

# Greenbelt Plan (2017)

## Peel 2041 Discussion Paper

November 2019



*This policy discussion paper (including any attachments) has been prepared using information current to the report date. It provides an assessment of provincial policy conformity requirements, recognizing that Provincial plans and policies were under review and are potentially subject to change. The proposed direction contained in this discussion paper will be reviewed to ensure that any implementing amendments to the Regional Official Plan will conform or be consistent with the most recent in-effect provincial policy statement, plans and legislation. Additional changes will not be made to the contents of this discussion paper.*

## Table of Contents

Section	Page
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 The Greenbelt Plan and the Environment Themed Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) .....	1
1.2 Discussion Paper Purpose .....	1
<b>2. BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 Provincial Legislation and Plan .....	3
2.2 The Greenbelt Plan Area .....	3
2.3 The Protected Countryside Designation .....	5
2.4 Urban River Valley Designation .....	5
2.5 The Greenbelt Plan and the Regional Official Plan .....	6
<b>3. POLICY DIRECTION AND ANALYSIS OF THE GREENBELT PLAN (2017) .....</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1 Summary of Key Greenbelt Plan (2017) Policy Changes and Gaps .....	7
<b>4. GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 3.1 – AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM .....</b>	<b>9</b>
4.1 Prime Agricultural Area (Section 3.1.3) .....	9
4.2 Rural Lands (Section 3.1.4) .....	11
4.3 Agri-food Network (Section 3.1.5) .....	13
<b>5. GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 3.2 – NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM .....</b>	<b>15</b>
5.1 Natural Heritage System (Section 3.2.2) .....	15
5.2 Water Resource System (Section 3.2.3) .....	16
5.3 Key Hydrological Areas (Section 3.2.4) .....	18
5.4 Key Natural Heritage Features and Key Hydrologic Features (Section 3.2.5) .....	18
5.5 External Connections (Section 3.2.6) .....	19
<b>6. GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 3.3 – PARKLAND, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS .....</b>	<b>21</b>
6.1 Parkland, Open Space and Trails (Section 3.3.2 and 3.3.3) .....	21
<b>7. GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 3.4 – SETTLEMENT AREAS .....</b>	<b>23</b>
7.1 General Settlement Area Policies (Section 3.4.2) .....	23
7.2 Town/Village Policies (Section 3.4.3) .....	24
7.3 Hamlet Policies (Section 3.4.4) .....	25
7.4 Additional Policies for Settlement Area Expansion (Section 3.4.5) .....	25

<b>8.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 4.1 – NON-AGRICULTURAL USES .....</b>	<b>27</b>
8.1	General Non-Agricultural Use Policies (Section 4.1.1) .....	27
8.2	Recreational Use Policies (Section 4.1.2) .....	27
<b>9.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 4.2 – INFRASTRUCTURE .....</b>	<b>29</b>
9.1	General Infrastructure Policies (Section 4.2.1) .....	29
9.2	Sewage and Water Infrastructure Policies (Section 4.2.2) .....	30
9.3	Stormwater Management and Resilient Infrastructure Policies (Section 4.2.3) .....	30
<b>10.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 4.3 – NATURAL RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>33</b>
10.1	Renewable Resource Policies (Section 4.3.1) .....	33
10.2	Non-Renewable Resource Policies (Section 4.3.2) .....	33
<b>11.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 4.4 – CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES.....</b>	<b>35</b>
11.1	Cultural Heritage Resources Policies (Section 4.4) .....	35
<b>12.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 4.5 – EXISTING USES .....</b>	<b>37</b>
12.1	Existing Uses Policies (Section 4.5) .....	37
<b>13.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 4.6 – LOT CREATION .....</b>	<b>39</b>
13.1	Lot Creation Policies (Section 4.6).....	39
<b>14.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) SECTION 6.2 – URBAN RIVER VALLEY .....</b>	<b>41</b>
14.1	Urban River Valley Policies (Section 6.2) .....	41
<b>15.</b>	<b>GREENBELT PLAN (2017) DEFINITIONS .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b>PROPOSED DRAFT CHANGES TO ROP GREENBELT (2017) MAPPING .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>17.</b>	<b>CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS.....</b>	<b>49</b>

### List of Figures

<b>Figure 2.1:</b>	Greenbelt Plan Area in Peel .....	4
<b>Figure 14.1:</b>	Urban River Valley Designation in Peel .....	41

### List of Tables

<b>Table 15.1:</b>	Definitions.....	45
<b>Table 16.1:</b>	Proposed Updates to ROP Greenbelt Plan Mapping .....	47

**Appendix A:** Provincial Greenbelt Mapping (Urban River Valleys)

**Appendix B:** Draft Schedule & Figure

## Executive Summary

As part of the Region's *Peel 2041: Regional Official Plan Review* process to ensure conformity with recent updates to Provincial plans and policies, including the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*, this Discussion Paper and corresponding policy review provides an overview of the policy revisions needed to bring the Regional Official Plan into conformity with the updated provincial *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.

Within Peel, the Greenbelt Area is predominately located within the geographic area of the Town of Caledon, with urban river valley corridors extending through the Cities of Brampton and Mississauga and connecting the Greenbelt to Lake Ontario. The Greenbelt Area identifies the Protected Countryside of the *Greenbelt Plan* which permits a mix of rural settlement, environmental, agricultural, resource, and recreational uses that provide significant benefits to Peel and the larger Greater Golden Horseshoe area.

The *Greenbelt Plan* establishes the Protected Countryside designation to enhance the extent of protected lands covered by the *Niagara Escarpment Plan* and the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan* while also improving linkages between these areas and the surrounding major lake systems and watersheds. The *Greenbelt Plan* sets out three geographic specific policies that apply within the Protected Countryside designation: the Agricultural System, the Natural System and Settlement Areas as well as general policies that apply throughout the Protected Countryside. The Agricultural System in the 2017 amended *Greenbelt Plan* has two components including the agricultural land base, which includes prime agricultural areas and rural lands that are designated in local municipal official plans, and the agri-food network of services and assets that are important to the viability of the agri-food sector. The Urban River Valley designation and policies which provide improved protection for the linkages between the Greenbelt and Lake Ontario are now also reflected in the 2017 *Greenbelt Plan*.

In 2010, the Region adopted Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) 24 to bring the Regional Official Plan into conformity to the *Greenbelt Plan (2005)*. ROPA 24 introduced a new policy section and schedule to the Regional Official Plan (Section 2.2.10 and Schedule D3 – Greenbelt Plan Area Land Use Designations) that reflected the policies of the *Greenbelt Plan (2005)*. Revisions to Section 2.2.10 will be required to bring the Regional Official Plan into conformity with the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*, however, given the broad policy direction of the Regional Official Plan's Greenbelt Plan policies, most of the changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* do not require amendments to the Regional Official Plan. A summary of the more substantive changes introduced by the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* that will require revisions to the Regional Official Plan is provided below:

### Updated Policies to Support Agricultural Systems Planning

- New policy recognizes the Agricultural System as including the agricultural land base and agri-food network of businesses and assets needed to support the agricultural sector.
- Municipalities are encouraged to implement regional agri-food strategies and food systems planning to support and enhance the Agricultural System.
- Agricultural mapping of prime agricultural areas and rural lands are to be identified and refined in accordance with provincial guidance and mapping.
- Policy requirements for agricultural impact assessments have been added to ensure agricultural resources and operations are protected from incompatible development.

- Policy permissions have been clarified for agricultural, agriculture related, and on-farm diversified uses with updated definitions.

#### **Updated Policies to Support Natural Heritage and Water Resource Systems Planning**

- Water resource systems (ground and surface water features and areas) are to be identified based on watershed planning information.
- Key Hydrologic Areas (significant ground water recharge areas, highly vulnerable aquifers and significant surface water contribution areas) are added as a component of the Water Resource System with policies to protect and, where possible, improve or restore hydrologic functions in these areas.
- Decisions on allocating growth and planning for infrastructure shall be informed by watershed planning.
- Updated policy clarifies when natural heritage evaluations and hydrologic evaluations are not required for new agricultural, agriculture related and on-farm diversified uses.

#### **Settlement Areas Policies Aligned with Growth Plan**

- A new General Settlement Area policy section provides direction for settlement area expansions, coordination of delivery of services and infrastructure, and to support the agri-food network.
- Expansions to Towns/Villages are subject to policies in the Growth Plan and can only be considered if part of a municipal comprehensive review.
- Growth within Hamlets is limited to infill and intensification subject to appropriate water and sewage services.

#### **Infrastructure**

- New and updated policies for stormwater management have been included to cross reference similar policies in the *Growth Plan (2017)* and prohibit stormwater management systems in key natural heritage and hydrologic features.

#### **Urban River Valleys are Identified and Included in the Greenbelt Area**

- A new Urban River Valley designation has been added to the Greenbelt Area connecting the Greenbelt to Lake Ontario.
- Urban River Valley designations apply to the main branches of the Humber River, West Humber River, Credit River and Etobicoke Creek in Peel.
- The designations are subject to official plan policies and only apply to publicly owned lands.

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 The Greenbelt Plan and the Environment Themed Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA)

The Region of Peel's Regional Official Plan (ROP) is the long-term policy framework for land use planning decision-making. It sets the Regional context for detailed planning by protecting the environment, managing resources, directing growth and setting the basis for providing Regional services in an efficient and effective manner. The *Planning Act* requires municipalities to update their Official Plan every five years to ensure that the policies remain current and are consistent with Provincial plans and policies. The review of the current Regional Official Plan, referred to as *Peel 2041: Regional Official Plan Review*, is being undertaken with the intent to plan for growth to the year 2041.

Peel 2041 includes a focused review of thirteen focus areas to ensure conformity with recent updates to Provincial plans and policies including the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014*, *A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe* (2019), the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017), the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan* (2017) and the *Niagara Escarpment Plan* (2017) which provide Provincial direction for land use planning and the protection of the local environment and resources.



This *Greenbelt Plan* conformity policy review and corresponding Discussion Paper represents a part of a larger environmental themed review which interconnects related focus areas including Climate Change, Water Resources, Greenlands System, Agriculture, and Aggregates policy areas.

### 1.2 Discussion Paper Purpose

The purpose of this Discussion Paper is to provide an overview of the policy revisions needed to bring the Regional Official Plan into conformity with the updated *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) as part of the *Peel 2041: Regional Official Plan Review* process.

This background paper will provide the following:

- A background on the Greenbelt Plan;
- An overview of the specific changes in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*;
- A summary of the recommended approach to achieve conformity;
- Proposed updates to the Greenbelt Plan policies and mapping in the Regional Official Plan; and,
- Conclusions and next steps.

This Discussion Paper is meant to inform and engage the Region of Peel's stakeholders, local municipalities and the public. It will identify policy gaps and opportunities as well as identify what must be updated to ensure conformity with provincial plans, policies and guidelines.

## 2. Background

The Greater Golden Horseshoe contains many of Canada's most ecologically and hydrologically significant natural environments and scenic landscapes, including the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Niagara Escarpment. These natural environments provide drinking water, habitat for many species of animals and plants, recreational opportunities, and fertile soil for productive farmland.

As such, recognizing the significance of the environment and resources of this area, the *Greenbelt Plan* (2005), together with the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan* (2002) and *Niagara Escarpment Plan* (2005), were introduced to minimize the encroachment of urban development and ensure the protection of the agricultural land base as well as the ecological and hydrological features and functions surrounding the Greater Golden Horseshoe. Collectively, the lands in these three plans form the Greenbelt Area.

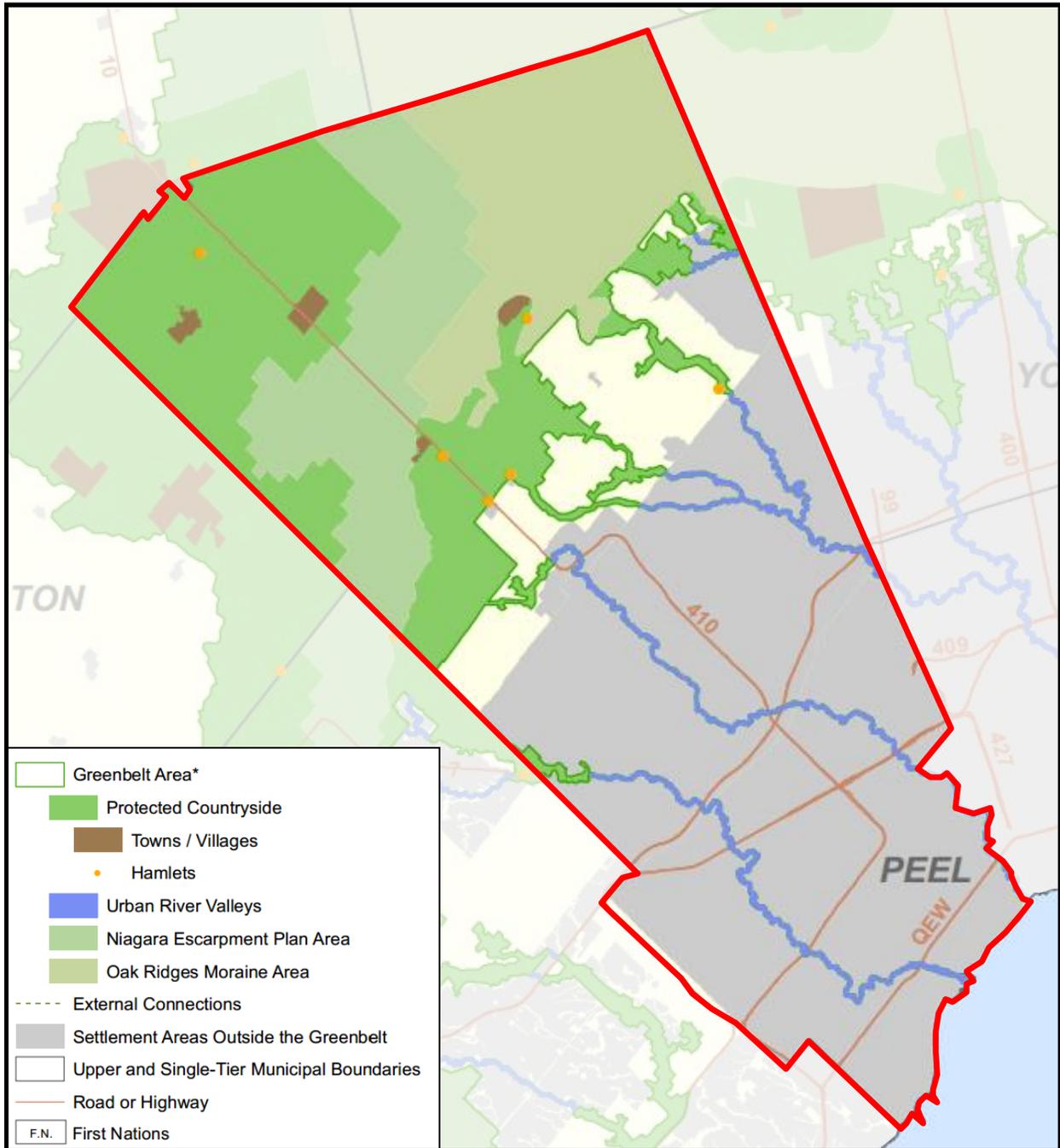
### 2.1 Provincial Legislation and Plan

In 2005, the *Greenbelt Plan* was established under the *Greenbelt Act, 2005*, and defined by Ontario Regulation 59/05. The Greenbelt Area includes lands within other Provincial plans including the *Niagara Escarpment Plan* (NEP), the *Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan* (ORMCP), and the *Parkway Belt West Plan* (PBWP). The Greenbelt Plan, together with the ORMCP and NEP, identifies where urbanization should not occur in order to provide permanent protection of the agricultural land base and the ecological and hydrological features, areas and functions occurring within these landscapes.

### 2.2 The Greenbelt Plan Area

In Peel, the Greenbelt Area is predominately located within the geographic area of the Town of Caledon, with urban river valley corridors extending through the Cities of Brampton and Mississauga and connecting the Greenbelt to Lake Ontario. As shown in Figure 2.1, the Greenbelt Area includes portions of land designated under the NEP and the ORMCP, and outside of those areas, identifies the Protected Countryside of the *Greenbelt Plan* which permits a mix of rural settlement, environmental, agricultural, resource, and recreational uses that provide significant benefits to Peel and the larger Greater Golden Horseshoe area.

**Figure 2.1: Greenbelt Plan Area in Peel**



Source: Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. (2017). *Greenbelt Plan*

### 2.3 The Protected Countryside Designation

The *Greenbelt Plan* establishes the Protected Countryside designation to enhance the extent of protected lands covered by the NEP and the ORMCP while also improving linkages between these areas and the surrounding major lake systems and watersheds. The *Greenbelt Plan* sets out three geographic specific policies that apply within the Protected Countryside designation: the Agricultural System, the Natural System and Settlement Areas as well as general policies that apply throughout the Protected Countryside.

In the 2017 amended *Greenbelt Plan*, the Agricultural System has two components: the agricultural land base, which includes prime agricultural areas and rural lands that are designated in local municipal official plans, and the agri-food network of services and assets that are important to the viability of the agri-food sector. The agricultural land base is intended to provide a continuous productive land base for agricultural activities to occur. Definitions and policies for permitted agricultural uses have been updated to improve consistency with the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014* to ensure agricultural activities are supported with clear policy direction.

The Natural System of the Protected Countryside is made up of a Natural Heritage System and a Water Resource System that together protect ecologically and hydrologically significant features, areas and functions. The Natural Heritage System is an overlay that applies on top of the prime agricultural area and rural lands designations contained in official plans. As such, permitted uses are those set out within the prime agricultural area and rural lands policies and designations of official plans, subject to the Natural System policies of the Greenbelt Plan.

The *Greenbelt Plan* also identifies Towns/Villages and Hamlets of varying sizes and urban river valleys, which support the achievement of healthier and safer communities that are more resilient to a changing climate.

### 2.4 Urban River Valley Designation

Many of the external river valley connections identified at the time of approval of the 2005 *Greenbelt Plan* have been designated as Urban River Valley and are now subject to the Urban River Valley policies of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017). In 2013, Ontario Regulation 6/13 amended the *Greenbelt Plan* to formally include the Urban River Valley corridor within the defined boundary of the Greenbelt Area. The *Greenbelt Plan* (2005) was also amended at this time to include policy direction for the Urban River Valley designation (Amendment 1) and to enable municipalities to request additional lands to be added to the Greenbelt Area in accordance with the Province's Growing the Greenbelt process. The policy addition for the Urban River Valley designation is now reflected in the 2017 *Greenbelt Plan*.

The Urban River Valley designation and policies provide improved protection for these important linkages between the Greenbelt and Lake Ontario. The Urban River Valley designation as shown on Schedule 1 to the Greenbelt Plan applies to lands within the main corridors of river valleys connecting the Greenbelt to the Great Lakes and inland lakes. Within the Urban River Valleys only publicly owned lands are subject to the policies of the Urban River Valley designation and any privately-owned lands

within the boundary of the Urban River Valley area are not subject to the policies of this designation. Permitted uses in the designation are governed by the applicable policies of Regional and local official plans.

## **2.5 The Greenbelt Plan and the Regional Official Plan**

In 2010, the Region adopted Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) 24 to bring the Regional Official Plan into conformity to the *Greenbelt Plan (2005)*. ROPA 24 introduced a new policy section and schedule to the Regional Official Plan (Section 2.2.10 and Schedule D3 – Greenbelt Plan Area Land Use Designations) that reflected the policies of the *Greenbelt Plan (2005)*. Revisions to Section 2.2.10 will be required to bring the Regional Official Plan into conformity with the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.

### 3. Policy Direction and Analysis of the Greenbelt Plan (2017)

The following Sections of the Discussion Paper (4 to 14) provides an overview of each policy element of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017), the policy changes that were introduced in the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017), and a summary of revisions to the Regional Official Plan that are recommended to ensure the Plan conforms to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017).

#### 3.1 Summary of Key Greenbelt Plan (2017) Policy Changes and Gaps

Given the broad policy direction of the Regional Official Plan's Greenbelt Plan policies, most of the changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) do not require amendments to the Regional Official Plan. A summary of the more substantive changes introduced by the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) that will require revisions to the Regional Official Plan is provided below:

##### **Updated Policies to Support Agricultural Systems Planning**

- New policy recognizes the Agricultural System as including the agricultural land base and agri-food network of businesses and assets needed to support the agricultural sector.
- Municipalities are encouraged to implement regional agri-food strategies and food systems planning to support and enhance the Agricultural System.
- Agricultural mapping of prime agricultural areas and rural lands are to be identified and refined in accordance with provincial guidance and mapping.
- Policy requirements for agricultural impact assessments have been added to ensure agricultural resources and operations are protected from incompatible development.
- Policy permissions have been clarified for agricultural, agriculture related, and on-farm diversified uses with updated definitions.

##### **Updated Policies to Support Natural Heritage and Water Resource Systems Planning**

- Water resource systems (ground and surface water features and areas) are to be identified based on watershed planning information.
- Key Hydrologic Areas (significant ground water recharge areas, highly vulnerable aquifers and significant surface water contribution areas) are added as a component of the Water Resource System with policies to protect and, where possible, improve or restore hydrologic functions in these areas.
- Decisions on allocating growth and planning for infrastructure shall be informed by watershed planning.
- Updated policy clarifies when natural heritage evaluations and hydrologic evaluations are not required for new agricultural, agriculture related and on-farm diversified uses.

##### **Settlement Areas Policies Aligned with Growth Plan**

- A new General Settlement Area policy section provides direction for settlement area expansions, coordination of delivery of services and infrastructure, and to support the agri-food network.

- Expansions to Towns/Villages are subject to policies in the Growth Plan and can only be considered if part of a municipal comprehensive review.
- Growth within Hamlets is limited to infill and intensification subject to appropriate water and sewage services.

### Infrastructure

- New and updated policies for stormwater management have been included to cross reference similar policies in the *Growth Plan (2017)* and prohibit stormwater management systems in key natural heritage and hydrologic features.

### Urban River Valleys are Identified and Included in the Greenbelt Area

- A new Urban River Valley designation has been added to the Greenbelt Area connecting the Greenbelt to Lake Ontario.
- Urban River Valley designations apply to the main branches of the Humber River, West Humber River, Credit River and Etobicoke Creek in Peel.
- The designations are subject to official plan policies and only apply to publicly owned lands.

The Regional Official Plan has been reviewed to identify where additions, deletions, and/or modifications to policies are required to ensure conformity with the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*. Conformity with *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* policy requirements have been highlighted in the following sections of the Discussion Paper using '✓' or 'Δ' symbols as indicated below:

#### Legend:

- ✓ Indicates that existing policy continues to conform with the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and no or only minor changes are required.
- Δ Indicates that the addition of a new or modification of an existing policy is required.

## 4. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 3.1 – Agricultural System

The Protected Countryside designation includes an ‘Agricultural System’ that provides for “a continuous, productive and permanent agricultural land base and a complementary agri-food network that together enable the agri-food sector to thrive” (Greenbelt Plan, 2017, pg. 15).

### 4.1 Prime Agricultural Area (Section 3.1.3)

Prime agricultural areas represent areas that have the greatest potential and opportunity for agriculture. Provincial policy requires prime agricultural areas to be identified and protected for long term use for agriculture. Updated policies in Section 3.1.3 for the Prime Agricultural Area include: a new reference to promote and protect all types, sizes and intensities of agricultural uses and normal farm practices; new definitions for agricultural, agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses; policies to improve compatibility of agriculture-related, on-farm diversified and non-agricultural uses with existing uses; requirements for agricultural impact assessments; and direction to enhance the agri-food network. Minor wording changes were also included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.1.3 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and the proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Prime Agricultural section are provided below:

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### Permitted Uses and Compatibility with Surrounding Areas

The Prime Agricultural Area policies are revised to include updated definitions for permitted agriculture, agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses subject to criteria in the Provincial Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario’s Prime Agricultural Areas. Revisions clarify that all types, sizes and intensities of agricultural uses and normal farm practices are to be promoted and protected. New policy requires agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses to be compatible with surrounding agricultural operations. The term “secondary uses” is now replaced with “on-farm diversified uses”.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.1 directs the Town of Caledon to include policies in their official plan supporting normal farm practices and a full range of agricultural and secondary uses. This policy will need to be expanded to promote and protect all types, sizes and intensities of agricultural uses and normal farm practices. The term ‘secondary uses’ will need to be deleted and replaced with the new term ‘on-farm diversified uses’, which will also need to be cross-referenced to the updated definitions in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*. The policy will also need to be updated to reference the compatibility of agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses with surrounding agricultural operations based on criteria in the provincial *Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario’s Prime Agricultural Areas*.

##### Non-Agricultural Uses

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes new language discouraging non-agricultural uses within prime agricultural areas, but may permit infrastructure, natural resource uses, existing uses and lot creation in the Protected Countryside in accordance to Sections 4.2 and 4.6 of the

*Greenbelt Plan* (2017) subject to the completion of an agricultural impact assessment.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.3 a) and b) prohibits the redesignation of prime agricultural areas for non-agricultural uses except for minor refinements to the prime agricultural and rural areas, rationalized by a Land Evaluation and Area Review (LEAR) or a settlement boundary expansion subject to Section 2.2.10.4 of the ROP and Section 3.4 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017).

The policies restricting the redesignation of prime agricultural areas for non-agricultural uses will need to be updated to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) by removing the references to undertaking a LEAR Study. This policy direction is no longer required as the Region will be refining the prime agricultural area designation in accordance with the Peel-Caledon LEAR Study, provincial mapping and provincial implementation procedures as part of the Peel 2041 Regional Official Plan Review.

The existing ROP policy 2.2.10.4.2 permitting other uses in the prime agricultural area will need to be updated to conform to the new direction in the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) to discourage these uses and require the completion of an agricultural impact assessment.

#### **Interface Between Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Lands**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) includes a new policy when considering development applications to ensure land use compatibility between existing agricultural and non-agricultural land uses through avoidance or measures which are to be incorporated into the non-agricultural use to minimize or mitigate impacts to the Agricultural System based on provincial guidance.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.4 directs the Town of Caledon to include policies related to compliance with the minimum distance separation formulae for uses within prime agricultural areas. Although this recognizes the separation of uses from livestock operations, this does not address compatibility between agricultural and non-agricultural uses generally. An additional policy will need to be included that provides direction to the Town of Caledon to address land use compatibility where agricultural and non-agricultural uses interface to avoid, minimize or mitigate negative impacts based on provincial guidance.

#### **Agricultural Land Base and Economic Connections**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has added a new policy stating the need for geographic continuity of the agricultural land base that will enhance and maintain connections to the agri-food network.

A new ROP policy will need to be included to direct the Town of Caledon to maintain and enhance the agricultural land base and economic connections of the agri-food network.

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) provides direction to map the agricultural system including prime agricultural areas. The Region is refining the agricultural system mapping as part of the agricultural policy review as a component of Peel 2041.

## 4.2 Rural Lands (Section 3.1.4)

Section 3.1.4, previously known as Rural Areas, has been updated and renamed Rural Lands. Policies in Section 3.1.4 retain the direction that rural lands are intended to be the primary location for rural recreational, tourism, institutional and resource based commercial/industrial uses. These areas may contain agricultural uses which support the agri-food network. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.1.4 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and the proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Rural Lands section (formerly Rural Areas) are provided below:

### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

#### Rural Areas to Rural Lands

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has updated the terminology used in this section from ‘Rural Areas’ to ‘Rural Lands’ to be consistent with the *PPS, 2014*.

The ROP section currently entitled ‘Rural Area Policies’ will need to be deleted and replaced with ‘Rural Lands Policies’. Similarly, references to ‘rural areas’ will need to be deleted and replaced with the new term ‘rural lands’, which will need to be cross-referenced throughout the Greenbelt Plan section 2.2.10 of the ROP to ensure conformity.

#### Permitted Uses and Linkages with Prime Agricultural Areas

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has been updated to clarify the role of Rural Lands in providing important linkages between prime agricultural areas as part of the overall Agricultural System, and similar to the revisions made to the Prime Agricultural Area policies, has included updated definitions for agriculture, agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses, in accordance to provincial criteria in the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs *Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas*. The term “secondary uses” has been replaced with “on-farm diversified uses”.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.6 directs the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon to include policies in their official plans that support existing and new agricultural uses as well agricultural, agriculture-related, and secondary uses. The term ‘secondary uses’ will need to be deleted and replaced with the new term ‘on-farm diversified uses’. The policy will also need to be updated to reference the compatibility of agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses with surrounding agricultural operations based on provincial guidance.

The preamble paragraph to the Rural Area (now Rural Lands) policy section will need to be updated to reflect the role of rural lands in providing important linkages between prime agricultural areas as part of the overall Agricultural System.

#### Settlement Area Expansions

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has included a minor wording update from ‘are’ to ‘may be’ regarding the permission of settlement area expansions in Rural Lands, subject to the policies of Section 3.4 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.7 directs the Town of Caledon to include policies in their official plans to

permit settlement area expansions into rural lands, subject to the settlement area policies of the Greenbelt Plan as well as the ROP. As such, the ROP policy continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and no changes are required.

#### **△ Non-Agricultural Uses**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes new policy direction that the completion of an agricultural impact assessment should be considered for any proposed non-agricultural use within the Rural Lands, except for mineral aggregate operations.

The existing ROP policy 2.2.10.4.10 permitting other uses in rural areas (now rural lands) will need to be updated to conform with the new direction in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* to require the completion of an agricultural impact assessment to be considered. Mineral aggregate operations would be exempt from this policy.

#### **△ Interface Between Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Lands**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy when considering development applications to promote compatibility for agriculture between agricultural and non-agricultural land uses where they interface with each other through avoidance or measures which are to be incorporated into the non-agricultural use within the developed area to minimize or mitigate impacts to the Agricultural System based on provincial guidance.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.4 directs the Town of Caledon to include policies related to compliance with the minimum distance separation formulae for uses within prime agricultural areas. Although this recognizes the separation of uses for livestock operations, this does not address compatibility between agricultural and non-agricultural uses generally. An additional policy will need to be included that provides direction to the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon to address land use compatibility where agricultural and non-agricultural uses interface to avoid, minimize or mitigate negative impacts based on provincial guidance.

#### **△ Agricultural Land Base and Economic Connections**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy requiring the geographic continuity of the agricultural land base and functional and economic connections that will enhance and maintain connections to the agri-food network.

A new ROP policy will need to be included to direct the Town of Caledon to maintain and enhance the agricultural land base and economic connections of the agri-food network.

#### **△ Public Service Facilities as Community Hubs**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy that gives consideration to maintaining and adapting existing public service facilities located on Rural Lands into community hubs to meet the needs of the community where feasible.

A new ROP policy will need to be included to direct the Town of Caledon to give consideration to maintaining and adapting existing public service facilities into community hubs in rural lands.

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) provides direction to include rural lands designations in official plans. The Regional Official Plan does not map land use designations. As such, appropriate direction will be provided in the Regional Official Plan to the Town of Caledon and City of Brampton to identify rural lands as part of their local official plan, where appropriate.

### 4.3 Agri-food Network (Section 3.1.5)

The Agri-food Network section is a new addition to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017). The agri-food network includes the infrastructure, services and other agri-food assets that are needed to sustain agriculture and support the agri-food sector. Examples include grain dryers, seed and feed suppliers, and agricultural processing facilities. Policies in Section 3.1.5 regarding the agri-food network require opportunities to support the Agricultural System, including agri-food network elements, to be considered in planning initiatives. Municipalities are encouraged to develop and implement strategies to sustain and enhance the long-term viability of the sector. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.1.5 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and the proposed policy changes to add a new Agri-food Network section to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* policies are provided below:

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### **Integrated Planning and Strategies to Support the Agri-food Network**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) includes new policy direction that provides direction to integrate planning for growth management including goods movement and transportation planning shall consider opportunities to support and enhance the Agricultural System. New policy direction is also provided encouraging municipalities to implement regional agri-food strategies and other approaches to sustain and enhance the Agricultural System and viability of the agri-food sector by:

- providing opportunities to support access to healthy, local and affordable food through urban and near-urban agriculture;
- promoting the sustainability of agricultural, agri-food and agri-product businesses while protecting agricultural resources and minimizing land-use conflicts;
- protecting, enhancing or supporting opportunities for infrastructure, services and assets; and,
- establishing or consulting with an agricultural advisory committee or other resources.

A new ROP section and policy will need to be included that will address this new policy section.

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## 5. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 3.2 – Natural Heritage System

The Natural Heritage System within the Protected Countryside provides for the “continuous and permanent land base necessary to support human and ecological health in the Greenbelt and beyond” (Greenbelt Plan, 2017, pg. 20). Policies in this section protect features and areas that provide ecosystem services including water storage/filtration, clean air, habitat, carbon sequestration, and resiliency to climate change. The Natural Heritage System includes core areas and linkage areas that contain the highest concentration of sensitive and/or significant features and functions which together, form a connected and integrated system.

### 5.1 Natural Heritage System (Section 3.2.2)

Policies in Section 3.2.2 regarding the Natural Heritage System have not substantively changed. Policies continue to permit a full range of agricultural, agricultural-related and on-farm diversified uses as well as development or site alteration subject to the demonstration that such uses have no negative impacts to key natural heritage or key hydrological features and their functions. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.2.2 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and the proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Natural Heritage System section are provided below:

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### Permitted Uses

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes updated definitions and permitted uses for agricultural, agricultural-related and on-farm diversified uses within prime agricultural area and rural lands in accordance to updated provincial guidance. The term “secondary uses” is now replaced with “on-farm diversified uses”.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.12 directs the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon to include policies in their official plan supporting normal farm practices as well as agricultural-related and secondary uses within the Natural Heritage System. The term ‘agricultural uses’ will need to be added, and the term ‘secondary uses’ will need to be deleted and replaced with the new term ‘on-farm diversified uses’, which will also need to be cross-referenced to updated definitions in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.

##### Connectivity, Disturbed Areas and Impervious Surfaces

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* policies regarding connectivity within the Natural Heritage System and restricting the maximum permitted disturbed area and impervious surface have been reorganized and clarified.

The existing ROP policy 2.2.10.4.13 provides broad policy direction to maintain and enhance connectivity between features in the Natural Heritage System. ROP policy 2.2.10.4.14 provides specific direction regarding connectivity, restoring natural vegetation, and limiting total developable area. ROP policy 2.2.10.4.15 clarifies that new buildings or structures for agricultural and agriculture related uses are not subject to the Natural Heritage System policies. ROP policy 2.2.10.4.16 provides general criteria for development and site alteration in

the Natural Heritage System.

Although these policies currently align with the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*, it is recommended that the policies be reorganized and updated to reflect the changes to the *Greenbelt Plan*. ROP policy 2.2.10.4.14 should reference the exemption for non-renewable resources and recreational uses.

#### **Expansion of Town and Villages**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy prohibiting the expansion of Towns and Villages into the Natural Heritage System. This policy was previously included in Section 3.4 Settlement Areas of the *Greenbelt Plan*.

A new ROP policy will need to be included to direct the Town of Caledon to prohibit the expansion of any town and/or village into the Natural Heritage System.

## 5.2 Water Resource System (Section 3.2.3)

Policies in Section 3.2.3 regarding the Water Resource System provide for a comprehensive, integrated and long-term approach for the protection, improvement or restoration of water quality and quantity. In accordance with the *Growth Plan (2017)*, allocation of growth and planning for water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure shall be informed by watershed planning. Minor wording changes were also included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.2.3 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and the proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Water Resource System section are provided below:

### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

#### **Key Hydrologic Features and Areas**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes new policy language to support a systems approach to the protection, improvement and restoration of the quality and quantity of water including new direction requiring consideration of the inter-relationships between key hydrologic features and key hydrologic areas. The terms 'key hydrologic features' and 'key hydrologic areas' are now referenced in the section.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.18 provides direction for a comprehensive, integrated and long-term approach of protecting, improving and enhancing water quality and quantity through a systems approach. The policy direction to include a systems approach for water resources and consider inter-relationships between 'key hydrologic features' and 'key hydrologic areas' will need to be added to this policy. The terms 'key hydrologic features' and 'key hydrologic areas' will need to be added and cross-referenced to the updated definitions in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.

#### **Watershed Planning**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes updated policy direction to emphasize that watershed planning is to be undertaken to support a comprehensive long-term approach to the protection and enhancement of the quality and quantity of water within a watershed.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.19 provides direction to undertake watershed planning to guide planning and development decisions within the Protected Countryside in accordance to the requirements found in the ROP as well as the *Greenbelt Plan*. The term 'watershed planning' will need to be cross-referenced to the updated definition in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*. As well, reference to guiding planning and development decisions will need to be removed and replaced with language that supports the comprehensive long-term approach to the protection and enhancement of the quality and quantity of water within a watershed.

#### **Water Resource Systems**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy that requires the identification of water resource systems informed by watershed planning and other available information, which shall be applied to appropriate designations to provide for the long-term protection of key hydrologic features and areas in municipal official plans.

A new ROP policy will need to be included for this new policy direction.

#### **Watershed Planning to Inform Growth**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy that directs the allocation of growth and planning for water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure to be informed by watershed planning in accordance with the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

A new ROP policy will need to be included for this new policy direction.

#### **Integrated Watershed Planning**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has included minor wording updates to add the ORMCP and *Growth Plan* to the list of plans that previously only included the NEP as part of the consideration of cross-jurisdictional watershed planning and management is done in a comprehensive and integrated manner.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.19 provides direction to undertake watershed planning to guide planning and development decisions within the Protected Countryside in accordance with the requirements found in the ROP as well as the *Greenbelt Plan*. As the existing policy currently references that conformity requires compliance with the *Greenbelt Plan* and that the changes in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* are minor in nature, the ROP policy continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and no changes are required.

#### **Great Lakes, Coastal and Waterfront Planning**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has deleted the previous policy regarding the protection of water resources including source water and vulnerable surface and ground water areas from development and replaced it with a new policy that directs municipalities to consider the *Great Lakes Strategy* as well as the targets and goals of the *Great Lakes Protection Act, 2015* as part of coastal or waterfront planning initiative and watershed planning.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.20 provides direction to protect vulnerable surface and ground water areas from development in accordance with provincial policy and the requirements of the ROP. As the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has been updated, the policy will need to be deleted and replaced with a new policy direction to consider provincial legislation, agreements, and strategies

regarding the Great Lakes as part of watershed and coastal/waterfront planning.

### 5.3 Key Hydrological Areas (Section 3.2.4)

The Key Hydrological Areas section is a new addition to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017). Policies in Section 3.2.4 regarding key hydrological areas support ground and surface water quality and quantity by collecting, storing and filtering rainwater and overland flow and recharging aquifers, streams, lakes, and wetlands. Key hydrologic areas include significant groundwater recharge areas, highly vulnerable aquifers and significant surface water contribution areas. A summary of the key policy additions in Section 3.2.4 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and the proposed policy changes to the add a new Key Hydrological Areas section to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* policies are provided below:

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### Key Hydrological Areas

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) includes a new policy section identifying key hydrologic areas to provide policy direction for major development in key hydrologic areas in the Protected Countryside requiring demonstration that hydrologic functions, including groundwater and surface water to be protected, and where possible, improved or restored through listed requirements.

A new ROP policy section will need to be included to address planning requirements for key hydrologic areas.

##### Expansion of Agricultural Uses

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) includes a new policy that clarifies that major developments in key hydrologic areas do not apply to the expansion of buildings or structures related to agricultural, agricultural-related, or on-farm diversified uses if the total impervious surface does not exceed 10 percent of the lot area.

A new ROP policy will need to be included for this new requirement for major development in key hydrologic areas.

### 5.4 Key Natural Heritage Features and Key Hydrologic Features (Section 3.2.5)

Policies in Section 3.2.5 regarding Key Natural Heritage Features and Key Hydrologic Features refer to specific natural heritage and hydrologic features that are sensitive to development and are to be protected in accordance with the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017). These include, but are not limited to, fish habitat, wetlands, significant valleylands, significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat, and lakes. Minor wording changes were also included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.2.5 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and the proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Key Natural Heritage and Key Hydrologic Features section are provided below:

## Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

### **△ Development with Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy that clarifies that development or site alteration is not subject to Section 3.2.5.5 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* (which provides direction for conducting a natural heritage or hydrological evaluation within 120 metres of a key natural or hydrologic feature) if the only key natural heritage feature identified is a habitat of endangered species and threatened species. The revision recognizes that implementation of habitat protection for endangered and threatened species is subject to the *Endangered Species Act (2007)* and avoids duplication.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.21 will need to be revised to replace the term 'significant habitat of endangered and threatened species' with 'habitat of endangered and threatened species'. Further, a new policy will need to be added to the section to indicate that a natural heritage evaluation and hydrologic evaluation is not required where the only key natural heritage feature is the habitat of endangered and threatened species.

### **△ Expansion of Agricultural Uses**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has clarified how the policy for key natural heritage features and key hydrologic features are to apply to new development for agricultural uses and new buildings and structures for agricultural, agriculture related and on-farm diversified uses. New development and site alteration that requires a *Planning Act* approval will not be permitted in key natural heritage and key hydrologic features. New buildings and structures for agricultural, agriculture related and on-farm diversified uses are not required to undertake a natural heritage evaluation or hydrologic evaluation if a minimum 30 metre vegetation protection zone is provided. Agricultural, agriculture related and on-farm diversified uses are not required to establish natural vegetation within the minimum vegetation protection zone if the land is and will continue to be used for agriculture. The policy continues to require best management practices to be implemented to protect and/or restore these areas.

Minor revisions to ROP policy 2.2.10.4.26 will be required to reflect the revised *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* policy.

## **5.5 External Connections (Section 3.2.6)**

Policies in Section 3.2.6 regarding External Connections provide reference that the Greenbelt's Natural Heritage System is connected to local, regional and provincial scale natural heritage, water resource and agricultural systems that extend beyond the boundaries of the Greenbelt Plan Area. The new Urban River Valley designation is recognized in this section as an external connection component. Minor wording changes were also included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.2.6 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* External Connections section are provided below.

## Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

### **Urban River Valley**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes updated definitions, policies and mapping to recognize the Urban River Valley designation.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.27 and 2.2.10.4.28 provides policy direction for maintaining and/or enhancing external connections identified on Schedule D3 of the ROP and directing the area municipalities to include external connection policies in their official plans in accordance with the *Greenbelt Plan*. As discussed in further detail in Section 14 of this report, the 'River Valley Connections Outside the Greenbelt' designation found on Schedule D3 have been recognized as 'Urban River Valley' in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*, and as such this term will need to be referenced in the external connections section as a defined designation. Policies for the Urban River Valley designation in Peel will need to be added to the ROP as a separate section.

## 6. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 3.3 – Parkland, Open Space and Trails

The parkland, open space and trails of the Greenbelt “provide opportunities for recreation, tourism and appreciation of cultural heritage and natural heritage” (Greenbelt Plan, 2017, pg. 30). Policies within this section support protection of the natural environment, improvement of air quality, climate change mitigation, as well as healthy communities. Existing public recreational parks and trails, including the Bruce Trail, Trans Canada Trail, and Lake Ontario Waterfront Trail contribute to the uses and activities compatible with the Greenbelt.

### 6.1 Parkland, Open Space and Trails (Section 3.3.2 and 3.3.3)

Policies in Section 3.3.2 Parkland, Open Space and Trails encourage cooperation and partnerships between government, non-government and conservation authorities to develop parkland, connect them with trails, and provide stewardship. Policies in Section 3.3.3 regarding municipal parkland, open space and trail strategies encourage the creation of parks for various recreational uses that are in natural settings, including parks, open space areas, trails, and water related activities. Minor wording changes were included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.3 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Parkland, Open Space and Trails section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### **Connected Greenspaces as part of a Complete Community, Urban Agriculture and Impacts to Agriculture**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has included a minor update to add “the achievement of ‘complete communities’ in settlement areas across the Greenbelt”, the promotion of urban agriculture and policy direction to consider impacts to agriculture when planning trails as objectives when developing the system of parkland, open space and trails within the Greenbelt.

##### **Urban Agriculture and Local Food**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has included a minor update to add support for urban agriculture and other local food initiatives to the list of considerations for municipal park plans and open space strategies.

##### **Protecting Farmland**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has included a minor update to add the protection of farmland to the list of considerations for municipal trail strategies.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.30 encourages the local municipalities to develop strategies to guide the provision of recreational facilities, parkland, open space and trails that are in keeping with environmental plans and strategies. The existing policy should be amended to expand the objectives of the policy to include support for active healthy lifestyles, opportunities for urban agriculture and the consideration of impacts to agriculture when planning trails.

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## 7. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 3.4 – Settlement Areas

The settlement areas within the Greenbelt in the Region of Peel include the Caledon East Rural Service Centre, Villages, and Hamlets. Settlement areas support and provide “significant economic, social and commercial functions to prime agricultural areas and rural lands” and are an integral part of the long-term economic and social sustainability of the Greenbelt (Greenbelt Plan, 2017, pg. 33). With the recognition that communities within the Greenbelt vary in size, economy and infrastructure capacity, these communities are recognized as either Towns/Villages having the largest concentrations of population and employment with servicing and Hamlets that are smaller communities with limited water and wastewater services.

### 7.1 General Settlement Area Policies (Section 3.4.2)

The General Settlement Area Policies section is a new addition to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017). Policies in Section 3.4.2 regarding the General Settlement Area do not permit settlement areas outside the Greenbelt from expanding in to the Greenbelt, and direct municipalities to facilitate development of community hubs, support agriculture, integrate climate change into the planning for growth, and consider best practices for managing excess soil and fill. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.4.2 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Settlement Areas section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan



##### **No Expansion of Settlement Areas into the Greenbelt Area**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has moved the policy that prohibits settlement areas that are currently located outside of the Greenbelt to expand into the Greenbelt from the Town/Villages section into the General Settlement Area section.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.31 prohibits settlement areas outside of the Greenbelt from expanding into the Greenbelt area. As such, the ROP policy continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017). The policy should be relocated to the new general settlement area policy section.



##### **General Settlement Areas**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) includes a new section with policy directing municipalities to:

- coordinate, facilitate, and collaborate with service delivery sectors for the development of community hubs;
- where possible, support components of the Agricultural System, including infrastructure and services, and access to local, healthy food through infrastructure, services, and assets;
- develop strategies to reuse excess soil from growth and development and incorporate best practices for the management of excess soil and fill generated from development or site alteration; and,
- incorporate climate change considerations into the planning and management of growth

in accordance with section 4.2.10 of the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

The ROP currently contains a policy sub-section entitled Settlement Areas within the *Greenbelt Plan*, that incorporates policies related to Towns/Villages and Hamlets. This sub-section will need to be revised to add a new section for general settlement areas policies to include the new policy directions.

## 7.2 Town/Village Policies (Section 3.4.3)

Policies in Section 3.4.3 regarding Towns and Villages note that these areas continue to be governed by the policies of the *Growth Plan (2017)* (subject to specific exceptions), including considerations related to the expansion of services and settlement area boundary expansions. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.4.3 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Settlement Areas section are provided below.

### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

#### ✓ Towns/Villages Policy Exemptions

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* contains updated policy direction for Towns/Villages which are subject to the policies of the *Growth Plan (2017)*, and are not subject to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* except for those related to the Argi-food Network (3.1.5), Water Resource System (3.2.3), External Connections (3.2.6), Parkland, Open Space and Trails (3.3), and General Settlement Area Policies (3.4.2).

ROP policies 2.2.10.4.32 and 2.2.10.4.33 provides Regional and municipal policy direction regarding Towns/Villages in the Protected Countryside in the Greenbelt Area. This policy direction, subject to minor wording updates, continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and no substantive changes are required.

#### ⚠ Agricultural Impact Assessments

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has added a requirement for an agricultural impact assessment when considering extensions or expansions of services to settlement areas within the Protected Countryside.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.32 will need to be updated to include the requirement of an agricultural impact assessment.

#### ⚠ Settlement Boundary Expansions as part of a Municipal Comprehensive Review

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has deleted the policy that permitted the consideration of modest expansions to Towns/Villages at the 10-year review of the *Greenbelt Plan* to clarify that any settlement boundary expansion in the Protected Countryside must be done as part of, in the case of the Region, an upper tier municipal comprehensive review process in accordance with the requirements of the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.33 provides direction and specific criteria for modest settlement area

expansions for villages as part of the 10-year review of the *Greenbelt Plan*. This policy will need to be deleted and replaced with new policy direction that will only consider a settlement boundary expansion to a Town/Village at the time of a Regional municipal comprehensive review in accordance with the requirements of the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

### 7.3 Hamlet Policies (Section 3.4.4)

Policies in Section 3.4.4 regarding Hamlets note that these areas continue to be governed by the policies of the *Growth Plan (2017)* (subject to specific exceptions). It is anticipated that Hamlets will be subject to limited growth through infill and intensification based on water and sanitary service capacity. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 3.4.4 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Settlement Areas section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### ✓ Hamlet Policy Exemptions

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* contains updated policy direction for Hamlets which are subject to the policies of the *Growth Plan (2017)*, and are not subject to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* except for those related to the Argi-food Network (3.1.5), Water Resource System (3.2.3), External Connections (3.2.6), Parkland, Open Space and Trails (3.3), and General Settlement Area Policies (3.4.2).

ROP policies 2.2.10.4.34 and 2.2.10.4.35 provides policy direction regarding Hamlets in the Protected Countryside in the Greenbelt Area, and ROP policy 2.2.10.4.34 provides specific policy direction to permit infill and intensification subject to appropriate water and sewage services. The existing policy direction, subject to minor wording updates, continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and no substantive changes are required.

##### ⚠ Rounding Out of Hamlet Boundaries

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has deleted policy direction that permitted the minor rounding out of Hamlet boundaries.

ROP policy 2.2.10.4.35 will need to be deleted to remove the permission for the minor rounding out of Hamlet boundaries.

### 7.4 Additional Policies for Settlement Area Expansion (Section 3.4.5)

Section 3.4.5 regarding Additional Policies for Settlement Area Expansion provide additional requirements and criteria regarding municipally initiated settlement area expansions proposals. Only minor wording changes were included as part of the Provincial update; the ROP policies remain consistent and continue to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and as such, only minor updates to policy is required.

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## 8. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 4.1 – Non-Agricultural Uses

The rural lands of the Protected Countryside support a wide range of non-agricultural uses including “commercial, industrial and institutional (including cemetery) uses serving the rural resource and agricultural sectors” (Greenbelt Plan, 2017, pg. 33). This area also supports a wide range of recreational and tourism related uses.

### 8.1 General Non-Agricultural Use Policies (Section 4.1.1)

Policies in Section 4.1.1 regarding General Non-Agricultural Uses restrict areas where non-agricultural uses can be located within the Protected Countryside, as well as provide criteria for their consideration. Minor wording changes were included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.1.1 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Non-Agricultural Uses section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan



##### Permitted Non-Agricultural Uses Exceptions

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has clarified the policy to specify the list of non-agricultural uses permitted within the prime agricultural area as outlined in the Infrastructure (4.2), Natural Resources (4.3), Cultural Resources (4.4), Existing Uses (4.5) and Lot Creation (4.6) sections of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017).

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.1 directs the Town of Caledon to prohibit non-agricultural uses within the prime agricultural areas of the Protected Countryside except uses permitted by the general policies of the *Greenbelt Plan*. The existing policy direction continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and no changes are required.



##### Agricultural Impact Assessments

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) includes a new policy requirement for an agricultural impact assessment to be considered as part of any proposed non-agricultural use on rural lands within the Protected Countryside, with the exception of proposals for mineral aggregate operations.

A new policy after ROP policy 2.2.10.5.2 will need to be added to require the consideration of an agricultural impact assessment for non-agricultural uses are proposed on rural lands, with the exception of mineral aggregate operations.

### 8.2 Recreational Use Policies (Section 4.1.2)

Policies in Section 4.1.2 regarding recreational uses provide additional requirements for major recreational uses (e.g. golf courses) within the Natural Heritage System (a vegetation enhance plan and conservation plan) and small-scale structures (e.g. boardwalks, fences, dock) within natural heritage features. Only minor wording changes were included as part of the Provincial update.

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## 9. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 4.2 – Infrastructure

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* recognizes that planning and investment for new or expanded infrastructure will be needed to serve existing communities within the Greenbelt. Infrastructure includes water and wastewater systems, septage treatment systems, stormwater management systems, waste management systems, communications, telecommunications, transit and transportation corridors and facilities, oil and gas pipelines and associated facilities.

### 9.1 General Infrastructure Policies (Section 4.2.1)

Policies in Section 4.2.1 regarding General Infrastructure provides guidance for the construction of new or expansion of existing infrastructure within the Protected Countryside. The location of infrastructure is subject to a list of criteria to minimize negative impacts to the Natural Heritage System, Water Resource System and agriculture lands. Minor wording changes were included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.2.1 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* General Infrastructure section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### Towns/Villages and Hamlets

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has updated the terminology used and ‘rural settlement areas’ is now replaced with ‘Towns/Villages and Hamlets’.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.8 contains references to ‘rural settlement areas’ which will need to be deleted and replaced with ‘Villages and Hamlets’ to ensure conformity.

##### Criteria for the Expansion, Operations, and Maintenance of Infrastructure

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has been updated to reference “Water Resource System”, “Growth Plan”, and “key hydrologic areas”. As well, the policy has been updated to include criteria for the location, construction, expansion, extension, operation and maintenance of infrastructure, including additional criteria requiring justification and an agricultural impact assessment (or equivalent analysis) if infrastructure is located in prime agricultural areas, and the prohibition of new waste disposal sites/facilities and organic soil conditioning sites in key natural heritage and hydrologic features and their associated vegetation protection zones.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.10 provides the requirements for locating and constructing infrastructure and its related expansion, operation, and maintenance in the Protected Countryside. References to the new terms and minor wording changes are required to be consistent with the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*. Additional sub-policies will need to be included to require that proposed infrastructure projects avoid prime agricultural areas unless need is demonstrated and there are no reasonable alternatives, an agricultural impact assessment or equivalent analysis is prepared and waste sites in key environmental features and buffer areas are not permitted.

## 9.2 Sewage and Water Infrastructure Policies (Section 4.2.2)

Policies in Section 4.2.2 regarding Sewage and Water Infrastructure have been revised to delete policies referencing the extension of Great Lake/Lake Simcoe based water and sewage services, partial servicing, and siting for municipal wells. The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has been updated to indicate that the planning, design and construction of sewage and water infrastructure are subject to the General Infrastructure policies of Section 4.2.1 and policies set out in the *Growth Plan (2017)*. Extensions to sewage and water services outside of a settlement area boundary are permitted subject to specific conditions. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.2.2 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Sewage and Waster Infrastructure section are provided below.

### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

#### **Planning, Design and Construction**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has added a new policy that directs the planning, design and construction of water and sewage infrastructure to be carried out in accordance with Section 4.2.1 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Section 3.2.6 of the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

A new ROP policy will need to be included for this new policy direction. Existing ROP policies regarding Great Lake based systems (2.2.10.5.12 – 2.2.10.5.15), partial servicing (2.2.10.5.17), and siting for municipal wells (2.2.10.5.18) will need to be deleted.

#### **Extension of Water and Sewage Services Outside Settlement Area Boundaries**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has been updated to delete the term ‘settlement boundary’ and replace it with ‘settlement area boundary’ as it relates to the extension of municipal or private communal sewage or water services.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.16 will need to be updated with the new term ‘settlement area boundary’, which will also need to be cross-referenced to the updated definitions in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.

## 9.3 Stormwater Management and Resilient Infrastructure Policies (Section 4.2.3)

Policies in Section 4.2.3 regarding Stormwater Management and Resilient Infrastructure note that the planning, design and construction of such projects are subject to the policies of the *Growth Plan (2017)*. Applications for development and site alteration require an accompanying stormwater management plan. Stormwater management systems are prohibited from locating in key natural heritage features, key hydrologic features and their associated vegetation protection zones. In some instances, naturalized stormwater management systems may be permitted in major river valleys subject to conditions. Minor wording changes were also included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.2.3 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Stormwater Management Infrastructure section are provided below.

## Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

### **Planning, Design and Construction**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has added a new policy that directs the planning, design and construction of stormwater management infrastructure to be completed in accordance with Section 4.2.1 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Section 3.2.7 of the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

A new ROP policy will need to be included for this new policy direction.

### **Assessment of Infrastructure Vulnerability within Towns and Villages**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* includes a new policy that directs municipalities to assess the vulnerability of infrastructure within Towns/Villages in accordance with Section 3.2.1.4 of the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

A new ROP policy will need to be included for this new policy direction.

### **Prohibition of Stormwater Management Systems within Key Features**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has amended to prohibit ‘stormwater management systems’ and require the appropriate vegetation protection zone around key natural heritage and key hydrologic features to be defined subject to the Key Natural Heritage Features and Key Hydrologic Features Policies (Sections 3.2.5.4 and 3.2.5.5) of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.19 provides direction to the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon to prohibit stormwater management ponds in key natural and hydrologic features and vegetative protection zones in accordance to Section 4.2.3.1 of the *Greenbelt Plan*. This policy will require a minor update to reference ‘stormwater management systems’.

### **Permitted Locations for Naturalized Stormwater Management Systems**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has been amended to permit naturalized stormwater management infrastructure systems within the vegetation protection zone of a significant valleyland provided that a minimum 30 metre buffer from any river or stream and they are located outside of a vegetation protection zone of any other key natural heritage and hydrologic feature.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.19 provides direction for locating stormwater management facilities located in the Protected Countryside that define major river valleys connecting to Lake Ontario. The existing policy direction continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and no changes are required.

### **Stormwater Management Plan Requirements for Development or Site Alteration**

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has been updated to add an additional criterion as part of a development or site alteration application to require the planning, design and construction of stormwater management infrastructure that meets the objectives, targets, and any other requirements of a stormwater management plan in accordance to section 3.2.7 of the *Growth Plan (2017)*.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.20 provides direction to the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon to

require stormwater management plans for applications related to development or site alternation. This policy will need to be updated to reflect the additional criterion for stormwater management plans.

## 10. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 4.3 – Natural Resources

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) permits renewable and non-renewable natural resources within the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt Area that support the rural economy.

### 10.1 Renewable Resource Policies (Section 4.3.1)

Policies in Section 4.3.1 provide direction regarding renewable resources including forestry, water taking, fisheries, conservation and wildlife management which are subject to the policies of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) as well as all other applicable legislation and regulations. All related renewable resource activities within key natural heritage features, key hydrologic features or key hydrologic areas must maintain, and where possible improve existing features and functions. Only minor wording changes were included as part of the Provincial update.

### 10.2 Non-Renewable Resource Policies (Section 4.3.2)

Policies in Section 4.3.2 regarding Non-Renewable Resources are related to non-agriculturally based resources, including mineral aggregate resources which support the building of communities and infrastructure. The extraction of mineral aggregate resources within the Protected Countryside is subject to the requirements of the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014* as well as detailed criteria within the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) including site location and rehabilitation. Minor changes to policies are included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.3.2 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Natural Resources section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### **Permission of Mineral Aggregate Operations**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) policies for new or expanding mineral aggregate operations within the Natural Heritage System and for wayside pits and quarries have not substantively changed. The term ‘significant habitat of endangered and threatened species’ is changed to ‘habitat of endangered and threatened species’ and policies have been reorganized for clarity with new direction added to simplify requirements for wayside pits and quarries as well as requiring an agricultural impact assessment for new mineral aggregate operations in prime agricultural areas.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.22 permits mineral aggregate operations within the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt Area in accordance with section 4.3.2 of the *Greenbelt Plan*. Despite the changes made to the 2017 *Greenbelt Plan*, the existing policy direction continues to conform to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and no changes are required.

##### **Rehabilitation of Mineral Aggregate Operations**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has updated and clarified requirements related to the rehabilitation of mineral aggregate operations removing the ten-year timeline for rehabilitating excess disturbed area above the maximum allowable disturbed area and clarifying rehabilitation

requirements in prime agricultural areas in accordance with Section 2.5.4 of *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014*. The existing policies regarding final rehabilitation for extraction above and below water table have been updated to clarify rehabilitation requirements in cases where the site is also located in prime agricultural areas (areas are required to be rehabilitated back to an agricultural condition).

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.23 and 2.2.10.5.24 provides direction for the rehabilitation of mineral aggregate operations in accordance to the *Greenbelt Plan* and criteria for the final rehabilitation for operations located within the Natural Heritage System. ROP policy 2.2.10.5.23 will need to be updated to reference the revised section of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) related to the rehabilitation of new and existing mineral aggregate operations. ROP policy 2.2.10.5.24 will need to be updated to reflect the new final rehabilitation requirements for mineral aggregate operations in prime agricultural areas in accordance with Section 2.5.4 of the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014* as well as revisions to the final rehabilitation requirements based on extraction above and below the water table.

## 11. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 4.4 – Cultural Heritage Resources

The history and contributions of people and places located within the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt Area provides an important understanding of and helps define a sense of place for communities. The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) promotes working with stakeholders for the identification, management and conservation of these key resources.

### 11.1 Cultural Heritage Resources Policies (Section 4.4)

Policies in Section 4.4 regarding Cultural Heritage Resources outline how these resources are to be conserved and protected within the Protected Countryside. Municipalities are directed to work with stakeholders and First Nations/Métis communities when developing and implementing official plan policies and strategies to identify and manage resources as well as archaeological management plans and municipal cultural plans. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.4 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan



##### **Cultural Heritage Resources within the Protected Countryside**

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has included a new definition for ‘cultural heritage resources’, as well as minor revisions to the existing policies requiring municipalities to work with stakeholders, First Nations and Métis communities when developing policies for the identification, wise use and management of cultural heritage resources and encouraging municipalities to consider the Greenbelt’s vision and goals when preparing archaeological management and municipal cultural plans.

The cultural heritage policies of Section 3.6 of the ROP currently provide direction for the area municipalities to include policies in their official plans that define, identify, conserve, and protect cultural heritage resources, in cooperation with other stakeholders including aboriginal groups. This policy should be updated to reference First Nation and Métis communities.

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## 12. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 4.5 – Existing Uses

The Existing Uses policies provide guidance on the use of land and structures that lawfully existed on the date the Greenbelt Plan came into effect. Permissions regarding the planned expansion and/or alteration of such uses to minimize impact of the surrounding environment are provided.

### 12.1 Existing Uses Policies (Section 4.5)

The Section 4.5 Existing Uses policies provide direction regarding the use of lands, buildings and structures within the Protected Countryside that existed before the *Greenbelt Plan* came into effect, including policies related to single dwellings on existing lots of record, agricultural uses, agricultural-related uses, and on-farm diversified uses. Expansions to buildings or structures are subject to criteria identified in this section. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.5 of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Existing Uses section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

##### Retaining Existing Lots of Record

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) has added wording to encourage the retention of existing lots of record and at the same time, discourage changes to non-agricultural uses where appropriate.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.26 b) permits single dwellings on existing lots of record. A modification to the existing policy to add the direction to encourage the local municipalities to retain lots for agricultural uses and discourage non-agricultural uses should be considered where appropriate.

##### Second Dwelling Units

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) includes a new policy that permits second dwelling units within single dwelling units or within existing accessory structures on the same lot outside of the Natural Heritage System where single dwellings are permitted on existing lots of record.

A new policy regarding second unit permissions will need to be added to the ROP's existing use policies.

##### Agricultural Uses

The *Greenbelt Plan* (2017) clarifies an existing policy related to the expansion of existing agricultural buildings and structures within key natural heritage features and key hydrologic features to permit the expansion or alteration of existing buildings or structures for 'agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses'.

ROP policy 2.2.10.5.26 d) related to the expansion of existing agricultural buildings and structures within key natural heritage features and key hydrologic features will need to be updated to permit the expansion or alteration of existing buildings or structures for 'agricultural uses, agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses'.

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## 13. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 4.6 – Lot Creation

The Lot Creation policies identify and provide guidance for the subdivision of land within the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt.

### 13.1 Lot Creation Policies (Section 4.6)

Policies in Section 4.6 generally discourage lot creation within the Protected Countryside except for uses permitted by the policies of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*, heritage conservation, infrastructure and residences deemed surplus to farming operations. Minor wording changes were also included as part of the Provincial update. A summary of the key policy changes in Section 4.6 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and proposed policy changes to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* Lot Creation section are provided below.

#### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan



##### Lot Creation

The lot creation policies of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* have been reorganized for clarity, but have not substantively changed.

Land use planning in Peel is shared between the Region of Peel and Local Municipalities. Local Municipalities have been delegated the responsibility for approving lot creation (consents, subdivisions, part-lot control). As such, ROP policy 2.2.10.5.27 directs the Town of Caledon and the City of Brampton to provide detailed policies for lot creation within the Protection Countryside area in accordance with Section 4.6 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*. Although changes were made to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* regarding lot creation, ROP policy 2.2.10.5.27 continues to conform to the updated Provincial policy direction as it requires the local municipalities to implement those specific details.

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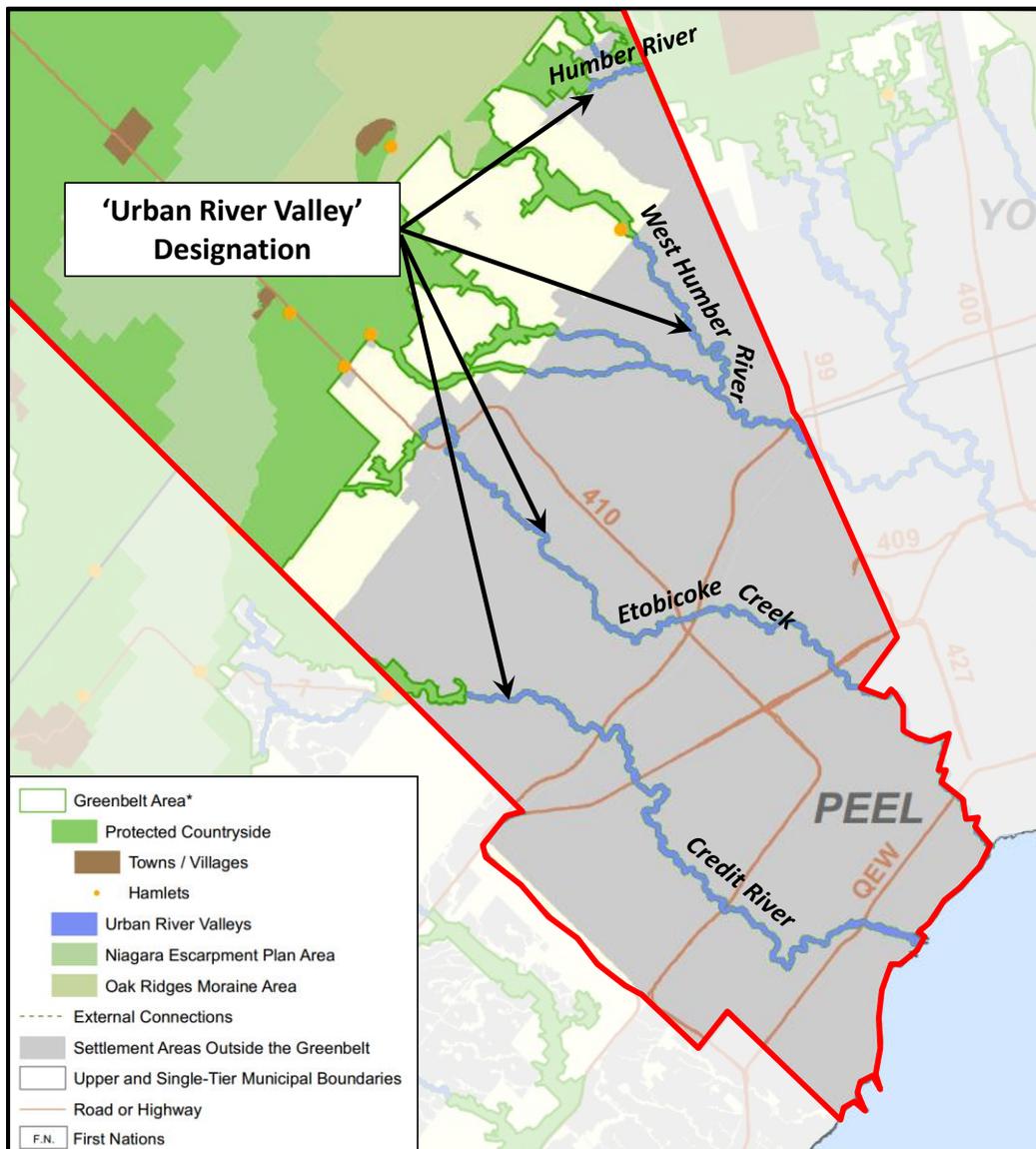
## 14. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Section 6.2 – Urban River Valley

The Urban River Valley designation and associated policies identify key areas within existing urban areas that are adjacent to the Greenbelt and which provide additional connections and help expand and integrate the Greenbelt into the broader landscape.

### 14.1 Urban River Valley Policies (Section 6.2)

The new Urban River Valley designation is shown in Schedule 1 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*, and identifies several existing river valley corridors in the Town of Caledon and the Cities of Mississauga and Brampton. Figure 14.1 provides the general locations of the Urban River Valley designation within Peel. More detailed mapping from the Province is provided in Appendix ‘A’.

**Figure 14.1: Urban River Valley Designation in Peel**



Policies in Section 6 regarding the Urban River Valley designation is a new section added to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* that applies to lands that are main river corridors that connect the Greenbelt to the Great Lakes and other inland lakes. These can include lands that have natural hydrological features or lands designated in municipal official plans for recreational uses, including parks, open space, conservation lands, or lands under environmental protection. A summary of the key policy additions in Sections 6.1 and 6.2 of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and the proposed policy changes to add a new Urban River Valley section to the ROP *Greenbelt Plan* policies are provided below:

### Changes to the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* and Proposed Changes to the Regional Official Plan

#### **▲ Urban River Valley Policies**

The Urban River Valley policies in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* were added as part of the 2017 Coordinated Provincial Plans update and are now identified on Schedule 1. New policies for Urban River Valley designation have been added stating that:

- only publicly owned lands are subject to the Urban River Valley designation (i.e. land in the ownership of the Province, a municipality or a local board, including a conservation authority);
- the lands designated as an Urban River Valley are governed by applicable official plan policies provided they have regard for the objectives of the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*.
- existing, expanded or new infrastructure in the Urban River Valley area is permitted subject to approval under the *Environmental Assessment Act* or similar approval and the infrastructure supports the needs of adjacent Settlement Areas or growth and economic development in southern Ontario.
- the Protected Countryside policies do not apply to the Urban River Valley designation, except for the External Connections (3.2.6) and Parkland, Open Space and Trails (3.3) policies.

A new ROP policy section will need to be included that implements the Urban River Valley designation and its associated policies.

ROP policies 2.2.10.4.27 to 2.2.10.4.29 in the External Connections section (as well as Schedule D3) currently exist that promote the maintenance and/or enhancement of ecological features as well as park and trail initiatives found in the valley systems. Corresponding minor revisions to these existing policies of the ROP will be required.

#### **▲ Updating the ROP Greenbelt Plan Area Land Use Designation Mapping**

Schedule D3 of the ROP, *Greenbelt Plan Area Land Use Designations*, provides mapping of the Greenbelt Area as well as designations related to the Protected Countryside, including the Natural Heritage System overlay, Rural Service Centres, Village/Industrial-Commercial Centres, and Hamlets. Schedule D3 also identifies 'River Valley Connections Outside the Greenbelt', shown as dashed lines that align to the major watercourses in Peel, namely the Credit River, Etobicoke Creek, the Humber River, and the West Humber River.

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has formally identified river valley corridors connecting the

Greenbelt to Lake Ontario on Schedule 1: Greenbelt Area as Urban River Valley designations, which will need to be reflected and updated on Schedule D3.

Further details regarding proposed mapping changes can be found in Section 16 of the Discussion Paper, and a draft of the proposed mapping changes to Schedule D3 of the ROP, *Greenbelt Plan Area Land Use Designations*, can be found in Appendix 'B'.

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## 15. Greenbelt Plan (2017) Definitions

The *Greenbelt Plan (2017)* has added and revised a number of definitions that reflect both updates made to the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2014* and as part of the 2017 Coordinated Plans Review process. Below is a list of significant definitions that have been identified in this Discussion Paper that will need to be updated and/or referenced in the ROP to conform within provincial policy.

**Table 15.1: Definitions**

#	<i>Greenbelt Plan (2017) Definition</i>	Revision
1	Active Transportation	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
2	Agri-food Network	New definition
3	Agricultural Condition	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
4	Agricultural Impact Assessment	New definition
5	Agricultural System	New definition
6	Agricultural Uses	Updated definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
7	Agriculture-related Uses	Updated definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
8	Archaeological Resources	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
9	Built Heritage Resource	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
10	Complete Communities	New definition, conformity with <i>Growth Plan, 2017</i>
11	Conserved	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
12	Cultural Heritage Landscape	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
13	Cultural Heritage Resources	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
14	Development	Updated definition, exclusion of agricultural practices on land used for agricultural uses is removed.
15	Ecological Integrity	New definition
16	Green Infrastructure	New definition
17	Habitat of Endangered Species and Threatened Species	New definition
18	Highly Vulnerable Aquifer	New definition
19	Infrastructure	Updated definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
20	Key Hydrologic Areas	New definition
21	Low Impact Development	New definition
22	Mineral Aggregate Operation	Updated definition
23	Minimum Distance Separation Formulae	Updated definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>

24	On-farm Diversified Uses	New definition
25	Prime Agricultural Area	Updated definition
26	Prime Agricultural Land	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
27	Public Service Facilities	New definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
28	Renewable Energy Systems	Deleted
29	Rural Lands	New definition, replaces rural areas, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
30	Secondary Uses	Deleted
31	Settlement Areas	Updated definition, conformity with <i>Growth Plan (2017)</i>
32	Significant	Updated definition, deletes reference to habitat of endangered and threatened species
33	Significant Groundwater Recharge Area	New definition
34	Significant Surface Water Contribution Area	New definition
35	Site Alteration	Updated definition, conformity with <i>PPS, 2014</i>
36	Stable Top of Bank	Deleted
37	Subwatershed Plan	New definition
38	Watershed Planning	New definition
39	Watershed Plans	Deleted

## 16. Proposed Draft Changes to ROP Greenbelt (2017) Mapping

The ROP provides a map schedule that shows the location of the Greenbelt Plan Area and associated land use designations. This map was reviewed and updated as noted below with new data where such data was available. Table 16.1 provides a description of the summary changes proposed for the ROP mapping to reflect changes made to the schedule in the *Greenbelt Plan (2017)*. The schedule and figure will be updated to reflect a new mapping template and background data. Proposed draft changes to the Greenbelt Plan Schedule and Figure are shown in Appendix B.

**Table 16.1: Proposed Updates to ROP Greenbelt Plan Mapping**

<b>Greenbelt (2017) Mapping</b>	<b>Corresponding ROP Schedule / Figure</b>	<b>Original Source</b>	<b>Availability of Updated Data</b>
<b>Greenbelt Plan Land Use Designations</b>	Schedule D3 (draft Schedule X11) – Greenbelt Plan Land Use Designations to be amended to delete “River Valley Connections Outside the Greenbelt” and replace them with the “Urban River Valley” designation.	Province (April 2002)	Yes, Province (May 2017). See Greenbelt Plan S.1 for location
<b>Greenbelt Plan Land Use Designation and Urban River Valley Designation</b>	Figure 2 (draft Figure X1) – Selected Areas of Provincial Interest to be amended to delete “River Valley Connection (Outside Greenbelt)” and replace them with the “Urban River Valley” designation.	N/A	Yes, Province (May 2017). See Greenbelt Plan S.1 and Appendix A for locations

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## 17. Conclusion and Next Steps

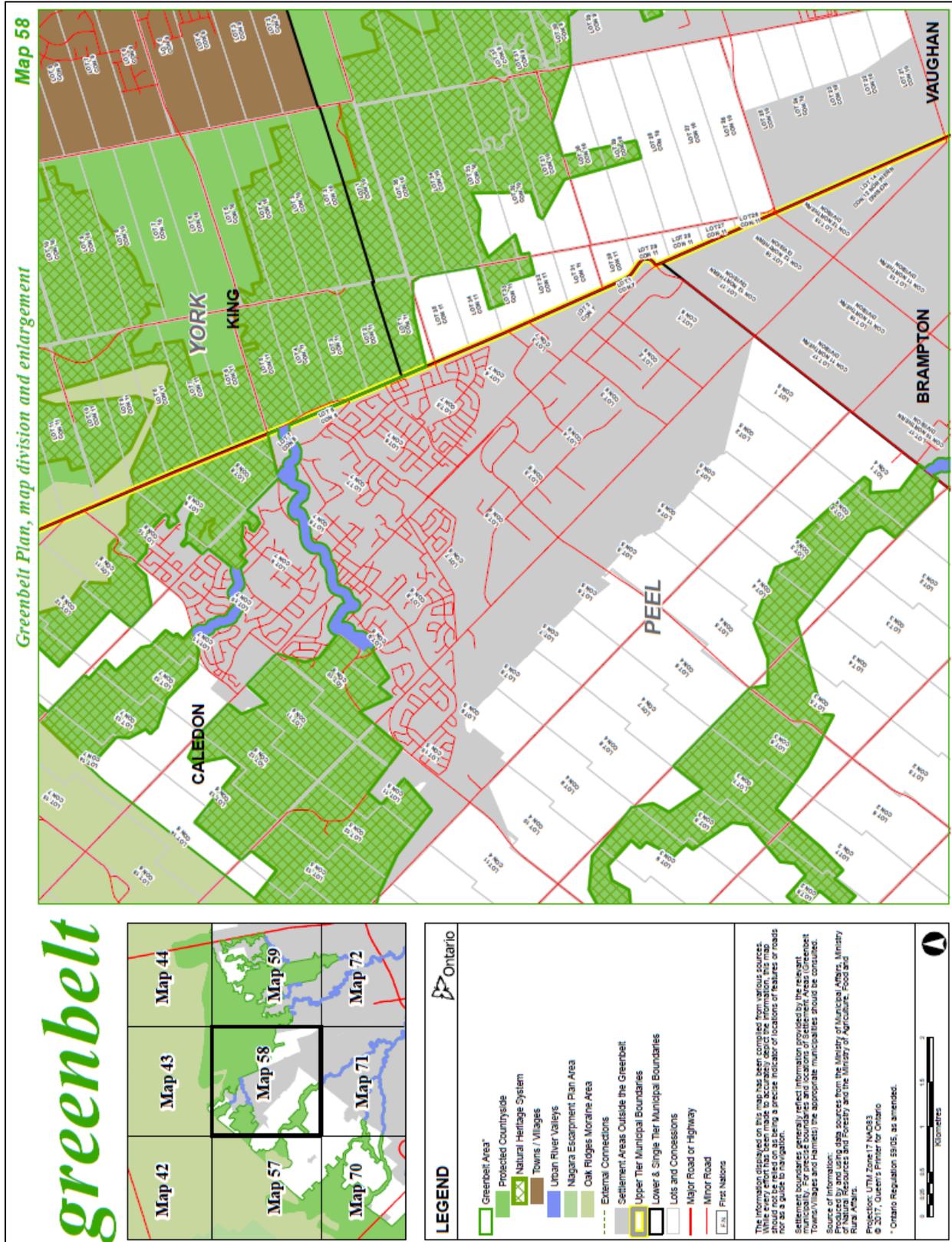
The Province has revised policies through the 2017 update of the *Greenbelt Plan* which has been represented in this Discussion Paper. The Region is responsible for implementing provincial direction and ensuring that the ROP conforms to Provincial land use planning policy, which is being completed as part of the Peel 2041 process.

This discussion paper presents an overview of each of the major policy elements of the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017), the corresponding policies in the current ROP, and where necessary, recommendations on how the policy elements and mapping will need to be revised to conform with the revisions in the *Greenbelt Plan* (2017).

The current ROP serves to comprehensively plan for growth while protecting and maintaining the ecosystem integrity in Peel Region, including lands within the Greenbelt Plan Area. Ultimately, through the Peel 2041 policy review and update, Peel Region will be strengthening its ROP policies to ensure conformity with the current *Greenbelt Plan* (2017).

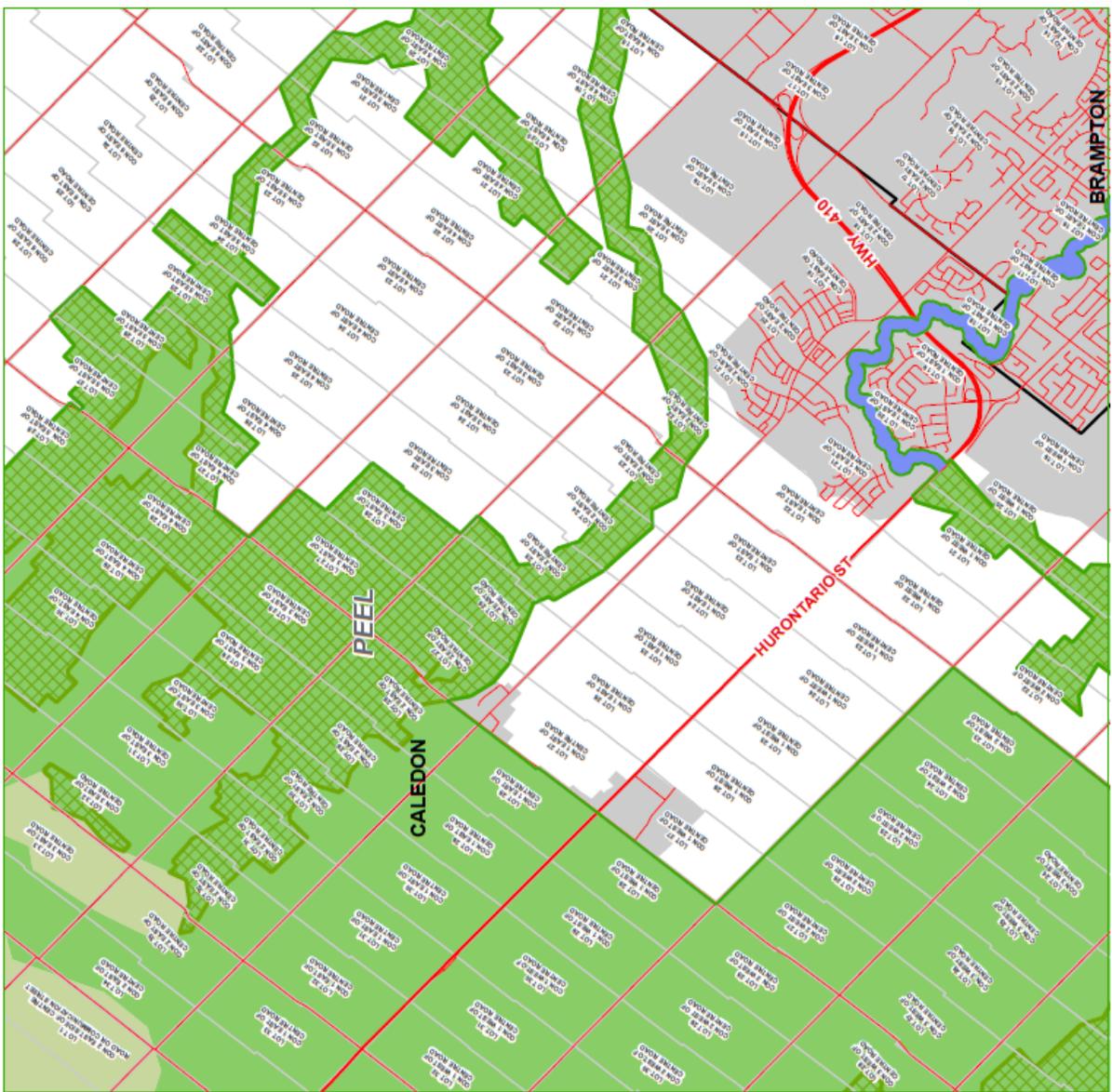


## Appendix A: Provincial Greenbelt Mapping (Urban River Valleys)

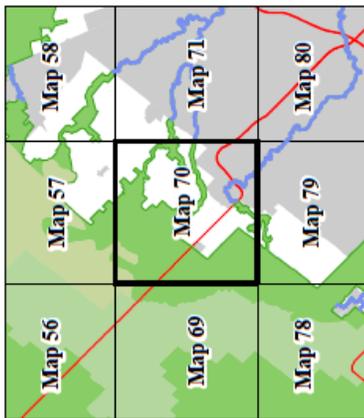


Map 70

Greenbelt Plan, map division and enlargement



# greenbelt



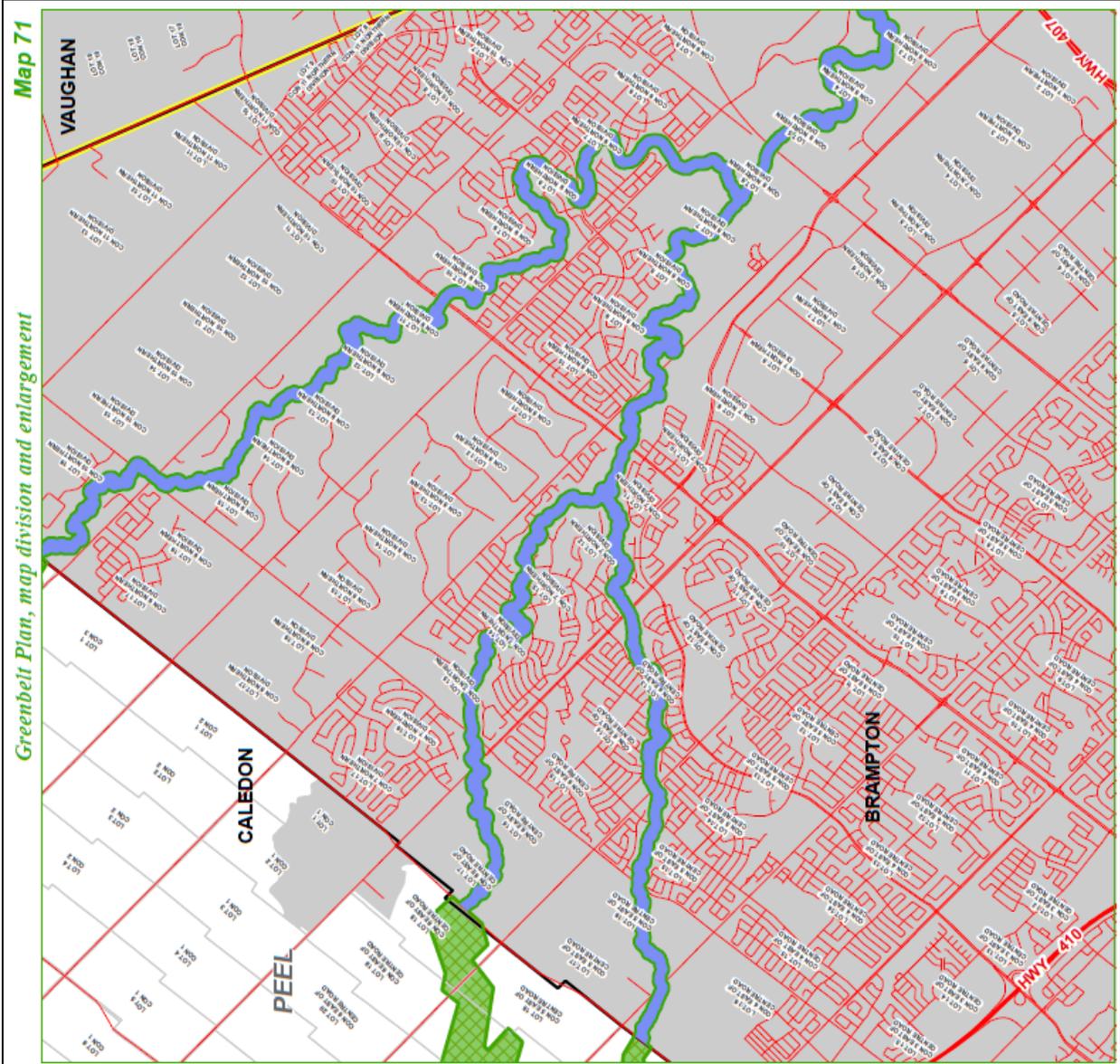
**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area
- Protected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- First Nations

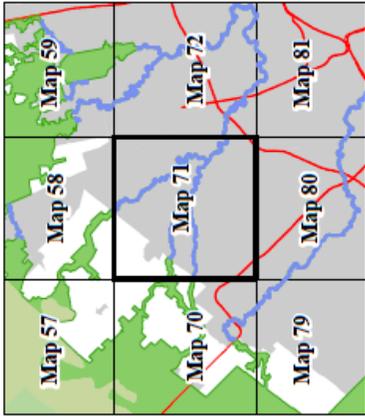
The information displayed on this map has been compiled from various sources. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the information, this map does not constitute a guarantee, warranty, or representation of accuracy. The map is for informational purposes only and should not be used as a basis for any legal or financial decision. For more information, please contact the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Source of Information:  
 Produced by and using data sources from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.  
 Projection: UTM Zone 17 NAD83  
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 \* Ontario Regulation 59/05, as amended.





# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area\*
- Protected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- U.S. / First Nations

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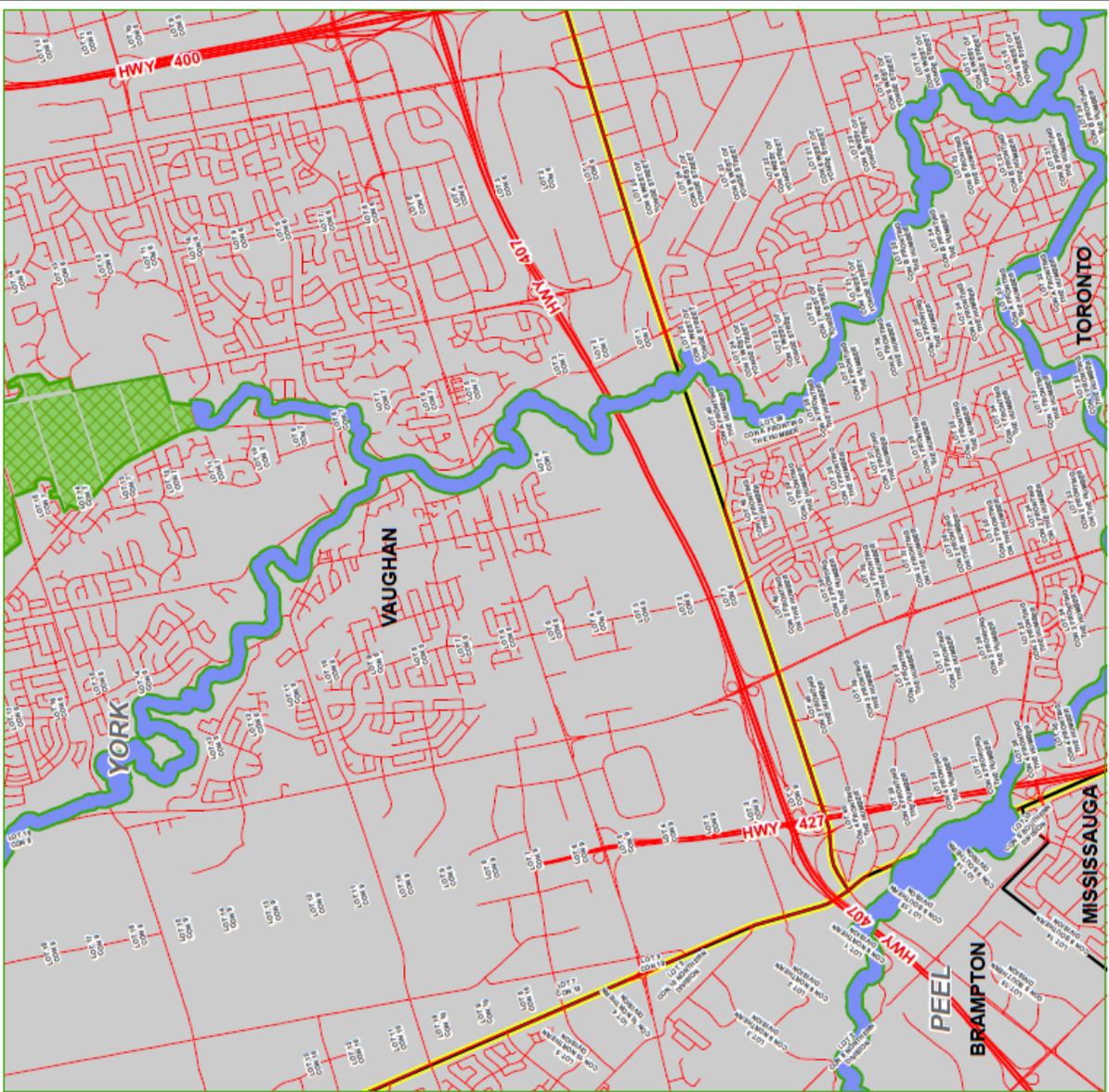
Settlement boundaries generally reflect information provided by the relevant municipalities. For precise boundaries and locations of Settlement Areas (Greenbelt Towns/Villages and Hamlets) the appropriate municipalities should be consulted.

Source of information:  
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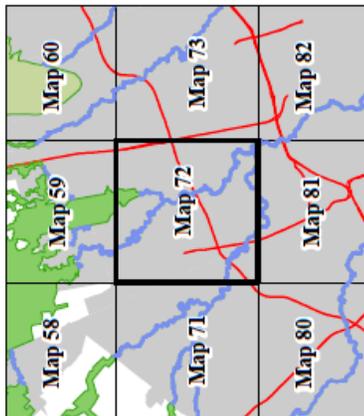
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Map 72

Greenbelt Plan, map division and enlargement



# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area
- Protected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- First Nations

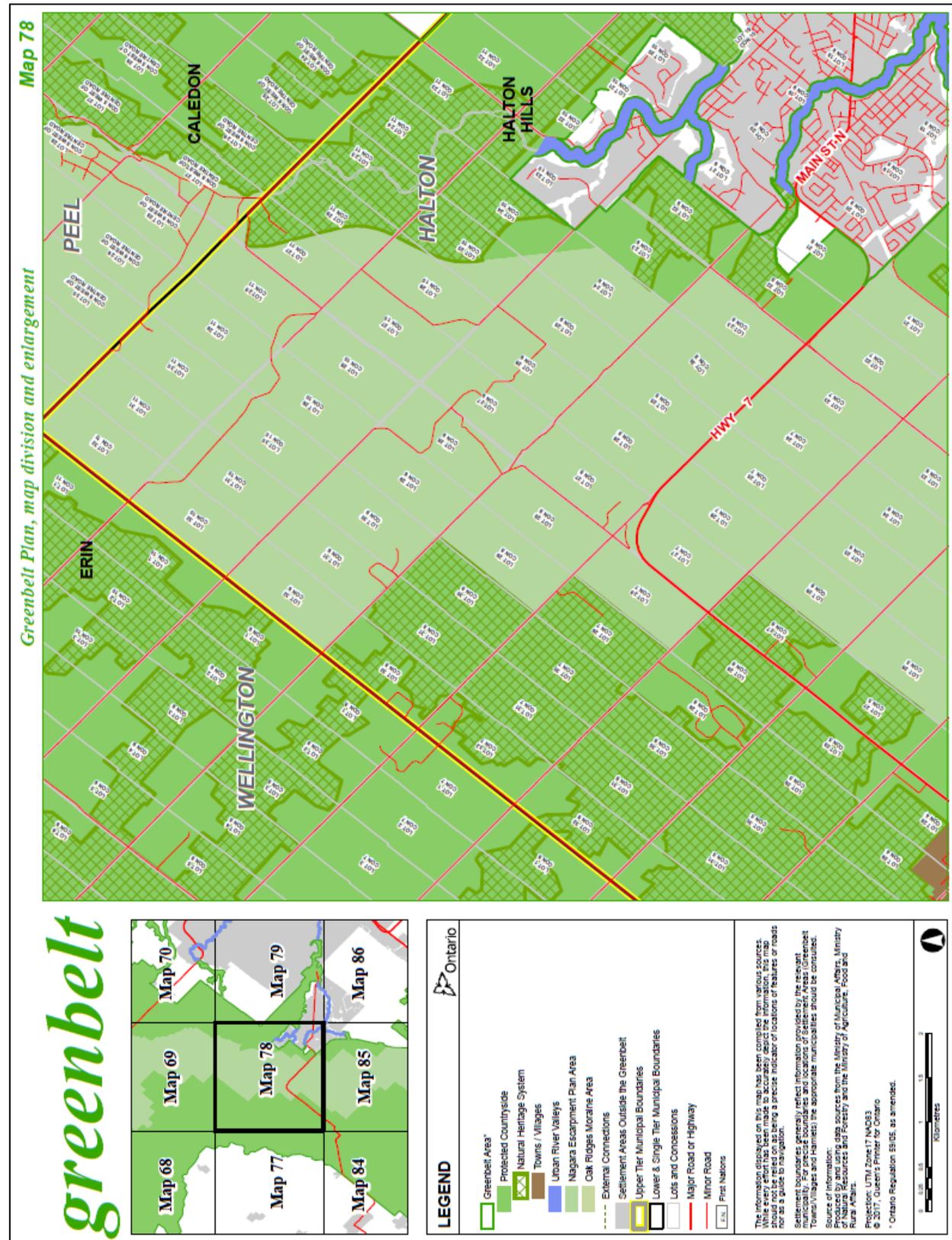
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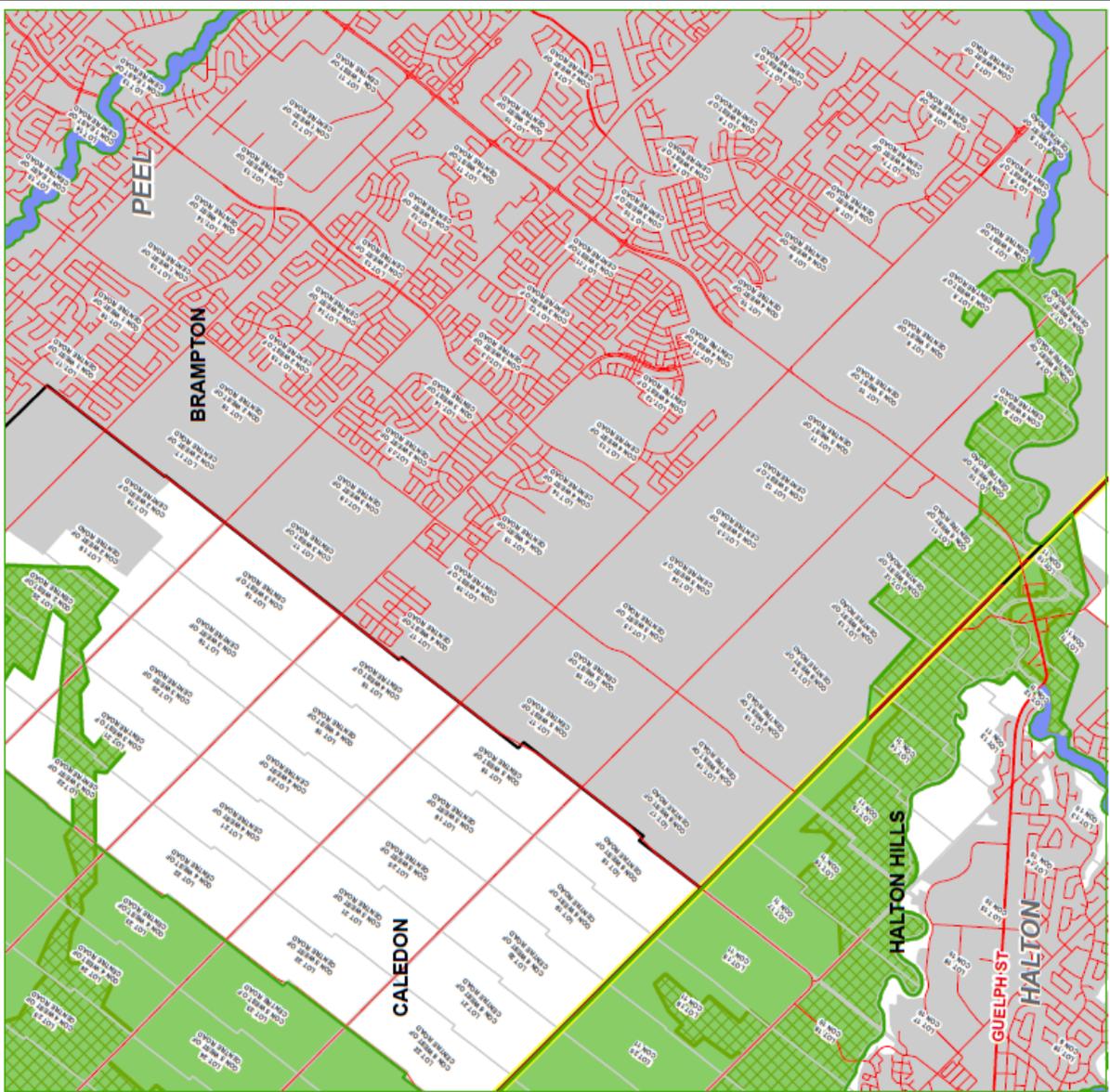
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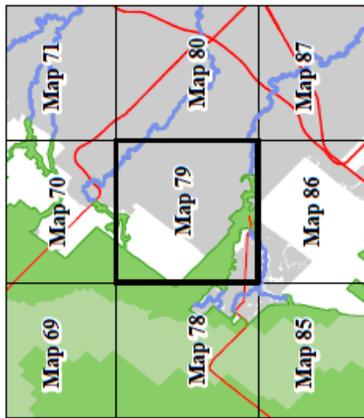


Map 79

Greenbelt Plan, map division and enlargement



# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area\*
- Protected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- U.S. / First Nations

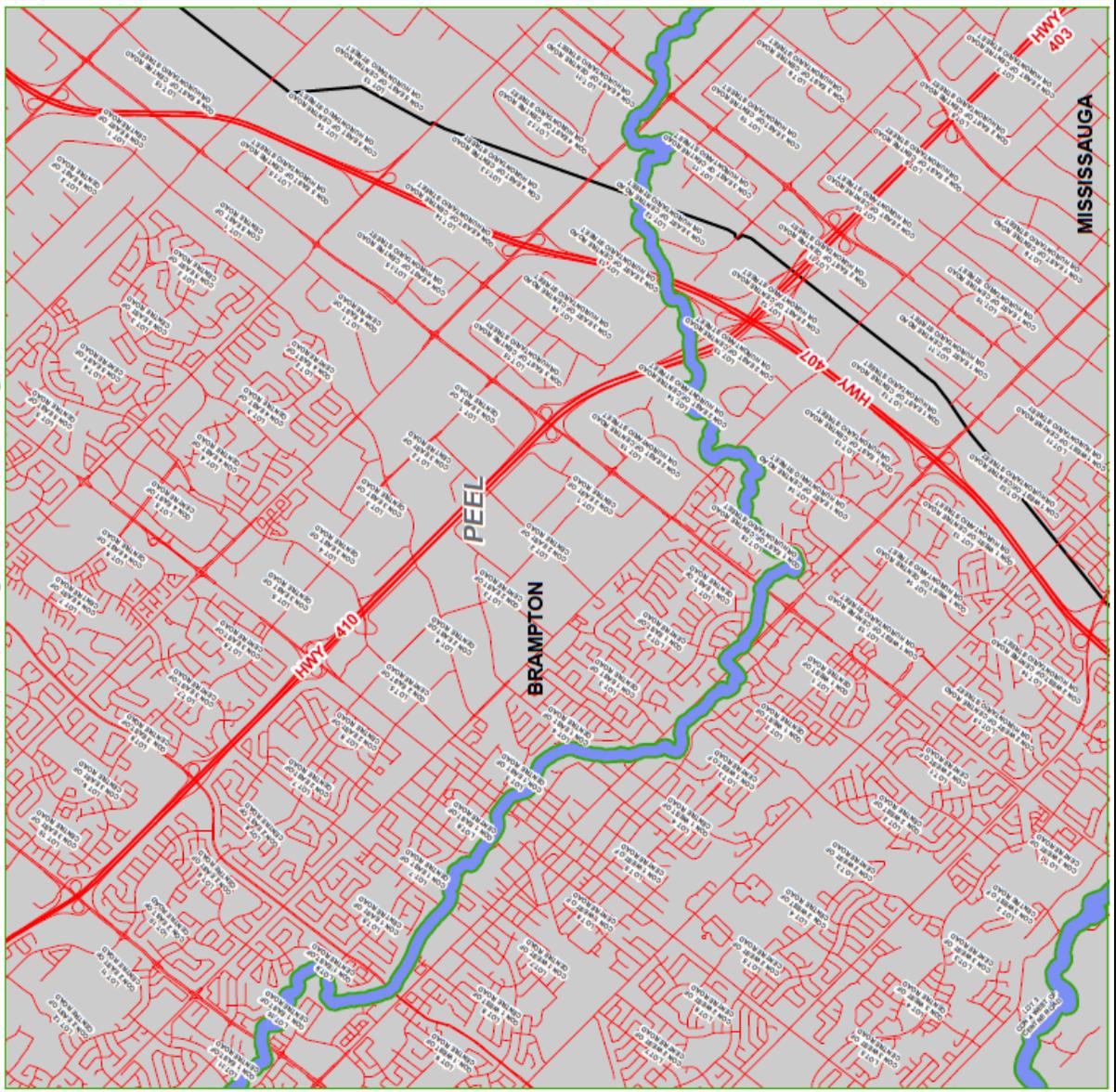
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Settlement boundaries, especially reflect information provided by the relevant municipality. For precise boundaries and locations of Settlement Areas (Greenbelt Towns/Villages and Hamlets) the appropriate municipalities should be consulted.

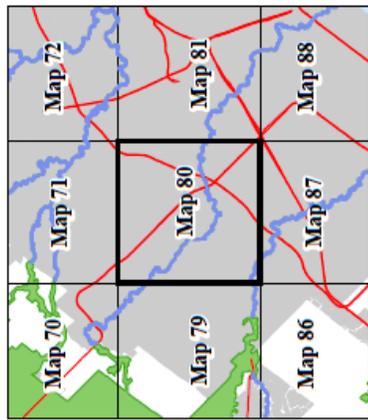
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Map 80

Greenbelt Plan, map division and enlargement



# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area\*
- Projected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- First Nations

**LEGEND** Ontario

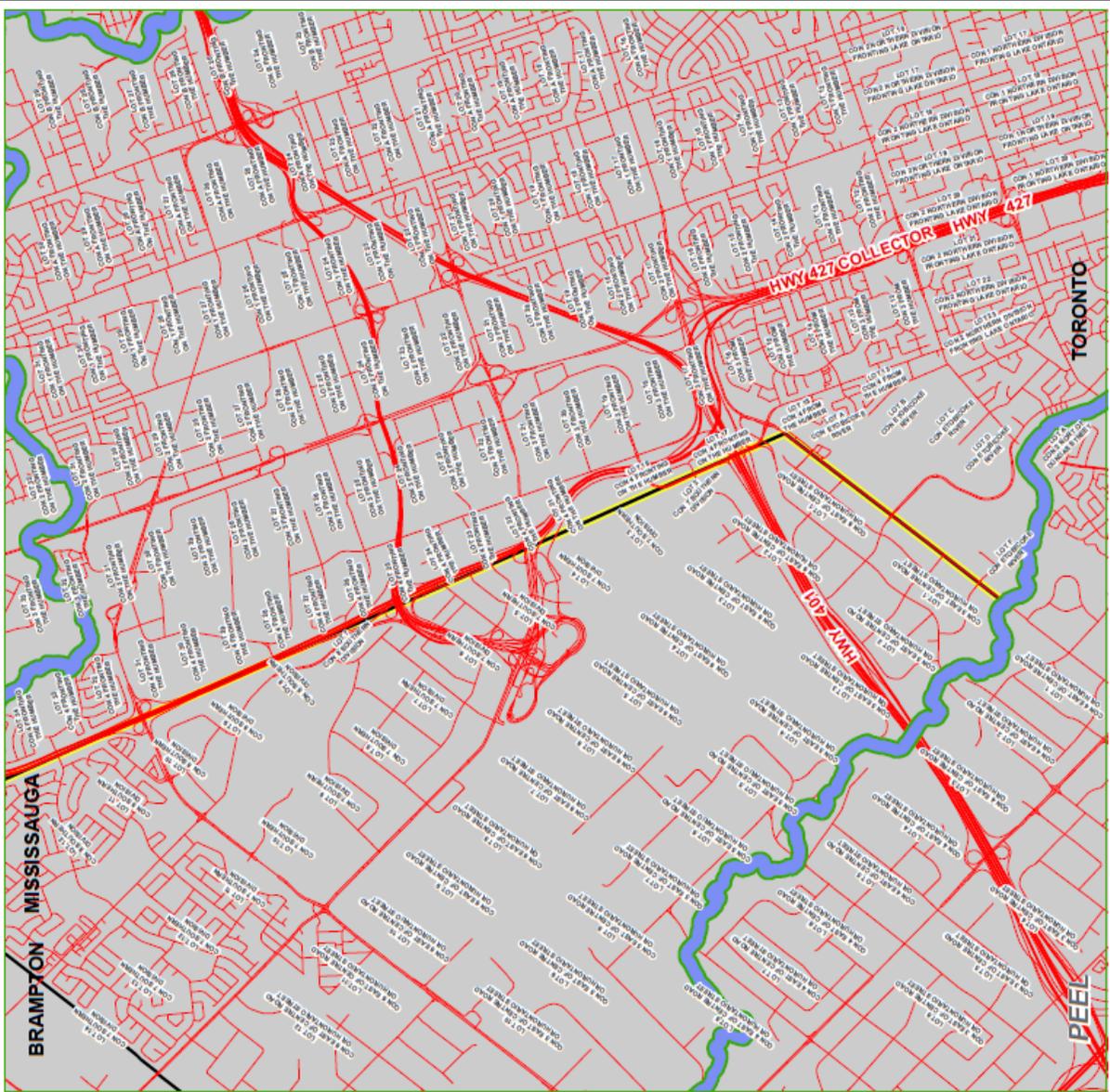
The information displayed on this map has been compiled from various sources. While every effort has been made to accurately represent the information, this map should not be relied on as being a precise indicator of locations of features or roads for as a guide to navigation.

Settlement boundaries generally reflect information provided by the relevant Towns/Villages and (where applicable) the appropriate municipalities should be consulted.

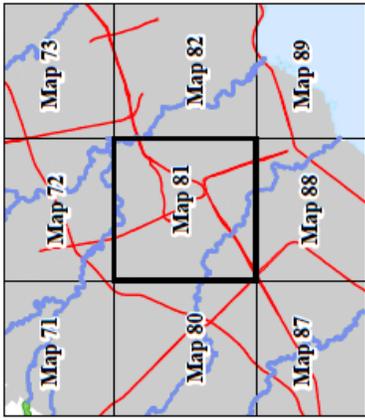
Source of information:  
 Projected by and using data sources from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.  
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 \* Ontario Regulation 59/05, as amended.

Map 81

Greenbelt Plan, map division and enlargement



# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area
- Protected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- First Nations

The information displayed on this map has been compiled from various sources. While every effort has been made to accurately depict the information, this map does not constitute a guarantee, warranty, or representation of accuracy. It is provided for informational purposes only and should not be used as a basis for any legal or financial decision.

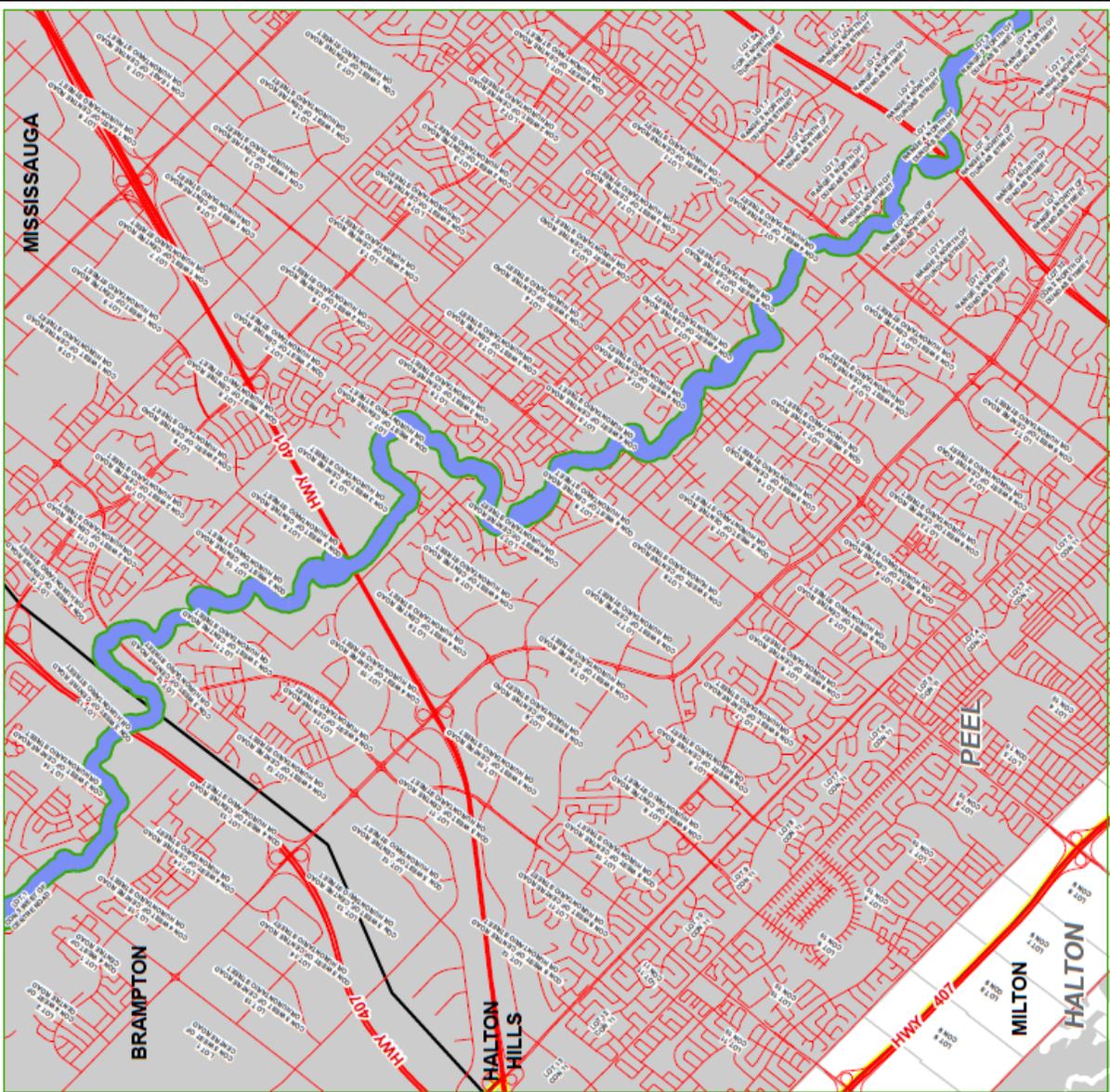
Settlement boundaries, especially reflect information provided by the relevant municipality. For precise boundaries and locations of Settlement Areas (Greenbelt Towns/Villages and Hamlets) the appropriate municipalities should be consulted.

Source of information:  
 Produced by and using data sources from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.  
 Projection: UTM Zone 17 NAD83  
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 \* Ontario Regulation 59/05, as amended.

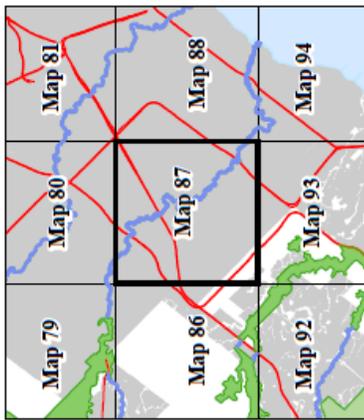


Map 87

Greenbelt Plan, map division and enlargement



# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area
- Projected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- First Nations

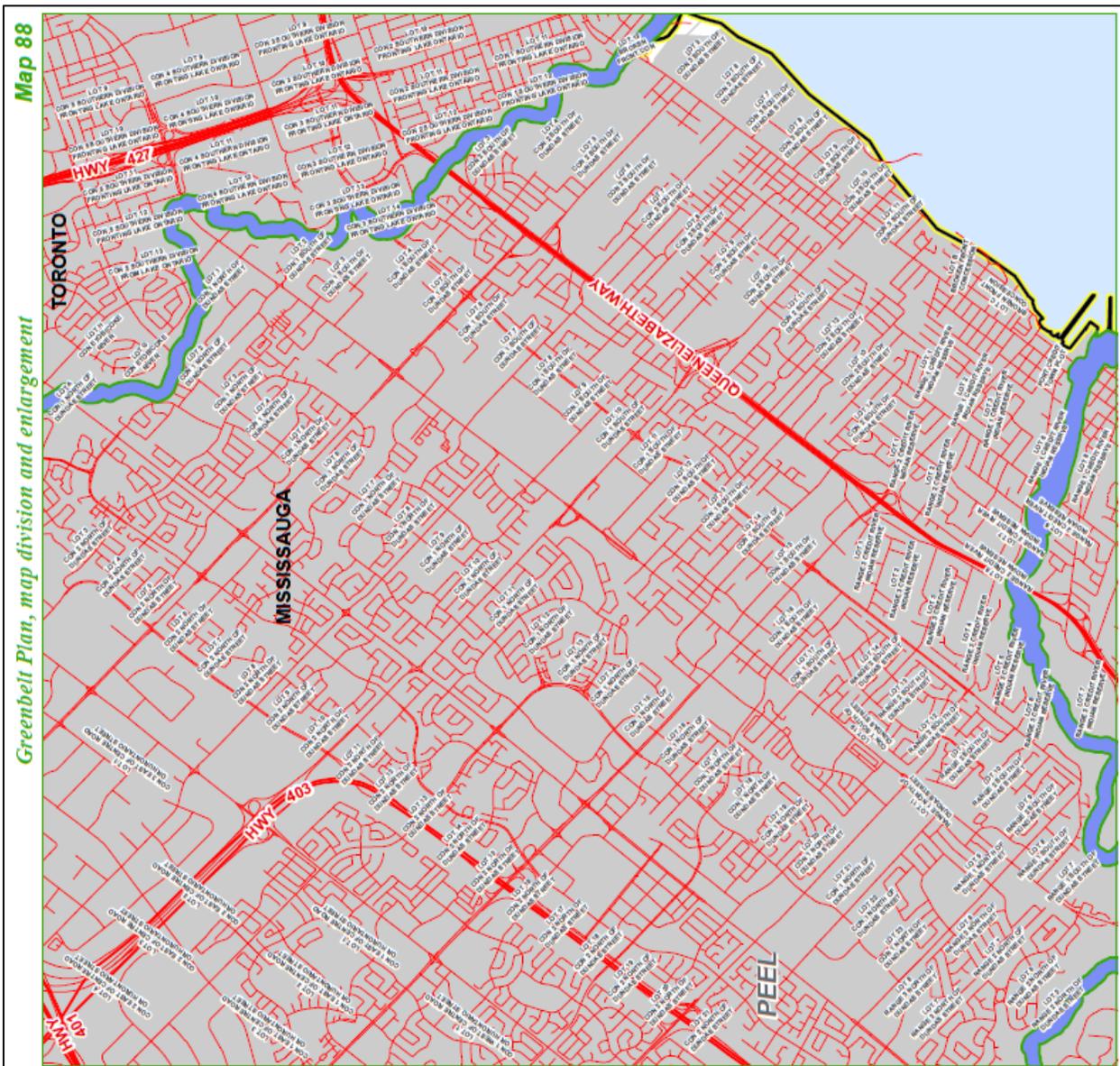
The information displayed on this map has been compiled from various sources. While every effort has been made to accurately represent the information, this map is not a guarantee of accuracy. The Province of Ontario is not responsible for any errors or omissions. The Province of Ontario is not responsible for any errors or omissions. The Province of Ontario is not responsible for any errors or omissions.

Source of information:  
 Produced by and using data sources from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

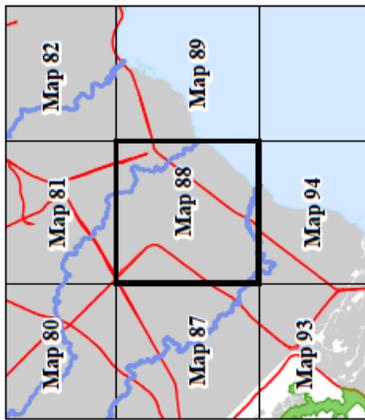
Production: LUTJ ZONE17 NAD83  
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\* Ontario Regulation 59/05, as amended.





# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area
- Protected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns & Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- First Nations

The information displayed on this map has been compiled from various sources. While every effort has been made to accurately describe the information, this map should not be relied on as being a precise indicator of locations of features or roads for as a guide to navigation.

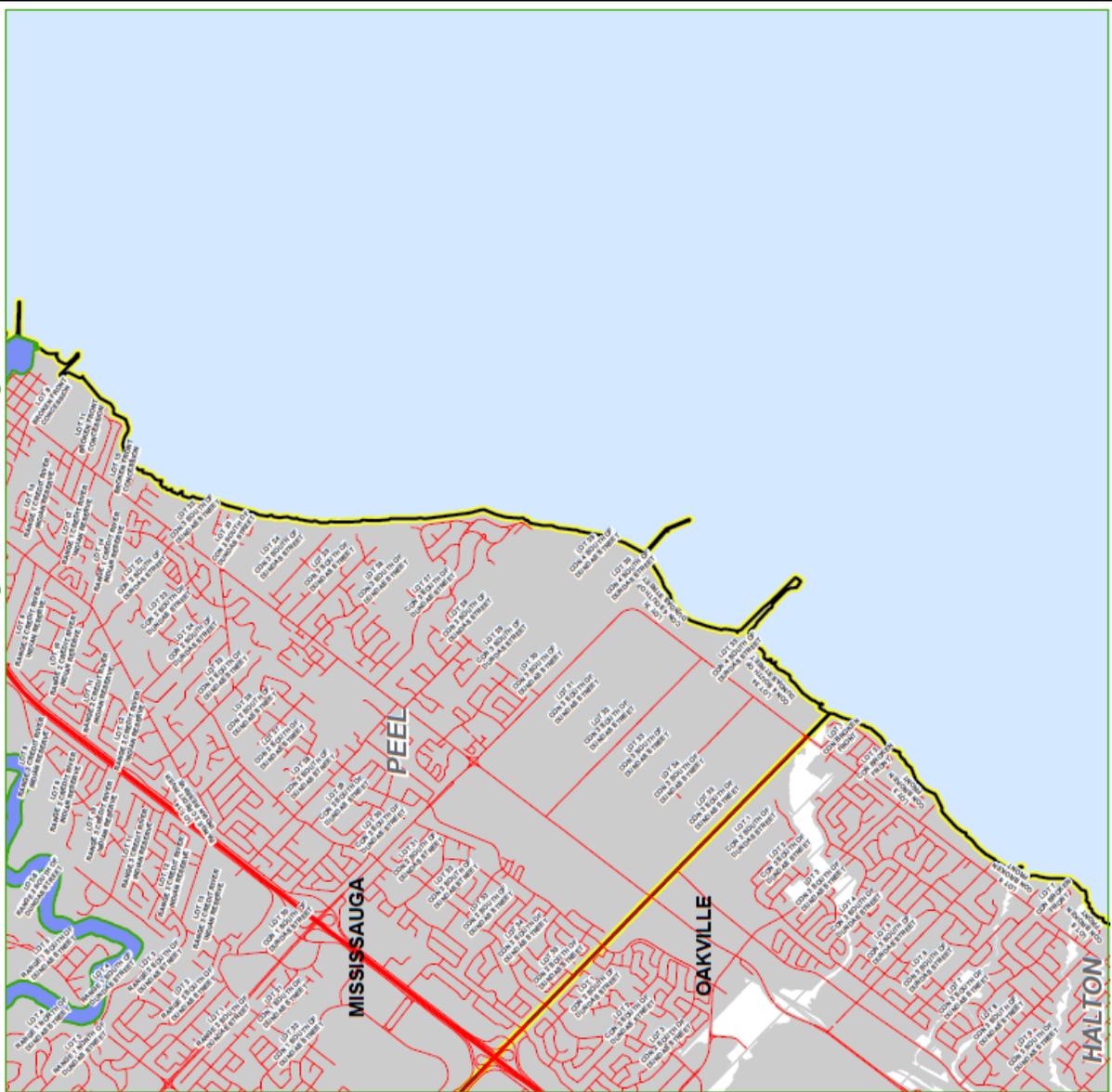
Settlement boundaries generally reflect information provided by the relevant Towns/Villages and Hamlets (the appropriate municipalities should be consulted).

Source of information:  
 Produced by and using data sources from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

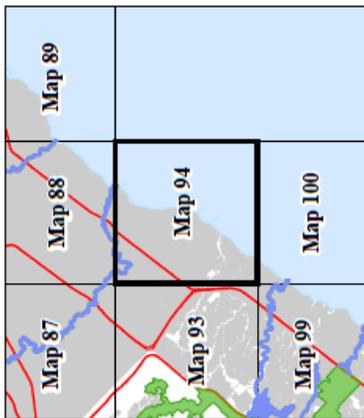
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 \* Ontario Regulation 51/05, as amended.

Map 94

Greenbelt Plan, map division and enlargement



# greenbelt



**LEGEND**

- Greenbelt Area
- Protected Countryside
- Natural Heritage System
- Towns / Villages
- Urban River Valleys
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Area
- Oak Ridges Moraine Area
- External Connections
- Settlement Areas Outside the Greenbelt
- Upper Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lower & Single Tier Municipal Boundaries
- Lots and Concessions
- Major Road or Highway
- Minor Road
- First Nations

The information displayed on this map has been compiled from various sources. While every effort has been made to accurately represent the information, this map does not constitute a guarantee, warranty, or endorsement of the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the information. It is intended to be used as a guide to navigation.

Settlement boundaries, generally reflect information provided by the relevant municipality. For precise boundaries and locations of Settlement Areas (Greenbelt Towns/Villages and Hamlets) the appropriate municipalities should be consulted.

Source of information:  
 Produced by and using data sources from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Forestry and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

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## Appendix B: Draft Schedule & Figure

