

Hannah Lockyer

Subject: FW: Opposition to: the Hwy 413 & Bradford bypass

From: Cynthia Anderson [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 2:37 PM

To: Robin Reid <Robin.Reid@caledon.ca>; Laura Hall <laura.hall@caledon.ca>; Mayors Office <Mayor@caledon.ca>; Ian Sinclair <Ian.Sinclair@caledon.ca>; Annette Groves <Annette.Groves@caledon.ca>; Johanna Downey <Johanna.Downey@caledon.ca>; Jennifer Innis <jennifer.innis@caledon.ca>; Nick DeBoer <nick.deboer@caledon.ca>; Christina Early <Christina.Early@caledon.ca>; Lynn Kiernan <Lynn.Kiernan@caledon.ca>; Tony Rosa <Tony.Rosa@caledon.ca>

Subject: Opposition to: the Hwy 413 & Bradford bypass

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the contents to be safe.

Hello,

Please accept this letter to Council urging our municipal leaders to take initiative and intervene in matters pertaining to both the construction of the 413 Highway and an alternative, cost-effective arrangement in regards to the use of Highway 407 that directly affects Caledon citizens.

During the pandemic, the Premier made a conscious decision not collect compensation on the outstanding \$1 billion in congestion penalties owed by the owner of the 407 Express Toll Route, 407 International Inc., caused by insufficient traffic on a highway so underused it was recently used for an emergency plane landing. The reasons for not pursuing this outstanding debt to the province remain unexplained by the provincial government.

Simultaneously, this same government is pursuing, against the clear and expressed wishes of the majority of the public and certain municipal councils, the construction of another estimated \$10 billion dollar toll highway, at a time when the same government also claims it lacks funds to pay for extra nurses and to pay all nurses adequately, two years into a pandemic.

The Province and Ministry of Transportation has consistently failed to consult with the treaty holders of the First Nations communities, whose land this highway would be built on. As citizens of the Crown, the MTO is duty bound to consult with the band chiefs and heritage leaders, as outlined in Section 35 of the Constitution. Laws surrounding the United Nations Declarations of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as laws enshrined in our own Constitution, especially Bill C15, require that the MTO to respect laws of free prior and informed consent. To date, these concerns raised by multiple nations on the Impact Assessment Agency Website have not been addressed, and this must not continue.

As an alternative to building another toll highway, in the process destroying priceless agricultural farmland and environmentally vital wetlands, a much more viable alternative is available. If Council were to initiate discussion with the Premier of Ontario and negotiate on our behalf, it would be reasonable to expect that a mutually agreeable agreement could be achieved that provides commercial vehicles with a cost-efficient toll agreement to use the 407. As a natural result, traffic would be diverted from the 401 and other East/West routes, providing both much needed congestion relief and a reasonable alternative for the Province and tax-paying community, which is currently bearing the brunt of these unnecessary toll highway costs while the Premier continues to not pursue payment from 407 International Inc.

Although the Progressive Conservative Party touts the 413 as a very expensive solution to current congestion problems, those of us living in the Town of Caledon are all too aware that the realities are that

- a) The 413 would take years to construct
- b) Would only increase traffic on rural roads as vehicles will avoid paying further tolls
- c) Once built would only increase volume to the outrageous amount of applications for MZO applications on the Greenbelt.

Additionally, on January 25, 30 community groups came together to initiate the “DAMN” campaign- We Demand a Moratorium Now. This is in opposition to the all of the new gravel license applications. Over a third of these groups live in Peel Region, where the Province has currently authorized a 13% yearly increase in extraction. Our community opposes the devastating environmental impacts of extraction orders on prime farmland and protected landscapes that seemingly have no limit from companies not required to demonstrate their need for this resource.

Caledon Council has a duty to its citizens to work with provincial representatives in advocating for opening the 407 to commercial trucking, in addition to opposing an absolutely unnecessary, unneeded, expensive, and environmentally destructive new highway. Caledon’s citizens themselves have been extremely vocal in their opposition to the 413, it is time that Council step up and truly represent the best interests and wishes of their constituents in this matter.

As a resident of Halton near the Peel border, I stand in opposition to Hwy 413 & the Bradford bypass as well as the Urban Sprawl this will create; which will devastate local farmlands, wetlands and natural areas while increasing Climate change/GHG’s.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Anderson
34 Raylawn Cres.
Georgetown, ON
L7G 4M8

“This message (and any associated files) is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. The content of the message is the property of the Corporation of the Town of Caledon. The message may contain information that is privileged, confidential, subject to copyright and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, or modification of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately, advising of the error and delete this message without making a copy. (Information related to this email is automatically monitored and recorded and the content may be required to be disclosed by the Town to a third party in certain circumstances). Thank you.”