

October 12, 2021

CFN 64726.01

SENT BY E-MAIL (christopher.raynor@york.ca)

Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk
Regional Corporate Services Department
York Region Administrative Centre
17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Raynor:

**Re: Notice of Request for Proposed Official Plan Amendment
Redesignation of Agricultural Lands in Greenbelt Plan - ROPA7**

At the request of the landowners, TRCA staff are providing additional clarification to our letter of September 22, 2021 pertaining to the above. As a scientific and technical advisor, we defer to the Province and our municipal partners on land use policy matters. However, if active uses are deemed to be an appropriate use at the conclusion of this process, we would require detailed information to inform and update studies and strategies including watershed and subwatershed plans. As identified in our letter, in order to properly assess the potential impacts of introducing active recreation uses into the Greenbelt, additional study in the form of an addendum to the applicable Master Environmental Servicing Plans and subwatershed study and its related studies should be completed.

TRCA staff recognize that this amendment is strictly for the purposes of redesignating the subject lands from Agricultural to Rural. It is TRCA's understanding that the specific uses that may be permitted within these areas will be determined through the local and regional planning approvals process. TRCA expects that its concerns, expressed in our letter of September 22, 2021, which remain applicable, will be addressed and resolved through those further local planning approvals. Accordingly, TRCA staff wishes to advise the landowners and our municipal partners of our concerns of ensuring technical information is provided to understand, mitigate impacts and inform restoration strategies for these watersheds, which we expect will be properly addressed through subsequent local planning approvals.

Accordingly, we take this opportunity to remind the landowners that as part of any future local planning approvals process, applicable Master Environmental Servicing Plans and subwatershed studies will need to be updated to include a sub-watershed level assessment of impacts of any proposed changes in use within these areas on potential natural cover, ecological connectivity, and protection of sensitive species. As part of this analysis, potential impact mitigation measures should be identified and considered, utilizing a systems approach to ensure the proposed design maintains and enhances the regional ecological connectivity and ecosystem goods and services functions that the Greenbelt presently provides.

We trust these comments are of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sameer Dhalla', written in a cursive style.

Sameer Dhalla, P.Eng
Director, Development and Engineering Services

cc: Paul Freeman, Chief Planner, Region of York: paul.freeman@york.ca
Augustine Ko, Senior Planner, Region of York: augustine.ko@york.ca
Biju Karumanchery, Acting Commissioner, City of Markham: bkarumanchery@markham.ca
Haiqing Xu, Deputy City Manager, City of Vaughan: haiqing.xu@vaughan.ca
John MacKenzie, CEO, TRCA
Michelle Sirizzotti, Chief of Staff, TRCA
Laurie Nelson, Director of Policy Planning, TRCA
Quentin Hanchard, Associate Director, TRCA
June Little, Senior Manager, TRCA
Adam Miller, Senior Manager, TRCA