

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: John Britto
Subject: FW: [External] Agenda 5.2 - Illegal truck yards presentation by Carmela Palkowski
Date: Monday, November 4, 2024 8:33:16 AM

From: Concetta Marie Schiraldi [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 3, 2024 9:24 AM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca
Cc: ccrsa.group@gmail.com
Subject: [External] Agenda 5.2 - Illegal truck yards presentation by Carmela Palkowski

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Dear Members of the City of Vaughan Council,

I am a Caledon resident writing in regards to Agenda item 5.2 - Illegal truck yards presentation by Carmela Palkowski.

I am hoping the council really takes the time to understand what "**illegal land use**" is and how it is (and will continue) effecting the City of Vaughan and Town of Caledon residents. I am specifically concerned about the **illegal land use** taking place on a property at 12151 Albion Vaughan Road in Vaughan, which is **zoned for agricultural use**. These activities pose serious environmental, traffic, and safety concerns for the community.

To date, the following issues have been observed and communicated to both a City of Vaughan Councillor and the Town of Caledon council (and Bylaw's):

- 1. Illegal Land Use:** The property at 12151 Albion Vaughan Road is currently being used as a truck yard without proper zoning. As far as we are aware, there has been no application for rezoning of this agricultural land, nor has there been a temporary zoning filed.
- 2. Illegal Dumping of Fill:** In addition to the improper use as a truck yard, the site has been observed dumping illegal fill, potentially compromising the environmental integrity of the area.
- 3. Lack of Proper Permits:** The owners have been engaging in activities on the land without obtaining the necessary permits, further contributing to the environmental risk.

4. Impact on Traffic and Infrastructure: The illegal truck yard will eventually increase traffic along Albion Vaughan Road, leading to safety hazards and deterioration of road infrastructure. This road is jointly owned by the Town of Caledon and the City of Vaughan, but there has been a lack of coordination in addressing these issues. The road is designated as a truck "bypass" but not for trucks to stop to turn into a narrow lot slowing and halting traffic in both directions. Soon, I am sure, they will widen the entryway into their property (without permit) if they haven't already.

5. Passing of Responsibility Between Municipal Authorities: Despite reaching out to the Mayor of Vaughan, the Vaughan Councillor for the specific ward, and our local Caledon Council, there has been no effective resolution (that resident's area aware of). We have been told that the municipalities have limited authority in this matter and that provincial intervention is needed. They continue to say "we need to wait for more tools from the province" however, the longer we wait, the harder it will be to shut this specific lot down - never mind others that are popping up or have been around for years.

The situation is becoming increasingly urgent as trucks are expected to be parked on the site soon, adding to the strain on local infrastructure and compounding environmental risks.

I understand that there has been an ongoing investigation but bylaw has said that there aren't any current violations (if I remember correctly), which is completely hard to believe. My goal is simply to protect the environment, maintain the integrity of agricultural land, and ensure the safety of residents in the surrounding areas.

This is not only about enforcing the rules but also about safeguarding the environment and maintaining road safety for future generations. We cannot do this with you and your staff who is way more knowledgeable and experienced (compared to me). Your intervention is crucial in resolving this matter.

Thank you for your attention and prompt action on this critical matter.

All the best,

Concetta Marie Schiraldi



"Be so good they can't ignore you" - Steve Martin