

From: Stuart Cumner

Sent: Friday, December 3, 2021 9:54 AM

To: Clerks Public <clerkspublic@markham.ca>

Subject: 60% level of whitebelt intensification makes sense - submission for Monday's meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from a source outside the City of Markham. **DO NOT CLICK** on any links or attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of Council,

I am writing to express my support for the 60% level of whitebelt intensification.

From an environmental perspective, through a climate crisis lens and indeed from a dollar cost point of view this is the best option on the table for Markham.

A higher level of intensification will result in more whitebelt land, valuable agricultural land and countryside, being conserved. Additionally, the city will receive more taxes and need to pay less in infrastructure in this scenario.

My understanding is that Markham's staff, the skilled team that processed all the available information in making a recommendation, decided the 60% level should be recommended. They are the experts with the training and knowledge to make the right choice. Please heed their advice.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Cumner

From: Frank V

Sent: Friday, December 3, 2021 12:46 PM

To: Clerks Public <clerkspublic@markham.ca>

Subject: Deputation to Development Service Committee Mon December 6

CAUTION: This email originated from a source outside the City of Markham. DO NOT CLICK on any links or attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear members of council,

I'm writing to indicate my support of Markham essentially going its own way on intensification as the City of Hamilton has, rather than submit to provincial demands. While the region needs affordable housing there must be more intelligent ways of doing so with reclassifying and destroying valuable agricultural lands. I believe sprawl actually weakens the tax base, as you have less people to support a minimum level of expected services, not to mention increasing GHG emissions from cars and environmental impact. Also, affordable is a relative term and prices even in cities far from the GTA are also becoming more expensive. So where does it end? These are not easy issues so I wish you all the best and hope you fully consider future generations for whatever the city decides.

Best regards,
Frank Vignando

Philip Ling, P.Eng.

December 3, 2021

City of Markham
Attn: DSC Committee

RE: WRITTEN DEPUTATION

DSC Meeting No. 26 | December 6, 2021 |

8.1. INFORMATION REPORT - IMPLICATIONS OF THE OCTOBER 21, 2021 REGIONAL COUNCIL DECISION REGARDING A PREFERRED GROWTH SCENARIO TO 2051 AND OPPORTUNITY FOR FURTHER INPUT (10.0)(13.4)

My name is Philip Ling, P.Eng.

I have been a resident of Markham for 24 years, have raised my family here and am a business owner, as are two of my sons.

I am a professional engineer and have been a long time, active volunteer at the City of Markham - a member of Markham's Environmental Advisory Committee for the past 15 years, as well as multi-year Chair of the Markham Centre Advisory Committee until disbanded, and have sat on several subcommittees including the Municipal Energy Plan.

This history of participation has given me the opportunity to be involved firsthand in City of Markham initiatives like the GreenPrint and the Municipal Energy Plan to get to Net Zero Energy Emissions by 2050. I am proud to have contributed in my small way to the City of Markham's leadership role not just in Ontario but in Canada to embed sustainability throughout its entire organization.

This brings me to today's matter – Intensification, and the vote at York Region to settle on a lower 50-55% range, and lower than the 60% that Markham has already achieved and that Markham proposed to the region.

Because the intensification target % by its nature determines how much of real nature in the white belt gets developed, accepting a lower target even by a few percent, translates into hundreds and hundreds of more acres developed in the white belt. Nature in the greenbelt and white belt are real ecosystems supporting biodiversity, habitat and that naturally sequester a huge amount of carbon. Don't think development here can be offset elsewhere with a tree planting initiative. A series of tree plantations do not replace the diversity and habitat of a true forest and are decades behind the amount of carbon sequestered by an existing mature forest and open fields, and we need that sequestration and nature preservation now, not just in the future.

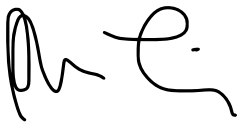
While I get the need for affordability and the desire for single family homes, Climate Change is accelerating at the same time as our population – Markham's and the World's, and we must change our way of thinking about what a home is.

Building high density, around infrastructure like transit and water, is a must, and a quick look around Markham's main roads shows so much higher density is possible without disrupting our way of life. So many single and 2 level strip buildings could be converted to high density residential/commercial as the City's visionary Markham Centre has shown. Let's look at ways to continue to increase density and not stop at 60%...

To summarize –

- Don't bow to regional and Provincial pressures on this.
- Show the kind of leadership that the City of Hamilton has – reject the directive for lower density.
- Heed this call to continue to lead. Since when has the Region and Province shown the kind of leadership that Markham has shown ? Never ...
- We have come so far – Stand strong and overcome !

Thanks for listening, and thanks for leading for all these years I have been a resident.



Philip Ling, P.Eng.

