

EXCERPT CONTAINING ITEM #006c OF THE COUNCIL COMMITTEE
(December 01, 09)

**(3) AGRICULTURAL ASSESSMENT STUDY FINAL REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS (10.0)**

Council Presentation Memo Map Report Appendix A Appendix B

- 1) That the staff report entitled “Agricultural Assessment Study Final Report and Recommendations” dated November 3, 2009 be received; and,
- 2) That the staff recommendation contained therein (Appendix ‘A’ enclosed in the memorandum dated November 17, 2009) be endorsed; and,
- 3) That staff undertake pre-consultations with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Region of York staff to discuss a potential municipal request to Grow the Greenbelt in Markham, which would include lands contained in the proposed Greenway System including the enhancement lands forming the east-west linkage, as discussed by Development Services Committee on November 3 and November 17, 2009 and that the results of the Town of Markham Agriculture Assessment Study be shared with the Province along with options to permanently protect farmland within the “white belt” when the Town of Markham endorses its Growth Management Strategy; and,
- 4) That staff report back to Development Services Committee on this matter; and,
- 5) That the Town of Markham hold a Public Meeting to discuss the agricultural assessment study and the Rouge Park agricultural land and transition plan on Tuesday January 12, 2010, and,
- 6) That the Town invite staff from the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to a Part A session of Development Services Committee in early 2010 to present applicable Provincial programs and opportunities that the Town and its agricultural partners could consider; and,
- 7) That Markham Foodbelt Proposal be included and presented as part of the Growth Management Strategy for public consultations; and further,
- 8) That the following clauses be referred to staff for a report:
 - Council creates a Blue Ribbon Taskforce of existing farm families and ratepayers and other relevant stakeholders to create a plan with the goal of expanding agricultural employment and local food procurement in the Town of Markham.

- Council creates a Blue Ribbon Task Force of existing industrial landowners and ratepayers and other relevant stakeholders to create a plan with the goal of revitalizing existing industrial areas and creating 40,000 new jobs.
- Council creates a Blue Ribbon Task Force of developers and residents and other relevant stakeholders to create a plan with the goal of creating a healthy, vibrant, liveable, urban village environment in the Town south of Major Mackenzie Drive.
- Further that the Blue Ribbon Task Force exploring residential growth consider placing a 6 story height limit on future development excluding major nodes served by high order transit.
- Council creates a Blue Ribbon Task Force of developers, industrial landowners, green renewable energy companies, farmers and residents and other relevant stakeholders to create a plan with the goal of having a Carbon Neutral Markham by 2020.
- Council creates a Blue Ribbon Task Force of naturalists, residents and natural heritage agencies such as Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and Environment Canada to achieve the Town's natural heritage policies including 30% forest cover.