



The Regional Plan sets the overall direction for growth, development and settlement patterns across all HRM, which are implemented in community plans and land use by-laws. The Draft Regional Plan directs updates to community plans so that they align with regional growth goals, and to support inclusive and complete communities close to transit, services and green space.

What's in the Draft Plan?

Enabling Complete Communities

Complete communities are neighbourhoods that provide:

- A range of housing types for all ages, incomes and abilities;
- Places to work, learn, and shop;
- Access to nature, green space, and recreation;
- Frequent, convenient and accessible transit;
- Active transportation, trails and roads; and
- Amenities and services such as healthcare, childcare and emergency services.

Regional Plan policies give direction to community plans to ensure their land use rules will support the development of complete communities.

Community Planning Program

HRM has over 20 community plans, many of which are over 30 years old and no longer address today's priorities and issues. The Community Planning Program will update these plans and organize them around three major geographies:

- **Regional Centre** – Peninsular Halifax and Dartmouth inside the Circumferential Highway. (This updated Regional Centre Plan was adopted in 2021.)
- **Suburban** – areas within the existing municipal water and transit service boundary.
- **Rural** – communities not served by central water, wastewater and conventional transit, which are shaped by access to natural resources, and agricultural and resource industries.



Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) is seeking feedback on the Draft Regional Plan (released June 2023). This Topic Summary provides a broad overview of objectives and policies contained in the Draft Plan. For further details, speak with a staff member or consult the Draft Plan. The Draft Plan is available online and in Halifax Public Libraries.

shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/regional-plan (or scan the QR Code)

regionalplan@halifax.ca

902-943-3248

Identifying Growth Centres

There are areas within each Plan that can support significant growth due to existing or planned infrastructure. The level and type of growth is different in each area:

- **Regional Centre and Suburban Area** – existing downtowns, and sites with opportunities for significant mixed-use development, close to existing or planned rapid transit;
- **Rural Areas** – direct growth to rural centres where compact development patterns can support village main streets and a range of mobility options, including active transportation.

The map below identifies the Regional Centre, Suburban Area, and Rural Area of the municipality.

More information on this topic is contained in Chapter 3 of the Draft Plan.

