

From: Susan Ellscheid

Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 1:02 PM

To: Regional Clerk <ClerkGeneralLine@york.ca>

Subject: Bradford Bypass / Hwy 413

Dear York Region Council,

I am writing to express my objection to the Bradford Bypass and Highway 413. The government of Ontario has exempted the Bradford Bypass from completing the original Environmental Assessment (EA), which was approved with conditions in 2002. The EA did not consider climate change, and predates the Greenbelt, Lake Simcoe, and Clean Water Acts. 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.

Any support York Region lends to these projects casts supportive Councilors in an unfavorable light. You have power. Are you going to use it in ways your grandchildren would appreciate or are you going to throw the environment under the bus? Think about it.

Best regards,
Susan Ellscheid