

From: Theresa Sherwood
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 12:00 PM
To: Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>
Subject: Reject Highway 413

Dear York Regional Councillors and Mayors,

As a York Region resident I am calling on you to oppose the Province's construction of the GTA West Highway (also known as Highway 413) at the upcoming York Regional Council meeting on February 11th.

This mega-highway will rip through our community with devastating impacts on our homes, our communities, our farmland, our wetlands, and will pave over many hectares of Greenbelt in Vaughan despite the Province's promises to protect the Greenbelt. It will also add more polluting cars and trucks to our roads and increase the region's greenhouse gas emissions.

Despite these impacts, York Regional Councillors voted to support the Province's GTA West Highway in December 2019, stating that "York Region supports the decision to resume the Greater Toronto Area West Transportation Corridor Environmental Assessment and requests that the highway be constructed as soon as possible."

This endorsement came with no consultation, and it came at a time when many of York's municipalities like Newmarket and Vaughan have declared a climate emergency.

This highway is planned to be just south of my family farm property (since 1962) at 12485 Concession 7 (Pine Valley Dr just north of King Vaughan Rd) where I run a small rural retreat venue, farm hay for the cattle industry and rent space to another local business owner who provides therapy using horses. My property is on the greenbelt and would be prone to air and noise pollution in addition to traffic from this proposed highway. This may well put an end to the ability to retain my quiet 70 acre retreat which serves both the mental health of our community and the environment.

Please hear us as we try to retain the integrity of the greenbelt.

Thank you,
Theresa