C48

Communication

Council - December 17, 2024

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca CW(1) - Report No. 41 Item No. 15

Adelina Bellisario

Subject: FW: [External] Councillor Iafrate and DeFrancesca"s resolution at the upcoming December 17, 2024 Council

Meeting

Date: December-13-24 12:45:05 PM

From:

To:

Sent: Friday, December 13, 2024 12:45 PM

To: Clerks@vaughan.ca

Cc: minister.mto@Ontario.ca; stephen.lecce@ola.org

Subject: [External] Councillor lafrate and DeFrancesca's resolution at the upcoming December 17,

2024 Council Meeting

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I am asking you to support Councillor Iafrate and DeFrancesca's resolution at the upcoming December 17, 2024 Council Meeting.

The resolution, which was passed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on December 3, 2024 is asking all Councillors to support the Premier's Feasibility Study to buy back the lease on Hwy 407, which the Premier has publicly acknowledged. More importantly, the resolution goes further and is asking the province to implement a one year pilot program that will subsidize or eliminate tolls on Highway 407 and evaluate the impact of the pilot on traffic congestion and efficiency, and CO2 reduction.

It is hard for me to imagine any politician in the GTAH area not recognizing the citizen voting popularity for whichever politician gets credit in first step in improving traffic congestion by making more use of the 407.

The pilot provides commercial vehicles with **immediate** low/no cost access to the underused Highway 407. It provides commercial vehicles and their owners with affordable access and a quicker option for moving their products across the GTHA corridor resulting in significant savings in time and travel costs. The anticipated shift of commercial vehicles to Highway 407 will ease the tremendous congestion currently being experienced on Highway 7 in Vaughan and other municipalities, as well as Highway 401 and other GTA regional roads adjacent to Highway 407 including Steeles, Rutherford and Major Mackenzie Drive.

Moving forward with a feasibility assessment and pilot program will allow the Province to assess the impact on congestion resulting from the reduction or elimination of the tolls on commercial vehicles.

It would rather surprise me if the Ontario government couldn't get Federal funding for a such a one

year Pilot Program for truck fees for the 407.

In summary, I am asking Vaughan City Councillors to support the Feasibility Study for Highway 407 put forward by Councillors Iafrate and DeFrancesca.

Thank you for your support.

Sherry Draisey Laskay