

Kingscross Ratepayers Association

June 31, 2016,
321 Kingscross Drive,
King City, ON L7B 1J9

To;
York Region Council,
17250 Yonge Street,
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 6Z1

Dear Members of York Region Council.

Re: Transportation Master Plan Proposal

It has come to our attention that your proposed Transportation Master Plan has identified the 15th Sideroad as a possible route to connect Highway 400 to Highway 404 as identified on both the main Master Plan map and on the Strategic Goods Movement map. This possible route would include both an extension and widening of the 15th Sideroad. It would mean opening up and cutting a new road from west of Keele Street to Jane Street.

We the Kingscross Ratepayers Association have consulted with our membership and wish to inform you that we have very strong opposition to this proposal for the following reasons;

1. The extension of the 15th Sideroad would mean that somehow the road would have to cut through a portion of the Eaton Hall, Mary, Hacket Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW), which is one of the largest and most diverse wetlands on the Oak Ridges Moraine. It would be impossible to do this without causing permanent harm to this important wetland and the aquatic and terrestrial life that are dependent on that wetland. Since this wetland transits at this point in a north south direction it would be impossible to bypass it. The toads, turtles, snakes, frogs, fish and other wildlife dependent on our wetlands do not get to vote when their lives are threatened by a proposal such as this.
2. We don't know if you are aware that the road would also abuts the backyard properties of many of our members. All of our members are on private wells and a major road such as this will result in road salt runoff getting into wells rendering the wells unsafe for drinking. The road salt would also do untold ecological harm to the many streams and wetlands that are in our neighbourhood as the headwaters of the East Humber River. This would likely create a cause for legal action for significant damages to the 170 homes in Kingscross as well as a number of other properties adjacent to the proposed widened road.
3. Many studies have shown that building new roads does not reduce traffic – it only brings more vehicles onto the roads. This proposal seems unconnected to the provincial proposal to build a new multi lane Highway 413 from the west of the GTA through to Highway 400. It is obvious that any new major road should connect to where that will connect to Highway 400. At the moment that is near the King Vaughan Line.

We are requesting that before any additional consideration is given to this proposal that it be turned down or at a minimum that a comprehensive plan that includes the full Level 2 Environmental Assessment for the new proposed highway Highway 413 GTA West Corridor be undertaken.

Please advise us if we can be of any assistance as you move forward with your planning for new roads.

Thank you,



Mary Muter,
Co-chair, Kingscross Ratepayers Association