

From: Johnny Wideman

Sent: Friday, October 9, 2020 9:55 AM

To: Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>; +wayne.emmerson@york.ca

Subject: Today's Council Meeting for York Region

Dear Mayors and Regional Councillors,

I am writing to request that you vote against items 1 and 2 on your agenda today. As a lifelong York Region resident, I am passionate about preserving farmland and natural areas in the Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine.

Item 1. A 2017 York Region report identified 2,588 ha of vacant employment lands available for development. As the annual uptake of employment land is 7 ha to 19 ha annually there is no shortage of employment lands for the next several decades.

Integrating employment with transit and active transportation helps us build communities where we can work, live and play. By locating employment lands within our towns and cities encourages more people are encouraged to walk, take transit or cycle to work rather than drive, reducing gridlock, emissions and improving quality of life.

Item 2. A 2016 York Region Housing Supply report indicated that the region had a 21 to 23 year supply of land designated for housing and further that 91% of ground- related units within registered, or draft, approved applications have been provided with servicing. The Region should look to complete developments within existing urban land before extending the water and sewage pipes to service new land for housing in existing farm and natural areas.

I urge Council to support efficient growth by building up in our existing urban areas, utilize efficient sewer servicing and stop putting our farmland and natural areas at risk.

I ask that Members of Council vote no to both of these items.

Thank you