C14 Communication CW (1) – March 2, 2021 Items # - Presentation #2

From: <u>Clerks@vaughan.ca</u>
To: <u>Bellisario, Adelina</u>

Subject: FW: [External] Letter for March 2, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting - Do not support the GTA West

Highway

Date: March-01-21 9:32:02 AM

From: Jean-François Obregón

Sent: Monday, March 01, 2021 9:00 AM

To: Clerks@vaughan.ca **Cc:** Council@vaughan.ca

Subject: [External] Letter for March 2, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting - Do not support the

GTA West Highway

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am a Vaughan resident in Concord (Ward 5) and I would like you to follow the lead of Mayor Bonnie Crombie of the City of Mississauga and not support the GTA West Highway. Please reverse your previous support for this project and support the federal Environmental Assessment request.

I am disheartened every time I pass through north Vaughan on Highway 400 to think that Council is in favour of this project. It saddens me to think that such a project would cause a loss of farmland given that the pandemic has exposed the importance of strengthening local food systems. The proposed highway would devalue the Greenbelt and pass through the Nashville Conservation Area despite the public rediscovering local nature in droves in the past year.

The argument that this project would improve traffic congestion is questionable, at best. Engaging 407 ETR on rates to attract more usage as well as improved active transportation and public transit service are better alternatives. Pursuing these tactics as well as considering "missing middle" housing strategies would further strengthen Vaughan's smart growth development in recent years. Otherwise, supporting a highway discredits this progress.

Best,
Jean-François
, Concord, ON,

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