

April 9, 2026

To Mayor Elmslie and Council  
From: David Skrabek, Chairperson  
Agricultural Development Advisory Committee (ADAC)

RE: Opposition to Alto High-Speed Train

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Good afternoon, Mayor and Council,

At the April 9, 2026 meeting of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee, members of the committee discussed the ALTO High Speed Train consultation and proposed project.

Our concerns would echo the Beef Farmers of Ontario and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture:

- Stay out of prime agricultural areas, and actively farmed lands
- Avoid breaking farms into smaller pieces and keep fields and farm operations whole
- Protect farm drainage systems that are essential for crop production
- Address farmers' concerns about construction impacts and ongoing costs, including fencing, and the building, upgrading and long-term maintenance of safe farm crossings for equipment and livestock.

We would also add:

- Ensure the number of connecting overpasses/underpasses from North to South be reasonable enough so as to not force long distance agricultural equipment movement East-West.
- Ensure agricultural impact assessments are independent, thorough and publicly available.

Move by Rebecca Parker

Seconded by Guy Masters

**That** the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee recommends Council call for an immediate halt to the proposed Alto High Speed Rail project to allow for a thorough economic, social and environmental impact assessment and meaningful consultation with affected agricultural, forestry and rural communities. **Carried.**

We ask that this correspondence be included in the April 21, 2026 Council agenda given the other items on this subject to be considered at that meeting.