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**From:** Barbara Schumacher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 30, 2022 2:38 PM  
**To:** ZZG-COUNCIL  
**Subject:** Save farmland, stop sprawl

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**RECEIVED**  
March 30, 2022  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

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Web Form Title :: Regional Council

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RECOMMENDED  
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RECEIPT RECOMMENDED ☒

This email was sent by the following person. Please reply to them:

Sender's Name: Barbara Schumacher  
Sender's Email: [REDACTED]

The message was submitted through an Automated Email Service on Peel's Website Wed Mar 30 14:37:01 2022:

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Dear Councillors, Mayors and Planning and Growth Committee

I am a grandmother who grew up in Peel and attended Erindale College (now UTM). Currently I live in the Region of Waterloo, where we are working to promote urban intensification rather than urban sprawl to preserve the fertile farmland around us. We know that south-western Ontario and the Greater Golden Horseshoe have some of the most fertile soil in all of Canada. With heat domes, fires, floods and droughts our environment is being critically stressed.

We have experienced during this pandemic how important it is for local regions to sustain local essential services. Supply chains have been disrupted and production of essential PPE has depended upon negotiated contracts because we do not have the capacity to care for ourselves. What do you think we will do when climate damages the crops that we rely upon produced in BC, California and Mexico, or when food insecurity means other regions will no longer sell to us? Will we overturn the pavement, demolish the buildings and try to recover the degraded soil? No that is impossible to bring back what will have been lost. But what if we plan now to preserve the farmland which will nurture us? This is the decision before you now.

The whole of Ontario has an interest in your decision - Waterloo Region cannot feed everyone. We need every region in Ontario to pull together in this climate mitigation and adaptation project. You may say "This will not impact me", but it will be critical for the food security of our children and grandchildren. Please recognize the decision you make on April 7th, 2022 about land use - where you will build homes, schools, hospitals, workplaces, recreational facilities and infrastructure - has impacts far into the future for generations to come.

I am asking you to support sustainable development within Peel's existing boundary.

While Peel Region used about 483 acres per year 2001 and 2019, the new plans would see the region destroy roughly 27,500 more acres by 2051. Expansion would destroy the fragile ecology of the Campbell's Cross Creek

and other upper tributaries of West Humber River, which provide some of the last remaining habitat for the endangered redbreasted dace and would destroy quality farmland that Ontario and Canada simply cannot spare.

For this reason, I urge you to vote NO to the proposal to expand the urban boundary with development of more than 10,000 acres of Canada's best agricultural land.

The housing crisis CAN be addressed with growth within the existing urban boundary of Peel Region. The baby boomer generation is moving out of single-family dwellings and looking for multi-unit housing inside the city boundaries with easy access to public transit, shopping and services. These resale homes will satisfy the demands of growing families for a house with a yard.

Suburban sprawl will cost Peel residents more to build and maintain, than is received in property taxes from new development. Suburban sprawl requires longer roads, sewage and power lines. It is also less efficient to run services such as public transit. This will cost residents more, increase dependence on cars, and contribute more carbon emissions to the climate crisis.

I want to see our communities grow more sustainably, retain the individual character of each community and protect valuable farmland for future food security.

The decision Peel Region makes on the proposed urban boundary expansion will determine the quality of life of residents for the next 30 years.

Vote NO to the proposed urban boundary expansion and Vote Yes to preservation of farmland with affordable housing development within Peel's existing urban boundary.

Yours truly,

Barbara Schumacher

[REDACTED]

Canada

[REDACTED]

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It is the Region of Peel's policy to reply to e-mails within two working days.

For assistance, please contact the webmaster@peelregion.ca

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