

PLACES TO GROW

BETTER CHOICES. BRIGHTER FUTURE.

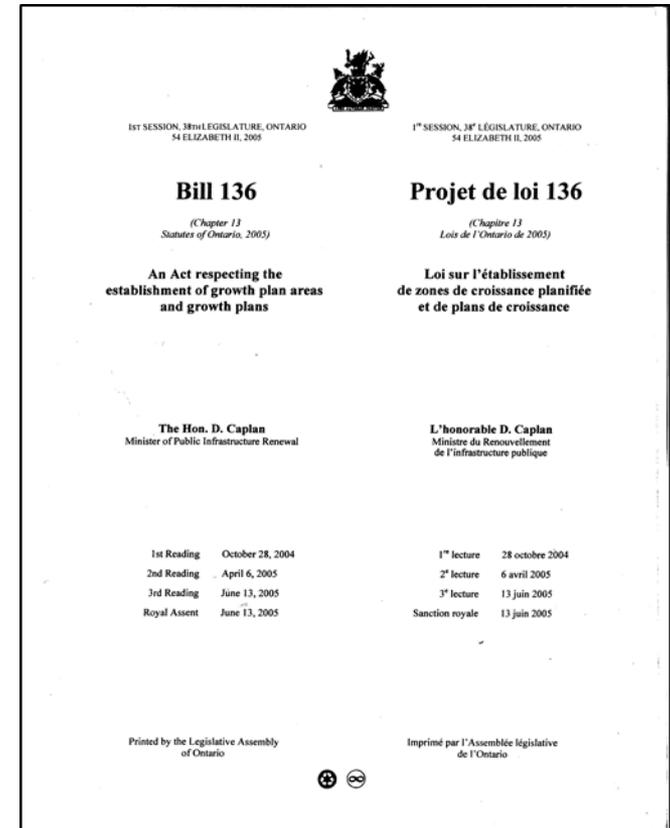
Implementing the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

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Ontario Growth Secretariat
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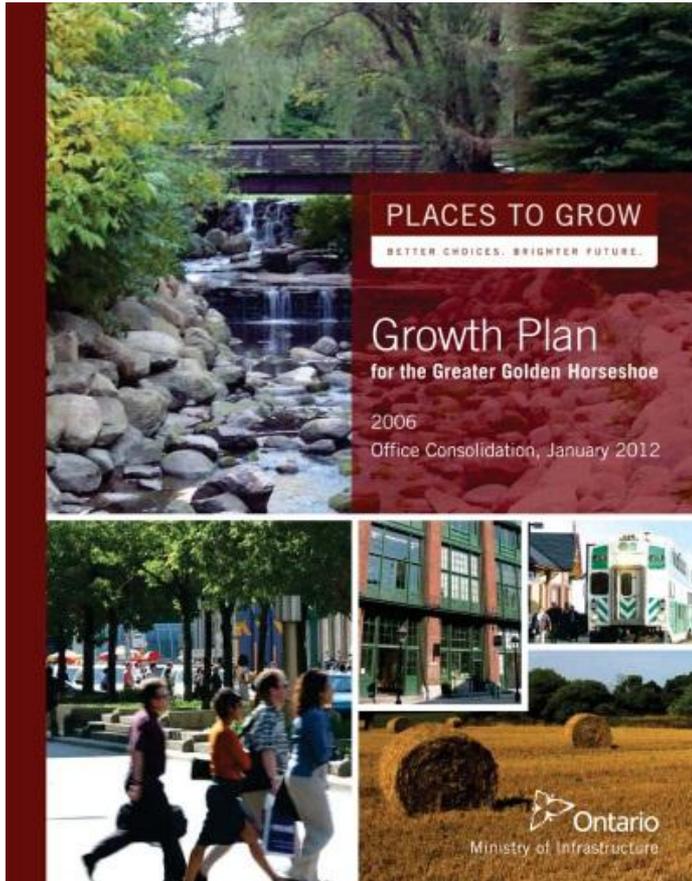


Places to Grow Act, 2005

- Enables the development of growth plans for any part of the province.
- All decisions under the Planning Act and Condominium Act, 1998 must conform to a growth plan's policies.
- Municipal Official Plans must be brought into conformity with a growth plan within 3 years.
- Two growth plans currently in effect: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and Growth Plan for Northern Ontario.



Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2006



- **25-year plan** that establishes policies to:
 - Create complete, compact communities
 - Revitalize downtowns
 - Provide more housing options
 - Protect farmland and natural areas
 - Reduce gridlock by improving transportation options
 - Make more efficient use of infrastructure and urban land

Key Growth Plan Policies

Complete Communities

- Population and employment growth will be managed by encouraging the development of compact, mixed-use, transit-supportive, pedestrian-friendly urban environments.

Coordinated Growth Forecasts

- Schedules in the Growth Plan contain population and employment forecasts that municipalities are required to use for local planning.

Intensification

- New development will be increasingly accommodated through intensification in built-up areas.



Key Growth Plan Policies

Urban Growth Centres

- 25 downtowns identified as urban growth centres, to be high-density, transit-supportive, pedestrian-oriented, cultural and transportation focal points.
- Minimum density targets to be achieved by 2031.

Building Better Suburbs

- Greenfield developments will be built in a way that supports transit services, walking, biking, parks and a mix of housing and jobs.

Employment Areas

- Plan and protect employment areas for long-term economic use.
- Major office or appropriate institutional uses should be located in areas with frequent transit service



Key Growth Plan Policies

Infrastructure to Support Growth

- Transit is the first priority for moving people.
- Highway investment will focus on efficient goods movement.
- Community infrastructure (schools, health care facilities) to be coordinated with planning for population growth.



Protecting what is Valuable

- Complements the 1.8-million-acre protected Greenbelt.
- Limits on expansion of urban development into rural countryside and natural areas.
- The Growth Plan supports measures related to water and energy conservation, waste management and protection of cultural heritage.



How Are We Doing?



Curbing Sprawl



Revitalizing Downtowns



Creating Complete Communities



Increasing Transportation Choice

www.placestogrow.ca

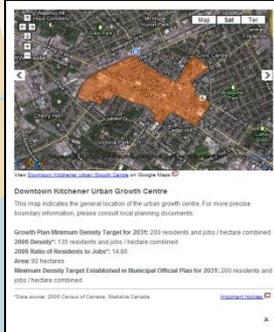
The screenshot shows the Ministry of Infrastructure website. The main navigation includes Home, About the Ministry, News, and Contact Us. The 'Places to Grow' section is highlighted, with a sub-menu containing: About, Growth Plans, Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2006, Supporting Documents, How is the Growth Plan Working So Far?, Awards, Press Coverage, Growth Plan Release - June 16, 2006, Places to Grow Summit, Youth Engagement, Growth Plan for Northern Ontario, 2011, News & Updates, Tools & Resources, and Research & Links. The 'Explore Government' section includes: Contact Us, Telephone Directory, Service Ontario Locations, and MPPs. The main content area features a search bar, a featured image of a construction worker (Minister Bob Chiarelli), and a 'PLACES TO GROW' banner. Below this, there are sections for 'How is the Growth Plan Working So Far?' and 'Growth Planning and the Economy'. The 'How is the Growth Plan Working So Far?' section includes a list of objectives: Curbing Sprawl, Revitalizing Downtowns, Creating Complete Communities, and Increasing Transportation Choice. The 'Growth Planning and the Economy' section discusses the importance of good growth planning. The 'Growth Planning and the Environment' section discusses the importance of good environmental policy. The 'Status' section includes a 'Municipal Official Plan Status' link. At the bottom, there are four small images representing the four main objectives: Curbing Sprawl, Revitalizing Downtowns, Creating Complete Communities, and Increasing Transportation Choice. The footer includes links for Contact, Accessibility, Privacy, and Help, and a note that the page is the Queen's Printer for Ontario, last modified May 04, 2012.

Curbing Sprawl



- Planned greenfield residential **densities have increased** since 2006.
 - The increase is most evident in municipalities beyond the Greenbelt.
- **67%** of new residential units added to the region between June 2009 and June 2010 were located in the existing built-up area.
- A **significant supply of land is already designated** for future urban development in the Greater Golden Horseshoe. In the GTA:
 - 227,000 ha of existing built-up land
 - 51,800 ha of existing designated greenfield
- To accommodate urban growth to 2031, an additional 8,000 – 10,000 ha of rural and agricultural land will be redesignated for urban uses in the GTA.

Downtown Revitalization



Downtown Kitchener Urban Growth Centre

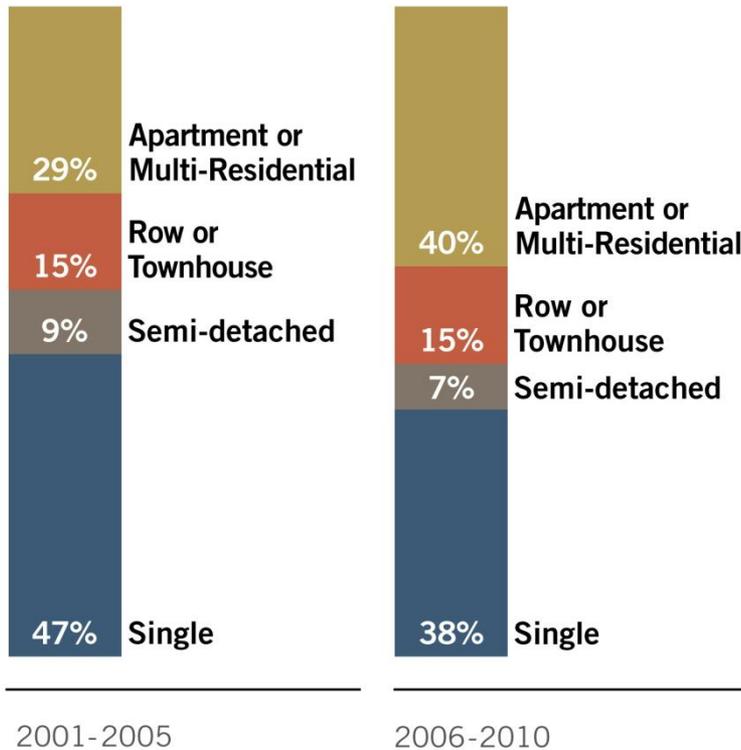


University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy

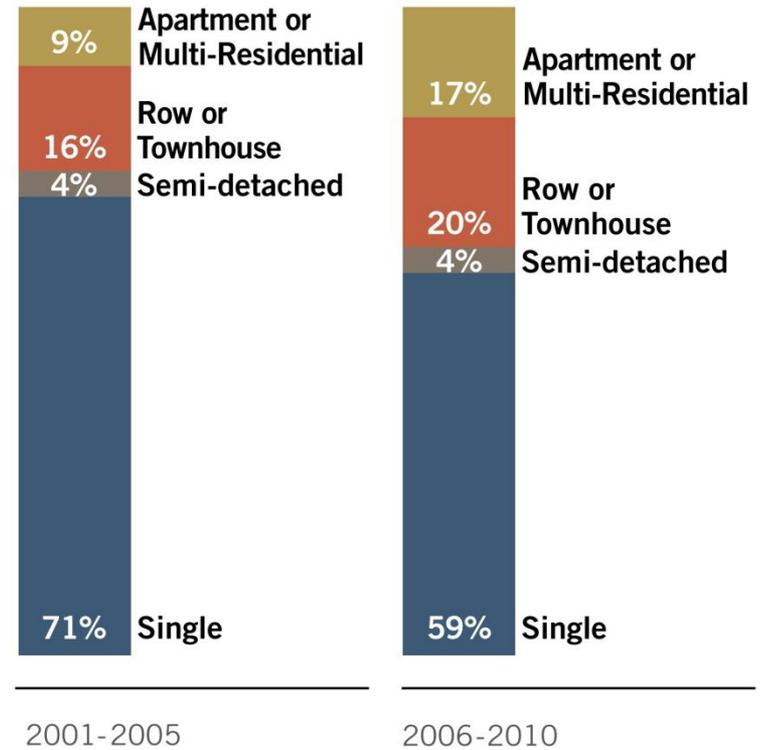
- All **25 urban growth centres** have been delineated in local official plans with applicable density targets.
- **New major office** development is evident in centres such as downtown Toronto, Kitchener and Markham Centre and anchoring others such as downtown Pickering.

Complete Communities

Since 2006, the mix of new housing types built throughout the Greater Golden Horseshoe has become more balanced.



Housing Starts: Greater Toronto and Hamilton



Housing Starts: Outer Ring

Municipal Conformity Status

- All **Upper and Single-tier Municipalities** have adopted an official plan amendment to conform to the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

*The reason for appeals may not be related to the Growth Plan.

IN EFFECT	APPEALED*	AWAITING DECISION	OTHER
6	12	1	2
Counties of Peterborough, Wellington and Haldimand; and Cities of Brantford, Guelph and Peterborough	Regions of Halton, York, Durham, Peel, Niagara, Waterloo; Cities of Barrie, Toronto, Hamilton, Orillia, Kawartha Lakes; Simcoe County	County of Brant	Counties of Northumberland and Dufferin

Chart current as of February 7, 2012