making our mark

NIAGARA OFFICIAL PLAN
Project Timeline

- **2019**: Background Studies
- **2020**: Draft Policies and Mapping
- **2021**: Draft Regional Official Plan
- **Year End 2021**: Council Adoption
  - Submission to Province for Approval

Consultations throughout the process.
Public Consultation Formats

• Public Surveys (Imagine Niagara)
• Special Council Meeting
• Stakeholder Meetings and Local Council Updates
• Direct Public Input (Public Information Centres)
• Planning Advisory Committee
Imagine Niagara (2013/14) and Shape Niagara (2018) – Top Priority Themes
Special Council Meeting – July 2018

Key Themes:
• Agriculture
• Natural environment
• Growth management
• Consultation
• Land use designations
Public Information Centres (PICs) – November 2019

- 4 PICs:
  - Nov. 6 - Thorold
  - Nov. 7 - Niagara Falls
  - Nov. 13 - Grimsby
  - Nov. 14 - Fort Erie

- 161 attendees
- 213 interactive board comments
- 61 surveys completed
PICs—Map Where You Live

- 79 participants
  - 70% urban area
  - 30% rural area
## PICs – Digital Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Question</th>
<th>Top 3 Results</th>
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| What is most important for the future of Niagara?                             | 1. More transportation options  
2. More housing options for all ages and incomes  
3. More jobs                                                                 |
| What is most important when it comes to managing growth in Niagara?           | 1. Directing growth to appropriate locations  
2. Using our land and resources wisely  
3. Ensuring growth is supported by infrastructure |
| What do you value the most about Niagara’s rural and agricultural areas?     | 1. The natural environment, open space and scenery  
2. Wineries, events and tourism  
3. Access to a variety of local food |
| What is most important for employment areas?                                  | 1. Access to major infrastructure  
2. Locational / financial competitiveness  
3. Flexible land use patterns |
| When planning growth in Niagara, it is important to address climate change.   | 1. Strongly agree (32)  
2. Agree (11)  
3. Strongly disagree (7) |
What is most important to you?

Top 5 Results:

1. Protecting the natural environment
2. Transportation improvements
3. More housing options
4. Access to open space, waterfronts and natural areas
5. Supporting jobs and economic prosperity
### PICs– Interactive Boards

**What are our biggest challenges and opportunities?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biggest Challenges</th>
<th>Biggest Opportunities</th>
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</table>
| • Low density development  
• Housing diversity  
• Proactive planning  
• Archaeological assessment  
• Public transit  
• Resource extraction  
• Infrastructure for growth  
• Impacts to natural environment  
• Extreme weather events | • Higher-density development  
• More housing options  
• More secondary plans  
• Regional Archaeological Management Plan  
• Public transit/complete streets  
• GO train  
• Manage resource extraction  
• Protect natural environment  
• Action on climate change |
Next Steps

- **Q1 2020**: Develop and evaluate options, as applicable
- **Q2 - Q3 2020**: Prepare draft policies and mapping
- **Q4 2020**: Consult on draft policies and mapping