

**C8**  
**COMMUNICATION**  
**COUNCIL – September 27, 2021**  
**CW (1)- Report No. 39, Staff Communication SC3**

**From:** [IRENE FORD](#)  
**To:** [Council@vaughan.ca](mailto:Council@vaughan.ca); [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**Cc:** [Paul Webster](#); [Dina Ibrahim](#); [Noor Javed](#); [Suzanne Craig](#)  
**Subject:** [External]  
STAFF\_COMMUNICATION\_September\_14,\_2021\_GTA\_West\_Transportation\_Corridor\_Route\_Planning\_and\_Environmental\_Assessment\_Study\_-\_Update  
**Date:** September-14-21 1:39:20 PM

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I was extremely disappointed and concerned to learn that Vaughan's Committee of the Whole agenda starting today at 1pm contains a staff communication providing an update on the GTA West Corridor dated Sept 10 and it would appear released publicly Sept 14. It is unclear to me why it is a communication and not a staff report. In the past updates on the GTA West Corridor have been presented as staff reports. By doing it in this manner it has enabled an item that has high public interest and controversy to sneak onto Vaughan's agenda the day before the meeting. **By default this eliminates any opportunity or time for members of the public to submit letters or send requests for delegations.** Prior to virtual Council meetings members of the public would have been able to request to speak live during the meeting. It is unclear to me if such process exists anymore.

Vaughan Council's procedural by-law does not allow deputations at Council meetings. So while residents may be able to send letters if this goes to Council September 27 there will be no opportunity to give a deputations. Whether intentional or not the last minute communication has created a process that effectively eliminates any opportunity for members of the public to speak to this communication. It still seems highly undemocratic given the level of concern and scrutiny surrounding the Highway 413/GTA West Corridor. I have not been able to fully read the document but my understanding is that Vaughan Staff's presentation of feedback from the MTO community engagement July 28 meeting is skewed. Make no mistake that the public left this meeting with nothing but frustration and anger.

It is also unclear to me why Vaughan staff have submitted their comments on the GGH transportation plan as a communication and not as a staff report. I was very happy to see the Vaughan staff had clearly identified Vaughan Council's decision to no longer support the GTA West Corridor and that it was still included in the provinces discussion paper. I also found it highly concerning that the proposed Bolton rail line was omitted in the Province's Discussion Paper. It seems to me there is a tremendous amount of development pressure, both in Bolton/Caledon and NW Vaughan being justified b/c this line will be coming I hope this may give Vaughan Council pause when approving development applications in this area. I have not had time to confirm this but I believe the whole premise of the MZO approved in Caledon was that this GO Line and a station was coming?

**What is the difference between a staff communication and a staff report?**

Thank you,  
Irene Ford