

From: [Mather, Maddison](#)
To: [Mather, Maddison](#)
Subject: FW: Official Plan
Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 3:10:24 PM

From: Clive Cudmore [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 9:43 PM
To: Campbell, Dwayne <campbelld@northumberland.ca>
Subject: Official Plan

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Hi Dwight:

My wife and I were at the open house on May 23, and I have meant to email you before now. We are strongly opposed to the movement of the western boundary of Brimley Road S. in Grafton. My comments, however, are broader than that.

We have a finite amount of arable land on which to produce food to feed ourselves, and in an ideal world, none of it would be taken for development. We all realize this is an impossibility, and I admit that the land on which our current house sits was farmland 30 or more years ago, and probably very high quality farmland at that.

I would hope that we have learned something in the past 30 years, and certainly the uproar over the Greenbelt changes seemed to show this.

It would appear that the planning process in this instance is based on the short sightedness of a landowner, to convert a piece of the very finest farmland into a development. It is not needed for any reason other than to make a developer rich.

Making the land in question, both in Grafton and in other parts of the county, part of hamlets, and therefore likely to be developed, will not solve Canada's or Ontario's housing crisis.

Building homes in areas where they are on septic systems is not a way to build the necessary density. You know better than I that what is needed is increased density in areas with full services and access to public transport. Not in areas where the only transport available is by private automobile.

We could be accused of Numbyism, as my wife and I have been lucky enough to have spent the majority of our adult life living in such areas, but in this day and age, it becomes less and less suitable as a living option. It just eats up too much valuable farmland.

We hope to be present at the meeting on June 5, and given the opportunity will address the subject again then.

I do not know the planning criteria under which you work, but it would seem to me that one of the considerations which should be made, before we pave over more farmland, would be the quality of the farmland in question. Not all farmland is created equal. The land in question in

Grafton is some of the best I have ever seen.

I would make one further comment, on the timing of this meeting. I am a retiree, and can afford the time to attend, but many working people would not be able to do so. For the farming sector, the meeting is at an even worse time of the year. This is planting season, which is a time of year where 18 hour days are not uncommon. I do not know when the meeting for the agricultural sector is, but given the timeline for the final report, i doubt that there will be a good time for adequate participation by our farmers.

Thank you for your consideration

Clive Cudmore