

I have been a resident of Newmarket since 1973 and, in fact, live fairly near the proposed development site. I was born and raised in Toronto but moved up here with my wife to find more affordable housing than was available in the city. We bought a house in the "Quaker Hill" area which is roughly in the Yonge and Mullock Dr area and we are still there. When I read of this proposal, I was reminded of an old Joni Mitchell song, Big Yellow Taxi.

In that song Joni wondered at the wisdom of people just pouring concrete over everything and building things. She speculated that we would be "paving paradise" to "put up a parking lot". As I read of your intentions I am inclined to believe that perhaps she was correct.

My understanding is that the Oak Ridges Moraine is an important geological feature left over from when the last ice age ended some 10,000 years ago. I further understand that numerous science types believe it is very important to preserving the local water system, etc. I can't help but feel that paving it would be an incredible mistake. It would also be a mistake which could not be undone. Therefore, I respectfully suggest you NOT approve this motion.

If you choose to do otherwise, you may want to consider a suggestion offered by Joni in her song all those years ago. You could "take all the trees and put them in a tree museum and charge people a dollar and a half just to see them".

Respectfully,
Steve Platt
Newmarket resident (and tax payer).