

From: Jay Lennox

Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 4:24 PM

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Cc: Emmerson, Wayne <Wayne.Emmerson@york.ca>; Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>; David West <david.west@richmondhill.ca>

Subject: Employment lands - why can't business build in Richmond Hill

Gentlemen

I could have sent you the very long email from Environmental Defence, which I am sure that you will receive many times in the coming days, but instead let me give you my view on this topic.

As a society we have been putting development ahead of the environment for as long as I have been alive, 69 plus years. 20 years ago there was a battle to protect the Oak Ridges Moraine resulting in the establishment of the Green Belt. The Town of Richmond Hill and its citizens were leaders in this battle. Since then there has been a continued and serious degradation in our environment, and more than ever we need to protect all of the established Green Belt.

As I recall there was a request recently that City Council was considering to allow the rezoning of Richmond Hill employment land along the 404 corridor to allow residential development. How can there possibly be a shortage of employment lands when no one wants to build on land that our city has reserved for exactly that purpose.

Perhaps there is a lack of employment lands in other municipalities within York Region, but what that is saying is that they have been very effective and attracting industry and have consumed their employment lands. Voting for the two agenda items will only encourage employment development in other municipalities, and not Richmond Hill.

Based on the above I am requesting that you do not support these two agenda items:

Item 1. Council reiterate its request to the Province to develop a process allowing municipalities to access strategically located employment lands inside the Greenbelt Plan area, if deemed necessary through a Municipal Comprehensive Review.

Item 2. Council reiterate its request to the Province to permit the extension of Great Lake based servicing as an option to service settlement areas within the Greenbelt Plan and Oak Ridges Moraine Plan areas.

Thank you for considering my request.

Jay Lennox
Richmond Hill, ON