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# IS WILMOT A WILLING HOST?

## WE ARE UNWILLING!



During a recent visit to the Waterloo Region, Ontario Premier Doug Ford addressed the ongoing significant protests in Wilmot Township surrounding the forced expropriation of 770 acres of prime agricultural land. Premier Ford, who previously encouraged municipalities across the province to prepare shovel-ready plots for business development, emphasized that development should only occur with willing hosts. Specifically, the Premier said

**“We’re just asking regions around the province: assemble land. But there has to be a willing host. If they’re not willing, then just move on. That’s what it comes down to.”**

Wilmot farmers and citizens have made clear by the thousands that they are unwilling and will not be willing hosts for this development scheme that is so incongruent and incompatible with all existing planning and Official Plans. Local meetings have been packed to capacity, over 30,000 signatures have been collected on petitions, over 2,000 lawn signs stating opposition now line area streets, and thousands of letters, e-mails, and calls have been sent to silent municipal and regional elected officials who refuse to comment.



**770 ACRES OF PRIME FARMLAND FACING DESTRUCTION**

A MASSIVE TRACT OF WILMOT TOWNSHIP BETWEEN HIGHWAY 7/8 AND BLEAMS ROAD FROM WILMOT CENTRE TO NAFZIGER ROAD



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Wilmot Township residents are questioning their elected officials on this matter. **Quite simply, we are asking if the Wilmot Mayor and Wilmot Councillors are willing hosts for this regional industrial mega-site contrary to the vast majority of citizens and area farmers.**

Are our elected officials who are going against all previous planning and have not even held a single public meeting or provided any information about what is proposed for this site willing to:

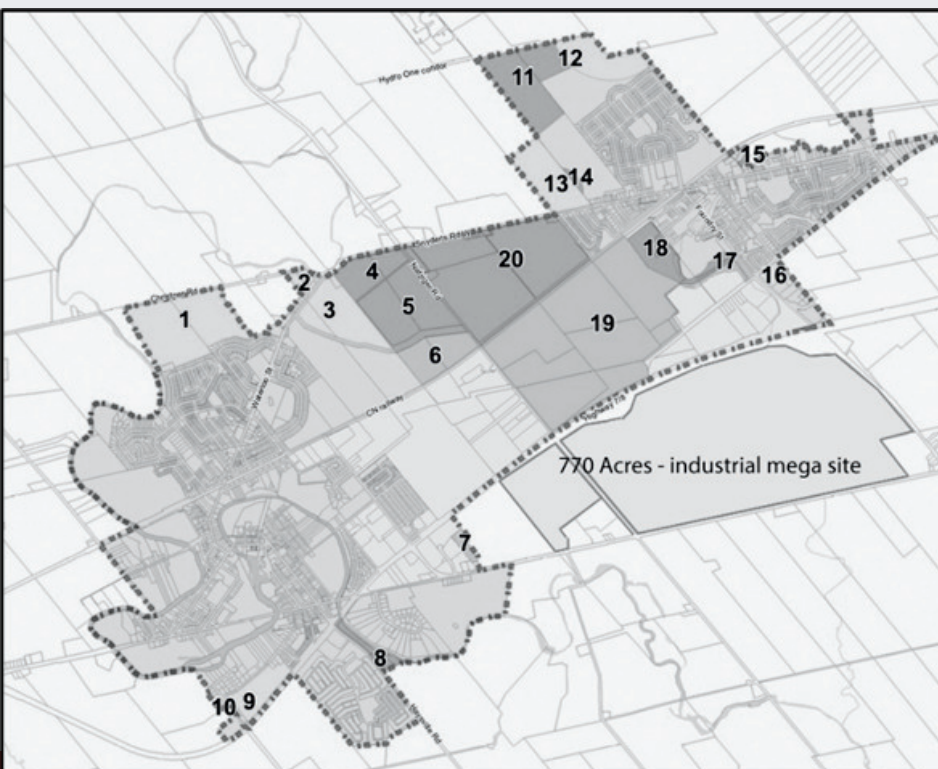
- sacrifice irreplaceable farmland
- risk contamination of the Region of Waterloo water supply
- negatively impact agriculture throughout Wilmot
- as well as risk so many environmental and water issues

when there hasn't even been any studies made public or environmental assessments completed?

Premier Doug Ford's remarks on the matter underscored the importance of collaboration, public engagement and adherence to long-term planning such as our Regional Official Plan developed through proper planning processes spanning years with input from thousands of people. The Premier's comments also reinforced the need for mutual consent and shared objectives – all of which are missing in this current situation.

In response to the Premier's clear comments and criteria, Alfred Lowrick, speaking on behalf of the Fight for Farmland group, issued a direct challenge to Wilmot Township Councillors and the Mayor – **Are they going to represent their constituents or are they going to force this megadevelopment on the unwilling without even so much as a single public meeting?**

**The community seeks clarity and assurance regarding pivotal issues that impacts profoundly all of Wilmot Township as well as Waterloo Region and Southwestern Ontario.**



SIGN THE PETITION  
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