



Vaughan City Hall
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr.
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

March 8, 2021

**Submission to Vaughan Council on Greater Toronto Area West Transportation
Corridor Update ; March 8, 2021**

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua and Members of Vaughan Council:

Thank you for taking the time to read letters, listening and recognizing the impact of the GTA West corridor on the remaining environmental lands in Vaughan. Thank you to the Councillors who voted to support the motion at the March 1, 2020 Vaughan Council meeting.

Our letter today is to request that: all Councilors unanimously vote yes to the motion reversing the endorsement for the proposed GTA West Corridor as passed as the Committee of the Whole Meeting on March 2, 2021 and that Council bring forward and vote yes to support the request for a Federal Environmental Assessment.

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

The Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust has been an active participant in the Greenbelt Transportation Advisory Group for the GTA West Study for several years.

It is our position that anything that creates new disruption to the natural heritage of the Region, in protected areas, such as the Greenbelt and the Oak Ridges Moraine, or on the rural lands adjacent to those protected areas, should be avoided.

This proposed highway would pave over approximately 400 acres of protected Greenbelt lands, mostly in Vaughan, sever the Nashville Conservation Area and important forests in Vaughan including a 1.5 km stretch around twin valleys of the Humber and East Humber.

Although the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust is not an official resident of Vaughan, many of our supporters live in your community and have voiced their concerns about the disastrous impacts of the proposed GTA West on their natural environment. We also have protected lands near King-Vaughan lands that will be negatively impacted by this proposed highway.

Vaughan Councillors, you can join Mississauga, Halton Region, Orangeville, Halton Hills and Halton Region who have chosen to oppose Highway 413 based on local opposition.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Susan Walmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" and last name "Walmer" clearly legible.

Susan Walmer, CPA,CMA
CEO, Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust

cc. Hon. Caroline Mulroney (York-Simcoe) Minister of Transportation
Hon. Stephen Lecce (King-Vaughan)