

April 28, 2023

Mayor & Council Richmond Hill
clerks@richmondhill.ca



RE: SRPI.23.050 Zoning amendment 1200 & 1380 Stouffville Rd.

York Region Environmental Alliance (YREA) opposes the rezoning request on the subject lands. Rezoning to accommodate this massive development is completely inappropriate and premature at this time given that the Federal government, through the Impact Assessment Agency, Parks Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada will be undertaking a Rouge National Park study. The tremendous size and scope of the proposed development will indeed have a huge impact on the highly sensitive Rouge Watershed, Rouge River Headwater Wetland Complex, its species at risk, woodlots, wetland and tributaries with their vital linkages to the Federal Rouge Urban Park.

All the hard surfaces that come with such development will instigate flooding, the detrimental effect of road salt, increased surface runoff, more water pollution, increased erosion and sedimentation, channel instability and loss of biodiversity in the Rouge River Watershed. Sewers and other related infrastructure would compromise the networks of underground streams and watercourses.

YREA has previously also opposed rezoning on the [Doner property](#), on [Leslie north](#) of Stouffville Road as an LPAT participant, and [condo development](#) on Bayview adjacent Wilcox Lake St. George wetlands. Even as the province is circumventing ecological protections in favour of unbridled sprawl, YREA strongly feels that Richmond Hill cannot disregard the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and Greenbelt Plan if we want to avoid irreversible environment degradation which would permanently impact our ecosystems.

Sincerely
Gloria Marsh, Executive Director
York Region Environmental Alliance
Partnering for a greener planet