

March 8, 2021

**COMMUNICATION – C46
COUNCIL – March 10, 2021
Committee of the Whole
Report No. 8, Item 12**

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua, Members of Council, and City Staff:

As I observed the March 2, 2021 committee of the whole meeting, I listened carefully to Council's comments regarding Miss. Ford's concerns and Councillor Carella's motion not to support the Highway 413 project. After having time to collect my thoughts on what transpired, it seems that Councillor Carella's motion put forward and passed through committee of the whole "jumped the gun." It was not appropriate for the motion to be considered, approved, and ratified without reviewing all the facts regarding a serious infrastructure project like this one before you. My request to Council is to defer the motion not to support the Highway 413 project made by Councillor Carella, Seconded by Councillor De Francesca so that staff can provide Council with a comprehensive report regarding the GTA West Corridor Highway 413 project.

The GTA West Corridor Highway 413 has been planned and approved within previous Official Plans and currently approved within the Vaughan Official Plan 2010. Council has supported the project's build numerous times over the last six years, most recently, June 2020, relying on staff's recommendations of continuing to support this project. During this meeting, not one Councillor who voted for Councillor Carella's motion questioned staff or requested staff's previous input/recommendations regarding the Highway 413 project. We must not jump to hasty conclusions when dealing with sensitive and serious topics such as this.

It is not wise and responsible for Council to consider and accept the conclusions made by one side of the argument without hearing all the facts. Vaughan's current Council was elected to fix the traffic issues in our city. This highway plays an essential part in the goal of traffic relief within the City of Vaughan. Not considering long-term traffic solutions for our city, like the Highway 413 project, would be short-sighted and detrimental to a balanced approach regarding sustainable growth in our city and improvements to the quality of life of current and future residents of Vaughan.

Yours truly,

Victor Lacaria – Licensed Paralegal

Concerned Weston Downs Resident – [REDACTED] Polo Crescent

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