

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MARCH 7, 2005 – NEW BUSINESS

“THE END OF SUBURBIA: OIL DEPLETION AND THE COLLAPSE OF THE (NORTH?) AMERICAN DREAM”

Recommendation

Councillor Carella recommends that staff acquire a copy of the television documentary “The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream” (scheduled to be broadcast Wednesday, March 9, 2005, at 10 pm on VISION TV), for viewing by Council, the senior management team, all directors and all managers before the end of June 2005.

Purpose

To identify and consider the implications of the claim that the amount of crude oil available for world wide consumption will peak within the next five years and that the price of gasoline will rise steeply as a result.

Background - Analysis and Options

If one assumes that suburban living is dependent upon the automobile, and that the extensive use of automobiles has required relatively cheap gasoline, and if the world wide supply of cheap gasoline is about to peak (i.e., began to decline), the implications for automobile drivers and our automobile-dependent way of life is highly significant.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

Given the city’s control of local planning, it is important that all senior staff be cognizant of how planning decisions-made without reference to potential realities-may put the future financial viability of the city at risk.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

Tony Carella

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Tony Carella