

---

**From:** Karen Alison [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 07, 2021 8:01 PM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca; Council@vaughan.ca  
**Subject:** [External] Please stop the 413

Dear Vaughan Council,

As your neighbour in Caledon, also affected by the GTAW, I would be grateful if you would oppose the proposed highway 413.

I'm aware that you will have heard many cogent arguments about the harm the proposed highway would cause the environment, health, air quality, fresh water, farmland, biodiversity, and protected lands.

Are you also aware that congestion costs us \$11 billion per year in the GTHA, and that the 413 will only inflate this expense, as all statistics show that new highways only increase congestion and do not relieve it?

Economically, we are already in the disaster zone with Covid debt. Building the 413 will only exacerbate public debt while actively destroying our quality of life. Highways are extremely expensive to build, are the most expensive form of facilitating land transportation, have a huge environmental footprint, turn fresh water to salt so it becomes useless for our GTA population, and require frequent maintenance which involves directing more public funds to non-public companies. (i.e. privatizing billions in public funds) We simply cannot afford this \$10 billion highway.

We need a balanced transportation model with better socio-economic performance and shared benefits. Ontario has extremely old and out-of-date land-use planning and a transportation policy that is crisis-based. We need an evidence-based, sustainable model of planning and transportation that allows residents the ideal ratio of living within 15 minutes of work, school, and shops, not a plan for sprawl where people are stuck in traffic for significant hours of their day. Highways do not pay taxes and are a drain on the economy. Sprawl-based, 1950s-style development benefits only developers while penalizing everyone else, including buyers forced to move farther and farther from work to find affordable housing.

Truck and vehicle traffic produce high levels of PM 2.5, a neurotoxin underlying the skyrocketing levels of dementia and Alzheimer's in North America. Is this the hellish disease we want to aggravate in our regions, forcing constituents to end their days in questionable long-term care facilities, unable to recognize their own families?

Please do the right thing for your constituents and your neighbours and stop the 413.

Thank you,  
Karen Alison  
[REDACTED]

*"World peace begins with inner peace." HH the Dalai Lama*

