

From: [Mike Rice](#)
To: [Natasha Salonen](#); [Stewart Cressman](#); [Kris Wilkinson](#); [Harvir Sidhu](#); [Lillianne Dunstall](#); [Steven Martin](#)
Cc: [Clerks](#); [Jeff Bunn](#); [Kaitlin Bos](#); [Sharon Chambers](#)
Subject: Seeking Council's Clarification on the Urbanization of Wilmot
Date: September 18, 2024 10:46:44 AM

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Dear Members of the Township of Wilmot Council and Mayor,

I am writing to seek clarity regarding a statement made in the *Waterloo Region Record* on September 10, 2024. The statement suggests that Wilmot is unwilling to host an industrial land assembly on 770 acres of Class 1 Farmland, specifically mentioning that '*we do not want to be an urban centre.*'

Certain members of the council's opposition to higher density and intensification of residential developments, necessary to house the influx of workers for the proposed industrial mega site, seems rooted in the desire to avoid becoming an urban center.

It appears that declaring Wilmot, especially Baden and New Hamburg, as unwilling to become an urban center is an attempt to preserve our rural community's social and agrifood heritage that some, at the exclusion of agribusinesses, have described as nothing more than a bedroom community.

I kindly ask that councillors clearly state their positions on their vision of becoming an urban centre. I look forward to receiving your personal responses directly, without unelected members of staff intervening. Additionally, it might be beneficial to engage in an open and thoughtful dialogue with residents about the future they envision for our rural countryside township.

Sincerely,

Mike Rice

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