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April 26, 2021

REGION OF PEEL
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From: Nancy Hurst <[REDACTED]>
Sent: April 26, 2021 9:00 AM
To: Iannicca, Nando <nando.iannicca@peelregion.ca>
Subject: In support of a hard urban boundary

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Regarding the April 29 meeting of the Peel Region Planning and Growth Development Committee

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to urge Peel Region to add to your considerations for land use planning, the option of a zero boundary expansion at this time.

On March 29, 2021 Hamilton council voted 13/2 to add a no boundary expansion option for public consideration

On April 21, 2021 Halton council also voted 18/5 to add a no boundary expansion option for public consideration

Municipalities across the GGHorseshoe have realized that the recent Provincial changes to the "A Place to Grow" Act, brought in with minimal public consultation, under the shroud of Covid when we were distracted by a world-wide pandemic are not in the public's best interests.

- Protection of valuable Ag. land must be prioritized over aggregate extraction. We cannot be reliant on other countries for our food supply
- Food security trumps highway construction and aggregate extraction. We can't eat roads and houses.
- Food security must be prioritized. Only 5% of the Canadian landmass is farmable and the GGHorsehoe has the largest abundance of class 1,2,3 soil
- Climate change will only be exaggerated with further sprawling car dependent subdivisions being built
- Our taxes will increase as more infrastructure is incorporated (pipes, sewers, roads etc) on farmland, leaving existing infrastructure in low density neighbourhoods underutilized.

Further, I would recommend hitting pause on land use planning until Covid has passed and the public has been fully consulted with in-person meetings. Again both Hamilton and Halton have voted to ask the Province for an extension to submit their final plans. Whether or not the Province gives 'permission' is irrelevant. Public consultation is a vital part of our democracy and we expect our local councils to defend our right to be included fully in discussions on land use planning regardless of rushed deadlines.

Sincerely,
Nancy Hurst
Hamilton

REFERRAL TO _____
 RECOMMENDED _____
 DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
 RECEIPT RECOMMENDED _____