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HALTON REGION TELLS PROVINCE TO CAN GTA WEST HIGHWAY PLANS

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Halton regional council is urging the Ford government to put the brakes on its proposal to build the GTA West highway across the municipality.

In a fairly close 11-7 vote, the local politicians passed a motion that says regional council opposes further investment by the province in the potential four to six-lane highway with an adjacent transitway that would wind its way through southern Halton Hills and along the border with Milton.

"The focus of provincial spending should shift priorities away from subsidizing and incentivizing individual travel to investing in less carbon intense modes of transportation such as transit and high-speed rail," asserts the resolution put forth by Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette. "Once a new highway is built, it induces more driving and rapidly fills to capacity."

Bonnette pointed out that all four local municipalities, along with the region, have recently

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passed motions declaring climate emergencies, "yet the province comes up and says we need to create this new highway."

Burlington Mayor Marianne Meed Ward, who seconded the motion, said the road would pave over green space and farmland, and that there are other ways to solve the GTA's transportation problems.

"If this goes through, the next step will be Burlington," she said, explaining that a discussion was had in the past about extending the proposed highway

See **HIGHWAY**, page 2

SALVATION ARMY KICKS OFF KETTLE CAMPAIGNS



Herb Garbutt / Torstar

Margaret Di Pippo of the Norval United Church brass band plays the trumpet as The Salvation Army Georgetown kicked off its annual Christmas Kettle campaign. In addition to providing food and toys at Christmas, the money raised is used throughout the year to send kids to camp and provide emergency food and shelter for families in need. Story on page 8.

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