
From: Leslie Atkinson [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2021 2:36 PM
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Subject: [External] March 10th Council Meeting: Letter to support the ratification to reverse endorsement for GTA West Corridor

To Mayor Bevilacqua and Councillors

Re: Ratification of the Motion from Committee of the Whole (March 2, 2021 meeting) Item 7.12

It was good to hear the well thought out discussion and see the leadership shown by our City Council in making the decision to withdraw from endorsing the GTA West Corridor on March 2, 2021. **I ask that you hold strong and ratify the motion on March 10th.**

As discussed, much has changed over time and it is more critical than before to continue your effort to put the environment first in decision-making and follow the example of the Terms of Council Strategic Priorities.

Public transit over highways, low carbon economy over massive carbon emitting roads and development, protection of natural environment over destruction.

The other critical item missing in the current priorities is food security. Our city and the land targeted for the 413 contains the provinces most valuable local farmland which cannot be replaced once it is gone. The need for local food supply will become more and more of an issue in the future. We say a glimpse of it at the start of the current pandemic.

TERM OF COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (EXCERPTS)

Transportation and Mobility

Strategic Goal Statement: To be a fully connected and integrated community, the City will undertake initiatives to improve the municipal road network, **support the development of transit and increase cycling and pedestrian infrastructure.**

Objectives:

- Improve local road network
- Support regional transportation initiatives
- Advance active transportation

Environmental Stewardship

Strategic Goal Statement: To protect the environment and foster a sustainable future, the City will act as a steward to preserve the natural environment by encompassing principles of environmental protection into our social and economic initiatives.

Objectives:

- Protect and respect our environment
- Proactive environmental management
- Build the **low-carbon economy** and a resilient city

Yours sincerely,

Leslie Atkinson
City of Vaughan resident