

May 17, 2022

To York Region Chair & Council,

Re: Statutory Public/Special Committee of the Whole meeting on the Municipal Comprehensive Review/draft 2051 Regional Official Plan.

As a resident and commercial property owner in York Region, I have serious concerns with the direction and timing of York Region's draft Official Plan.

I believe it is irresponsible for York Region Council to commit to growth for the next 30 years when future Municipal Comprehensive Review processes will allow future Councils to make decisions based on additional information about infrastructure needs and population growth. I think York Region's endorsement of such an extensive settlement boundary expansion allowing massive urban sprawl is premature given the financial risks, known environmental impacts, health impacts, and food security concerns. It would be a much better demonstration of the democratic process if the Municipal Councils elected in October 2022 had a hand in the MCR/Official Plan process. I urge York Region Council to delay approval of its Official Plan until after the municipal election in October 2022.

I want the York Region Official Plan to:

- * Create the variety of housing that residents need;
- * Lower taxes and invest in existing communities;
- * Protect the Greenbelt, farmland, and Lake Simcoe;
- * Reduce traffic congestion; and
- * Address the climate emergency.

Regards,

Catherine Wellesley
Newmarket, ON