

Supporting a New Region of Niagara Official Plan

Good Planning for Niagara Region and Next Steps
Regarding More Public Survey Insights


ROB HORNE, M.A., R.P.P.
MUNICIPAL INNOVATION GROUP, OVERLAP ASSOCIATES
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**Overlap
Associates** 



A Reminder

from the Council survey about required compliance with Provincial legislation and policy, particularly:



- Provincial Policy Statement;
- A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe;
- Niagara Escarpment Plan;
- Greenbelt Plan.

Note: All are interconnected and must be read together, and the new Plan must comply with these policies.

3 Approaches to Good Planning

For Niagara Region

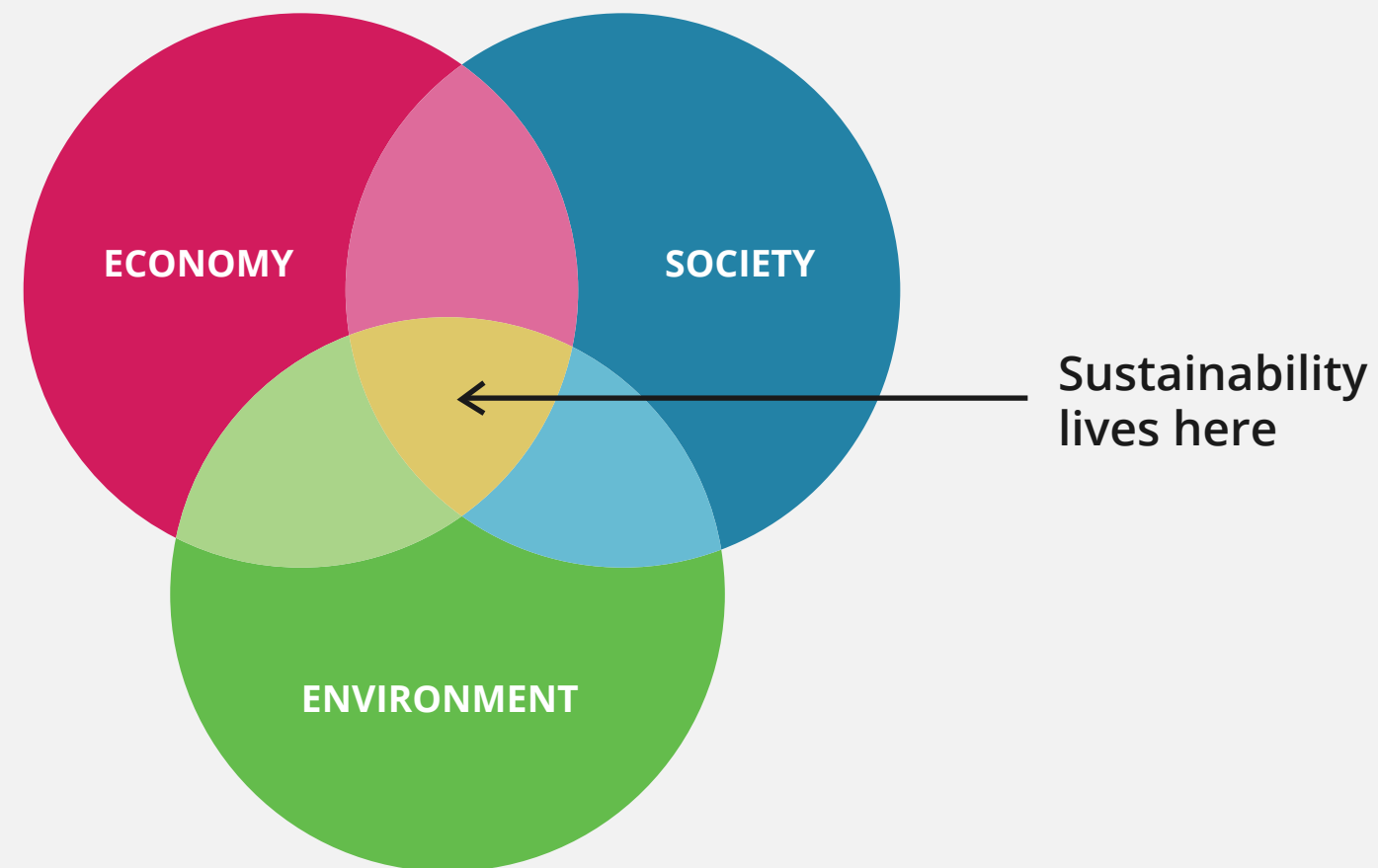


- 1 Macro Approach
- 2 Principled Approach
- 3 Compatible (Micro) Approach

Note: These approaches generally cascade downward, but also overlap with each other.

1 Macro Approach

3-OVERLAPPING-CIRCLES MODEL



Source: World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987.

2 The “Principled” Approach

Some of these principles are found in Provincial legislation and policy

PROTECT (e.g. agricultural land, natural systems and features, water)

CREATE (e.g. new employment lands/areas)

BUILD (e.g. transit systems and ridership, affordable housing)

INTENSIFY (e.g. compact, higher density development)

EQUALIZE (e.g. access to information and opportunities)

LEVERAGE (e.g. new benefits from existing post secondary/health care/agricultural investment)

INVEST (e.g. in; the Plan should inform or guide infrastructure, planning and capital budgets in particular). new or upgraded infrastructure

Note: Elements will compete and often conflict—healthy Council and community debate depends on good data and analysis!

3 The Compatible (Micro) Approach

Develop exceptional communities that accommodate expected growth!

- Primarily implemented by the twelve Area Municipalities. Regional roles in District and Secondary Plans, Provincial review functions on compatibility.
- The “check list” (e.g. traffic, noise, light, parking, affordability, open space)
- Physical and functional design, building materials and engineering innovation are increasingly critical success factors, especially with higher densities of development.
- Approved new development and conservation plans create legacy landscapes. These are big decisions!
- Think and work collaboratively with citizens, developers and other interested/affected people. Everyone needs to invest, and locally-made decisions are preferred over those of tribunals and courts!

Note: There are many options between “no density” and high density!

Next Steps

Regarding Recent Public Survey



- Regional Staff to provide Overlap with the results of their most recent public survey (survey closes on January 21) and the summary results of previous public surveys.
- Overlap to review the results and develop insights for Council's review and input, using a Councillor feedback tool.
- Overlap to summarize Council's feedback, which will again help support the process to release a draft (new) Region of Niagara Official Plan.
- Target for completing this work by Overlap—**end of March 2021**.



Thank you! Questions?