

### ***Where to grow?***

Depending on the Preferred 'How to Grow' Option, if an urban boundary expansion is required, determining where the City can feasibly expand its urban boundary by evaluating Candidate Expansion Areas.

### ***When to grow?***

Once the feasible Candidate Expansion Areas are determined, evaluating phasing scenarios to decide when these areas should be planned for development.

## **1.1 Purpose of Report**

The evaluation of growth options is being undertaken based on a comprehensive approach based on ten themes. In August 2021, a background report was prepared to present both the evaluation framework as well as criteria for each theme.

The purpose of this report is to provide information and analysis to support ***Theme 6. Transportation Systems***. The report also presents information to support ***Theme 2: Climate Change***.

The focus of the analysis is primarily on Stage 1 of the evaluation framework, addressing the question of How to Grow. The analysis will be extended through subsequent iterations of this report as the evaluation progresses to support Stages 2 and 3 of the framework.

## **1.2 Description of Growth Alternatives**

GRIDS 2 will result in a long-term growth strategy which allocates forecasted population and employment growth for the 2021 to 2051 time period. The Provincial forecasts for Hamilton project a total 2051 population of 820,000 persons and total employment of 360,000 jobs, a net increase of 236,000 persons and 122,000 jobs.

As part of the question of "How to Grow?" two alternatives at the City-scale are being contemplated:

- An 'Ambitious Density' Growth Option (1,310 ha expansion for new Designated Greenfield Lands)
- A 'No Urban Boundary Expansion' Growth Option

A map of the potential new designated greenfield lands also referred to as 'whitebelt' lands, is provided in Figure 1.1, with a summary of the key features of each growth option is provided in Table 1-1.