

Sent by Email

May 2, 2023

The Honourable Omar Alghabra  
Minister of Transportation  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0A6  
[omar.alghabra@parl.gc.ca](mailto:omar.alghabra@parl.gc.ca)

Subject: Opposition to a Pickering Airport and Utilization of Resources  
File: A-1400

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on April 24, 2023 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in May 2016, Transport Canada awarded a contract to KPMG to undertake a Pickering Lands Aviation Sector Analysis to update the supply and demand forecasts of the 2010 Needs Assessment Study: Pickering Lands and to develop and assess type and role options for a future airport and provide an economic impact report;

And Whereas, on October 10, 2017, Pickering Council passed Resolution #355/17 declaring that “the Federal Government be advised that the City of Pickering supports the development of an airport in Pickering, subject to the results identified in the Aviation Sector Analysis – Pickering Airport Study and the appropriate Environmental Assessments”;

And Whereas, Toronto Pearson International’s current Master Plan, published in December 2017, stated that Pearson’s runway capacity would be “sufficient to 2037” without adding the already approved sixth runway;

And Whereas, the KPMG analysis was completed in 2019 and the Supply and Demand analysis found that, for the study’s 2016-2036 planning horizon, “there will be sufficient capacity in the southern Ontario airports system ... without the requirement to build a new airport”, and KPMG reached this conclusion without considering the effects of climate change and its future impacts on aviation;

And Whereas, KPMG cautioned that there was “a significant level of uncertainty” around scenarios that examined types of airports offering services other than commercial

passenger services, that the scenarios were “exploratory in nature”, and that “conclusions cannot be drawn” from those exercises;

And Whereas, on December 16, 2019, the Council of the City of Pickering endorsed a Climate Change Declaration resolution that undertook to “strive for a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions to reduce the local and global impacts of climate change”;

And Whereas, then Transport Minister Marc Garneau wrote to Durham Regional Chair John Henry on March 25, 2020, to confirm KPMG’s finding of “no immediate need for additional airport capacity in the Greater Toronto Area” and that “any decision on the future of the Pickering Lands must be based on a sound business case...”;

Now therefore it be it resolved:

1. That based on KPMG’s conclusion that a sound supply-and-demand business case could not be made for a Pickering airport up to 2036, and based on the City’s declared intention to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, the Council for The Corporation of the City of Pickering does not support an airport on the Pickering Lands; and that no further resources and/or funds be utilized to promote an airport on the Pickering Lands; and that the City of Pickering continue to endorse support for a High Frequency Rail option with a station located in Green River as the preferred transportation network; and,
2. That this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Transport Canada, Omar Alghabra, and to Pickering-Uxbridge MP O’Connell, as well as to MPs Anandasangaree, Carrie, Holland, Jaczek, Turnbull, and O’Toole; to Durham and York regional councils, and to Scarborough East councillors; and to the municipal councils of Ajax, Markham, Oshawa, Scugog, Stouffville, Uxbridge, Vaughan, and Whitby.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2019.

Yours truly,



Susan Cassel  
City Clerk

SC:am

Copy:                   The Honourable Mark Holland, Member of Parliament, Ajax  
                              The Honourable Helena Jaczek, Member of Parliament, Markham-Stouffville

The Honourable Erin O'Toole, Member of Parliament, Durham  
Jennifer O'Connell, Member of Parliament, Pickering-Uxbridge  
Gary Anandasangaree, Member of Parliament, Scarborough-Rouge Park  
Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament, Oshawa  
Ryan Turnbull, Member of Parliament, Whitby  
Jennifer McKelvie, Councillor, Scarborough-Rouge Park  
Jamaal Myers, Councillor, Scarborough North,  
Paul Ainslie, Councillor, Scarborough-Guildwood  
Nick Mantas, Councillor, Scarborough-Agincourt  
Michael Thompson, Councillor, Scarborough Centre  
Gary Crawford, Councillor, Scarborough Southwest  
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Director of Legislative Services, The Regional Municipality of Durham  
Chris Raynor, Regional Clerk, The Regional Municipality of York  
Nicole Cooper, Director of Legislative and Information Services, Town of Ajax  
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa  
Chris Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby  
Becky Jamieson, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Township of Scugog  
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge  
Gillian Angus-Traill, Town Clerk, Town of Stouffville  
Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk, City of Markham  
Todd Coles, Clerk, City of Vaughan  
Chief Administrative Officer