

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Council Meeting of January 22, 2008

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From: Nabil Harfoush [mailto:nharfoush@manara.ca]

Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2008 3:04 PM

To: Birrell, Sheila

Cc: Shapero, Erin

Subject: Council Meeting of January 22, 2008

Kindly forward this message to the Mayor and to Council Members:

It has come to my attention that tonight's Council meeting will discuss alternatives to widening of various Markham roads. Unfortunately, I cannot attend this meeting due to prior commitments.

I felt it important and necessary, however, to inform you of my views, shared by many of my neighbors and community, about the need to carefully consider all alternative options before engaging in the widening of roads.

I wish the council had provided more advanced notice of such an important meeting so that the community can contribute more intelligently to issues critical to Markham's future. With enough time to engage Markham's communities, I am certain many contributions and innovative ideas would be forthcoming, particularly if modern participation channels are used such as the Internet (discussion groups, blogs, or a Facebook group!) or even simply a phone talkback line (a phone line with a good-capacity voicemail recorder).

I suggest that the Council consider discussing the widening of roads only within a framework for environmental responsibility and sustainability, building on the other positive achievements Markham has reached in that domain.

In this context I fully support the initiative of Councilors Shapero and Burke.

Sincerely,

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