

**From:** Andrew Stewart

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:20 AM

**To:** Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>

**Subject:** letter regarding Agenda item F.1. Proposed 2051 Forecast and Land Needs Assessment

Dear Councillors:

York Region has some of the best agricultural land, wetlands and forest left in Ontario, and they should be preserved. Future development and easily and efficiently be accommodated within current municipal boundaries. Despite the enormous pressure I know you are under from the self-interested development industry to do so, you should stand firm, represent the interests of all citizens and future generations, and not allow development to spill out into the protected countryside.

[Two recent world-wide studies](#), the most recent one entitled “The economic consequences of conserving or restoring sites for nature”, show that:

- nature-rich sites are worth more in net economic benefits to people if left as natural habitats; and
- the world is at extreme risk by the failure of economics to take account of the rapid depletion of nature.

As guardians of the greatest store of wealth in this province – namely, the wetlands, soils, fields and forests of York Region – I urge you do the right thing. Please protect this remaining wealth within the Official Plan while directing industrial, commercial and residential development to lands that are currently within municipal boundaries.

Andrew Stewart  
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