

From: Gail Schenk

Sent: May 26, 2022 10:31 PM

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Cc: clerks <clerks@Wilmot.ca>; Sharon Chambers <sharon.chambers@wilmot.ca>; Harold O'Krafka <harold.okrafka@Wilmot.ca>

Subject: Wilmot Township's preferred Growth Option

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To the attention of Wilmot Council,

I am a resident of Kitchener, not a resident of Wilmot Township. However, Wilmot Township and Kitchener are both part of Waterloo Region and required to give input into the ROP. The content of Waterloo Region's Regional Official Plan will have a critical impact on what will happen in our climate future together. I am not sure if it is appropriate for me to address Wilmot Council in their choice of the content of their ROP. However, I believe that addressing climate change is an urgent matter and am sharing my viewpoint with you. I, of course, respectfully leave the choice to you whether you decide to read my viewpoint.

I consider sharing this viewpoint as an opportunity to help our community and to help myself respond constructively and immediately to the fact that we, the whole world, are in a Climate Emergency. As in any emergency we must respond in the best way we can to the circumstances we are in. Our only choice is to move forward in meeting our targets to reduce Greenhouse gas emissions to 50% below 2005 levels by 2030 and by 80% by 2040. This is a survival issue and not only a monetary issue. In fact all the money in the world will not reverse a catastrophe that has happened. There must be a change in my lifestyle and in our community's path forward.

This is not where I want to be, however it is where we are. Starting now to commit in all possible ways to reach these targets is our choice between survival and catastrophe. No one knows all of the answers. However by working together we build our answers, our connections and our capacity to start living the transition, a transition which revises and redevelops our common resources, and utilizes them to lead to a healthy and safe future.

This is why I support Option 4 for the REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WATERLOO MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW of LAND NEEDS ASSESSMENT. As I read the proposed Option 4, words that came to me to describe its content are "flexible, prudent, insightful, tenable and environmentally sustainable". A shout out to the authors of this Option. It offers a way for, quote, "Council to get it right". In Option 4, public input is recognized, current information is analyzed in new angles and perspectives, and the legacy of leadership from Waterloo Region continues. I support Option 4 and strongly encourage Wilmot Council to do likewise. Let's work together to build a healthy and safe future.

Thank you for your attention.

sincerely,
Gail Schenk