

From: Karen Alison
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 9:38 AM
To: Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>
Subject: Re: The 6 Billion Dollar Pandemic Highway to Nowhere

Dear Municipal Politicians,

I am writing in support of Jennifer LeForestier's email of Feb 8, 2021, calling upon you to oppose the building of highway 413.

As a resident of Caledon, I'm aware that the Town has declared a climate emergency. This emergency applies to all Ontario towns and cities and requires us to do everything in our power to foster a healthy and stable environment. Building a 400-series highway across one-third of Caledon, parts of Vaughan Greenbelt, and sensitive waterways is clearly the exact opposite of that goal and, in fact, will worsen the climate crisis immeasurably.

While the 413 is a provincially-directed project, it is crucial for you to speak up now against this highway on behalf of Caledon and York – our health, water, farmland, biodiversity, and futures are at stake. Pollution and loss of biodiversity are a recognized factor in pandemics, among the many other severe problems they cause.

Premier Ford has casually dispensed with Ontario's environmental legislation against his own election promises. Since we are in a climate crisis, this is the very worst time in human history for such destructive actions. It's critical that Caledon not fall into the same trap of pretending that highway-building and other types of environment-destroying construction are more important than life and quality of life for all of us.

It's time for politicians in every town and city to look at the big picture. If you love your children or grandchildren and want them to have a healthy, sustainable future – or even to be able to enjoy the countryside that we enjoy – now is the time for you to take powerful positive action against this mega-polluting highway.

Thank you,
Karen Alison