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Subject: My comments for 2021.MM34.19 on June 8, 2021 City Council

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the June 8, 2021 City Council meeting on item 2021.MM34.19, Keeping our environment on track: requesting Metrolinx to conduct more analysis and plan for environmental stewardship in Small's Creek and Williamson Ravines - by Councillor Brad Bradford, seconded by Councillor Jennifer McKelvie

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

I am a Toronto citizen concerned about the proposed work by Metrolinx in Toronto Ravines. City of Toronto ravines are precious pockets of wildlife and ecological beauty in our city. They are also meaningful community spaces where children learn about nature and residents can find respite.

This is why I am fighting so hard to protect as much of Small's Creek and ESA Williamson Ravines, including the unnecessary clear-cutting of long-established native trees, from the destruction from Metrolinx's work to prepare for a possible fourth track on the Lakeshore East Corridor. I believe in the expansion of public transit to continue to build our city for future generations. But also firmly believe progress need not come at a cost to rare, community-integrated green space — particularly as we all grapple with the worsening climate crisis.

I know the City of Toronto is dedicated to protecting our environment and biodiversity. I hope the City can work with Metrolinx and the Toronto Region Conservation Authority, to come to a community-informed alternative to the destruction of Small's Creek and ESA Williamson's Ravine and offer our vision for enhancing its ecological and social value for generations to come.

Thank you for considering this motion and your vote to support this motion