Broadband Strategy Update

Presentation to
Broadband Advisory Task Force

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October 9, 2015

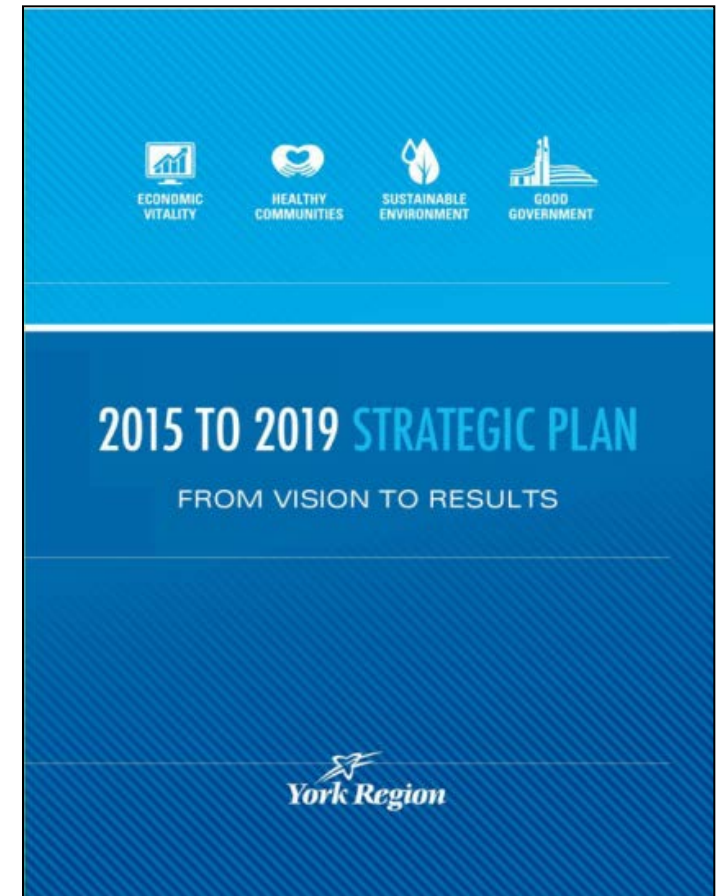*York Region*

York Region Broadband Strategy

Presentation Contents:

- Background
- Objectives
- Analysis
- Vision and Priorities
- Outcomes
  - Education and Advocacy Priority Activities
  - Municipal Process Priority Activities
  - Infrastructure Investment Priority Activities
- Summary

York Region Broadband Strategy: Background

- **2015-2019 Strategic Plan**
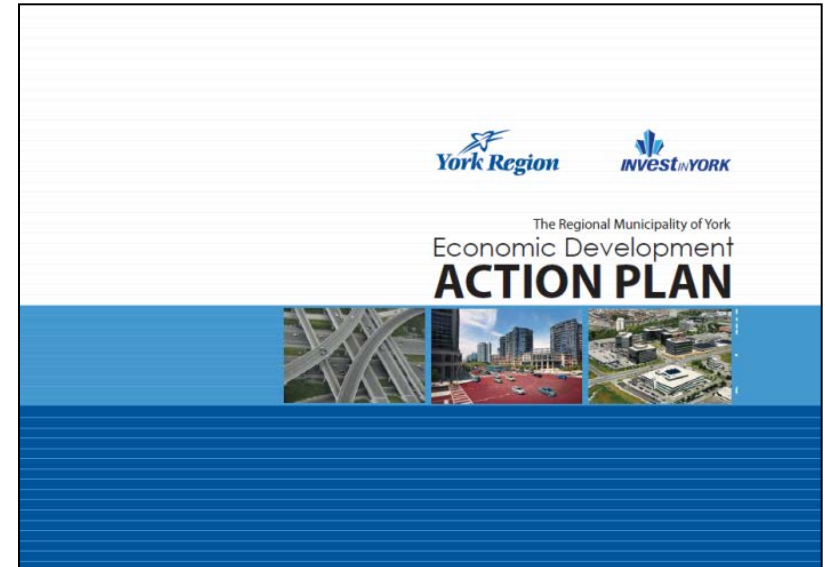 - ➤ Strategic Priority Area: Strengthen The Region's Economy

Objective #3:
Focusing on networks and systems that connect people, goods and services

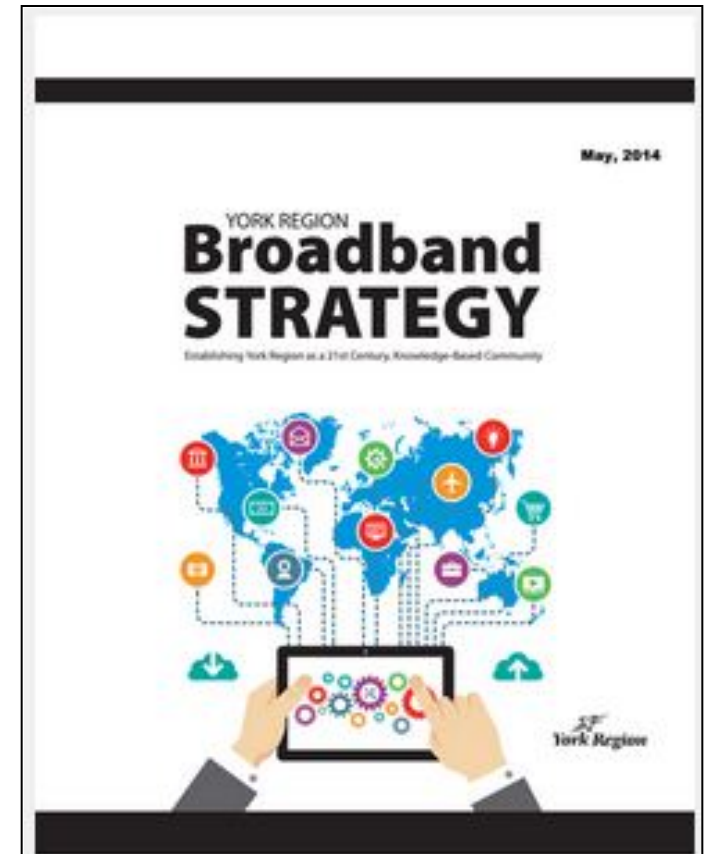# York Region Broadband Strategy: Background

- **Economic Development Action Plan**

Transformational Goal 2:
Provide connectivity infrastructure to support innovation

York Region Broadband Strategy: Background

- **York Region Broadband Strategy Document:**

Broadband is available across the York Region
but not always at appropriate costs and speeds
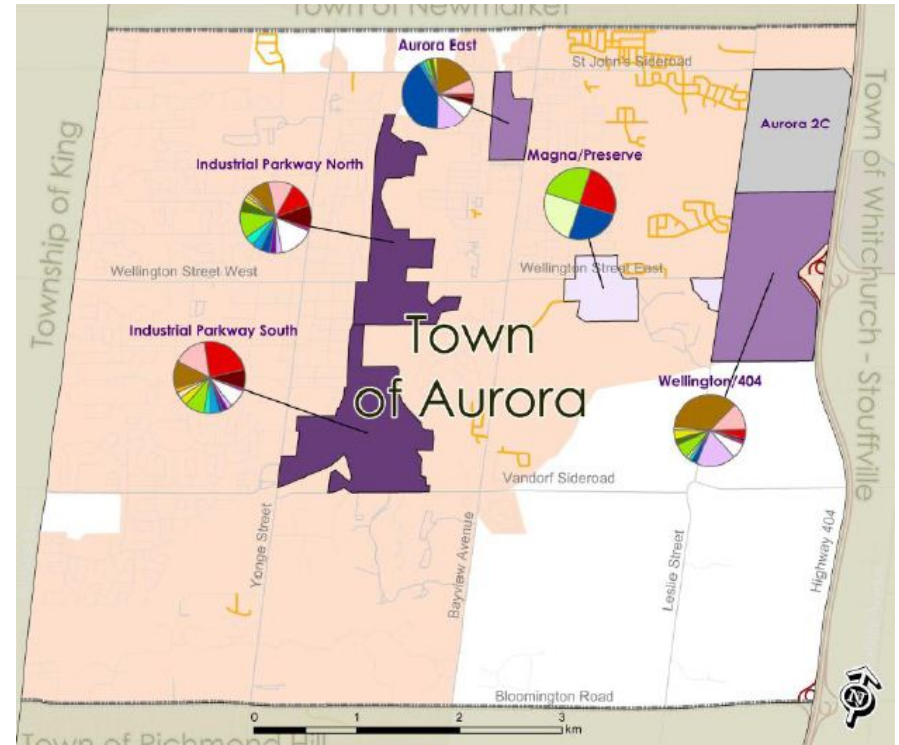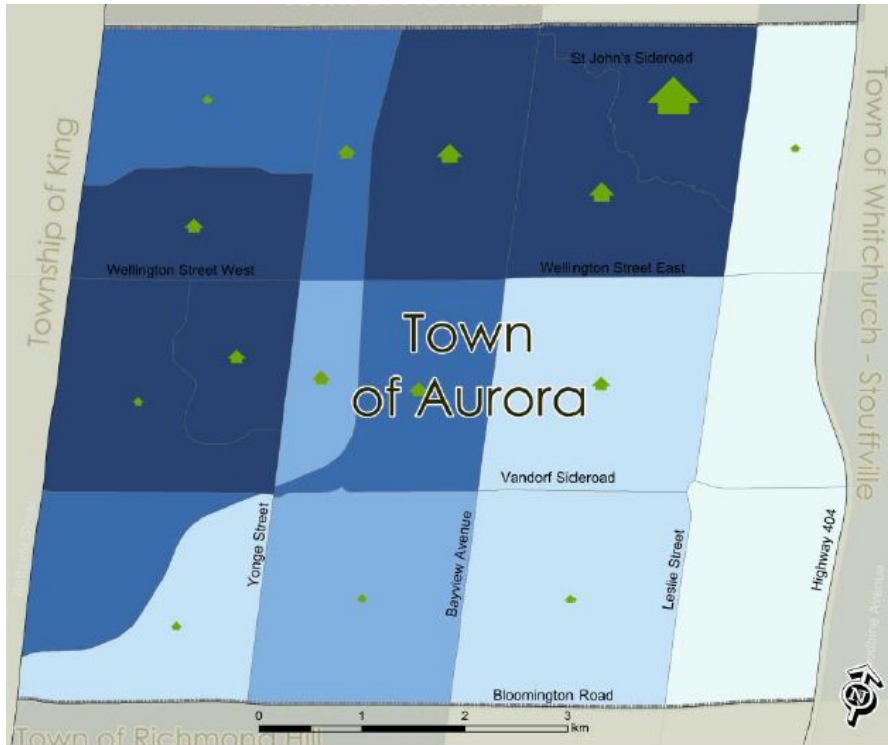
York Region Broadband Strategy: Objectives

- Encourage investments that will provide higher connectivity speeds to 100% of the businesses, institutions and homes within York Region

- Create an environment that facilitates open, competitive and innovative services and applications

- Maximize the efficient investment of both public and private sector resources to improve connectivity throughout York Region

Vision Statement:
To establish York Region as a Gigabit Region, recognized for its leadership in fostering an eco-system of collaboration and business innovation within a connected lifestyle community.
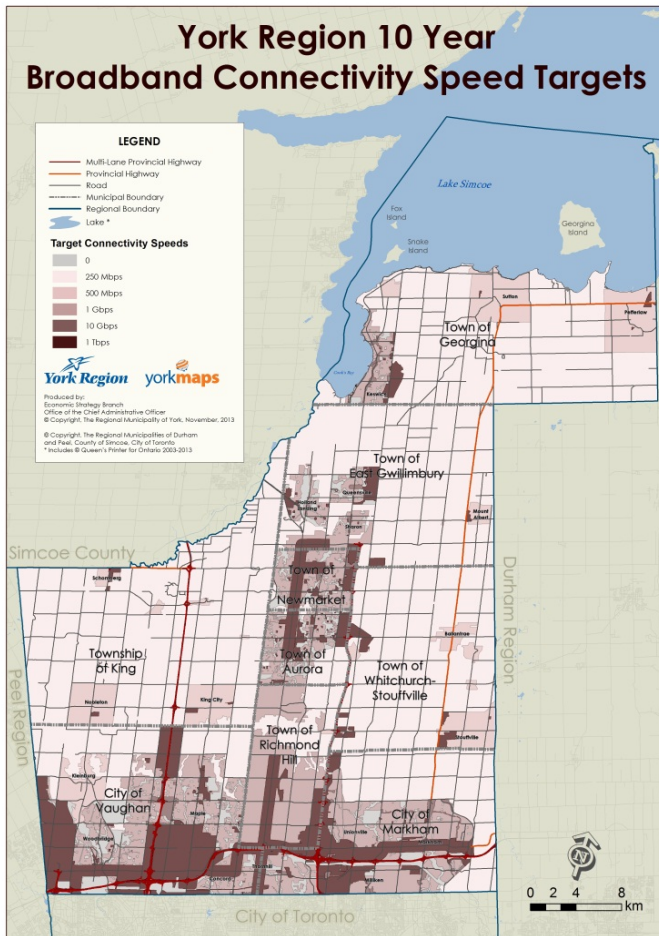
York Region Broadband Strategy: Analysis

Municipal Connectivity Opportunity Analysis

Identified market opportunities for residential and business areas

York Region Broadband Strategy: Analysis

York Region 10 Year Broadband Connectivity Speed Targets

- **Overall Target:** improved connectivity across the Region.

- **Major Focus Areas:**
  - ➢ Employment Lands
  - ➢ Centres and Corridors
  - ➢ Rural Communities

- **Certain areas have been identified for greater connectivity due to:**
  - ➢ Ability to complement municipal planning goals
  - ➢ Ability to improve economic development
  - ➢ Ease of investment and availability of infrastructure

Identified potential connectivity speed targets

York Region Broadband Strategy: Analysis
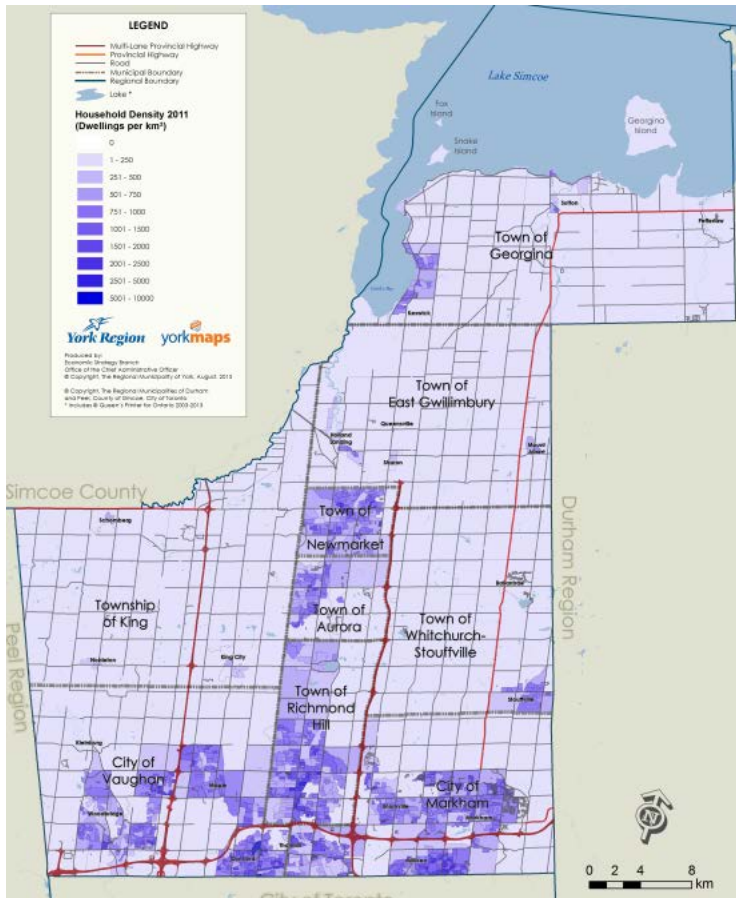
- **A hierarchy of approaches**:
  1. Private Investment – aim is to get private sector to make investment.
  2. Public-Private – if hurdle rate can't be met, explore public-private partnership.
  3. Public – if public-private won't work, explore public investment.

- **Approach to engaging investments**:
  - Engage telecommunications firms on opportunities.
  - Provide detailed demographic (household density, population, etc.) and business data to help develop business plan.
  - Find ways to ease investment process (approval process, shared infrastructure, etc.)

Identified a range of approaches to improve connectivity

York Region Broadband Strategy: Vision and Priorities

Broadband Strategy Vision:
To establish York Region as a Gigabit Region, recognized for its leadership in fostering an eco-system of collaboration and business innovation within a connected lifestyle community

Education & Advocacy Priorities	Municipal Process Priorities	Infrastructure Investment Priorities
Government Engagement	Harmonize Municipal Access Agreements	ORION PoP at Southlake & York Region Research and Education Network
Development Industry Engagement	Development Approval Process	
Property Management Engagement	Wireless Communications Toolkit	Community Wi-Fi Network
	Regional Conduit Network	Low-Cost Internet for Social Housing
		Regional Wide Area Network Connectivity (e.g. YTN)

Council endorsed the Vision and priority objectives presented in the Broadband Strategy

York Region Broadband Strategy: Outcomes

Education & Advocacy Priorities Activities

- Digital Canada 150 Strategy "Connecting Canadians" Fund Program info session facilitation

- Connected Communities Seminar – Cisco Canada

- York Region Research and Education Network

- Ongoing engagement with Building Industry and Land Development (BILD) Association

- York Region Broadband and Innovation Summit (Oct 30, 2015)

Engaging public and private sector stakeholders on the opportunities and potential uses of high-speed connectivity will help attract and enable Broadband investment in York Region

York Region Broadband Strategy: Outcomes

Municipal Process Priorities Activities

- Broadband-oriented Working Groups:

  - ➢ Planning Policy Language

  - ➢ Wireless Connectivity

  - ➢ Employment Areas

  - ➢ Centres and Corridors/Intelligent Communities

  - ➢ Municipal Conduit Network Development

Leveraging and harmonizing municipal processes and investments can enable private sector investments in connectivity infrastructure

York Region Broadband Strategy: Outcomes

Infrastructure Investment Priorities Activities

- ORION Point of Presence (PoP) at Southlake Regional Health Centre

  - ➤ PoP Installation and Connection to York University

- Ongoing engagement with Local Municipalities and Internet Service Providers (ISPs)

- YTN Review (Next Report to Regional Council – Q1- 2016)

Ensuring public and private sector investments are directed to where they will be most effective in improving connectivity is important for efficiently meeting current and future needs

York Region Broadband Strategy: Summary

- Broadband is available across the York Region but not always at appropriate costs and speeds

- Improving Broadband access across York Region requires a multi-faceted approach and ongoing work with many partners and stakeholders

- Priorities have been identified, activities have commenced and progress has been made

Questions & Discussion

York Region