

From: Michael A. DiMuccio [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2021 7:55 PM
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Cc: goodvibesintl@gmail.com
Subject: [External] Council Meeting March 10, 2021 (#7, Item 12) GTA Highway 413

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua and the members of Vaughan Council,

My name is Michael DiMuccio, and I am a resident of Vaughan Ward 1.

I write, requesting that the members of Vaughan Council reaffirm your motion and unanimously vote in favor of ratifying the decision, made March 2, 2021 at the Committee of the Whole Meeting, to reverse your endorsement for the proposed GTA West Corridor/Highway 413; and in addition pass a motion to support the request for a federal Environmental Assessment, should the Provincial government insist on proceeding with its plans against the will of the people.

Twenty-five years ago I had the good fortune of being able to choose anywhere in the world to live. I made the decision to remove myself from the hustle and bustle of living too close to the spawl. I sought a protected area, nestled among the trees and was one of the first in the area. In fact, cutting a tree down on my property requires the consent of the City, after it has been approved by Environmental agency.

Mr. Bevilacqua you asked, "what's changed?"

What hasn't, would surely be a shorter list, but I will limit myself to the issue at hand. Out of virtually nowhere, during a year of global crisis and vulnerability, I now find my home and my environment in the crosshairs (within 500m) of a very destructive and ambitious commercial project. I am no longer protected, on account of the dishonorable circumvention of the environmental and democratic process we have relied on to safeguard our future, thanks to our Provincial government and the many private interests driving this behavior. I have taken it upon myself with a small group to create an online 'town hall', to give us the public platform we have been denied to date. We are now over 1600 members and growing; sharing what we know, with who we know, and what we can do to redirect our financial and intellectual resources in a way that is progressive – not redundant.

The world operates through a different lens today. The phrase 2020 is hindsight, gives new meaning to the past not being equal the future. Yet, we must take responsibility for past failures and ensure we are not making the same mistakes just because we agreed at one point with the narrative last year. This issue appears to be drawing a clear line among concerned citizens as to who is to be trusted with the will of the citizens – "representative democracy", as recently expressed by Councillor Caretta (thank you).

I prefer not to parrot the points already written to you by the many as to why the 413 as proposed is a bad idea. Quoting the [expert advisory panel report](#) which led to the cancellation of this highway in 2018 may

have more than enough reasons. I'd rather keep it simple. Putting people and planet ahead of profits is good business and good politics.

In the early 60's, as the man in charge of the space program, Dr. Werner von Braun was asked by President John F. Kennedy "What would it take to get a man on the moon?" In less than ten seconds he replied... "The will to do it." We may not know the ideal solution at this moment, but we can decide we have the will to discover it.

Warmest Regards,

Michael A. DiMuccio

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"Success is the progressive realization of a worthy ideal." Earl Nightingale