

Hello at Town of Caledon,

I'm writing in advance of this evening's meeting to submit my thoughts and position regarding the rezoning that is to be discussed relating to the proposed temple at King and Centerville Creek, and to leave you with my concerns in general regarding development and rezoning around here.

I do not agree with rezoning, especially where agricultural or land in a more natural state is to be used in a way that makes it no longer viable for agriculture, or to be designated as protected. As you must know, land is disappearing quickly, once it's gone there is no more of it, and it plays a vital role in keeping the environment around us habitable for our continued existence - for oxygenation of the air and cooling of the atmosphere. We are going to face greater and greater problems that will affect us all – rich and poor – if we build, pave things over, and in this I ask you in the strongest of terms to think with long term preservation in mind and NOT to bend so easily to opportunities to collect more taxes, to the applications of developers simply because they submit an application.

I would like to believe that the zoning we have, such as designated agricultural lands, Green Belt, Oak Ridges Moraine.. were done with some intelligent reasons in mind. To this point it has made sense to protect our land and water from the degradation caused by development. It makes living here in this part of Caledon (East) have the quality of life that is not Brampton, Mississauga or Toronto. It keeps people healthier; it protects ecosystems, it helps keep the surroundings cooler and more livable, and it contributes to long term sustainability. Development is not progress. I hope indeed that you have a plan that stands for the protection of such, and that you will not allow developers who have no concern beyond chronic development to interfere in the long-term protection and maintenance of our region. If you continue to allow development – especially unnecessary development such as a temple – you will contribute to a problem that will reduce the quality of life for us all, and you will also never be in a position again to correct your mistakes. When we destroy natural areas, they are gone forever. I ask you to take a stand that represents the wellbeing of our population for the long term, which means saying No to any development that is not critically necessary.

Regards,

Ulana Winter