

**HALIFAX**

# **Regional Plan Five-Year Review**

Regional Council

June 24, 2014

# Regional Plan Vision

**Enhance our quality of life by fostering the growth of healthy and vibrant communities, a strong and diverse economy, and sustainable environment.**



# 7 Guiding Principles

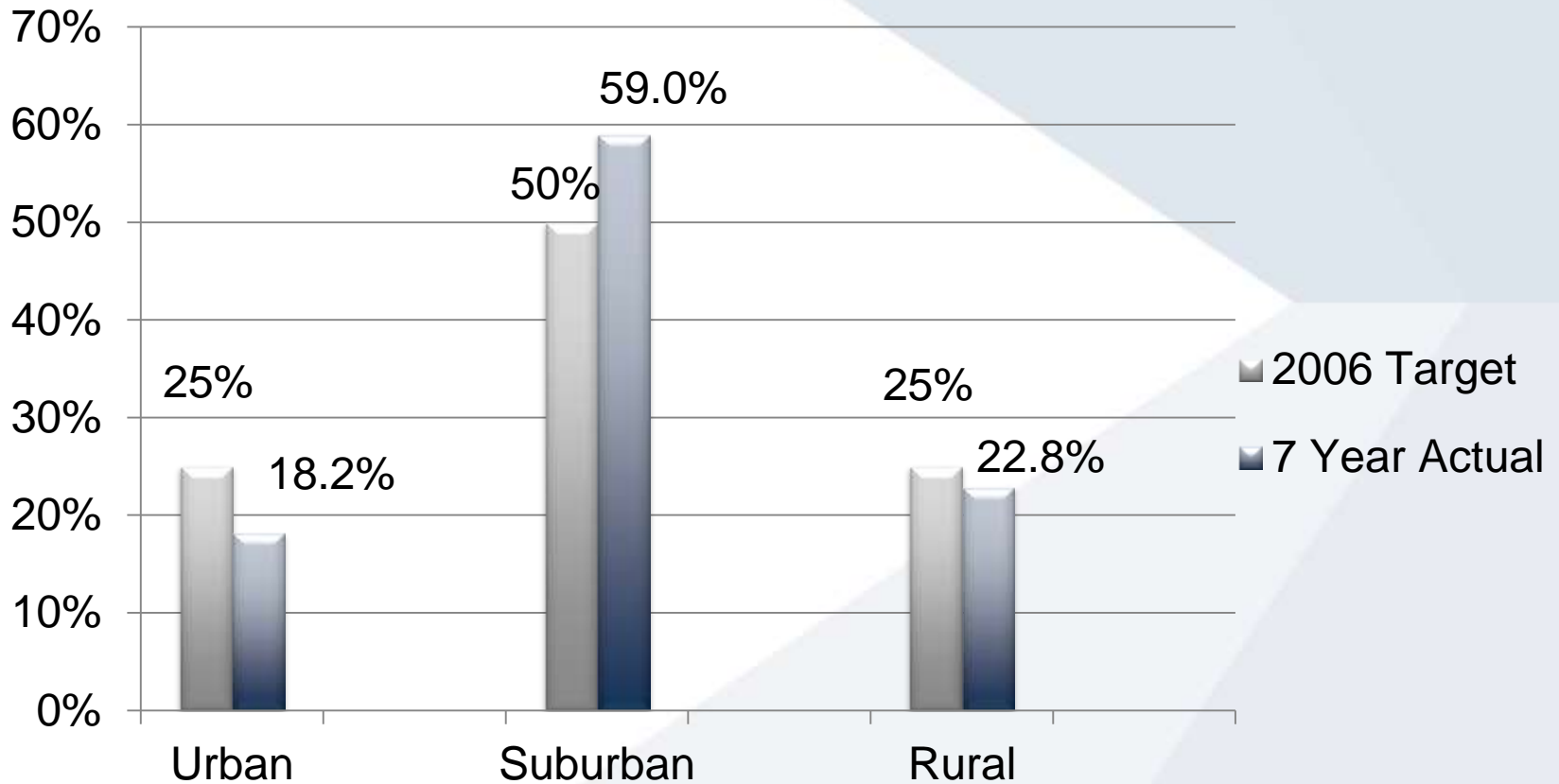
- Predictable, fair, cost-effective and timely decision-making
- Development patterns that promote a vigorous regional economy
- Sustainability of cultural, historical and natural assets
- Regional Centre as the focus of economic, cultural and residential activities
- Make the most effective use of land, energy, infrastructure, public services, and foster healthy lifestyles
- Protection of open space, wilderness, natural beauty and sensitive environmental areas
- Integrated transportation systems in conjunction with the above principles

# First 5-Year Review (RP+5)

- Legislative requirement
  - HRM Charter (s. 229.2)
  - Regional Plan Policy (Policy IM-7)
- Evaluate effectiveness of the Plan
- Address changing conditions and new opportunities based on scope approved by Council

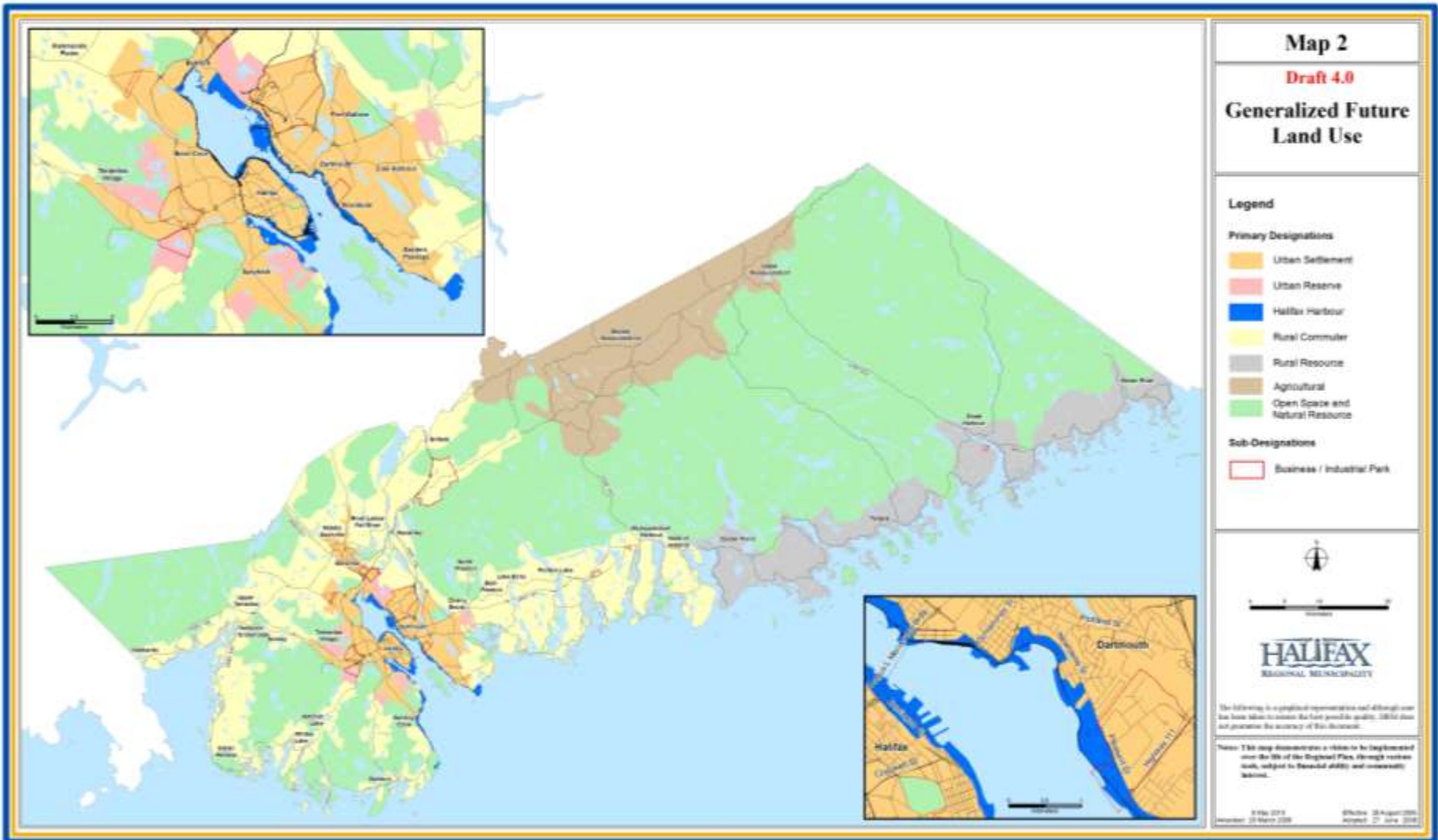


# Trend in Growth Targets



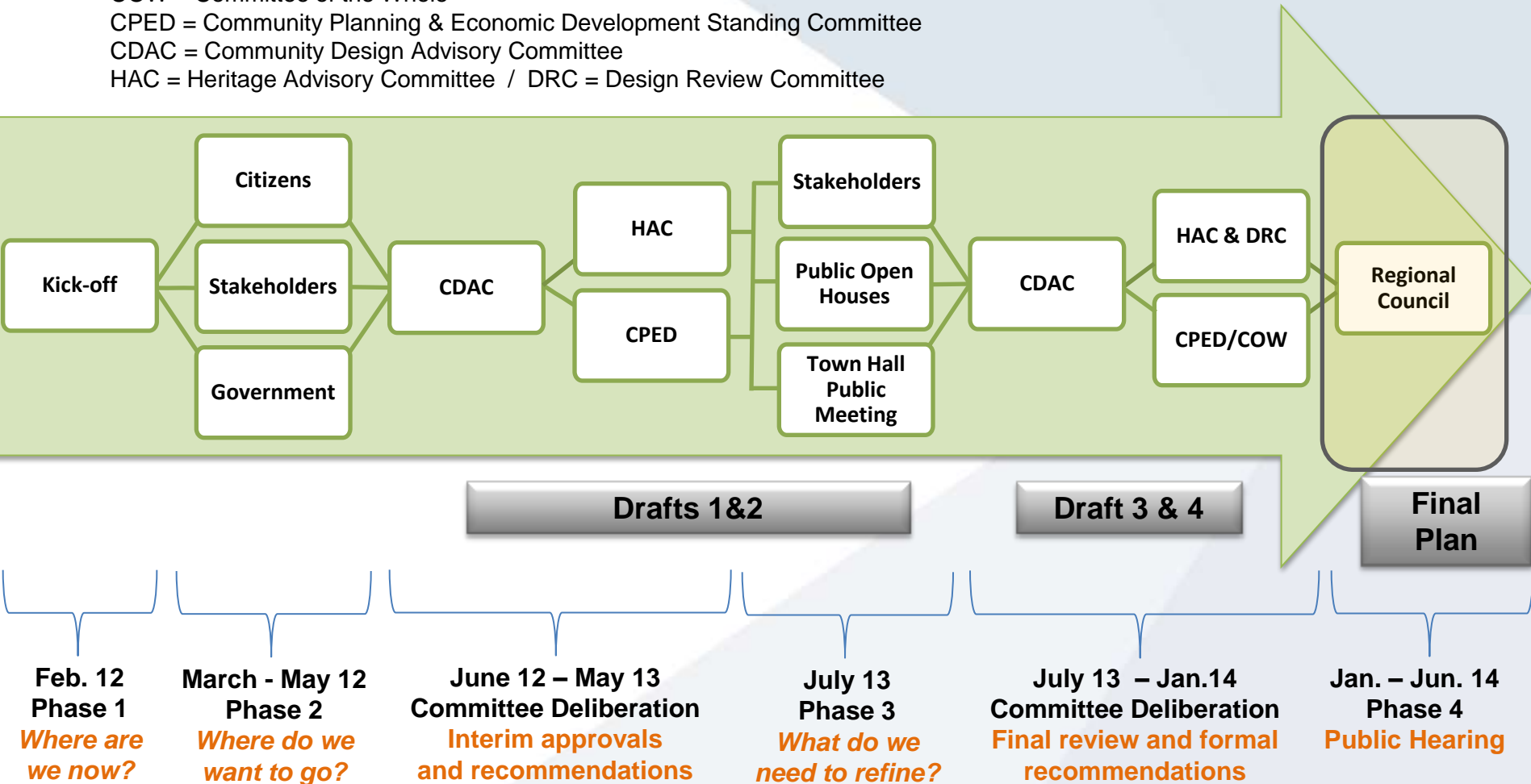
Source: CMHC, 2006-2013 New Housing Starts

# What is Not Changing - Foundation



# RP+5 Process

COW = Committee of the Whole  
 CPED = Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee  
 CDAC = Community Design Advisory Committee  
 HAC = Heritage Advisory Committee / DRC = Design Review Committee



# RP+5 Proposed Changes

Sustainable Solutions

Enhanced Regional Centre

Improved Community Design

Mutually Supportive Land Use  
and Transit/AT



# 1. Sustainable Solutions



# Sustainable Solutions

## Manage Growth Sustainably

- Create Greenbelting and Public Open Spaces Priorities Plan
- Maintain current Land Use Designations
- Use growth targets as a criterion for secondary planning
- Encourage growth in defined rural growth centres
- Limit the scale of potential amendments in abutting land use designations to 20 lots

# Sustainable Solutions

## Protect Water, Land and Air

- Protect potable water supply areas
  - Increased buffers on water supply sources
  - Requirements for ground water assessments for rural developments expanded
- Increase protection of trees within riparian buffers
- Improve management of storm water and erosion
- Consider food security through secondary planning
- Provide leadership in energy conservation and response to climate change

# Sustainable Solutions

## Preserve and Enhance Culture and Heritage Resources

- *Adopt Standards & Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, 2nd Edition*
- Assist communities in identifying and celebrating cultural and heritage assets
- Identify and preserve cultural landscapes
- Recognize the importance of arts to the creative economy and vitality of our region
- Create Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan

## 2. Enhanced Regional Centre



# Enhanced Regional Centre

## Attract Residents and Investment

- Complete a Regional Centre Plan
- Develop heritage plans and programs to preserve and enhance heritage properties, streetscapes, and districts
- Prepare capital and operating expenditure programs that enhance development
- Create financial and regulatory incentives to stimulate desired growth

# 3. Improved Community Design



# Improved Community Design

## Urban Communities

- Focus new growth in centres where services and infrastructure exist
- Advance complete communities for all areas
- Promote environmentally sustainable transportation modes
- Ensure that there are sufficient lands available to provide economic development opportunities
- Support and enhance land, port and air transportation facilities
- Reduce above grade electrical and telecommunication transmission lines



# Improved Community Design

## Urban Communities

- Design communities that:
  - a) are attractive, healthy places to live and have access to the goods, services and facilities needed by residents
  - b) are accessible to all mobility needs and are well connected with other communities
  - c) protect neighbourhood stability and support neighbourhood revitalization
  - d) preserve significant environmental and cultural features
  - e) promote community food security
  - f) provide housing opportunities for a range of social and economic needs and promote aging in place

# Improved Community Design

## Rural Communities

- Maintain the integrity of rural communities,
  - Revised Conservation Design Standards
- Encourage new growth in centres where supporting services and infrastructure are available
- Restrict growth on environmentally sensitive lands
- Place caps on developments between centres
- Balance property rights, lifestyle choices, fiscal and environmental responsibility
- Preserve Agriculture and Resource and Open Space Lands

# 4. Land use and transit/active transportation are mutually supportive



# Land Use and Transportation Integrated and Sustainable

- Establish Urban Transit Service Boundary
- Require transit oriented development
- Provide rural transit community support
- Protect greenways connections in secondary planning
- Design complete streets for all ages, abilities, and modes of travel
- Consult the community on the Road Network Priorities Plan

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**Thank You**

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