

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP PLEASED WITH REGION'S DECISION

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Not everyone was in favour of the amendment.

Milton Coun. Mike Cluett argued this path puts Milton and Halton Region at financial risk because it will cause the town to run out of land for employment development and urban development.

"Something we have been working on as a community for the last 10 plus years is the vision for our growth, the vision for job opportunities and the vision for building a complete community and building a variety of housing options," said Cluett.

"Reducing or restricting the growth of the urban boundary puts at risk a number of those growth plans."

Milton Coun. Rick Malboeuf said the plan could cause Milton to lose up to 17,000 jobs between now and 2041.

He said Milton's current supply of employment land would

be at capacity by 2031.

Malboeuf also argued the plan requires an inappropriate and unrealistic level of high-density development in Milton and other areas of Halton.

He pointed out the Progressive Conservatives ran on a platform of growth in the recent provincial election and said Halton creating a growth plan that restricts urban boundary expansion may result in Queen's Park imposing a growth plan of their own on Halton.

Milton Coun. Colin Best pointed to regional staff reports that say there is more than enough land within the urban boundaries to accommodate Halton's employment and residential growth for the next 20 years.

"In terms of costing, sprawl costs more than more intense developments and also the industrial/commercial sector is now changing to more intense developments, not only residen-

tial," said Best.

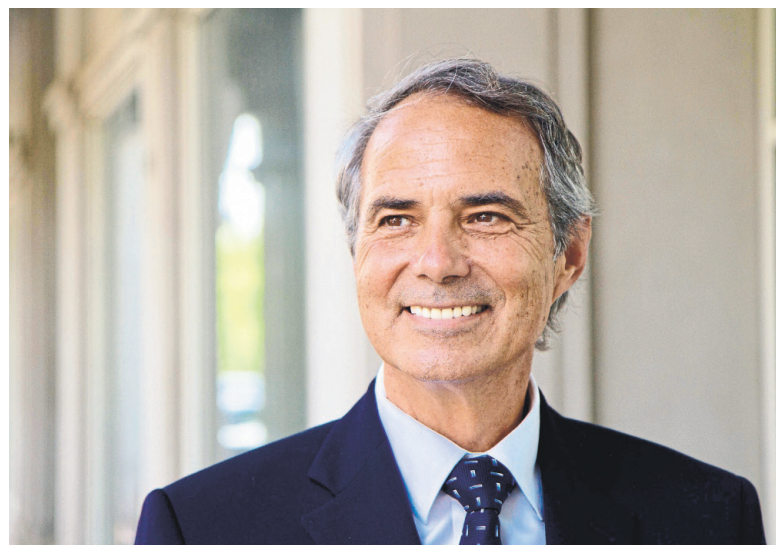
Residents and residents' groups also had conflicting opinions.

In a written submission, the group Stop Sprawl Halton said the region's response to the concerns thousands of Halton residents have expressed regarding the climate emergency and the loss of prime agricultural land is gratifying and appreciated.

"We are very pleased that Halton council recognizes that the climate emergency must be a priority in all decision-making," the group said.

Amanda Kunica stated in a written submission that she supports the Town of Halton Hills' vision to grow by adding new employment lands, housing, schools and a much-needed hospital.

"I am extremely frustrated by the fact that the majority of councillors in Oakville and Burlington are dictating how the Town of Halton Hills uses their



Halton Region photo
Halton Region chair Gary Carr was among those who voted to limit growth to the region's existing urban boundaries.

land to grow our community," she said.

The vote carried 17-7.

Rob Burton and Burlington Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

voted for the amendment, as did Halton Region Chair Gary Carr, while Milton Mayor Gord Krantz and Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette voted against it.

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