



Richmond Hill Naturalists

Mayor Scarpitti and Council Members
Town of Markham
Markham Civic Centre
101 Town Centre Boulevard,
Markham, Ontario, Canada
L3R 9W3

February 23, 2010

Sent via email

Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Council Members:

***RE: Support the Motion of Deputy Mayor Heath and Councillor Virgilio
and Support the Foodbelt in Markham.***

The Richmond Hill Naturalists are in support of the motion by Deputy Mayor Jack Heath and Regional Councillor Joe Virgilio, with no-urban expansion. We also support the Foodbelt in Markham.

Our organization has been involved in cultural, heritage, planning and restoration projects in the Rouge watershed for many years. Over this time, we have heard the concerns of groups, many that were discussed at the public sessions last week. We would encourage ongoing discussions with all stakeholders, aboriginal representatives, farmers, residents, property owners, environmental and other organizations. We continue to be concerned about natural habitat, species loss, stormwater, water quality, quantity and many other issues.

Markham council has an opportunity take the lead and envision ideas, not currently consider in the growth strategy.

Sincerely

Marianne Yake
President
Richmond Hill Naturalists
P.O. Box 32217
Harding Postal Outlet
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 9S3
president@rhnaturalists.ca
cc: Premier Dalton McGuinty dmcguinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

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Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Markham Foodbelt

-----Original Message-----

From: Maureen Flynn

Sent: February 23, 2010 1:04 PM

To: Kitteringham, Kimberley; Scarpitti, Frank; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Virgilio, Joseph; Heath, Jack; Shapero, Erin; Burke, Valerie; Hamilton, Don; Webster, John; Horchik, Dan; Kanapathi, Logan; Chiu, Alex; Moretti, Carolina; McCalJ@parl.gc.ca; Kent.P@parl.gc.ca; Calandra.P@parl.gc.ca; mchan.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; peter.shurmanco@pc.ola.org; hjaczek.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; dmcguinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; jwatson.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; jbradley.mpp@liberal.ola.org; cmitchell.mpp@liberal.ola.org; markhamfoodbelt@gmail.com; jimrobb@frw.ca

Subject: Markham Foodbelt

Dear Mayor Scarpitti, Councillors, Members of Parliament, Members of Provincial Parliament, Ladies and Gentlemen:

We continue to express significant concern over the loss of natural land which will occur if an additional 10 km. of land in north Markham are approved for development in terms of both housing and employment.

This is the last remaining area of Markham that holds small segments of naturalized habitat for animals and greenbelt activities which support the river system and air cleansing properties only available where pavement does not form the basis of the landscape. It would be a tragic loss to future generations if this were allowed to occur, and, since opening the doors to development north of Major MacKenzie will only result in further invasions in the future when the allotted segment has been eaten up, the lands desperately need to be protected under the Foodbelt proposal. To do otherwise, in our view, is both short-sighted and irresponsible.

83% of Markham residents support the efforts to protect farmland and greenspace, and wish to stop outward urban sprawl and reduce traffic from outlying areas.

We strongly support the following motion as a good first step, as well as the Foodbelt proposal as an required second step:

3. Notice of Motion Moved By: Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Seconded by Regional Councillor Joe Dirgillio:

Therefore Be It Resolved that:

1. Markham request the Province and York Region to reduce the population target for Markham in its new Official Plan by 40,000; and
2. Markham's new Official Plan not include any expansion of the urban boundary beyond what is in the current Official Plan.

Since the Region and staff were afforded the opportunity to present the options to the public and to comment on the option of Councillors Burke and Shapero at the public meetings of February 16th and 17th without the provision of permitting the Councillors to respond or address those concerns in terms of their own presentation of their option, we at Wingsong also request that a public meeting be planned so that Councillors Burke and Shapero may present their proposal to the public, and be provided the opportunity to respond to those comments and any other concerns in a public forum. This, we believe, is justified in the name of democratic presentation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

M. Flynn B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.
Wingsong Wildlife Presentation Alliance

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Hau, Lucy

Subject: Growth Management Strategy

-----Original Message-----

From: :

Sent: February 23, 2010 12:15 PM

To: Kitteringham, Kimberley; Scarpitti, Frank; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Virgilio, Joseph; Heath, Jack; Shapero, Erin; Burke, Valerie; Hamilton, Don; Webster, John; Horchik, Dan; Kanapathi, Logan; Chiu, Alex; Moretti, Carolina; McCalJ@parl.gc.ca; Kent.P@parl.gc.ca; Calandra.P@parl.gc.ca; mchan.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; peter.shurmanco@pc.ola.org; hjaczek.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; dmccguinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; jwatson.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org; jbradley.mpp@liberal.ola.org; cmitchell.mpp@liberal.ola.org; markhamfoodbelt@gmail.com; jimrobb@frw.ca

Subject: Fw: **Save the Foodbelt** Council Meeting in Council Chambers at the Civic Centre tonight February 23rd, at 7:00pm.

I support this motion to "Save the Foodbelt".

Art Jaszczyk,