

VIRGINIA ATKINS, 3645 17TH SIDEROAD, KING CITY, ONTARIO, CANADA L7B 1K4

Bryan W. Tuckey, Commissioner
Planning and Development Services
Region of York, 17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

June 30, 2008

RE: King City proposed south-east subdivision

Dear Mr. Tuckey:

It has come to my attention that the King Township Council on June 16, 2008 approved OPA #65, permitting a re-zoning of the wetland-woodland identified as a Special Study Area (SSA) within the MNR's 1995 "Natural Heritage System for King City," incorporated into the King City Community Plan (KCCP).

As a resident of King Township, I am a life-long devotee of natural and national history, and the protection of wetland and woodland ranks at the top of my personal agenda. In this case, I wish to state in strongest terms my opposition to allowing the re-zoning and the acceptance of the plan for turning the said natural area into residential development.

The springs arising here flow into the headwaters of the Humber River and, as such, need protection for maintenance of water quality and the integrity of the watershed. Not only will the many species of wildlife be displaced and disturbed, the vegetative cover so necessary for avian habitat destroyed, but the unique features of the area that gives King its vaunted reputation as an island of green relief from urban sprawl will be lost.

This particular landscape is also the site for a rare artistic work by the world-renowned sculptor, Richard Serra; his large concrete installation called SHIFT is known as one of his seminal works and could be, if integrated into a plan for a "destination," a jewel in York Region's cultural crown. The developer, given appropriate encouragement, has an opportunity to contribute both heritage and environmental values that would enhance local, provincial and national prestige.

As cited in "Places to Grow," York Region's response to the Ontario Growth Plan, September 23, 2004, 5.5.4 # 29, "Future Provincial growth plans should address the historical aspects of our communities and treat them as important resources for future generations, on parity with significant forest and wetland areas." How can today be different than the day only four years ago when this passage was written?

I trust you and other decision makers will consider these points when the motion for approval of the rezoning mentioned above comes to your attention.

Yours respectfully,



Virginia Atkins

cc: Mayor Margaret Black and
Township of King Council members
Heather Konefat (York Region)
Frank Scarpitti (Regional Councillor)
Hon. Donna Cansfield, MPP
Hon. M. Aileen Carroll, MPP
Helena Jaczek, MPP
Hon. John Baird, MP
Hon Gary Lunn, MP