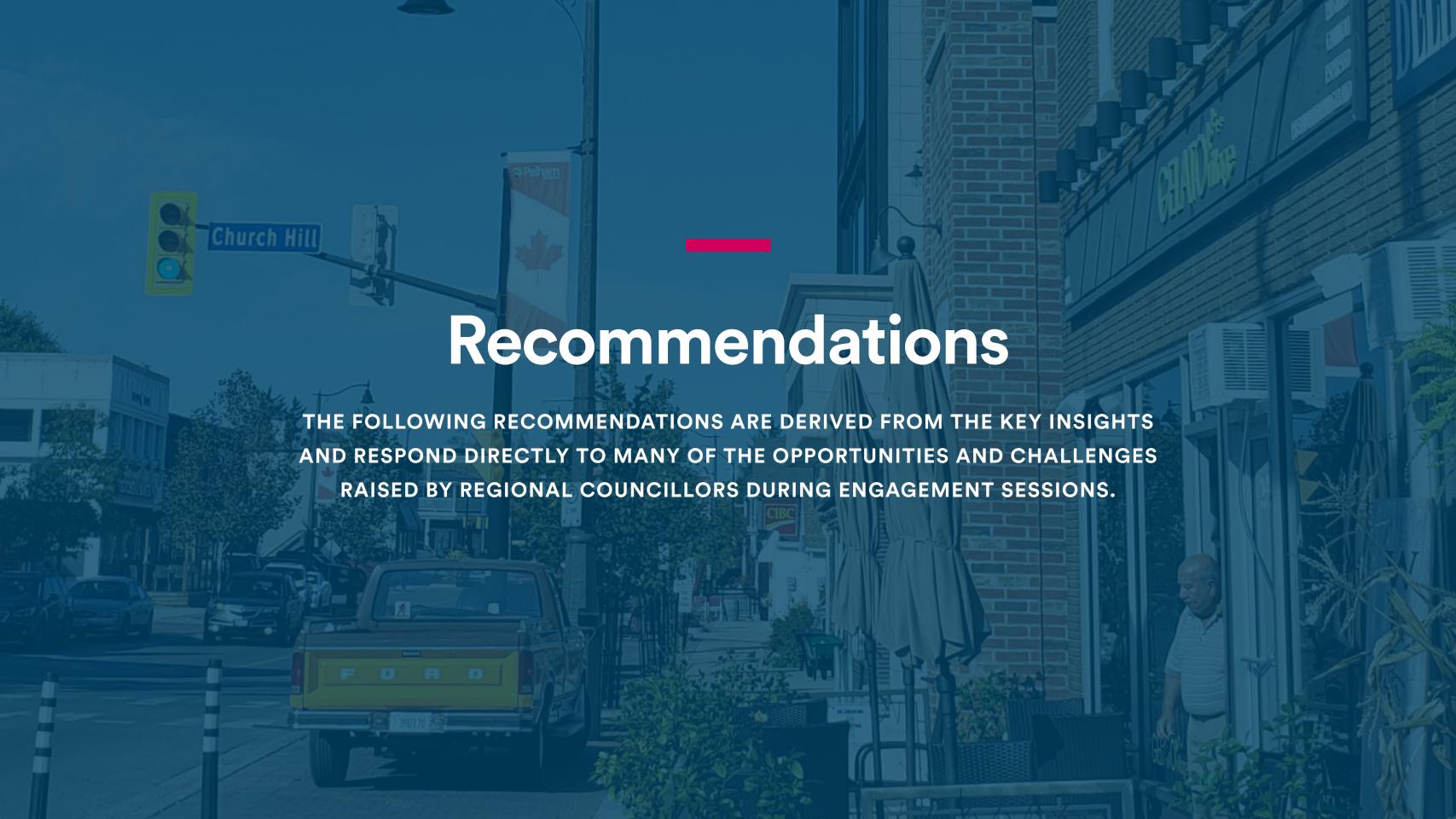
Clearly relate the Region's assets to new and sustainable economic growth opportunities

INSIGHT 6

Ensure roles and relationships between the Region and the 12 area municipal governments, and outside the Official Plan, are well aligned

INSIGHT 7

Engage residents and stakeholders in an accessible and transparent process



RECOMMENDATION 1

Convene a session with Regional Councillors to discuss a shared long term vision for the new Official Plan, using an approach that includes community and Local Municipal input

RECOMMENDATION 2

Hold additional public information or update sessions in all 12 municipalities, with the associated Regional Councillor(s) and local Municipal staff in attendance

RECOMMENDATION 3

Further collaboration with municipalities to discuss policy implementation and interpretation

RECOMMENDATION 4

Provide plain language information and status updates for Councillors and the public

RECOMMENDATION 5

Continue to dedicate time to building consensus across municipalities on growth areas

RECOMMENDATION 6

Allocate Council meeting time to discuss the key elements of good planning

RECOMMENDATION 7

Explore the ways in which a new Official Plan can support existing business and attract new investment

RECOMMENDATION 8

Explore ways to further community engagement through the Official Plan, particularly in the interests of diversity, equity, and inclusion

RECOMMENDATION 9

Use the findings of this engagement with Regional Councillors as a baseline against which the process used to create the new Official Plan and the content of the Plan can be measured in 2021

RECOMMENDATION 10

Establish a working group of Regional and local Municipal staff to consider future "housekeeping" amendments to the Official Plan







