

From: Marsha Lomis
Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 2:55 PM
To: Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>
Subject: GTA West Corridor/Hwy 413 vote

Dear Council Members:

I am a resident of York Region, having lived here 32 years.

I am requesting that you **reverse the previous endorsement of the GTA West Corridor/Highway 413. Please also pass a motion to support the request for a federal Environmental Assessment.**

As a resident of Kleinburg and having looked at the proposed route of the 413 through Vaughan, frankly, it makes no sense for our locality in its presently planned location. I have had the opportunity to drive the newly completed Major Mackenzie link between Highway 27 and Highway 50— a pleasure to use, and expeditious. I fully anticipate that the Major Mac extension to Highway 400 will be equally user-friendly, and FREE from tolls. The proposed route of the 413 through Vaughan makes no sense for our locality because it is too close to Major Mackenzie Drive, which as I said, is free, and also links up with Hwy 400.

For the 413 to be of any use to York Region residents, it should be closer to Nobleton and Schomberg and communities north (i.e., for whom Major Mackenzie Drive or the 407 would be a significantly longer drive for them).

I am also disturbed by the fact that the environmental assessment will be fast-tracked, as passed by provincial legislation during 2020. This highway will

- Pave over important farmland which feeds our city and fuels our economy
- Pave approximately 400 acres of protected Greenbelt lands, mostly in Vaughan
- Bulldoze right through the Nashville Conservation Area
- Destroy important forests in Vaughan including a 1.5 km stretch around the twin valleys of the Humber and East Humber Rivers
- Undermine [Vaughan's 2019 climate emergency](#) declaration by increasing greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle traffic and reducing climate resilience
- Create more local air pollution from vehicle traffic.

- Vaughan residents have sent thousands of emails sent and hundreds of calls made to local elected officials already expressing opposing Highway 413
- There are viable alternatives to this highway which need to be considered by the Province, including prioritizing goods movement on the 407, and improving transit - these alternatives would be much better for Vaughan

- The [expert advisory panel report](#) which led to the cancellation of this highway in 2018 outlined a number of reasons that the highway is not a good option to move people in the GTA West Region, and has been largely ignored
- Mississauga, Halton Region, Orangeville, Halton Hills and Halton Region have all chosen to oppose Highway 413 based on local opposition.
- A federal Environmental Assessment is necessary because the Province has proposed weakening their EA process for this highway so that construction could begin before the EA has even been completed

Thank you for your vote to reverse the previous endorsement of the GTA West corridor, Hwy 413 and to pass a motion to support the request for a federal Environmental Assessment.

Sincerely yours,

Marsha Lomis

Kleinburg, Ontario