

May 5, 2022

Hon. Caroline Mulroney  
Minister of Transportation  
[minister.mto@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mto@ontario.ca)

Dear Minister Mulroney,

Subject: **Highway 413**

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I am writing to advise that Regional Council approved the following resolution at its meeting held on April 14, 2022:

**Resolution Number 2022-243**

*Whereas it is recognized some relief of traffic congestion on Highway 401, especially for thousands of truckers, is required;*

*And whereas, some public support for Highway 413 is based on a real concern over continued congestion on Highway 401 and a lack of viable alternatives to the proposed Highway 413;*

*And whereas, the Highway 407 Electronic Toll Route (407 ETR) was created to provide a truck by-pass across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and in doing so, relieve congestion on Highway 401;*

*And whereas, current high tolls act as a disincentive to the transfer of traffic to the parallel and underused 407 ETR from Highway 401 as well as from surrounding local and regional roads;*

*And whereas, alternatives to the construction of Highway 413 were recommended by the Expert Panel appointed by the previous government, the work of that panel contributing to the cancellation of the proposed highway;*

*And whereas, one suggestion by the Expert Panel included the reduction or elimination of tolls for truck traffic on designated lanes of the 407 ETR;*

*And whereas, the current provincial government has been demonstrating there is Budget room for creative solutions to the traffic congestion:*

- *Licence renewal stickers and fees for 7.5 million vehicles have been eliminated as of March 13, 2022 at a loss of \$1.1 billion a*

*year. Refunds from March 2020 are also coming, with some conditions, at another \$1.1 billion. Future renewals will be free with no stickers to show renewals have been completed or alert police to check for unpaid traffic fines, more billions lost.*

- A \$1 billion penalty to the 407 ETR operators was forgiven by the province for failure to reduce tolls during COVID, to meet Highway 401 traffic reduction targets by attracting drivers. It is expected the same penalty will be forgiven in 2021.*
- Tolls are being eliminated as of April 1, 2022 “to help Ontarians financially after hardships of the pandemic” on Durham Highways 412 (Whitby) and 418 (Clarington) at \$20 million a year.*

*And whereas, Highway 413 will take seven to nine years to construct and require 3,057,200 tonnes of local aggregate necessitating 152,810 truck trips;*

*Therefore be it resolved, that the Council of the Region of Peel continue its opposition to Highway 413;*

*And further, that the Council of the Region of Peel strongly supports initiatives that promote increased diversion of traffic from Highway 401 to the under-utilized 407 ETR;*

*And further, that the Council of the Region of Peel request the Province of Ontario work with 407 International Inc. to devise strategies to increase 407 ETR usage and that the Province enforce penalties (as referred to in Section B above), provided to encourage efforts at congestion relief on Highway 401 and all surrounding roads;*

*And further, that the Council of the Region of Peel request the Province of Ontario provide immediate congestion relief on Highway 401 by investing sufficient yearly subsidies to support zero, or greatly reduced tolls, for exclusive truck lanes on the 407 ETR, one east and one west;*

*And further, that the capital cost for the proposed Highway 413, should it be cancelled, be re-designated to the expansion of long term, environmentally sustainable rapid transit throughout the Greater Toronto Area (GTA);*

*And further, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to every Council in the GTA, all Ontario MPPs and the Peel Goods Movement Task Force.*

**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

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Suite A, 5th Floor  
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
905-791-7800 ext. 4310

On behalf of Regional Council, I request that you give consideration to the above resolution. I look forward to your reply.

Kindest personal regards,



Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair and CEO

Copy: Kealy Dedman, Commissioner of Public Works  
Terry Ricketts, Director of Transportation

Also sent to:

City of Brampton  
City of Burlington  
City of Markham  
City of Mississauga  
City of Oshawa  
City of Pickering  
City of Richmond Hill  
City of Toronto  
City of Vaughan  
Municipality of Clarington  
Regional Municipality of Durham  
Regional Municipality of Halton  
Regional Municipality of Peel  
Regional Municipality of York  
Town of Ajax  
Town of Aurora  
Town of Caledon  
Town of East Gwillimbury  
Town of Georgina  
Town of Halton Hills  
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Town of Whitchurch - Stouffville  
Township of Brock  
Township of King  
Township of Scugog  
Township of Uxbridge  
All Ontario MPPs  
Peel Goods Movement Task Force