

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** Brief observations on item 11.2 on the planning committee agenda for October 31**From:** Don Mclean**Sent:** October 30, 2023 10:17 PM

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1. The report assumes the urban boundary expansion that has been cancelled so needs to be updated before planning committee approval.
2. The process is backward. The natural heritage features should be the starting point, not an add-on after road and infrastructure locations and sizes have been decided. The report admits that our knowledge of natural heritage has not even been updated.
3. The entire AEGD vision needs to be re-examined in the light of the climate emergency and the biodiversity crisis. The AEGD originally called the "Aerotropolis" was proposed over twenty years ago as the expected central economic future of Hamilton in the strange belief that airports were already the central organizing feature of the economy, in a way similar to which ports, and then railways, and then highways were in the past. The key authors of the scheme in 2002 were the airport managers (Tradeport) and the land speculators.
4. The expected half billion in costs (construction only!) should call the whole project into question. The actually collected development charges will only cover a small portion of this.
5. The realistic employment expectations in the AEGD are mainly warehousing, and the rapid shift to robotics mean these jobs are disappearing very fast. The AEGD was falsely sold on 'high-tech jobs' that are even less likely to appear. The AEGD assumed that there were virtually no development opportunities on the Bayfront, which we now know to be false.
6. We now know that air traffic emissions must be eliminated and there isn't any clear way that can be accomplished in the AEGD in a 'net zero' future.

Don McLean