

**From:** Peeter Vanker

**Sent:** Sunday, March 14, 2021 11:27 AM

**To:** Emmerson, Wayne <Wayne.Emmerson@york.ca>; Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>

**Cc:** mayorscarpitti@markham.ca; d.hamilton@markham.ca; Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Markham <jheath@markham.ca>; joeli <joeli@markham.ca>; jjones <jjones@markham.ca>

**Subject:** Further re Proposed Highway # 413 and Bradford Bypass

March 14, 2021.

Wayne Emmerson,  
York Region Chairman and CEO.

Dear Chairman Wayne Emmerson, Members of the York Regional Council:

My wife and I live have lived in Markham for over thirty years. Both of us are retired.

Many of our friends and family members live in Kitchener-Waterloo and points north and west, all the way up to the Bruce Peninsula. The toll highway # 407 has provided us an alternative to the often clogged highway # 401 for travelling west. However, there is no convenient alternative to travel to Orangeville and points northwest. Therefore, at first glance, the proposed highway # 413 and the Bradford Bypass seem to be enticing alternatives.

However, on closer inspection of the implications of building those highways the proposal leaves me extremely anxious. I have been witnessing the continuing encroachment on the supposedly sacrosanct Greenbelt. I have been watching the proposal for construction of a huge warehouse, among other things, on a critical wetland in Pickering. The push by developers to use this land seems particularly cynical since there are other lands in nearby communities which could be used for similar purposes.

It seems to me that a thorough environmental assessment has not taken place to determine the true consequences if these projects are allowed to proceed as proposed. The consequences include the numerous crossing of rivers and water courses and the destruction of 400 acres of the Greenbelt. Since the powers of the Conservation Authorities have recently been greatly reduced, it seems that the federal government should be asked to conduct a full assessment. It does not seem that the provincial environmental assessment is sufficiently thorough.

In short, I would urge you to vote against proceeding with the construction of Highway # 413 and the Bradford Bypass, until a full assessment is completed.

Sincerely,

Peeter Vanker

Markham, Ontario