

From: sabeen <[REDACTED]>

Sent: June 14, 2021 5:38 PM

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Subject: RE: Peel's Official Plan Review

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Dear Peel Region Planning and Growth Management Committee:

I live in Brampton and am writing this letter as a concerned citizen. I strongly oppose the recommendations by Hemson Consulting to expand Peel Region's urban boundaries by destroying 4200 hectares of farmland in the coming years. I expect councillors to respect, promote and encourage a democratic process towards city planning. As it stands, the process is developer-dominated and not climate friendly. I ask that the councilors engage in more dialogue with the community. What do citizens want? Do they want more houses at the cost of prime farmland? Do they fully understand the risks and benefits of the available options? Who benefits from an expansion of the urban boundaries? How does an expansion of the urban boundaries fit with the declaration of a climate emergency?

It can't be business as usual. We are in a climate emergency and the coming years will require us to rethink how we build new communities. It makes sense to move away from policies that favour urban sprawl. We need to build walkable communities. If we continue to build car-centric cities, we will remain dependent on oil, which is the leading source of carbon emissions.

The pandemic taught us how frail global supply chains are. Think back to the way people were hoarding toilet paper and other groceries. In the coming years, if we are unable to meet carbon emission reductions (current government policies fall short of the target), we will have to deal with a warmer global climate which will affect food production. In Peel, we are blessed with prime agricultural land that can feed our communities today and in the future. We need to focus on urban intensification and utilize existing infrastructure.

I ask that the Peel Region Planning and Growth Management Committee stop the proposed urban boundary expansion and instead work with citizens to identify and implement sustainable and smart growth plans for Peel Region.

Sincerely,

Sabeen Abbas
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REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED _____