

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Bellisario, Adelina](#)
Subject: FW: [External] GTA WEST HIGHWAY 413
Date: March-01-21 9:21:28 AM

From: Angela Grella <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 9:36 PM
To: Bevilacqua, Maurizio <Maurizio.Bevilacqua@vaughan.ca>; lafrate, Marilyn <Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca>; Ferri, Mario <Mario.Ferri@vaughan.ca>; DeFrancesca, Rosanna <Rosanna.DeFrancesca@vaughan.ca>; Rosati, Gino <Gino.Rosati@vaughan.ca>; Clerks@vaughan.ca; Council@vaughan.ca; Jackson, Linda <Linda.Jackson@vaughan.ca>; Shefman, Alan <Alan.Shefman@vaughan.ca>; Racco, Sandra <Sandra.Racco@vaughan.ca>; Carella, Tony <Tony.Carella@vaughan.ca>
Subject: [External] GTA WEST HIGHWAY 413

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

My name is Angela Grella and I am a resident of Ward 3 in Vaughan.

As a resident of Vaughan, I am writing to ask for the Vaughan council to oppose the Province's proposed GTA West Highway and reverse your previous support for it, and to support the request for a federal Environmental Assessment.

This proposed GTA West Highway route would:

1. Pave over important farmland which feeds Vaughan and fuels our economy
2. Pave approximately 400 acres of protected Greenbelt lands, mostly in Vaughan
3. Bulldoze right through the Nashville Conservation Area
4. Destroy important forests in Vaughan including a 1.5 km stretch around the twin valleys of the Humber and East Humber Rivers
5. Undermine Vaughan's 2019 Climate Emergency declaration by increasing greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle traffic and reducing climate resilience
6. Create more local air pollution from vehicle traffic
7. Create suburban sprawl, car-dependent neighbourhoods

There are viable alternatives to this highway that need to be considered by the Province. We already have an underutilized toll Highway 407 that mirrors the Proposed GTA West Highway 413. We need to prioritize goods movement on the 407.

The [expert advisory panel report](#) which led to the cancellation of this highway in 2018 outlined a number of reasons that the highway is not a good option to move people in the GTA West Region, and has been largely ignored

Mississauga, Halton Region, Orangeville, Halton Hills and Halton Region have all chosen to oppose Highway 413 based on local opposition.

A Federal Environmental Assessment is necessary because the Province has proposed weakening their EA process for this highway so that construction could begin before the EA has even been completed.

Vaughan council must demonstrate leadership and advocate for the environment,

smart growth planning, public transit, and tell the Provincial government Highway 413 is incompatible with the region's plans to protect present and future generations. Highway 413 will have a disastrous impact on the local ecosystem and the environment. As global citizens, we all have a moral and profound responsibility to protect our environment and oppose the planned GTA West Transportation Corridor. "The things that we say are our values and principles...only have meaning if we act as if they are true if we make them real. And so we can't let them be empty rhetoric." That being said, if this council values the environment then it must speak with actions and unanimously oppose the proposed GTA West Highway 413.

Sincerely,

Angela Grella, [REDACTED], Woodbridge, Ontario [REDACTED] Ward 3