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March 5, 2021

REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

From: Gail MacLennan [REDACTED]
Sent: March 5, 2021 4:32 PM
To: ZZG-COUNCIL <zzg-council@peelregion.ca>; Iannicca, Nando <nando.iannicca@peelregion.ca>
Cc: Thompson, Allan <allan.thompson@caledon.ca>; Innis, Jennifer <jennifer.innis@caledon.ca>
Subject: OPPOSE THE 413

Friday, March 5, 2021

Dear Region of Peel Councillors and Chair Iannicca,

Re: I OPPOSE HIGHWAY 413 (GTA West Corridor)

I live in the Region of Peel, specifically in Ward 4 of Caledon. I strongly oppose building Highway 413 and believe we need to use smart growth principles to find a sustainable way to accommodate the projected population growth and subsequent transportation needs across the GTA.

My main reasons for opposing the highway are that I believe it will have devastating impacts on our environment (rivers, wetlands, wildlife, etc.) and encourage urban sprawl. Bad decisions made today will worsen climate change for future generations and saddle them with unsustainable urban sprawl.

Also, I recall in 1999 when the Mike Harris Conservatives sold (99 year lease) the publicly paid for 407 ETR to private businesses for a bargain basement price in order to reduce their deficit just before an election. The 407 ETR has made billions of dollars for private interests and more recently the CPPIB, which should have come to the Province of Ontario. This highway remains unaffordable for the average citizen due to its exorbitant fees. I fear that if the highway 413 becomes a toll road, as speculated, it too could be sold by the Province to reduce its deficit. After taxpayers have funded the highway and developers/speculators/landowners have made their money, it will be the citizens who will be left to suffer the negative consequences.

Rather than spending billions on a new highway that will have a devastating environmental impact, the Province should spend a fraction of those funds on subsidizing the use of the underutilized 407 to accommodate the GTA's east-west traffic flow requirements.

On a personal level, this proposed highway will forever change the beautiful area we call home, by increasing traffic, safety concerns, air pollution and noise. The south Caledon we know and love will cease to exist, and that is heartbreaking.

I urge you to vote NO to Highway 413. I also urge you to request that the Federal Government conduct a full environmental assessment to determine the full impact of building this highway.

Sincerely,

Gail MacLennan

[REDACTED]

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒