Niagara Region: Core Housing Need and Growth Management

September 2021

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

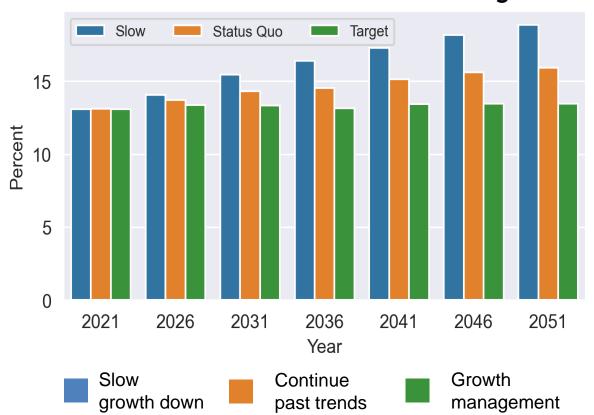
Background

- In 2020, the Province released updated regional growth targets up to 2051.
- Implications for growth management and core housing need in Niagara Region.
- CANCEA has performed several studies across the Niagara Region over the past 3 years.
- This brief update borrows from that work.



Construction Rates and Core housing Need

Percent Of Households In Core Housing Need



Core housing need = unaffordability and/or overcrowding

Growth on its own cannot solve core housing need.



Core Housing Need is Growing

Housing Stock Now



72% Singles / Semis (143,500)



9% Row / Town (19,700)



19% **Apartments** (37,800)

Housing Stock Trend by 2051







69% Singles / Semis (183,800)



14% Row / Town (36,800)



17% **Apartments** (45,100)

Trend Balance

+40,300

+19,700

Core Housing Need 16.1%

+7,300

Core Housing Need 13.4%



10.9% Singles / Semis







23% **Apartments**



13.3%



16.1%



27.1% Apartments

Singles / Semis

Row / Town



Consequences of Growing Core Housing Need

- Unaffordability and overcrowding increases 20%
 - 32% more pressure on young adults, renters, elderly
 (1.5 to 3.5 times at risk)
 - o 33% more pressure on community social services

- · Residents can't find right size housing at right cost
 - Retirees restricted from retiring in the community
 - Resident children can't continue to live in the community



Consequences of Growing Core Housing Need

- Workers and young families restricted from living in the area
 - 7.3% less workforce in the region (24,000 missing)
 - Higher cost of business for industry
- Aging population
- Limits the growth of the region's tax base



Balanced Growth Management

Housing Stock Now

Housing Stock with Growth Management by 2051









Trend Balance

Growth Management







72% Singles / Semis (143,500)

9% Row / Town (19,700)

19%

Apartments (37,800)

69%

Singles / Semis (183,800)

> +40.300 +4,000

14%

Row / Town (36,800)

+19,700 +7,700

17%

Apartments (45,100)

+7,300 +23,700

Core Housing Need 13.4%









Core Housing Need 13.9%



13.1% Row / Town



23% **Apartments**



11.2% Singles / Semis



13.9% Row / Town



22.1% **Apartments**



© Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis Inc. Not for distribution. Confidential

Balanced Growth Management

Housing Stock with Growth Management by 2051



62%

Singles/Semis

+44,300

Families and couples.



15%

Row / Town

+27,400

Mid-priced and mid-sized
Young families and retirees



23%

Apartments

+31,000

Lower price and size Singles, lower income households, workers and retirees

- ✓ Avoid consequences of excessive growth in core housing need
- √ 34,000 more workers in the region (10.3% of labour force)
- ✓ Region's tax base grows per capita



Balanced Growth Management: Making it happen

Housing Stock with Growth Management by 2051



Leveraging market forces









REDUCE THE RISK TO **PRIVATE INVESTORS**

CREATE POLICY THAT SUPPORTS PRIVATE **MARKET INVESTMENT**



