

99 Sutcliffe Crescent
Markham, Ontario
L6C 1X3

Dear Mr. Horchik,

This letter is to express my opposition to the proposed widening of 16th Avenue and to encourage you, our representative, to find alternatives. I am apposed to widening 16th Avenue on the basis of health and safety, quality of life, environmental impact and property values.

It is well documented that pollutants from traffic emissions released into the air adversely affect our health. The elderly and children are affected the most but all residents are impacted if not in their health, in their finances. Poor air quality may aggravate respiratory problems where it already exist or it may be the source of causing otherwise healthy individuals to develop problems such as bronchitis and asthma.

Widening 16th Avenue will result in more vehicles and an increase in accidents and fatalities. Some motorists already drive at a high rate of speed on 16th Avenue and to increase the lanes will only increase the number of speeders, accidents and fatalities. Our families are at great risk now to cross 16th Avenue with four lanes, to make it a six lane highway would put residents at greater risk.

Residents who get sick as a result of poor air quality look to our, already over stretched, health system for a cure or relief. This adds financial pressures on the system which impacts all tax payers.

Widening 16th Avenue will affect property values in a negative way. Some property values will decrease. This will result in a decrease in property tax and local government's ability to deliver services to residents.

Global warming and its impact on the quality and longevity of life is not fully known. What we do know that emissions from automobiles contribute greatly to global warming and impact negatively on the health of residents. **Countries who are concerned about global warming are trying to reduce the number of automobiles on their roads. Your proposal to widen 16th Avenue is the direct opposite. Are you not concerned about global warming and what it may mean for the future? If you are concerned I would suggest that you explore other alternatives.**

In my submission to the questionnaire from the engineering consultants retained by York Region, I made two suggestions; (1) improve public transit. It should be affordable, accessible and timely. Put more buses on the road and have them no longer then thirty minutes apart. I would take public transit if it met these conditions and I believe that more residents would do the same. (2) Dedicate three lanes going west on 16th in rush hour in the mornings. Reverse the process in the evening.

As our representatives you are there to carry out our wishes and widening 16th Avenue is not our wish.

Mack Hunte