

Donna Tremblay

From: Susan Fielding
Sent: March-17-14 1:43 PM
To: Karen Landry
Cc: Donna Tremblay; Susan Fielding; 'hugh.fielding@sympatico.ca'
Subject: More Info on Community Update

Importance: High

To the CAO and Members of Council:

In regard to a Community Update sent from my personal email, specifically involving the Highway 6/Morrison Bypass: I have communicated with Rory McAlpine, Maple Leaf Foods and attained the following information which was the basis for much of the information I shared:

- 1) A meeting was held in January at the Delta Hotel in Guelph which was arranged for interested stakeholders by Rory McAlpine of Maple Leaf Foods.
- 2) This meeting was a presentation of the Hwy 6 Economic Study, which was financed by the Township of Puslinch.
- 3) Although, Mayor Lever was in attendance, he had never revealed that this meeting took place nor that our study was presented at the Maple Leaf meeting to the Council members or Puslinch citizens, until I questioned him at the March 5 meeting.
- 4) Mr. McAlpine reacted with shock that the Mayor had never shared this with Council. He was under the distinct impression that Puslinch Council was fully apprised of the initiative and that they Mayor was being directed by Council.
- 5) Maple Leaf is attempting to gather all interested stake holders (including municipalities) in a concerted effort to lobby the province to put the Bypass on the five year plan.
- 6) Maple Leaf sent a letter to the City of Hamilton regarding becoming a part of this group and contributing \$4000. I had a call from Hamilton Councillor Robert Pasuta informing me of the letter and inquiring as to the status of how Puslinch was handling this request.
- 7) I asked the CAO if any similar correspondence had been received by our Township and she confirmed that it had not.
- 8) When I queried Mr. McAlpine as why he had not sent a similar request to the Township of Puslinch, he informed me that Mayor Lever had informed him that he felt it would present a difficult situation to the Township and discouraged him from making a request. This message was conveyed by the Mayor to Mr. McAlpine with no knowledge or consultation of Council. There was never any public discussion.
- 9) Mr. McAlpine is in the process of a having a consulting firm gather interested stakeholders (which Mr. McAlpine emphasized could include citizens, Councillors, business leaders etc.) into subcommittees to prepare a presentation to the Minister of Transportation in support of the Bypass. According to Mr. McAlpine, all are welcome.

I shared this information for several reasons:

- 1) It is imperative that information regarding anything to do with the bypass be disclosed to Council and brought into the public realm in a timely fashion.
- 2) The bypass has been a Council initiative for years and any directions or decisions on how issues regarding it will be handled should come only at the direction of Council.
- 3) I believe in transparency.
- 4) I am continuing to fulfill the promise I made to Puslinch citizens when I first ran for election 11 years ago....that I will always make the Morrison Bypass a priority for Council and the Township citizens.

We all have the same goal---we want to see the Morriston Bypass constructed. It will take a concerted effort from everyone to see this come to fruition. If the public and Council are shut out of this process, a very valuable opportunity is lost. There is strength in numbers and the public has a right to know.

I request of Mayor Lever that he share and disclose any and all information with Council in a timely fashion and that direction is given only by Council. I feel this is a reasonable expectation.

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