



CAPITAL PAVING INC.

Quality Construction by Quality People
P.O. Box 815 Guelph, Ontario N1H 6L8

October 15, 2020

Karen Redman
Regional Chair
Region of Waterloo
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Mayor Sandy Shantz
Township of Woolwich
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Delivered VIA Email

Re: Response to Hopewell Creek Ratepayers Association form letters

Dear Regional Chair Redman and Mayor Shantz:

I'm writing to you in response to a form letter developed by Hopewell Creek Ratepayers Association that's been signed and sent to you by members of the community in the Maryhill/Breslau and Kitchener/Waterloo areas, as well as by people further afield.

This letter urged Woolwich Township and Waterloo Region to deny the application for the Shantz Station Pit in light of comments made in July by Premier Doug Ford, when he stated: "I believe in governing for the people, when the people don't want something you don't do it, it's very simple, I know the Mayor you don't want it, no one wants it, I don't want it, we're going to make sure it doesn't happen one way or another."

Numerous community groups where aggregate applications are underway are asking that applications be likewise halted in their areas.

The Ontario Stone, Sand and Gravel Association has written to Premier Ford expressing the industry's concerns about his comments. The association's letter states:

"OSSGA understands that communities do not want new pits and quarries in their neighbourhoods. Despite the fact that aggregate is a clean industry (no chemicals are used in the processing of aggregate), that aggregate does not harm either water supply or quality, that aggregate sites bring local jobs, that aggregate producers pay both a levy and property taxes to municipalities, and that once extracted, pits and quarries often become the green spaces of the future (think Kelso Conservation Area in Milton) – despite all this, communities don't 'want it'.

Precisely because it is recognized that communities will never want an aggregate site in their community, the Aggregate Resources Act, the Planning Act, as well as the 23 other pieces of legislation and hundreds of regulations the industry must comply with, have been designed to help work through the



process of community objections. Technical reports, environmental studies, consultation with First Nations and detailed site plan requirements ensure the protection of Ontarians. Stone, sand and gravel (or aggregate) is the basic building material of modern society. It is used to build houses, roads, transit, hospitals, glass, sewers, and lives.

Communities may not want quarries, but they “need” the sand, stone and gravel that comes from them. It is an essential material required for all construction for which there is no replacement. Where that material comes from is also important. Trucking aggregate to a job site from a long distance is expensive – both economically and environmentally. If every truck were to travel just one extra kilometre to their job site an extra 2.5 million litres of fossil fuels would be consumed annually and greenhouse gas emissions would increase by nearly 7,000 tonnes. That is why the Provincial Policy Statement recognizes the importance of close-to-market aggregate.

To get Ontario Back on Track, and to meet the needs of the Growth Plan for Greater Golden Horseshoe, it is estimated that more than 4 billion tonnes of aggregate will be required over the next 25 years. Your voice is important, and it is listened to. For this reason, OSSGA respectfully asks that you allow the Aggregate Resources Act framework and the MNRF to do its job in dealing with community objections and approving licences.”

Capital Paving joins our colleagues in the aggregate industry in encouraging municipal levels of government to reject requests to halt aggregate applications simply because local citizens do not want them. Instead we trust the Township of Woolwich and Region of Waterloo will follow their own policies and guidelines for aggregate applications, make decisions based on merit and satisfying their independent technical reviewers, and allow the relevant ministries of the provincial government to do the same.

Yours truly,



George Lourenco, P.Eng
Resources Manager
Capital Paving Inc.
2020 Chair of the Board, Ontario Stone Sand & Gravel Association

C.C. *Larry Shantz, Woolwich Councillor
Murray Martin, Woolwich Councillor
Patrick Merlihan, Woolwich Councillor
Scott McMillan, Woolwich Councillor
Fred Redekop, Woolwich Councillor
Mike Harris, MPP – Kitchener-Conestoga*