

# Community Priority: Development

## Citizens Vision for Development, 2027

“Our shared vision is for Kitchener to be a community that has carefully planned its neighbourhoods and growth by trying to attract specific types of growth, even if it means restricting some new developments.”

We will not sacrifice our quality of life for development. Future development in Kitchener needs to reflect balance and vision - a sustainable healthy community in which to live and raise our families.

Livable, attractive communities are created over time as the result of hundreds, even thousands, of development decisions. We must continue to make the decisions that now, and in the years to come, ensure an effective balance between our economic needs, the needs of business and industry, the needs of our environment, and the needs of residents.

And we should devote as much of our energy, resources, care and concern, to our neighbourhoods as we have to our downtown revitalization efforts because, while we have a downtown on the edge of a new frontier - we are, in the end, one city - and each part of our city must be part of the great success story that we have worked to create.

### Strategic Directions:

To ensure responsible, people-centred development of our community - Compass Kitchener recommends that the following strategic directions be undertaken:

1. That the city manages its growth and development relative to the Province’s “Places to Grow”, the “Regional Growth Management Strategy” and the “City of Kitchener’s Official Plan” with a view to the critical elements of a healthy community. As such the city must consider the economic, social, cultural and environmental implications of all future development projects and initiatives.
2. That the results of the community engagement process on growth management be used in the preparation of key quality of life indicators for the city.
3. That, as part of its growth management strategy, the city maintains its balanced approach to replacing and/or expanding existing infrastructure and building new infrastructure, such as water, sewer capacity and roads, to support current and anticipated growth.
  - That the Mayor and Council continue to advocate for Kitchener's share of federal and provincial tax dollars and funds from federal/provincial and other infrastructure investment programs.
4. That the city advocate for and bring forward new technologies as the infrastructure of the future (e.g. fibre optics, wireless).
5. That the city continues with its economic strategies, including its focus on cluster development (manufacturing, education and knowledge creation, bio-medicine and pharmaceuticals, and arts and culture), urban vitality and employment lands, as a solid approach to the city's economic health and well-being.
6. That the city completes an inventory of cultural heritage resources that identifies buildings for future listing on the Heritage Registry, or for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act.
7. That the city ensures the conservation of identified cultural heritage resources is addressed in reviewing development applications and planning infrastructure improvements.

*Key corporate strategies which support the Development theme can be found under Appendix 1.4.*