



# RP+5

Regional Plan 5 Year Review

**Community Design Advisory Committee**

**December 12, 2012**



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- Regional Plan Context (Re-cap)
- RP+5 Review
  - Reconfirming the Key Policy Directions
- Next Steps
  - Schedule

## **Regional Plan Guiding Principles:**

1. Ensure opportunities for the protection of open space, wilderness, natural beauty, and sensitive environmental areas.
2. Preserve and promote sustainability of cultural and historical assets.
3. Support appropriate roles for the Regional Centre as a focus for economic, cultural and residential activities.
4. Support development patterns that promote a vigorous regional economy.
5. Manage development in a way that will make the most effective use of land, energy, infrastructure, public services and facilities and considers healthy lifestyles.
6. Develop integrated transportation systems in conjunction with the other principles.
7. Provide a framework that leads to predictable, fair, cost effective decision making.



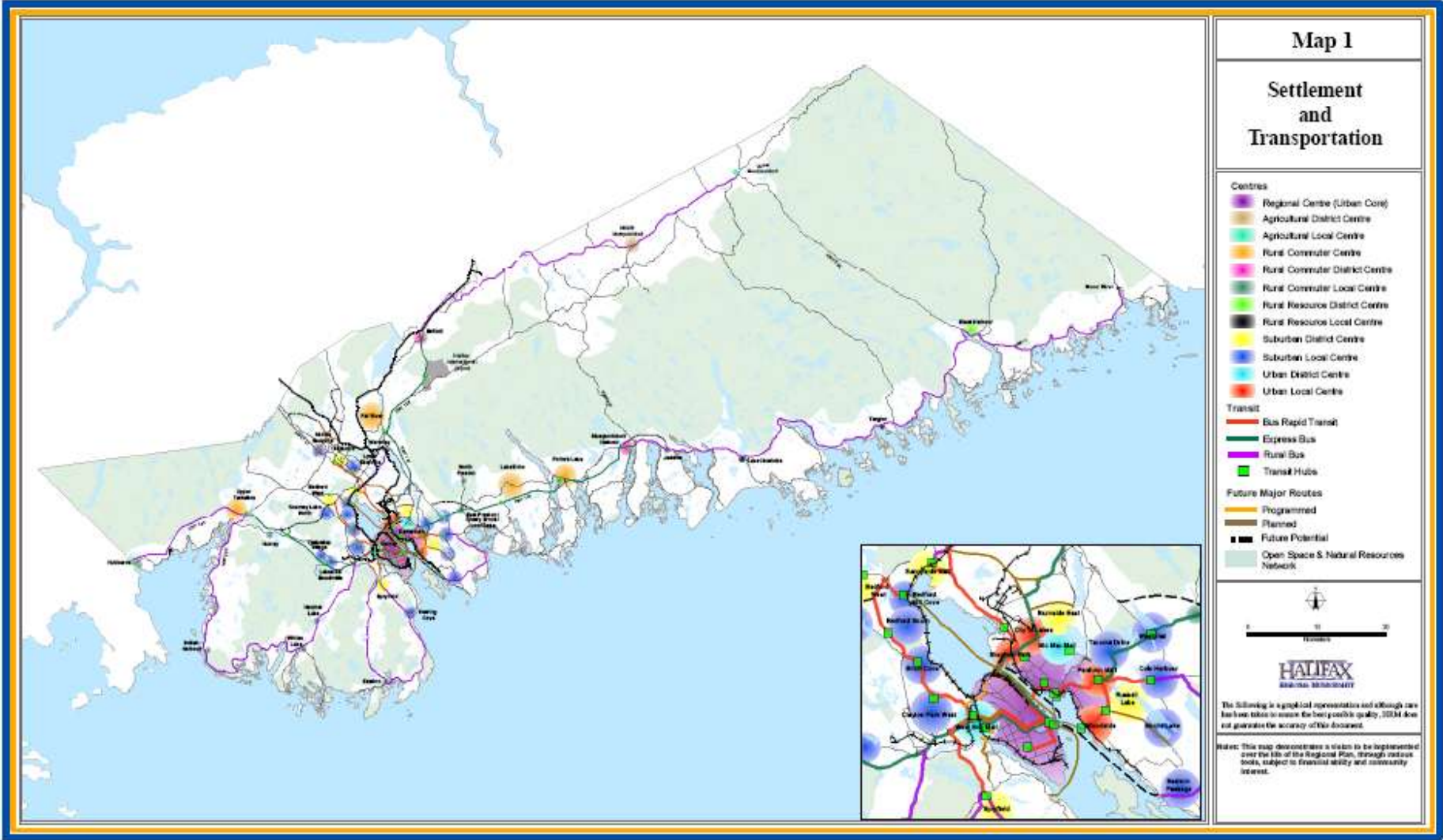
- 14 new bus routes, including Metro-X and MetroLink, new transit operations centre in Ragged lake and new Dartmouth transit terminal
- AT Plan completed, 246 kms of trails and 50 kms of bike lanes since 2008
- 7 major roadway projects
- new Halifax Downtown Plan approved
- 20+ new development and heritage restoration projects built/underway
- \$34 M in municipal investments in the downtown core (2006-2010)
- new Central Library well underway
- Regional Centre focus in the 2011-2016 Economic Strategy
- Harbour Solutions project completed
- 5 major recreational facilities developed plus the skating oval

- 8 watershed studies completed/underway
- 2 new urban design studies
- new Fall River Secondary Plan approved
- 17 Functional Plans completed/partially completed
- 4 open space planning initiatives
- Urban Forest Master Plan approved
- new policy for siting wind turbines

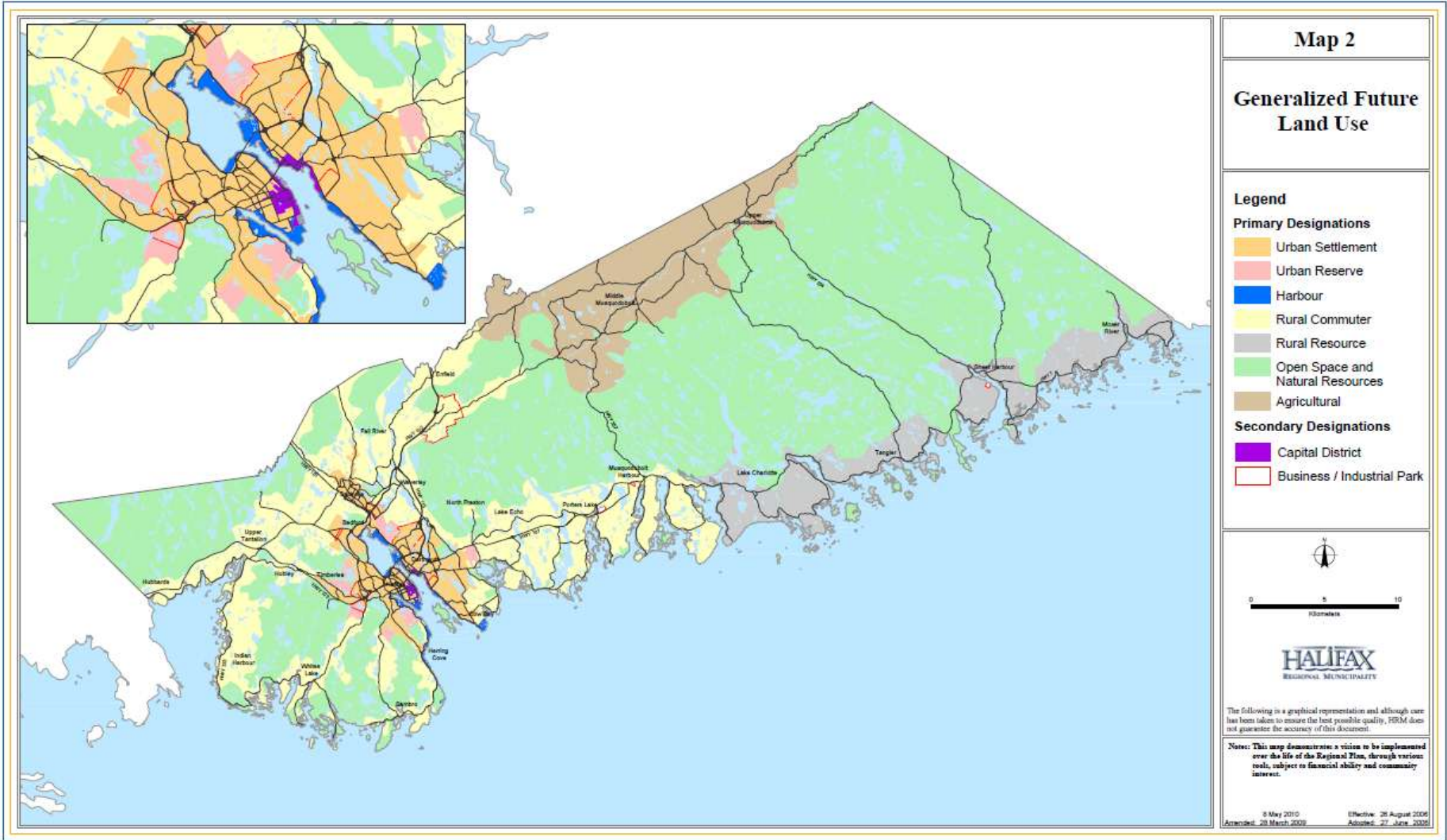
# Functional Plans - Status Update (September 2012)

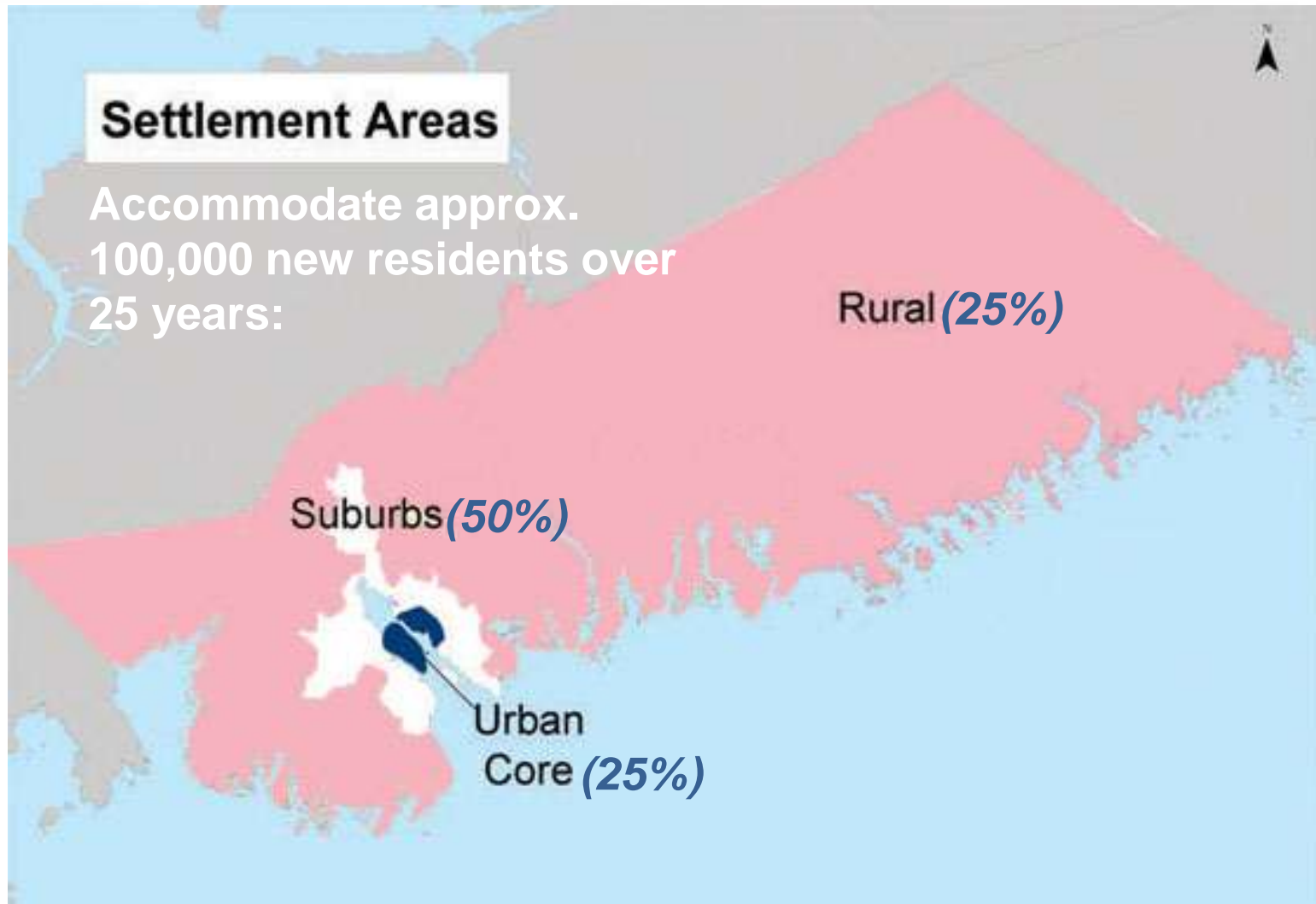
| Complete   | Partially Complete<br>(Completed Components)   | Underway                                      |
|--|--|---|
| Emissions Reduction (ESSC / P&I)   | Urban Design Guidelines (CPED / P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HRMbyDesign / Downtown Halifax MPS</li> </ul>  | Communication Towers (CPED / P&I)             |
| Water Quality Monitoring <sup>1</sup> (ESSC / P&I)   | Communication & Public Education (CPED / P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Engagement Strategy</li> </ul>  | Opportunity Sites (CPED / P&I)                |
| Cultural Plan (CPED / P&I)   | Halifax Harbour (CPED / P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wrights Cove Study</li> <li>Western Shore Bedford Basin Study</li> <li>Northwest Arm Waterlot Infill Policy</li> <li>Sea Level Rise Modeling</li> </ul>  | Potential Hazards to Development (ESSC / P&I) |
| Community Energy (ESSC / P&I)  | Capital District Public Infrastructure (CPED / P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Art Policy</li> <li>Strategic Urban Partnership</li> </ul>   | Housing Affordability (CPED/P&I)              |
| Business Parks (CPED / P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part 1: HRM-wide &amp; Burnside</li> <li>Part 2: Bayers Lake</li> </ul> | Underground Utilities (ESSC / TPW, P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Trench Standard</li> </ul>  |   |
| Urban Forest Master Plan ( ESC/P&I)  | Transportation (TRANSPORTATION / P&I, TRANSIT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active Transportation</li> <li>Regional Parking Strategy</li> <li>5-Year Public Transit Strategy</li> <li>Road Network <sup>2</sup></li> <li>Transportation Demand Management</li> </ul> |   |
| Wastewater Management (CPED/HFXWater)  | Open Space (CPED / P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Facilities MP</li> <li>Western Common MP</li> <li>Dartmouth Common MP</li> </ul>  |   |
|  | Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business Location Analysis</li> </ul>   |   |
|  | Heritage (CPED / P&I) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barrington Street Heritage Conservation District (HCD)</li> <li>Inventory of Municipally owned heritage assets</li> </ul>   |   |
|  | Stormwater Management (ESSC / P&I, HFX. WATER) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Best Practices Research</li> </ul>   |   |

**(Standing Committee / Lead Business Unit) Responsibility**

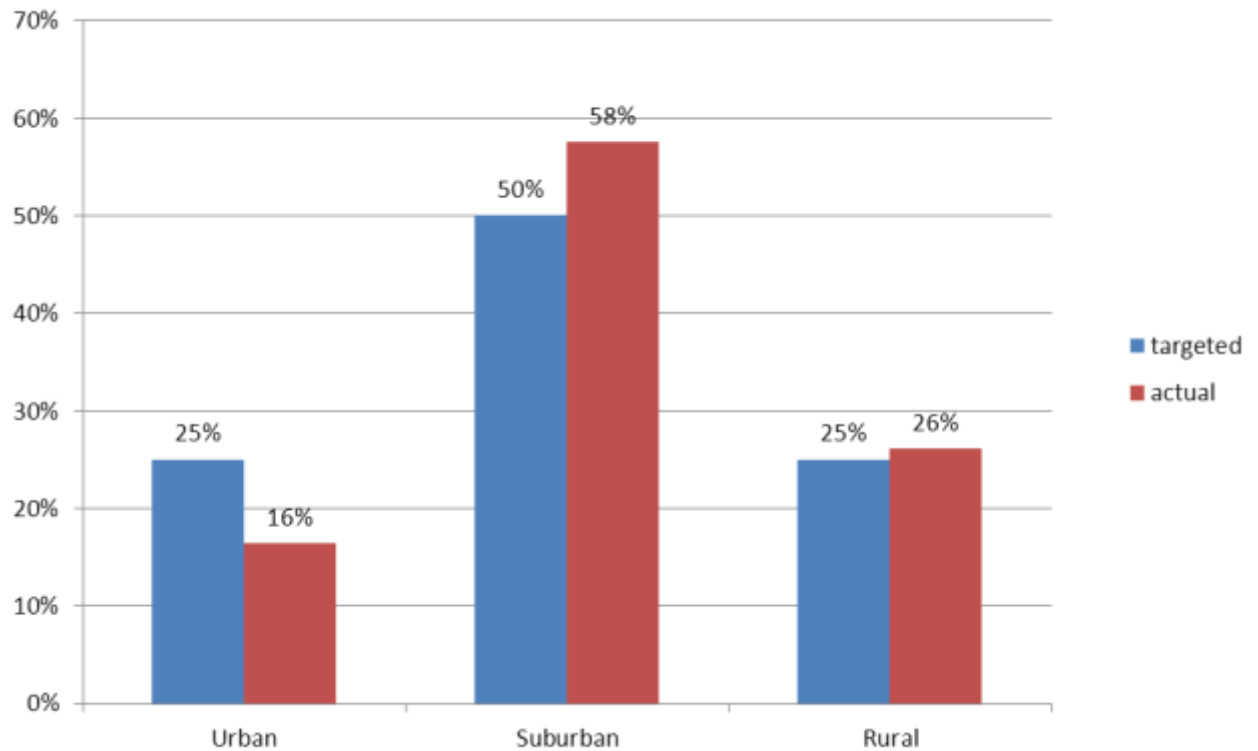








**In the first 6 years of the Regional Plan, urban growth targets have not been on track to meet desired levels.**



- Population has increased by 17,400 (4.7%) to approximately 390,000 (Statistics Canada, 2011)
- Dwelling unit count has increased by 12,100 (7.3%) with a significant shift towards multi-unit dwellings (Statistics Canada, 2011)
- 19,000 additional jobs have been created (Statistics Canada, 2010)
- Development applications and inquiries in the Regional Centre are at unprecedented levels
- New provincial greenhouse gas emission targets
- Anticipated impact of the Ships Contract
- Increased energy costs and volatility

## The Regional Plan 5-Year Review (RP+5)

- Understanding that conditions change over time, the 2006 Regional Plan was written as a living document intended to be responsive to emerging challenges and opportunities.
- Plan includes a mechanism requiring that it be formally reviewed and updated every five years.
- Public engagement will shape the recommendations presented to Regional Council. Consultation has focused on how key policies need to address current and emerging challenges and opportunities.



**RP+5**  
Regional Plan 5 Year Review



# RP+5

Regional Plan 5 Year Review

## Key Policy Directions

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## 1. Revised Community Design program to include:

- a) greenbelting as an organizing concept for HRM's open space network;
- b) stronger protection of riparian buffers
- c) stronger emphasis on active transportation;
- d) enhanced role for culture and heritage and establishment of priorities for investment;
- e) new infrastructure regulations including the undergrounding of power services;
- f) housing affordability through partnership with the Province and by requiring secondary suites;
- g) revised rural subdivision standards; and
- h) changes to the number and classification of growth centres to reflect new information on the cost and potential for servicing

## **2. New Regional Centre Chapter to include:**

- a) costs and benefits of increased focus on urban density;
- b) policy support for Centre Plan project;
- c) identification of open space needs for higher density neighbourhoods;
- d) siting of major civic infrastructure and public realm improvements; and
- e) emphasis on existing neighbourhoods through identification and protection of neighbourhood character



### **3. Review of transportation projects to ensure alignment with growth pattern:**

- a) Transportation Design Management;
- b) regional road works;
- c) identification of active transportation corridors;
- d) urban transit focus; and
- e) rural transit support

## **4. Preserve and expand industrial land holdings:**

- a) Halifax Harbour industrial lands;
- b) municipal business parks; and
- c) private business parks.

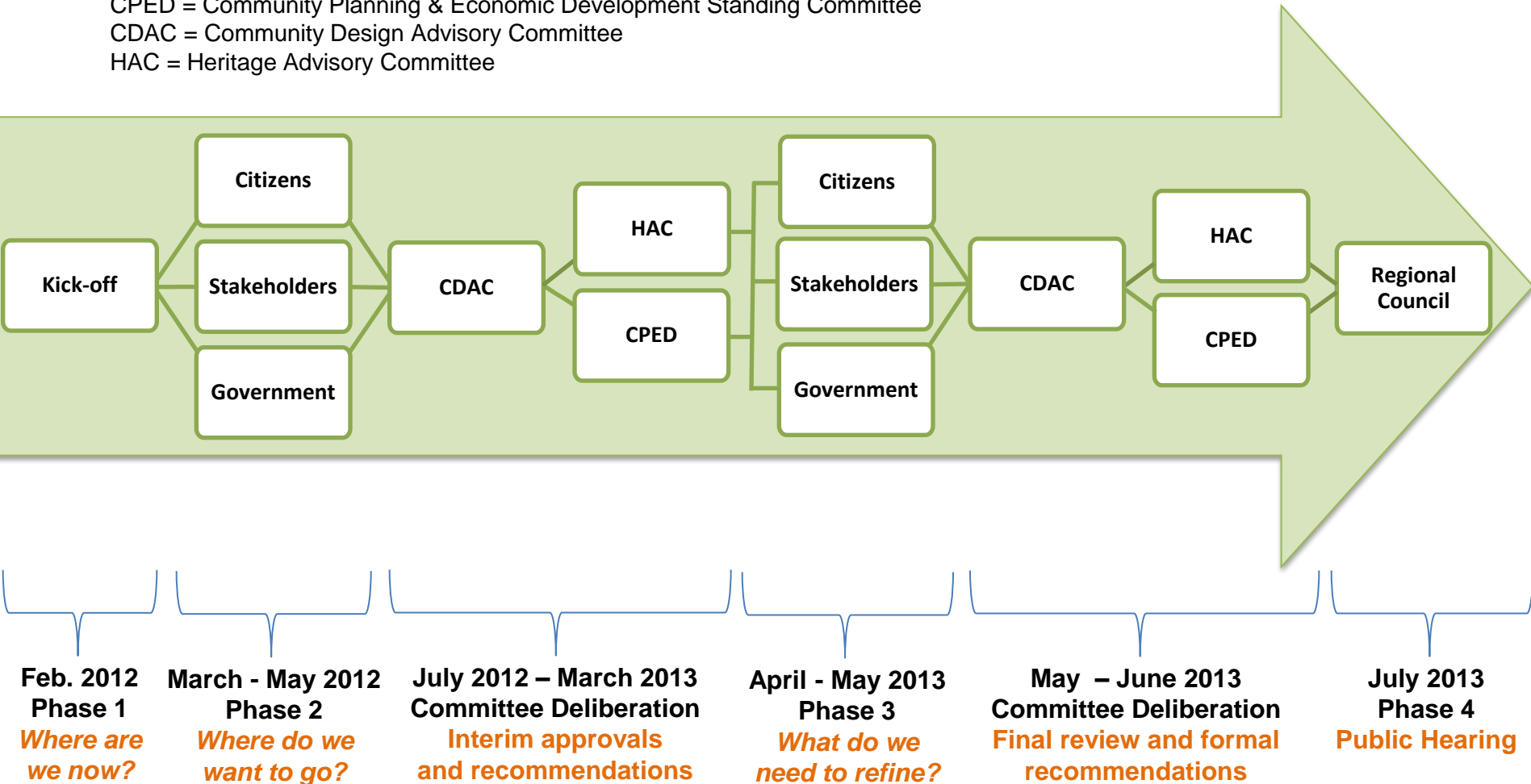
## **5. Measure the Plan's performance:**

- a) urban, suburban and rural growth targets;
- b) commercial growth; and
- c) residential land supply.

## **December 2012 – July 2013:**

- Focus on producing the draft revised Regional Plan
- Present research, final summary of public input, assessment and rationale for all proposed changes
- Complete Phase 3 Community Engagement
- Present the revised Regional Plan to:
  - Community Design Advisory Committee
  - Community Planning & Economic Standing Committee
  - Heritage Advisory Committee
  - Regional Council
- Hold Public Hearing

CPED = Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee  
 CDAC = Community Design Advisory Committee  
 HAC = Heritage Advisory Committee



# Questions... Discussion... Feedback...

