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**Subject:**

Destruction of 770 acres of rare prime farmland in Wilmot

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**From:** Mike Rice <mikerice117@gmail.com>**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2024 2:56 PM**To:** Karen Redman <KRedman@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Natasha Salonen <NSalonen@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Rob Deutschmann <RDeutschmann@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Doug Craig <DougCraig@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Jim Erb <JErb@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Sue Foxton <SFoxton@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Michael Harris <MHarris@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Chantal Huinink <CHuinink@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Jan Liggett <JLiggett@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Joe Nowak <JoNowak@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Sandy Shantz <SShantz@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Berry Vrbanovic <BVrbanovic@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Pam Wolf <PWolf@regionofwaterloo.ca>; Regional Clerk <RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca>**Subject:** Destruction of 770 acres of rare prime farmland in Wilmot

Dear Members of the Region of Waterloo Council and Chair,

I am writing to voice my profound disappointment and strong opposition to the proposed destruction of 770 acres of rare prime farmland to attract the industrial equivalent of a unicorn, Nithy or Big Foot. This tangible land is vital for our local agriculture sector, food security, and environmental sustainability, and is part of Wilmot's rich rural countryside identity.

The loss of this farmland would have a significant far-reaching negative impact on local farming families, their customers and the local businesses that support their operations. Whether the Region is financially stable or dealing with substantial debt, taking a gamble on our community's ability to sustain itself and maintain its proud agricultural heritage is a risk many are asking this council to avoid.

I am also concerned about the lack of transparency and the emotional toll on those affected by the uncertainty resulting from the threat of expropriation. The withholding of critical information and the absence of open public consultation undermines public trust and raises questions about the motivations behind this project.

I urge the council to reconsider their support of the land assembly in this location and prioritize preserving our scarce prime farmland for future generations by formally declaring, "We (Wilmot) are not a willing host."

Thank you for your attention and favourable consideration of this urgent matter. I look forward to receiving your individual personal responses directly, rather than from any unelected staff. I hope this council will prioritize the public good and the community's well-being over private corporate interests.

Sincerely,  
Mike Rice

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