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Communication

Council - November 19, 2024

CW(1) - Report No. 37 Item No. 16

From: <u>Clerks@vaughan.ca</u>
To: <u>Adelina Bellisario</u>

Subject: FW: [External] todd.coles@vaughan.ca

Date: November-18-24 11:45:48 AM

From: Amanda Corbett

Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 11:39 AM

To: Clerks@vaughan.ca

Subject: [External] todd.coles@vaughan.ca

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Dear City of Vaughan Council,

I'm writing to you today regarding the urgent road safety and illegal land use issue that is ongoing in the City of Vaughan. My email is in support of Carmela Palkowski's presentation to Council on Nov 5th, 2024.

There are many issues on the roads and lands of the City of Vaughan, Town of Caledon, City of Brampton and other areas of the GTA. There is illegal land use going on right on the border of the City of Vaughan and the Town of Caledon - on City of Vaughan lands that are zoned agricultural and are being prepared to be used as illegal truck yards.

Something needs to be done urgently by the City of Vaughan about this! City of Vaughan bylaw needs to be attending these properties (specifically 12151 Albion Vaughan Road, and 12001 Albion Vaughan Road, and any others in the area, like on Cold Creek) on a regular basis and fining the owners for the illegal use of land that is going on.

The owners of these properties need to be fined on a regular basis for:

- the illegal fill they are bringing in (which is likely contaminated)
- the fill that they are moving around to flatten the agricultural land and cover it in gravel
- the fences that they are illegally putting on the properties
- the illegal widening of the driveways to prepare the land for storage of trucks and intermodal containers
- the damage they are doing to the environment
- not having permits to do any of these activities
- any other offenses that are observed

I attended the presentation that Carmela gave in person, and was glad to hear from Mayor Del

Duca about the Mayors of several cities and towns working together to help address this issue. This is not new information - we are aware and happy that the Mayors are working together and trying to get more help from the Province. That said, this is not a complete answer to this issue. There are many things that the City of Vaughan can do right now and on a regular basis to help with this while they work with the other Mayors and try to get a response from the Province (see my list of items above). My point is, the City of Vaughan needs to do more right now, and do it on a regular basis.

Councillor lafrate also had town staff explain the process of dealing with these illegal land use issues - with the goal of informing us that these things take time. Again, this is not new information - we are aware that it takes a lot of time to deal with illegal land use through the courts. However, doing nothing while we wait for those things is not acceptable. The City of Vaughan has tools (mentioned above) to keep going back to these properties on a regular basis and continuing to fine them. I would like to know how many times these properties have been visited by Vaughan by-law, and how many times they have been fined. This should be happening on a weekly basis - and if it isn't, then that needs to change.

You need to make it uncomfortable for these people using the land illegal to continue what they are doing - that's the only way to get the message across to them while we wait for a Province that isn't acting quickly enough, and for the court system which is too bogged to deal with these issues in a timely manner.

Please - we are asking for your help to make your community and neighbouring communities a safer place to live. These properties cannot continue to operate unchecked. I would like a response as to what the City of Vaughan is currently doing to address these issues on these properties.

Looking forward to your response & some meaningful action, Amanda Corbett Bolton Resident

Thank you,
Amanda Corbett
Bolton ON resident