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Ms. Andrea Horwath Leader, Ontario New Democratic Party Rm 381 - Main Legislative Building Queen's Park, Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Mr. Steven Del Duca Leader, Ontario Liberal Party Suite 404, 344 Bloor St. W, Toronto, ON M5S 3A7

December 6, 2021

Dear Ms. Horwath and Mr. Del Duca,

I'm calling on you to join me in fully opposing the Holland Marsh Highway (Bradford Bypass).

This highway would slice right through the Greenbelt, pave over 42 acres of the Holland Marsh, destroy 96 acres of wildlife habitat and 25 acres of provincially significant wetlands.

It would contaminate groundwater and would further pollute Lake Simcoe, which is already extremely fragile and at severe risk, with salt and phosphorus.

It would pump 87 million kilograms of climate pollution into the air, each year.

And according to a recent poll, a plurality of local voters in the region are against the construction of the highway.

It's clear that the Holland Marsh Highway is a bad idea.

Last week, the Auditor General even highlighted how decisions around highways in Ontario appear "disconnected from, or inconsistent with" good land-use planning.

Yet the Ford government is plowing through with it. And has even taken the recent step of issuing a Request for Proposals to design and build a bridge crossing as part of the highway.

We're in a climate emergency and need to do everything possible to protect people, nature and water and crush climate pollution, not create more.

The 2014 Ministry of Transportation report outlined multiple alternatives that would solve local transportation needs and be far less environmentally damaging than the Holland Marsh Highway.

The future is at stake. More highways means lower air quality, more polluted water and less nature to protect us from flooding and other climate-fueled disasters. It's about our kids and the future of this province.

Doug Ford's pro-sprawl, anti-climate agenda is not what Ontario needs.

So will you join me and fully oppose the construction of the Holland Marsh Highway?

Sincerely,

Mike Schreiner

Leader, Green Party of Ontario

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