

december 3, 2009

region of york
clerks dept. att. dennis kelly
17250 yonge st.
newmarket, on
l3y 6z1

dear sirs:

steve zakem of aird and berlis wrote to you on november 25, 2009 regarding the new york region official plan and how it may hurt his client loblaw properties on their endeavor to develop land at the corner of major mac and the 404. the new plan mentions a woodlot on their land which has already been zoned commercial. he wants the region to acknowledge their right to develop their property without hinderance.

i too have a similar situation that i have notified the town of markham on in writing over the last ten years. in 1999 david clark a markham town planner made a presentation regarding the future road structure near my land at 4137 hwy 7. he mentioned that markham wanted to preserve a small woodlot on my western neighbour's property, 4121 hwy 7. this would entail bending a connecting road up to hwy 7 around the trees and probably onto my land. at the time i shook my head in disbelief knowing that this woodlot was an overgrown christmas tree farm that was never harvested. i spoke to dave and he admitted that he had never walked the property and he was relying on a consultants report. i documented my concerns at the time and forwarded them to markham.

two years ago i noticed that a good many of my mature pine trees were falling over dead. they had just snapped off at the trunk. when i looked at the stump you could see thousands of worm holes like swiss cheese in every tree. i went over to 4121 hwy 7 and noticed hundreds of fallen trees. in fact it was hard to find any healthy pine trees in the forest, they were all dead or dying. there are no hardwoods in this forest. they were dying because they were planted too close to each other 40 years ago about 5 ft apart. this was ok for a christmas tree that is harvested in 5 or 6 years but not for a sustainable forest. i spoke to my neighbour to my east at 4151 hwy 7 and he exclaimed that he had just replaced 200 new pine trees that he had planted three years before to line his driveway at great expense. he and i started looking further east onto the town of markham's land that the town bought for scibbaras road extension. their land also had many downed pine trees.

at this point we contacted richard kendall of markham and gave him pictures of the stumps. he sent out a town arborist who confirmed the investation. the arborist contacted sheridan nurseries who own land to the west of 4121 and gave them new pictures of other tress so afflicted at the back of their property on town of markham land scheduled for a storm water facility. sheridan's own arborist also confirmed the investation. what surprises me the most is up until this point nothing has been down to stop the devastation.

i have been sidetracked from the point of this letter. in no way should this sad example of a woodlot force a new road around it onto my land. needless to say markham received very poor results from the consultant on this project. they should ban them from doing any further work for the town.

sincerely yours:

paul w. young