

**OFFICIAL PLAN UPDATE SUB-COMMITTEE – APRIL 12, 2023****COMMUNICATIONS****Distributed April 12, 2023****Item**

- |     |                                                                                                                                                |       |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| C1. | Presentation material, entitled “Vaughan Official Plan Review – Presentation to the Official Plan Update Sub-Committee”, dated April 12, 2023. | 1 & 2 |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|

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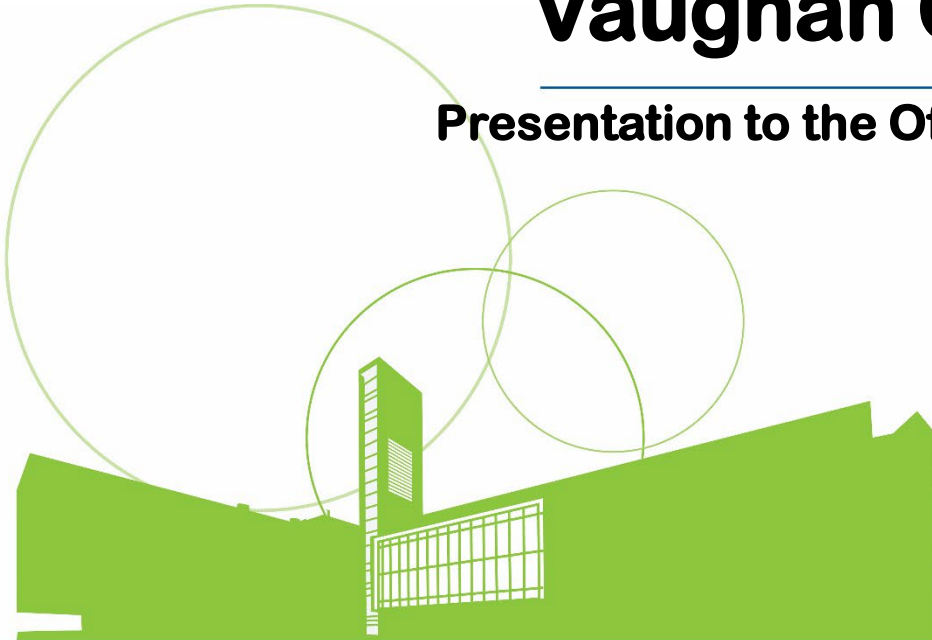
**Please note there may be further Communications.**

C1  
Communication  
Official Plan Update Sub-Committee  
April 12, 2023  
Items # 1 & 2

# Vaughan Official Plan Review

**Presentation to the Official Plan Update Sub-Committee**

**April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**



# Outline

- Item 1: Phase 1 Engagement Summary and Vision Report
  - Indigenous Engagement
  - Phase 1 Public Engagement
  - What We Heard
  - Draft 2051 Vision for Vaughan
  - Next Steps
- Item 2: Overview of Draft Official Plan Packages 3 and 4







# Phase 1 Engagement Summary and Vision Report

# Phase 1 Engagement Summary and Vision Report

- Report was finalized and released publicly in March 2023
- Phase 1 of the OPR is now complete, and this report provides:
  - A summary of what was heard through engagement
  - The Vision and Guiding Principles for the updated Official Plan (will continue to evolve)
- Phase 1 engagement objectives were to:



Collect input on community priorities to assist in the creation of a vision and guiding principles for the updated Official Plan



Introduce the Vaughan Official Plan Review to the community, raise awareness about the project's importance and encourage participation in the process

# Phase 1 Engagement Summary and Vision Report

- Public feedback was collected and helped shape the 7 background papers



**Residential  
Growth**



**Employment  
Land Use**



**Agriculture  
System**



**Commercial  
Use**



**Urban Design  
and Sustainable  
Development**



**Climate  
Change**



**Natural  
Heritage**



A wide-angle photograph of a park. A paved path leads from the foreground towards a gazebo in the distance. The path is flanked by lush green trees and grass. Several park benches are visible, with a few people sitting on them. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. A dark blue banner with white text is overlaid across the middle of the image.

# Indigenous Communities Engagement

# Engagement with Indigenous Peoples

- Pre-engagement with indigenous communities in August 2020, before the October 2021 public launch of the Project
- Vaughan is within Treaty 13 Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN)
- The City acknowledges the traditional lands of the William Treaties First Nation, Huron-Wendat First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River, Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council and the Metis Nation
- As prescribed by the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, the City recognizes the importance of engaging with Indigenous Peoples on planning matters that may affect their Section 35 Aboriginal or treaty rights in the *Constitution Act*, 1982



# Engagement with Indigenous Peoples – What We Heard

- Strong interest in archaeological, cultural, and historical knowledge sharing, economic development, education and awareness, natural heritage, environment and planning processes
- December 2020 MCFN provided policy recommendations for the updated Vaughan Official Plan
- Circulated deliverables, delivered presentations, and held working meetings with indigenous communities
- Received valuable information and feedback to help inform changes to policy and planning processes
- Will continue to engage with Indigenous Communities and Peoples to achieve mutual knowledge sharing and benefits

# Public Engagement



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# Phase 1 Engagement

Ran from September 2021 to October 2022 and included:

Media, Social Media, Project  
Website Launch ([Vaughan.ca/OPR](http://Vaughan.ca/OPR)), and Engagement Portal  
([ForwardVaughan.ca/opr](http://ForwardVaughan.ca/opr))

Special Committee of the Whole  
Meeting (Section 26 of the  
*Planning Act*)

Two Community  
Vision Workshops

Two Community Working  
Group Meetings

Community  
Vision Survey

Pre-engagement and  
continued Engagement with  
Indigenous Peoples

Four Topic-based  
Webinars

Several Community  
Pop-up Events



# Media and Social Media

The community was kept informed of the project and upcoming engagements through a variety of communication channels including social media, paid advertisements, public service announcements, eNewsletters and more.



# Project Website and Engagement Portal

Project Website: [www.vaughan.ca/opr](http://www.vaughan.ca/opr)

Engagement Portal: [www.forwardvaughan.ca](http://www.forwardvaughan.ca)

- Launched at the onset of the project to act as a destination for project information, frequently asked questions, project updates and digital engagement opportunities (e.g., quick polls, surveys)
- 1,500 visits and 85 registrations for project updates between September 2021 and October 2022



# October 13, 2022 Special Committee of the Whole Meeting

- Formally launched the Project and provided key information
- Public was able to participate through written submission and by speaking at the event
- Fulfilled the Section 26 requirement of the *Ontario Planning Act* to hold a special meeting of Council when starting an official plan review



# Public Vision Workshops

- 2 virtual vision workshops held to introduce the project and collaborate in developing a Vision for Vaughan to 2051
- 1 evening and 1 afternoon option to maximize participation
- Information was presented on the project background, timeline, work completed to-date and how the Background Papers would be updated to align with public feedback
- Feedback provided through quick ice-breaker polls, the chat function, and verbal breakout room discussions
- A total of 64 participants attended the sessions



**Vision Workshop #1 was held  
on Dec., 2021 from 6 p.m., to 8 p.m.**



**Vision Workshop #2 was held  
on Dec., 2021 from 2 p.m., to 4 p.m.**

# Community Working Group

- Advisory in nature and is not a decision-making body
- Intended to provide unique perspectives and information to help shape the updated Official Plan
- Held a public call for volunteers and received 42 responses
- 24 Members were carefully selected to represent Vaughan's diversity, considering:
  - Age
  - Gender
  - Equity-deserving groups
  - Local businesses
  - Faith-based groups
  - Special Interest Groups
  - Ratepayers

## 2 of 3 Community Working Group Meetings

Meetings were held virtually for accessibility purposes, and both included presentations, question-and-answer periods, and facilitated break-out group discussions

### **Meeting 1 – January 19, 2022 (Virtual)**

- Introduced the Project context and themes, and gathered feedback to help develop the draft vision
- Reviewed and adopted the Community Working Group Terms of Reference document

### **Meeting 2 – October 12, 2022 (Virtual)**

- Provided a Project update and discussed and collected feedback on the Background Papers to inform future work



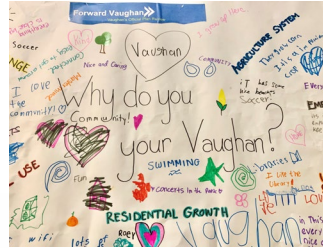
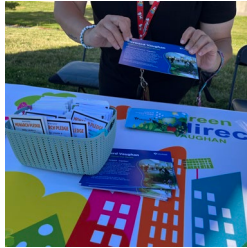
## 4 Topic-Based Webinars

- Held between April 20 and May 12, 2022
- 4 topic areas:
  1. Climate change resilience and adaptation
  2. Affordable housing
  3. Placemaking
  4. Healthy communities
- Featured presentations from a subject matter expert and interactive question-and-answer periods
- A total of 46 participants attended the webinars



# In-Person Community Pop-Ups

- Several pop-ups held between June and September 2022
  - Longo's Rutherford Grocery Store
  - Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Subway Station
  - Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre
  - 5 Concerts in the Park
- Each event included an information table, poster, a post-card hand-out, a registration sheet for receiving project updates
- Collected public feedback and answered questions



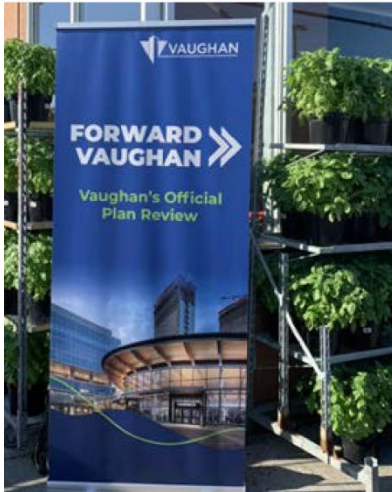
# In-Person Community Pop-Ups

The objectives of the Pop-up events included:

Driving traffic to the Forward Vaughan engagement portal, promoting it as a destination for all things related to the Official Plan Review

Promoting the Forward Vaughan engagement portal to the public

Engaging with individuals who may not typically participate in open houses and/ or other forms of engagement



# By the Numbers



**64**

people attended  
Vision Workshops



**24**

people attended  
Community Working  
Group Meetings



**89**

submissions to the  
Vision Survey



**1,500**

project  
Website Visits



**46**

people attended  
topic-based webinars



**65**

people attended  
community pop-ups

# What We Heard

- The various meetings, workshops and digital engagement tactics used throughout Phase 1 resulted in valuable feedback to support the development of a Vision and Guiding Principles for the updated Official Plan
- Key themes are:

**Land Use and  
Complete Communities**

**Countryside and  
Natural Areas**

**Urban Design, Placemaking  
and Sustainable Development**

**Climate Change**



# Land Use and Complete Communities

These rankings are from the Community Vision Survey (CVS) that was launched online from the engagement portal, there were 88 contributors with 89 responses collected from February to March 2022.

## Community Priorities: Complete Communities

- 1 Community hubs
- 2 Walking trails and bike paths
- 3 Neighbourhood parks
- 4 Shopping and retail
- 5 Accessible and age-friendly design
- 6 Diverse housing types
- 7 Affordable housing
- 8 Restaurants, cafes and event space



# Land Use and Complete Communities

- **Accessible design:** accommodate all ages and abilities (ex. audible street crossings with longer pedestrian crossing times, benches for rest, entryways at grade and more)
- **Adaptive re-use:** of existing large-scale commercial plazas and / or aging office buildings to build mixed use communities, amenities, services and entertainment
- **Intensification over sprawl:** Intensify existing communities before sprawling into greenspace. This includes encouraging mid-rise development
- **Community cohesion:** Invest in community-building through the promotion of festivals and events, including those not organized by the City

These rankings are from the Community Vision Survey (CVS) that was launched online from the engagement portal, there were 88 contributors with 89 responses collected from February to March 2022.

## Community Priorities: Employment Land Use

- 1 Co-working and adaptive spaces
- 2 Live-work and mixed-use development
- 3 Encourage flexible work spaces

## Community Priorities: Retail Land Use

- 1 Transit and walking connections
- 2 Flexible space
- 3 Shop local campaigns and events

# Countryside and Natural Areas

- **Connectivity:** Increase the connectivity between natural areas as wildlife benefits from corridors for travel, rather than isolated patches of greenspace
- **Protecting natural areas:** Enact strong policies to preserve greenspaces and natural areas and define permitted uses
- **Environmental enhancement:** Plant native species and pollinator gardens to create opportunities for education and environmental stewardship, and incorporate Indigenous Traditional Knowledge
- **Support agri-tourism and agricultural education:** Encourage agri-tourism to support the viability of agriculture in Vaughan and form partnerships to encourage public education



These rankings are from the Community Vision Survey (CVS) that was launched online from the engagement portal, there were 88 contributors with 89 responses collected from February to March 2022.

## Community Priorities: Natural Areas

- 1 Delineate protected areas
- 2 Connectivity
- 3 Community access
- 4 Native species
- 5 Development buffers
- 6 Tree canopy
- 7 Biodiversity
- 8 Avoid sprawl

## Community Priorities: Agriculture

- 1 Urban agriculture
- 2 Source water protection
- 3 Sustainable agriculture
- 4 Agri-tourism
- 5 Education
- 6 Avoid farmland fragmentation

# Urban Design, Placemaking and Sustainable Development

These rankings are from the Community Vision Survey (CVS) that was launched online from the engagement portal, there were 88 contributors with 89 responses collected from February to March 2022.

## Community Priorities: Accessible, Attractive & Enjoyable Communities

- 1 Sustainable transportation
- 2 Parks and natural areas
- 3 Streetscaping
- 4 Plazas and gathering spaces
- 5 Patios
- 6 Neighbourhood identifiers
- 7 Public art

- **Accessible community spaces:** Prioritize the development of community gathering spaces that can be used for cultural events, celebrations and entertainment
- **Encourage creative design:** Recognize that urban design guidelines should allow for creativity and flexibility in architecture and design (ex. the Marilyn Monroe Towers in Mississauga)
- **Walkable streets:** Implement high-quality street design that promotes walking, gathering, shopping, eating and general enjoyment
- **High quality greenspace:** Increase the quantity and quality of parks, landscaping and naturalized greenspaces.
- **Pedestrian realm:** Increase streetscaping (e.g., street furniture, public art signage, trees/landscaping) to promote a sense of place, improve the pedestrian experience and benefit the environment



# Climate Change

- **Active transportation:** Expand and enhance active transportation opportunities to encourage people to travel using sustainable methods
- **Complete communities:** Create complete communities that are walkable, feature cycling routes and access to shopping and employment
- **Green infrastructure:** Increase tree planting and maintenance in both private and public spaces for climate change mitigation and adaptation
- **Low impact development:** Strengthen green development standards including the provision of clear policies around energy efficiencies, net-zero design and the integration of renewable energy use
- **Infrastructure for electric vehicles:** Plan for electric vehicle infrastructure to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



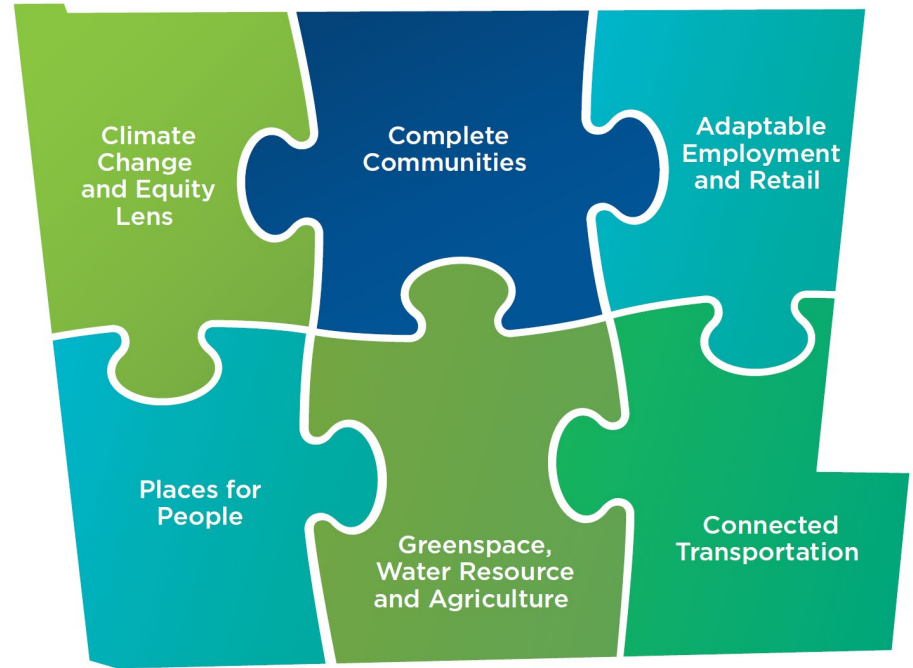
These rankings are from the Community Vision Survey (CVS) that was launched online from the engagement portal, there were 88 contributors with 89 responses collected from February to March 2022.

## Community Priorities: Climate Change

- 1 Green infrastructure
- 2 Energy efficient and climate resilient buildings
- 3 Green energy
- 4 Electric vehicle infrastructure
- 5 Green development standards

# Draft 2051 Vision for Vaughan

- Feedback received to-date and best practice research were used to develop Guiding Principles that make up the Vision
- This Vision will continue to evolve throughout the Project and will guide the growth and development of the City.





# Climate Change and Equity Lens

- Apply a net zero carbon emissions target into all infrastructure and land use policies
- Strengthen requirements for green infrastructure and green development standards
- Commit to the development of infrastructure risk-based adaptation plans that will be regularly updated in accordance with emergent climate data
- Support a community where all residents feel valued, safe, accepted, and included, reflecting the City's growing and diverse population



# Complete Communities

- Pursue affordability and attainable housing for residents of different incomes, abilities, ages and stages of life
- Encourage intensification in existing neighbourhoods with access to transit
- Make new and existing communities more complete with access to amenities, services, parks and open space, and retail options within walking or cycling distance
- Address Vaughan's changing demographics and increasing diversity
- Incorporate universal design to create accessible communities for all ages and abilities and consider the need for diverse places of worship



# Adaptable Employment and Retail

- Accommodate the rapidly changing retail sector. Construct mixed-use developments where appropriate with retail design requirements at grade
- Parking requirements should be adaptable to accommodate diminishing demand
- Create opportunities to build Vaughan's cultural and creative industries
- Encourage the development of diverse and adaptable prestige employment uses (ex. incubators, shared spaces)
- Invest in opportunities to attract a post-secondary education campus, a research and innovation hub and modern front-line healthcare facilities



# Places for People

- Design parks, public spaces and privately-owned public spaces with the goal of building a sense of community
- Design pedestrian friendly and accessible streets that feature landscaping and street furniture and gathering spaces
- Create and reserve space for high-quality parks and recreation that offer flexible spaces for different uses, recreational opportunities and community events
- Strengthen urban design standards that foster consistency in design and heritage preservation while maintaining flexibility to create distinct neighbourhoods and unique architectural landmarks
- Promote sustainability in urban design with the enhancement of green development standards that set distinct targets for net-zero carbon emissions development, mass timber development, green roofs, renewable energy and other design features



# Protect Greenspace, Water Resource and Agriculture

- Support local food production and the preservation of agricultural lands by encouraging agri-tourism, educational partnerships and on-farm diversified uses
- Preserve natural areas and connectivity with appropriate buffers to limit impact on environmentally sensitive areas, watercourses and wildlife
- Prioritize the planting of native species and pollinator gardens
- Improve access to natural areas, hiking trails and waterways where appropriate and support educational opportunities
- Expand Vaughan's urban tree canopy in natural and urbanized areas



# Connected Transportation

- Invest in the creation of an expanded, connected and safe cycling and pedestrian network connected to schools, employment areas, higher order transit stops and retail centres
- Focus on creating transit-oriented communities that concentrate dense development close to higher-order transit stations
- Increase access to the City's natural areas, trails, recreation and park system through the City's transportation system






# Next Steps

- Phase 1 was officially wrapped up with the public release of Background Papers
- Phase 2 of the project began in Fall 2022 and has overlapped with the end of Phase 1
  - Included the Policy Directions Report and the preliminary drafting of the updated Official Plan policies which included public feedback
  - A series of open houses and a Community Working Group Meeting was held in late Fall and Winter of 2022

Next Steps include:

- Ongoing in-person engagement
- Engagement through [www.forwardvaughan.ca](http://www.forwardvaughan.ca) and emailed to [oprmanager@vaughan.ca](mailto:oprmanager@vaughan.ca)
- Ongoing updates to the OP Subcommittee and Council
- Statutory Public Open Houses

A person wearing a helmet and a backpack is riding a bicycle away from the camera on a dirt path. The path is surrounded by dense green trees and foliage. The scene is captured from a low angle, emphasizing the path and the surrounding nature.

## Item 2: Overview of Packages 3 & 4 – Open Space, Agriculture, Natural and Cultural Heritage, Climate Change and Urban Design

# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 3

## Updated Chapter 3 - Natural Heritage, Parks and Open Space

Package 3 includes the following draft updated Official Plan chapters:

- **3.5** Open Space and Parkland
- **3.6** Natural Heritage and Environment
- **3.8** Agriculture

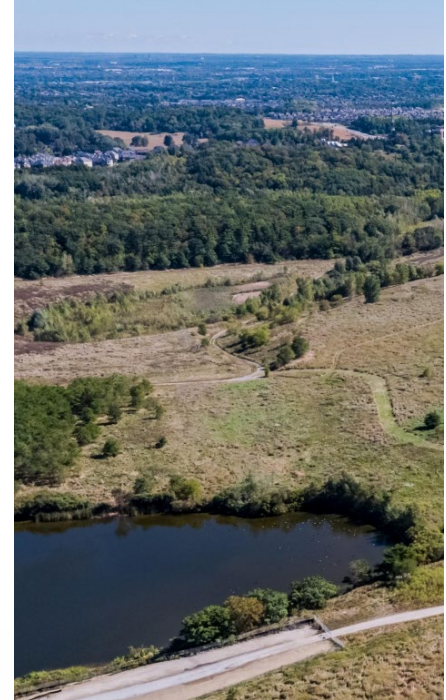




# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 3

**Updated Chapter 3.5 - Open Space and Parkland** includes the following sections:

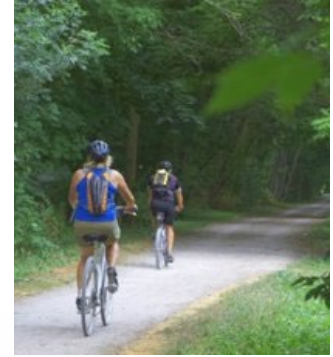
- **3.5.1** Vaughan's Open Space Network
- **3.5.2** Vaughan's Parkland System
- **3.5.3** Parkland Alternatives
- **3.5.4** Parks and Open Space Design and Maintenance
- **3.5.5** Parkland Dedication



# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 3

## Updated Chapter 3.6 - The Natural Environment and Vaughan's Natural Heritage Network

- **3.6.1** A Systems Approach to Environmental Stewardship
- **3.6.2** Developing and Maintaining a Natural Heritage Inventory
- **3.6.3** Defining Vaughan's Natural Heritage Network
- **3.6.4** Protecting Core Features and Ecological Functions
- **3.6.5** Protecting Water Resources
- **3.6.6** Hazardous Lands and Sites
- **3.6.7** Soil Quality and Site Remediation



# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 3

Updated Chapter 3.8 - Agriculture and Food Production includes the following sections:

- **3.8.1** Agricultural System
- **3.8.2** Food and Food Production
- **3.8.3** Renewable and Non-renewable Resources





# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 4

## Updated Chapter 3 - Climate Change, Sustainability, Urban Design and Cultural Heritage

Package 4 includes the following draft Official Plan chapters:

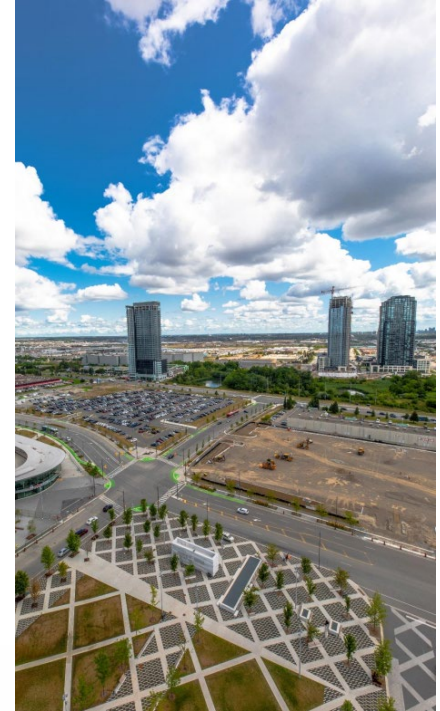
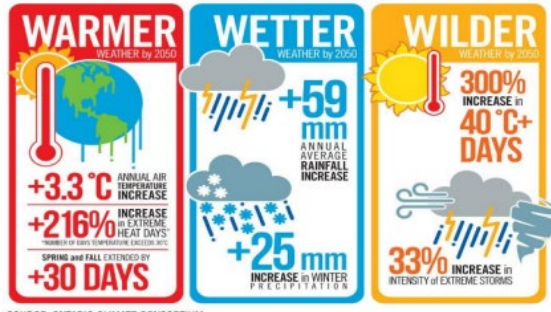
- **3.1** Climate Change
- **3.3** Urban Design
- **3.7** Cultural Heritage



# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 4

Updated Chapter 3.1 - Climate Change and Sustainability includes the following sections:

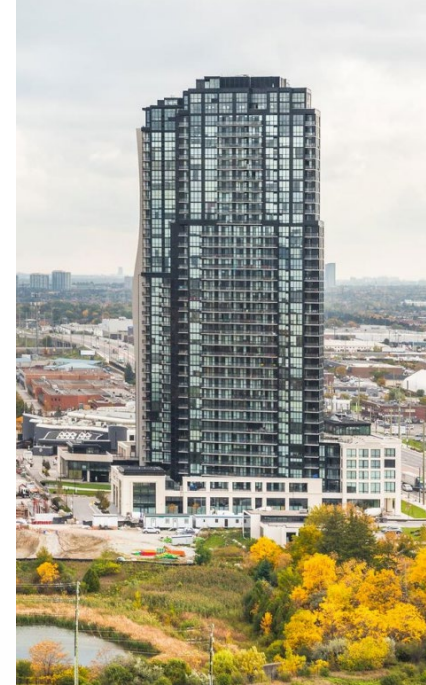
- **3.1.1** Responding to Climate Change
- **3.1.2** Improving Air Quality
- **3.1.3** Sustainable Development
- **3.1.4** Energy Conservation and Efficiency in Vaughan



# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 4

Updated Chapter 3.3 - Urban Design, Built Form and the Elements of a Great City includes the following sections:

- **3.3.1** The Public Realm
- **3.3.2** Built Form
- **3.3.3** Building Types and Development Criteria



# Phase 2: Official Plan Amendment - Package 4

**Updated Chapter 3.7 - Cultural Heritage** includes the following sections:

- **3.7.1** Protecting Vaughan's Cultural Heritage
- **3.7.2** Maintaining an Inventory of Cultural Heritage Resources
- **3.7.3** Promoting Vaughan's Cultural Heritage
- **3.7.4** Ensuring Heritage Protection and Conservation
- **3.7.5** Designated Heritage Properties
- **3.7.6** Non-Designated Heritage Properties
- **3.7.7** Cultural Heritage Impact Assessments
- **3.7.8** Cultural Heritage Landscape Protection
- **3.7.9** Heritage Conservation Districts
- **3.7.10** Cultural Heritage Character Areas
- **3.7.11** Archaeological Resources





A wide-angle photograph of a park. A paved path leads from the foreground towards a gazebo with a red roof in the distance. The path is flanked by lush green trees and bushes. Several park benches are visible, with a few people sitting on them. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. A blue rectangular box with the word "Questions?" in white text is centered in the upper half of the image.

Questions?