

C19
Communication
CW (1) – March 2, 2021
Items # - Presentation #2

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Bellisario, Adelina](#)
Subject: FW: City of Vaughan, Committee of the Whole Meeting, Tuesday, March 2nd - Community Letter in support of Agenda Item 5, presentation 2 by Irene Ford
Date: March-01-21 10:05:14 AM
Attachments: [GTA West letter Vaughan Council.pdf](#)

From: gian delzotto <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Monday, March 01, 2021 9:59 AM

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Subject: [External] City of Vaughan, Committee of the Whole Meeting, Tuesday, March 2nd - Community Letter in support of Agenda Item 5, presentation 2 by Irene Ford

Good morning,

This is my letter in support of Agenda Item Number 5, the Public Presentations and specifically presentation #2 on your agenda, titled Irene Ford asking Vaughan Council to reverse endorsement of the proposed GTA West Corridor.

Gian DelZotto
[REDACTED]

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua and Councillors,

March 1 2021

My name is Gian DelZotto. I am writing this letter as a resident of York Region living in the Nobelton area.

I write this letter to ask you to reconsider support for the GTA West Transportation Corridor as it is in complete opposition to your own climate emergency declaration dated June 4th 2019.

Your declaration states ten very serious points and subsequent recommendations that need to be held top of mind and followed through on. This is undeniably well understood globally. We all face serious environmental threats if we don't change our ways quickly. We are living in disharmony with the natural way of things.

GTA West is the same old same old. A scar through the greenbelt. Urban sprawl at its worst.

As politicians you must now know the appearance of governmental hypocrisy is at an all time high during the last twelve months of Covid restrictions whereby many politicians have been seen disregarding their very own rules for personal purposes including our very own Minister of Finance.

People are growing tired of this rhetoric. Here we are with a legacy style urban sprawl-based highway that benefits the few at the expense of the many. A provincial government that quickly puts out a press release about the Greenbelt expansion while they force through a highway that has been turned down by expert professionals that know its destructive aspects, economically, environmentally and socially. And cities and towns that preach green ideas and then disregard them out of lack of consideration, expediency or otherwise.

There are many alternatives and trends that support these that make much economic sense that are in complete harmony with mother nature, healthy long term planning and most importantly posterity.

- Highway 407 is now running at less then 50% capacity since last March. This avenue needs to be explored such as subsidies.
- Covid has completely redefined how we live and work and everyone knows it will never go back to the way it was before. Plan and design to this new reality.
- Circular and sharing economic ideas are rapidly gaining momentum globally especially amongst the youth whom we all owe our first priorities to as they inherit our policies.
- This is also termed the 15 minute city with as much done within in that walking distance as possible for the sake of quality of life and efficiencies thereby lessening the impact on the environment and resources. Downtown Vaughan can be an excellent example of this.
- The underutilized potential of the 407 hydro corridor and its ability to be absorb the GTA's growth while connecting all north south transit lines together with a proper cross town rail line.
- Backyard inventors and the 3D printing revolution that rebuilds our industrial base at the localized level.
- Urban farming and its ability to create localized food sovereignty
- Biomimetic approach to creation and all the new ideas and abundant jobs that will come from such endeavors.

The list goes on...

If building legacy highways and urban sprawl were such good ideas for economic growth why is despondency at an all time high, debt levels insurmountable and quality jobs disappearing at the fastest rate on record? Trends that predate Covid. Covering up reality with the money printing will show itself soon enough and the hang over will have to be dealt with one way or another. Best to start now.

We have one shot to get things rights. Government debts are off the charts. We now need to spend our money as wisely as possible. There is only one way out and forward and that's to up our thinking to a much higher level of comprehension. In a sound bite world the higher governments tend to get too bogged down and then knee jerk to the MZO processes. It's an understandable consequence of the internet age and desire to keep things moving but it's too detached from the local realities for proper considerations. The future decision making will be back to the cities and towns in a confederal structure combined with the power of the grass roots.

You are at the front end of this trend. Take this opportunity to get things right at this critical stage in history. Green urbanism as stated above will create the ideas and jobs of the future. That power and vision lies in the hands of the cities and its civic leaders.

There are two hundred emerging market nations that are beginning to rise quickly in the world. They are leap frogging legacy systems. Ideas, creativity, technology and capital are all converging for a perfect beneficial storm in their favour. If we don't lay the foundation properly now and in line with what these countries are doing, we will miss the opportunity to future proof ourselves and be left in the dust.

As policy makers you know the ripple effects of planning long into the future. Now is the time to pause and really think through what it is you believe in, to stand in this truth and lay a healthy foundation for generations to come.

Thank you.
Gian DelZotto