

Regional Planning in HRM

A regional plan is a detailed, long-range, region-wide plan that will outline where, when and how future growth and development should take place in HRM. It builds the framework for *healthy* growth within the municipality.

Studies show HRM's population is growing all the time. From 1996 to 2001, HRM's population grew almost five percent, at a consistent increase of about one percent per year. While one percent may not seem like an overwhelming, or even significant number, estimates indicate the population will continue to grow at a steady pace over the next 20 years.

HRM's population is just under 360,000 today. At a constant growth of one percent per year, the population will increase by an additional 75,000 to 100,000 people by 2020.

What growth means for HRM

That constant growth means *nearly half a million people* will need homes in safe, clean neighbourhoods in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

They'll need employment and an economy strong enough to maintain that employment.

They'll need an efficient transportation system to take them to and from their employment and other day-to-day activities.

And they'll need a clean environment with open, green spaces so they can enjoy our abundant natural assets.



Why HRM needs a regional plan

Growth is good for HRM. It's exciting. It offers immeasurable possibilities and opportunities. But it needs to be anticipated, planned for and managed. That's the role of a regional plan.

The plan will create a strategy to both manage growth and preserve what our citizens tell us they need and want: protected environment, efficient transportation, and a strong economy. The regional plan will propose ways to maintain the safe, vibrant, healthy way of life that draws people to HRM and keeps them here.

Without a regional plan, HRM risks losing the very quality of life that our residents value.

Benefits of a Regional Plan

- ❖ Identifies fiscally and environmentally sustainable areas for settlement
- ❖ Identifies economic opportunities and risks, positioning HRM for future success
- ❖ Responds to the value citizens place on the environment - air, land and water
- ❖ Enables region-wide decisions on managing future transportation needs and other services
- ❖ Increases our ability to maximize the benefits of key assets like Halifax Harbour, water frontages & vibrant downtown areas
- ❖ Provides guidance for making community plans work together for the future of the whole region

Delivery Areas

- ❖ Economic opportunities
- ❖ Efficient transportation
- ❖ Settlement patterns
- ❖ Environmental protection
- ❖ Harbour plan
- ❖ Capital District

Regional Planning Stakeholder Committee

The new Regional Planning Stakeholder Committee will work with HRM's regional planning staff, Council and the community to develop a new regional plan - its direction, priorities, goals and objectives.



The Committee will make recommendations and guide policies that will shape HRM's future.

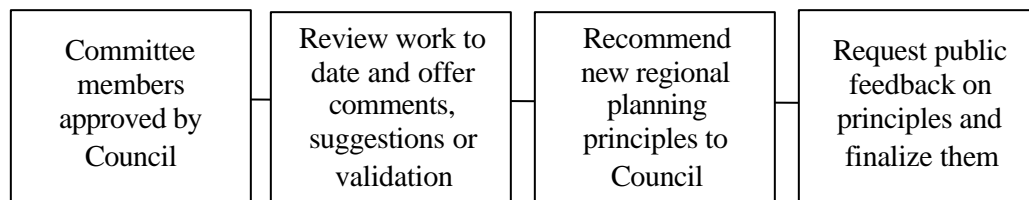
Their mandate is to guide the creation of a regional plan that appropriately outlines the direction for HRM's future, based on public consultation, professional expertise, Vision 20/20 and HRM's corporate priorities.

The committee consists of:

- Sheila Fougere**, Councillor, District 14 (Connaught - Quinpool)
- Larry Hughes**, Community Representative
- Doris Maley**, Community Representative
- Harry McInroy**, Deputy Mayor, District 5 (Cole Harbour South - Eastern Passage)
- George McLellan**, Chief Administrative Officer, HRM
- Hugh Millward**, Community Representative
- Fred Morley**, Community Representative
- Joe O'Brien**, Community Representative
- Reg Rankin**, Councillor, District 22 (Hammonds Plains - Timberlea)

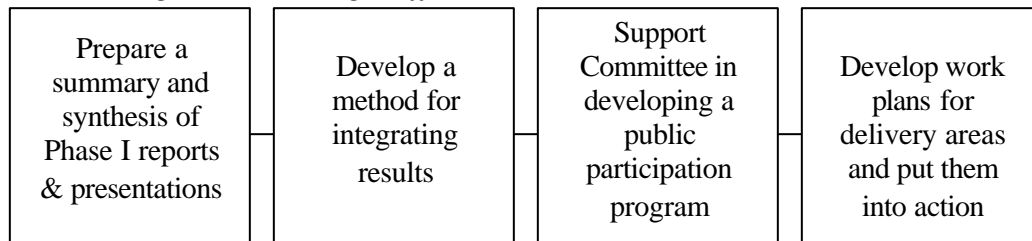
Current and next steps

For the Regional Planning Stakeholder Committee:



March to June 2003 →

For HRM Regional Planning Staff:



Contact regplan@region.halifax.ns.ca for more information on regional planning in HRM.