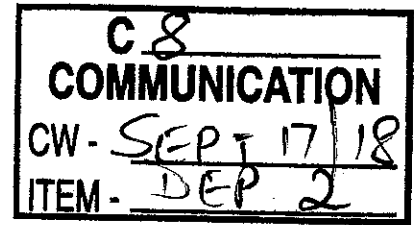


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Mayor & Members of Council  
City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Maple On

September 17, 2018

Re: Vellore Woods Ratepayers Association Deputation on Ratepayers Policy Review

Good Afternoon Mayor Bevilacqua, Chair Rosati, Members of Council, Staff and Ladies and Gentlemen

My name is Elvira Caria and I am the Chair of the VWRA, and have been for close to 18 years now.

There is a saying that goes like this:

Fool Me Once --Shame on You  
Fool me Twice --Shame on Me  
Fool me Three times-Shame on me and you

I'm here today to ensure that we never get shamed again. There is a serious flaw in the current Registered Ratepayers / Community Associations Policy, and if you are getting déjà vu, it is because we have already been down this road--and in my opinion- one too many times. I'm here today with solutions that will, at the very least, prevent any future deputations on this matter.

I'll get right to the point --- The VELLORE WOODS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MILLWOOD-WOODEND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION is requesting that the boundaries specific to the Ward 3 annexing inside the Greater Woodbridge Ratepayers Association be immediately removed from the GWRA registration, and returned back to its residents that have elected and signed documents stating that Vellore Woods R.A AND Millwood-Woodend R.A are to continue to represent this community and the interest of its residents, as it has been for years now.

The authenticity of Greater Woodbridge Ratepayers Association registration form is questionable at the very least. I have their registration form in front of me --as do you --where it clearly sets out the names of the Executives. The Executive is made up of 2 households--each being a husband-wife team. Sound eerily familiar?

It should --I refer to the letter on City records both from Mimi Robertson in March of 2010 and subsequently from Nadia Magarelli deputation in December 2012 where a request was made to review the then City of Vaughan's Registered Ratepayers / Community Associations Policy. What sparked that review request is exactly what is bringing me here today. As a result of the City's failure to move forward with any review policies or recommendations requested back in 2012, the same loopholes that existed then --exist today. And as long as there are groups and organizations --coincidentally--I may point out-- rear their ugly heads every 4 years -- who disregards and fails to meet the fundamental intent of a ratepayers association- we are going to continue to have these issues.

[Type here]



Let us go back to fundamentals.

The fundamental intent and role of ratepayers' associations is to facilitate meaningful consultation between its membership and other levels of government on any given issue affecting their community.

A ratepayers' board is comprised of people selected or voted in by its community members.

The primary objective for any ratepayers' board is to determine and understand the will of its membership, and represent that will.

A ratepayers' board that functions in this manner provides a very valuable role, not only to the community, but also to any elected body of government and its staff where the information being conveyed is used to make better and informed decision.

A ratepayers' board that is **not** selected by its immediate community or fails to meet with its membership, has failed to meet its core mandate. This is the case with the Greater Woodbridge R.A, at least in the annexed portion of Vellore / Woodend in Ward 3.

Ratepayers' boards who establish themselves in a community, who act unilaterally and without direction from its membership cannot claim to be a true ratepayers' association and should not be enabled or given a platform by the municipality that governs them.

The City of Vaughan is enabling. This needs to stop! TODAY!  
NOT AFTER THE ELECTIONS  
BUT TODAY

You will find in your package today letters from Richard Rodaro, directly affected by the annex and speaking on behalf of the Millwood-Woodend R.A.-as well as letters from Joe Collura, Leo Vircilli, and SIGNED PETITION from residents living in Vellore Village who clearly have mandated the return of their community.

Our community for the last 18 years has done everything by the book!  
AUTHENTICALLY!  
WITH INTEGRITY!  
WITH PROPER INTENT!

So much so, that we invite members of Regional Council and our ward councillor to our AGM'S –and our VOTING portion of the AGM is facilitated by a neighbouring ratepayer group so there is absolutely no question about how we are voted in. We're OPEN AND TRANSPARENT. AND WE HAVE NO ULTERIOR MOTIVES. WE ARE HERE TO REPRESENT THE BEST INTEREST OF OUR RESIDENTS. WE TAKE DIRECTION FROM OUR RESIDENTS –WE DO NOT MAKE ARBITRARY DECISIONS ON BEHALF OF OUR RESIDENTS. And when I say our residents, it has INCLUDED the Vellore Village and Woodend communities.

Let's go back to the GWRA'S current registration form as provided to me by the Clerk's department, after MUCH back and forth and debate. I questioned the Clerk's department over the validity of this ratepayers registration form. I asked ..Did they provide minutes? Can I see them? How did you authenticate this? Was there a meeting? When did they register?

[Type here]



Questions asked---RESISTANCE given.

They cited, and I quote "Well that's not our role – we take the form –we make sure they submit the required paperwork, and we're done."

WE'RE DONE! WOW ....

This person also continued to tell me that they are simply a 3<sup>rd</sup> party that collects the information, and files it....a "catch basin" if you will?

CATCH BASIN?

---

So now I ask YOU –is this the role you want your City Clerk's department to play in a policy you created—You want to be a 3<sup>rd</sup> party catch basin?

I want to bring to your attention Section 3 of the Registered Ratepayers Policy that states:

***That the City Clerk be notified within 30 calendar days of any changes to the contact information provided on the registration form ( name of contact person/address/phone number***

It is my very clear understanding that 2 of the 4 names on the GWRA form are no longer part of the Association. Has the GWRA submitted within 30 days a NEW updated form? I would like an answer right now please –very easy to find out.

Also—correspondence that I have provided labelled Frank Miele –Elvira Caria suggests from Mr Miele himself that the President has surrounded himself with "two other executives" that are extremely loyal followers –except for me ( speaking of himself)

Sidenote: President reference is Tony Lorini

2 other executives – referencing Mario Di Nardo (present at a conference call with me as well) and a second person I cannot say for sure who it is ....

\*\*\* READ THE EMAILS\*\*

I took it upon myself to speak with Tony Lorini and Mario DiNardo on a conference call one day –and I made it emphatically clear that the RESIDENTS of VELLORE VILLAGE who were present at our AGM meeting gave me clear direction to take the community back – His response to me was ' Elvira –they had plenty of opportunity to register –why didn't they just register—it's not the first time they defaulted it- too bad for them'!

I explained that there was a RESPECT given to the residents and an understanding that existed for years that we would work with them and speak on their behalf—In fact I made it clear that we have member representation from Vellore Village.

On May 31<sup>st</sup> the GWRA held a community meeting led by Tony Lorini and Frank Miele. Members of our association along with the Millwood-Woodend R.A. attended...

[Type here]



Without boring you with the details—it was VERY evident that this group had ZERO interest in Ward 3 Vellore / Woodend residents. When the meeting was about to be adjourned –I stood up and I asked Mr Lorini and Mr Miele –WHEN DID THEY PLAN TO GIVE BACK THE COMMUNITY OF VELLORE VILLAGE THAT THEY HIJACKED...

Mr Lorini quickly dismissed those in attendance –when I demanded an answer—His answer to me was ‘We can speak about that after this meeting –at a later time’

I insisted ‘NO – WE’RE HERE NOW –IF YOU ARE TRANSPARENT –THEN ANSWER THE QUESTION IN FRONT OF THESE RESIDENTS’

I believe there were a few members of Council there that night –along with the now MPP of Woodbridge Vaughan who could attest to the lack of response and disrespect given to us.

So what do we want from you?  
SIMPLE:

There is a procedure that exists in Vaughan in the Real Estate department –I have been told it is NOT a bylaw but rather a procedure... I believe it is under the **disposition of property** section. Forgive me if I am not quoting it exactly as I have been told this is not for public consumption but rather how you do things internally.

City owns an asset – There’s an inquiry to purchase that asset (property)  
You are procedurally obligated to circulate an internal memo to say ‘HEY ANYONE interested in this property? Basically before you declare it as surplus–You give departments 2-3 weeks to respond –If there is no interest –then it is declared SURPLUS LAND –and hits the public market –At that point anyone interested fills out the form –pays the admin fee –and away we go ...

SO I am recommending that a similar procedure be put in place under the REGISTERED RATEPAYERS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION POLICY that should there be a vacant community not presently registered by the registration date –the City Clerks department send out a notice to the IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY –IT’S RESIDENTS AND THE NEIGHBOURING RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION.

Wait 2-3 weeks –If no interest –then it’s open.. HOWEVER –the first ‘right of refusal’ should be the immediate residents within that community –if that fails –then go to the neighbouring ratepayers association and ensure that they have REPRESENTATION from the community within their membership.

This will undoubtedly save us from being shamed over and over again.  
I AM ASKING YOU TODAY –THAT UNTIL THE REVIEW AND THIS RECOMMENDATION CAN BE LOOKED AT—You direct City Clerk’s office to revise the GWRA boundaries to IMMEDIATELY REMOVE the Ward 3 portion and return it to its rightful residents who are here today in support of this request.

I will not rest until this is done BEFORE Council recesses for the elections.  
And I wish to end this deputation with a message to the GWRA. That regardless of what happens here today –you will NEVER EVER speak on behalf of residents who didn’t elect you—who don’t know you exist and who you do not represent.

[Type here]



And I can assure you – that there will NEVER EVER be a chair for any of you at any meetings or negotiations on behalf of the residents of Vellore and Woodend!

Not on our watch !

Thank You

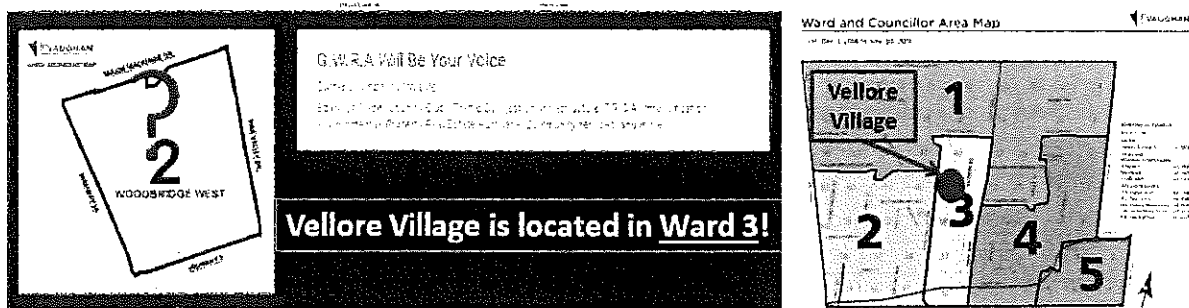
Elvira Caria  
Vellore Woods Ratepayer Association & Beyond  
[REDACTED]

## Vellore Village Community Ratepayer Representation

(Boundaries: Weston Rd to Pine Valley, Major Mackenzie to Rutherford)

To whom it may concern:

It has come to our attention that individuals, who do not reside in our community nor have assisted in any meaningful way with matters important to residents living within our boundaries, have established a group with the city of Vaughan (the so called *Greater Woodbridge Ratepayers Association*) claiming to represent our community. In fact, this group recently established a website and only highlights boundaries that fall outside our community (e.g. Ward 2; our community is in Ward 3) and includes issues unrelated to our immediate area (e.g. board of trade???).



Further, the **Vellore Village Community** has worked in close partnership with & has been effectively represented on several occasions over many years by the **Vellore Woods Ratepayers Association** on matters important to the residents of our community. Is this so-called G.W.R.A. even aware of what matters to local residents? Where were they during recent community meetings to opposed unreasonable development? Where were their voices during the numerous Public Hearings? Having faithfully represented a number of households within Vellore Village, having attended all the community & closed door meetings with city officials related to recent developments, having contributed to EVERY Public Hearing related to recent developments in our community & having collaborated with the Vellore Village Ratepayers directly, NONE of the so-called G.W.R.A. were present nor contributed anything for the benefit of our community.

Another concerning matter is the fact that the Millwood/Woodend Ratepayers Association has effectively represented an area that includes Woodend Place. I can attest firsthand to the significant & meaningful contributions the **Millwood/Woodend Ratepayers Association** has had for local residents & specifically Woodend households. Again, the so-called G.W.R.A. has done nothing meaningful to support this community.

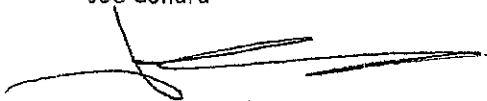
While we cannot be certain the motivation behind the actions of the so-called G.W.R.A., it is clear the residents of the Vellore Village Community are not the primary focus. The lack of representation &/or consultation with resident is further evidence of this. For this so-called G.W.R.A. to suggest, in any way, they represent our community would simply be inaccurate and misleading. Further, offering any position on matters that directly impact us without properly engaging residents is a grave concern.

Accordingly, a group of residents that reside within the Vellore Village Community have come together to:

- strongly oppose any recognition of the so-called G.W.R.A. as representing Vellore Village or Woodend Place
- acknowledge the ongoing partnership & the years of effective representation the Vellore Village Community has had from the Vellore Woods Ratepayers Association and request the Vellore Village boundaries be included within the Vellore Woods Ratepayers Association limits
- return the Woodend Place boundaries to the Millwood/Woodend Ratepayers Association

Finally, please find enclosed multiple petitions in support of this direction and contained herein, & as an appointed community representative for the Vellore Village Community, this is to confirm our strong support in favour of the above direction. I trust the City of Vaughan will support what is in the best interest of the community & discourage any activity that contradicts this sentiment. Thank you.

Joe Collura

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Collura', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Appointed Vellore Village Community  
Ratepayers Representative



**COMMUNICATION C 8  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2018**

**RE: Item DEPUTATION 2, Report No. 27**

**REQUESTING A REVIEW OF THE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION POLICY**

The Deputant has included, as part of her deputation material, a petition from area residents regarding the above noted Deputation.

The total number of signatures on the petition are: 64.

A copy of the entire petition document containing a total of 10 pages is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.



Hi Elvira,

Unfortunately I am out of town for business May 14/15/16 and cannot attend this meeting – so sorry as I really wanted to attend this meeting and provide support to the community.

Thanks for arranging this Elvira and for including me.

For the record, I am not comfortable with the new Ratepayers that have set up in my area (South West corner of Pine Valley & Major Mack) As a resident of this area for the past 8 years, I was not informed nor called on nor seen any flyers going out with respects to a new group setting up

I and other residents on my street (incl Joe), have always attended the Woodend Ratepayers meeting. We were always welcomed by Tim and did a lot of good things together.

I am upset and disturbed upon finding out that a group belonging to Langstaff & Islington ( I think?? But correct me if I am wrong) have applied for setting up a Ratepayer Association for my area. How can this group be aware of the issues in our community ? They do not live in area and yet they represent us? I would rather have Vellore Woods Ratepayers take our community OR we are part of Woodend – either way, I wish to be represented by yourself and/or Tim who I trust and know you will represent our community 100% with the understanding that the residents come first and will go the extra mile with hard work and dedication to get things done.

As I will not be attending the upcoming AGM meeting, for the record you can read my statement above or include it with other residents' 'wish list' on my behalf.

Thank you and please reach out to me for any questions

Leo Verrilli  
[REDACTED]

September 17, 2018

The Mayor and Members of Council  
City of Vaughan  
Vaughan City Hall  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Maple, Ontario  
L6A 1T1

Dear Members of Council,

I am writing with regard to the scheduled deputation of Elvira Caria, President of the Vellore Woods Ratepayers' Association for today's meeting at three o'clock.

My name is Richard Rodaro and I live at [REDACTED] Woodend Place. I have been a resident of Vaughan at my family's present home for 50 years. My family was among the founding members of the current Millwood-Woodend Ratepayers' Association, which operated informally on the basis of volunteer committees made up of our residents on an as-needed basis in the 1970s and formally became a ratepayers' association in the very early 1980s. We have been continuously active as an association since then and many times you have seen me make deputations coordinated with and along side our other association members or executives. Our current president is Mr. Tim Sorochinsky.

It should come as no surprise to Members of Council that given my family's address on Woodend Place and our association's name, The Millwood-Woodend Ratepayers' Association, that on the occasions during the past twenty years when I have made deputations to Council I have introduced myself as a member of this association. What might surprise Council is that for several years now the City of Vaughan refuses to recognize my association's full boundaries to include my subdivision. It remains unclear to me exactly what part of the Millwood-Woodend Ratepayers' Association would not include Woodend Place and the subdivision it is located in. Mr. Sorochinsky (who I understand is out of the country today) has told me that every year he has submitted our renewal registration including the Woodend subdivision within the boundaries of our association's representation; and every year recently the Millwood-Woodend Ratepayers' Association is registered without my subdivision's being included in either narrative or mapping terms. The southern limit of our boundaries has been altered to be Major Mackenzie Drive. The Millwood and Woodend subdivisions are all estate lot subdivisions, that share similar physical characters, lifestyles and contributions to the greater community. We are not aware that either Ward boundaries, Block Plan boundaries or former Sideroads or Concessions roads are impediments to the registerable boundaries of an association, nor should they necessarily be.

... 2

This has proved to be a serious problem once already involving the former East Woodbridge Ratepayers' Association. I will spare you the lurid details, except to say that East Woodbridge had never contacted me or my neighbours as to its existence, never advised us of meetings or elections and never consulted us or offered to make representations on our behalf; yet insisted, unrelentingly - up to and including deputations before Council - upon its right to represent us despite the historic pre-existence of our own ratepayers' association and our membership therein. Then as now, the City's process for maintaining these registrations clearly has remained flawed and requires rectification. The current process has led twice now to my subdivision's being included in another association's territory, which has implications (and a history in the case of East Woodbridge) of unnecessary confusion and distraction, not to mention discussions or negotiations occurring with development applicants and city representatives without the affected and concerned residents' knowledge, participation and consent. I am sure Council will agree this is wholly inequitable to residents and clearly wrong.

Until such time as a solution is identified and implemented, I would suggest that it be potentially less damaging to allow the registry to report an overlap of boundaries - should that eventuality occur during the registration process - ultimately to ensure the principal objective: that residents are represented by the executive they have elected to act on their behalf, and with their knowledge, and who they have confidence is accountable to them. Accordingly, it would be prudent that the potential for reporting of overlapped boundaries be identified as a preamble at the beginning of the registry or as a footnote on each page of it.

I would like to thank Ms Caria and the Vellore Woods Ratepayers' Association for bringing this problem to the attention of Council.

Yours truly,

Ms. Mimi Robertson  
President, Vellore Village Residents Association  
Maria Antonia Road  
Woodbridge, ON  
L4H 2S6

Mr. Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk, City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, Ontario  
L6A 1T1

March 4, 2010

Dear Mr. Abrams,

I am requesting that Vellore Village Residents Association (VVRA) be recognized by the City of Vaughan as a registered ratepayer/community association as per the policy adopted at the Council meeting of June 14, 2004, Item 14, CW Report No. 51. I have completed a Registration Form, provided a list of 31 members who reside within the borders of Vellore Village, provided a copy of the VVRA constitution, and stated the boundaries as Rutherford Road to the south, Major Mackenzie to the north, Pine Valley to the west, and Weston Road to the east.

Currently the East Woodbridge Community Association (EWCA) covers the area occupied by Vellore Village and beyond. However, our group would argue that the EWCA is not in good standing and that Vellore Village Residents Association should be recognized as per section 8 of the Registered Ratepayer / Community Associations Policy. The following are the reasons the EWCA should not be in good standing with the City of Vaughan:

1. At the time that the EWCA was formed there were **no residents of Vellore Village who were members of the EWCA**. Therefore there was no representation from Vellore Village in the EWCA. Further to this, the **residents of Vellore Village did not elect the executive of the EWCA at the first annual general meeting**.
2. Currently the officers of EWCA consists of four individuals, three of which reside in the same household and are related individuals (the President, Vice-President, and Secretary). This is inappropriate since the three individuals can form a voting block. **Essentially one household makes up majority for an association that covers thirty five square kilometres**.
3. Of the four members of the executive (Officers of EWCA), none are residents of Vellore Village. Therefore **Vellore Village is not represented on the executive of EWCA**.
4. The EWCA held an Annual General Meeting on Wednesday March 3, 2010 at 7:30 pm at the Vellore Village Community Centre. I attended that meeting. However, I was surprised that only **three** individuals including myself attended that meeting, along with four members of the executive and one director. I was the only Vellore Village resident at the meeting and did not have voting rights. I would argue that this was not a true Annual General Meeting due to the poor attendance and that individuals cannot be elected to the position of the executive without

being voted in by a larger group of members. **Again, no residents of Vellore Village were present as members to appropriately elect the executive of the EWCA.**

I have requested that the EWCA change its borders and made a deputation at their annual general meeting. However, it is currently under consideration and no action to change the borders was made by the executive. **I am requesting that the City Clerks department allow the Vellore Village Residents Association to be recognized as a community association.** We held a proper Annual General Meeting in which over thirty individuals from Vellore Village attended as witnessed by Councillor DiVona. The VVRA worked hard to advertise the Annual General Meeting to ensure that all residents of Vellore Village were informed of the meeting and could attend. VVRA has formed an executive of five members all of which reside in separate residences within Vellore Village and none are related individuals. The VVRA executive is a group of elected individuals who have the support of the residents of Vellore Village to voice their concerns on issues that face the area. I would argue that the EWCA does not have any of the above elements and should not represent the residents of Vellore Village. They did not advertise openly to all residents of Vellore Village (only members received an invitation by email), they did not have adequate attendance to prove that they have support of residents within Vellore Village, none of the members of the executive reside in Vellore Village, three of the four members of the executive reside in the same residence and are related, and most importantly they were not elected by residents of Vellore Village.

I would like to further discuss this matter and suggest changes to the current ratepayer policy to prevent this type of situation from occurring in the future. I believe that ratepayers associations are an important voice in the City of Vaughan and the Vellore Village Residents Association should be given the opportunity to represent themselves.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

*Mimi Robertson*

President, Vellore Village Residents Association

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Cc: Sybil Fernandes, City of Vaughan  
Councillor Bernie DiVona, City of Vaughan  
Councillor Mario Ferri, City of Vaughan  
Councillor Joyce Frustaglio, City of Vaughan  
Councillor Gino Rosati, City of Vaughan

December 10, 2012

**SENT VIA EMAIL**

Honourable Mayor and Members of Council  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

**RE:** Report No. 48 of the Committee of Whole Meeting for Consideration by Council,  
December 11, 2012  
Agenda Item #39: Deputation – Ms. Nadia Magerelli  
with Respect to a Review of the City's Registered Ratepayer  
Policy

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Dear Honourable Mayor and Members of Council:

We are a group of Registered Ratepayers Associations of the City of Vaughan, and we are writing to express our concern about the discussions and the pending decision of Council of the Committee of Whole Meeting of Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012. We understand that the Committee of Whole recommends:

"That the City Clerk, in consultation with interested parties,  
review and report on the City of Vaughan Registered  
Ratepayer Policy."

We respectfully request that Council specifically include in this recommendation that "interested parties" must include "current Registered Ratepayers/Community Associations of the City of Vaughan". Furthermore, we would support a review of the City of Vaughan's Registered Ratepayers/Community Association Policy to further enhance the benefits afforded to us within the current Registered Ratepayers/Community Association Policy.

Therefore, if Council votes in favour of this recommendation we, the undersigned would like to automatically be notified of any future meetings dealing with the review of the policy.

We also would like to take this opportunity to bring to Council's attention a quote by one of our neighbouring cities:

Hazel McCallion, the Mississauga Mayor, said ratepayer groups are "the best thing since sliced bread" since they play an important role in helping to inform the public who are often apathetic on many municipal matters.

As always, we look forward to working with Council Members and City Staff on this matter.

Sincerely,

Nick Pinto  
President  
The West Woodbridge Homeowners Association Inc.

Gila Martow  
President  
Beverly Glen Ratepayers' Association

Mario G. Racco  
President  
Brownridge Ratepayers' Association

Angelo DiNardo  
President  
Maple-Sherwood Ratepayers' Association