

From: Wendy Kenyon

Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 12:24 AM

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

Cc: Mrakas, Tom <tmrakas@aurora.ca>

Subject: Highway 413/Bradford Bypass - Urgent Need for Federal Environmental Assessment

Regional Councillors:

I'm a resident of Aurora and mother of three young adults. For nearly four years I've been involved in efforts to help protect Aurora's natural heritage systems and species at risk habitat. I'm also an active member of a local group of turtle volunteers.

Having watched the recent onslaught of highly inappropriate development proposals and dramatic increased use of MZOs, I'm sensing that over the past year, while the majority of us have been struggling to come to grips with a pandemic, the development industry has been quietly planning how to encroach aggressively into some of Ontario's most environmentally sensitive areas.

My understanding is that two major construction projects, **Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass**, are being proposed without first undertaking proper Environmental Assessments. How can we readily accept the fact that critical studies to assess the impacts to our wetlands, forests and wildlife habitat will simply be placed on a convenient 'back-burner'? This makes no sense. It's both reckless and irresponsible for the Provincial government to allow projects of such magnitude to progress without first understanding the full environmental implications.

This is a time when the need to protect, restore and enhance our natural heritage systems has never been greater. Climate change is a reality, loss of biodiversity and wildlife habitat are major concerns. We also cannot keep destroying our precious local farmland. To do so is shortsighted and leaves us increasingly vulnerable.

Given the Provincial government's lack of commitment towards meaningful environmental protection, **please use your collective power to request that the Federal government intervenes as a matter of urgency to ensure that proper Environmental Assessments pertaining to the proposed Highway 413 and Bradford Bypass are carried out at a time when they are of most use, i.e. now.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Wendy Kenyon (Mrs)
Aurora Resident