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Survey Responses: **John Taylor**, candidate for **Ward 3, Burlington**.

1. Currently, only municipalities can make a request to the Province to grow the Greenbelt, and they are responsible for implementing the Greenbelt Plan. Do you support growing the Greenbelt within your municipality and/or strengthening support for Greenbelt protection in your municipality?

Yes

I have consistently supported, for the past 22 years, a freeze on the urban/ rural boundary in Burlington. The Niagara to GTA Transportation Environmental Assessment currently underway poses a threat to that boundary.



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2. In order for the Greenbelt to remain protected, municipalities must adhere to the Province's Places to Grow strategy, specifically, the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, while respecting the protections under the Greenbelt Plan. Do you support concentrating development within your municipality's existing urban boundary, while limiting further urban expansion into farmlands or greenfields?

Yes

The Region of Halton's new Official Plan features an enhanced natural heritage system while meeting the Province of Ontario's growth strategy targets. Burlington's rural area is protected by the Greenbelt and Niagara Escarpment Plans.

3. New roads and other infrastructure fragment the natural areas of the Greenbelt, threatening its ecological integrity by destroying connections between natural heritage features. Do you support urban planning that would facilitate enhanced infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians, an efficient public transit system, increased funding for public transit and/or improving links to regional public transit systems?

Yes

The feasibility of a 20% transit modal split by 2031 is currently being examined by a Transportation Master Plan Environmental Assessment.

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4. Strong market demand in urban areas near the Greenbelt for locally-grown foods supports a viable agricultural sector in the Greenbelt. Do you support the creation of a policy in your municipality that favours purchasing locally-grown foods for municipal facilities like nursing homes, day care centres and City cafeterias?

Yes

Agriculture is a vital industry in Halton. We have established a locally grown component for the Region's cafeteria as a start.

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5. Do you support stronger recycling and green-bin programs to reduce waste in your municipality?

Yes

The new green bin programme has received remarkable acceptance in Halton and will be expanded to high density residential units in the next two years.

6. Water is a precious resource, yet Canadians continue to be one of the biggest per capita water consumers in the world, using almost double the amount of other developed countries. Do you support creating the water conservation policies necessary to offset new residential water demand for your municipality?

Yes

With the high provincial growth plan targets for Halton it will be impossible to do a 100% offset.

7. Given the need to reduce Ontario's contribution to climate change and foster the creation green jobs through investment in the green energy economy, will you support the removal of local barriers to facilitate the development of renewable energy projects in your community?

Yes

That issue depends on what the barriers are and whether the community will support removing them.

8. Although aggregate (gravel) extraction is a permitted land use in the Greenbelt Plan, it continues to have huge negative impacts on the natural environment. Would you pursue a procurement policy that requires the highest level of recycled content allowable in municipal works projects, and situates aggregate extraction in areas away from sensitive natural heritage and source water features?

Yes

For the last seven years I have consistently opposed the expansion of Nelson Aggregate on the environmentally sensitive Mt. Nemo plateau.

9. Do you support changes to the Ontario Municipal Elections Act to require that donations to candidates come only from electors in the municipality where the candidate is running, and that union and corporate contributions are banned?

Yes

Absolutely; I have 100% self-financed each of my eight election campaigns so there could be no hint or perception of impropriety.

10. Do you support the Region of Halton's Natural Heritage System and will you oppose any attempts to locate new highways through it?

Yes, I supported this as Chair of the Planning and Public Works Committee and as a member of the Sustainable Halton Inter-Municipal Liaison Committee. The Niagara to GTA Environmental Assessment continues to be a big threat to Burlington's Urban/Rural Boundary.

Will you vote on Election Day, Monday October 25, 2010?

Yes No

Submit

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