From: <u>Making Our Mark</u>

To:

Subject: RE: Online Form - Official Plan 2019 Updates Request

Date: Thursday, February 10, 2022 9:40:41 AM

Good Morning Brigitte,

Thank you for submitting your comments on the proposed settlement area boundary expansions.

We will be forwarding these comments to the appropriate staff for consideration.

Best Regards,

Official Plan Team

From: Niagara Region Website

Sent: Monday, February 7, 2022 5:10 PM

To: Making Our Mark

Subject: Online Form - Official Plan 2019 Updates Request

Official Plan 2019 Updates Request To reply, copy the email address from below and put into 'To'. (if resident entered their email address) Name **Brigitte Bonner** Email Phone Organization or Affiliation Private citizen Address City Fort Erie Specify City Postal Code

Province

Ontario

Topics of Interest

Natural Environment, Agriculture, Climate Change

Other Topics of Interest

All of the above are important to me, however the items I checked are of most concern.

Comments

I am very concerned about the proposed urban expansions. Most of the expansion is slated for agricultural lands, environmentally significant land and woodlands. This model is not sustainable for the future. All of these lands are finite. When they are gone, they are gone. It is very reckless to destroy these lands, which are crucial to our survival. The Niagara Region has some of the the most valuable agricultural land in Canada. This needs to be preserved for our future food security. Environmentally sensitive lands such as wetlands perform an abundance of important functions which could mean the difference between having liveable land, and having it destroyed. Even woodlands provide things such as oxygen, which we cannot live without. The benefits of all of these types of land are well known and I am sure you are aware of them. Not only are these lands crucial for humans, but they are important for the wildlife in our area. We cannot continue to destroy the environment without serious repercussions. There are many other ways that the Region can increase urbanization without this senseless destruction. Brownfields exist in every town. This should be the first place that urbanization occurs. Other forms of intensification can occur in current urban areas. The City of Niagara Falls planners came up with an excellent plan that would have greatly limited expansion of urban boundaries into natural and agricultural areas. The City of Hamilton has voted not to expand its urban boundaries. So, it can be done. We can increase intensification without needless and harmful destruction. In this current world we live in with climate change and habitat loss causing unprecedented natural disasters, in is completely incomprehensible that the current plan is being proposed. It's time to go back to the drawing board and do this correctly.

