

From: Susan Price

Sent: Sunday, December 11, 2022 5:40 PM

To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 23 and the City of London Corporate Growth Projections 2021-2051

I object very strongly to Bill 23. Where do I start? Bill 23 is anti-environment. Environmental experts know that you cannot recreate natural wetlands. Bill 23 weakens the ability of conservation authorities who are land stewards and environmental "authorities" to protect the environment. Bill 23 takes away the opportunity for citizens to have a voice in how the city will be developed. Bill 23 allows more urban sprawl on farm land which will increase food insecurity. Bill 23 encourages urban sprawl which is expensive to service. Since development charges are lowered, taxes are sure to increase and/or there will be a decrease in the services and programs the city will be able to finance. Indigenous groups were not consulted when Bill 23 was being shaped, which if not unlawful is at very least unethical. Bill 23 will not increase affordable housing which is what it proposes to do. Who will benefit from this huge omnibus bill? Not the average citizen but real estate speculators and developers will be laughing all the way to the bank. I would like to see evidence that what is set out in Bill 23 will be good for the average citizen and the environment. It is obvious that experts weren't consulted when Bill 23 was written.

Only about 17% of the people in Ontario voted for the Conservatives in the last provincial election. The NDP held onto all 3 London urban ridings. That in itself is very telling about what kind of city Londoners want. Unfortunately with a Conservative majority Bill 23 can be pushed through no matter how wrong headed it is. The passing of Bill 39, and Fords' repeated use of the notwithstanding clause clearly show that the current provincial government has no qualms with misusing their power to undermine the democratic process. For all these reasons and more I am counting on the current council to push back on Bill 23 where and when you have the power to do so.

Yours truly,

Susan Price

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Please place this letter on the public agenda for item: City of London Corporate Growth Projections 2021-2051