



January 10, 2022

Dear York Region Council,

I am writing to express my objection and that of Windfall Ecology Centre to the Bradford Bypass and Highway 413. These infrastructure projects are the antithesis of what is needed to mitigate climate change, reduce vehicular congestion, and encourage sustainable development of affordable housing and communities.

The science is clear that carrying on with business-as-usual is a highway to cascading calamities. The early warnings of this are there for all to experience at home and abroad and can be measured in human misery and loss and damage to property in the billions of dollars that Canadians have already endured. North American post World War II urban sprawl is a business-as-usual practice whose time has come and gone and building superhighways through environmentally sensitive land entrenches that now bankrupt community planning construct.

Both proposed Highway projects will cut through and damage increasingly rare, valuable, and sensitive Greenbelt, agricultural lands, and dozens of watercourses. Neither project has been demonstrated to be good value for money. While traffic congestion is of concern, spending \$10 billion plus in taxpayer money to build new highways whose time-savings have been repeatedly overstated, and are not supported by openly available data, is simply irresponsible. In a climate and biodiversity crisis we must change our ways of thinking. There are other ways to reduce congestion while reducing per capita Greenhouse Gas emissions. These alternatives must be fully investigated, and they have not been.

For our children and grandchildren who must live with our legacy, we implore you not to lend support these projects.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B R Kopperson" with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Brent Kopperson  
Founder and Executive Director