

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE FEBRUARY 16, 2004

HIGHWAY 407 TOLLS

Recommendation

Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio recommends that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS Highway No. 407 has emerged as an economically strategic transportation artery in the Greater Toronto Area, linking businesses of all sizes with their customers and suppliers;

AND WHEREAS small business is one of the most critical drivers of the GTA's economy;

AND WHEREAS rising toll rates on Highway No. 407 are forcing the small business sector to abandon the use of Highway No. 407 and in turn contribute to the horrific gridlock on other Regional roads particularly Highway #7;

AND WHEREAS this exclusionary tolling policy imposes broadly based impacts on both the public and private sectors, including greater congestion and increased maintenance costs on paralleling municipal roads; and a general reduction in economic efficiency and competitiveness for businesses operating in the GTA;

NOW THEREFORE THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VAUGHAN RESOLVES:

THAT the Province of Ontario is hereby requested to conduct an expeditious review of the current tolling regime, examining among other issues, its economic impact on the small business sector, its impact on the sustainability of municipal facilities and its overall effect on the economic competitiveness of the GTA's economy;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario, the Provincial Cabinet, the government caucus and the Regional Municipality of York and the Trucking Association of Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Frustaglio
Regional Councillor