February 15, 2022

The Regional Municipality of Halton
Office of the Regional Clerk
1151 Bronte Road
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

Via E-Mail: regionalclerk@halton.ca

To Whom it May Concern:

RE: Integrated Growth Management Strategy Preferred Growth Concept

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide input as a follow up to the Integrated Growth Management Strategy Preferred Growth Concept Regional Council Workshop held on February 9, 2022, as well as, to the February 16, 2022 Regular Meeting of Regional Council.

Our submission provides input into this incredibly complex discussion on the Preferred Growth Concept in an effort to find a balanced approach to future growth that compliments the long-range vision of the Region and its respective municipalities. It is our opinion that a balanced approach should include the following priorities and objectives:

1. Address housing supply and affordability by supporting a market-based choice in housing;
2. protect and enhance the Region's Natural Heritage System;
3. support growth that will contribute to reducing the impacts of Climate Change, preserve Agricultural Land and support a local food supply;
4. protect and promote job creation and a diversified economy;
5. deliver community uses such as parks, community centres, schools, hospitals and places of worship;
6. balance the impact of growth on stable neighbourhoods and planned communities while planning for appropriate densities in intensification areas such as Major Transit Station Areas (MTSAs), nodes and corridors;
7. make efficient use of existing and planned Regional infrastructure; and,
8. consider the local context and vision by acknowledging that the four local municipalities are at different stages of their community build-out.

It is our understanding that Regional Council will be discussing a zero boundary / deferred growth option at the February 16, 2022 meeting, which we believe puts a number of the above priorities and objectives at risk, and furthermore, will not provide a balanced approach to growth across the four municipalities.

We fully support Halton Region Planning staff's work to date, and believe the recommended growth option presented at the November 17, 2021 and February 9, 2022 workshops meets planning for growth to 2051. With the proposed boundary expansion, the Region will deliver:

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1. A significant shift to apartments but also housing choice and housing supply that will continue to attract families to Halton Region;
2. transit supportive and walkable communities, including intensification of the nodes and corridors;
3. development of key community services like hospitals, places of worship and community parks;
4. incorporation of emerging sustainable building practices in new greenfield areas including net zero construction;
5. continued economic development with shovel ready land supply for new businesses and jobs;
6. the local context and vision of each municipality; and,
7. the continued protection of stable neighbourhoods throughout the Region.

Overall, we believe the *Staff Presentation – Regional Official Plan Review: Draft Preferred Growth Concept,* as presented, addresses the above and provides the foundation for continuous housing choice and housing supply as well as shovel ready employment lands for those who are going to call Halton Region home.

Thank you for your time in considering our submission.

Sincerely.

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Executive Vice President, Land Development

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