

## 3.1 (ah)

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Inspiring presentation this evening

**From:** Nancy Hurst

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2021 9:44 PM

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Dear Councillors and Mr. Mayor,

<https://www.facebook.com/CityofPickering/videos/690969935200865>

In advance of Friday's vote, I hope you can take 30 minutes to watch this recording of tonight's presentation in Pickering by renowned Canadian urban planner Brent Toderian. Brent Toderian was formerly Director of City Planning in Vancouver and Manager of City Centre Planning in Calgary. He's a cutting edge urbanist who has consulted all over the world and is followed by a staggering 111.2K people on twitter because he's smart, down to earth and his ideas are what make Vancouver and Calgary enviable places to live. He was a guest on their speaker series tonight, along with Mayor Dave Ryan and their Manager of Development, Review and Urban Design Nelish Surti, to discuss smart ways to approach urban growth and how cities can better embrace urban change. Notable quotes:

-Higher density is the absolute best financial thing that a city can build because low density guarantees higher municipal taxes

-Densification done badly = more cars and it's not more people coming that make your cities worse, it's more cars coming that will if not planned properly.

-The sweet spot of failure: building density without reconsidering transportation.

-Don't try to bring the NIMBYs along. There will always be NIMBYs because we are hardwired to like the status quo. We make NIMBY too easy by not talking about the costs and consequences of making the wrong decisions. At the end of the day, it's up to the politicians who know better, because they spend their whole day learning about the costs and consequences of bad decisions, to do the brave thing, the right thing or sometimes the unpopular thing and sell that decision to the public.

I hope you find this as inspiring as I did.

Thank you and good evening.

Nancy Hurst

Ancaster