

ETP-E4-1



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Office of the President and Chief Executive Officer
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July 30, 2009

Mr. Emil Kolb
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer
The Regional Municipality of Peel
10 Peel Centre Drive
Brampton, Ontario
L6T 4B9

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	
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Dear Chair Kolb:

Notice of Completion for the Georgetown South Service Expansion and Union-Pearson Rail Link Project

Let me begin by first saying how much we appreciate the strong support your Region has shown over the years in supporting the expansion of public transit in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. Without the leadership you and your municipal colleagues have provided the tasks which Metrolinx faces would be daunting.

As to why I am writing to you, I want to let you know that Metrolinx has completed the 120-day consultation period for the Georgetown South Service Expansion (GSSE) project. The process is now entering its next phase.

Since the beginning of this year, Metrolinx staff held 18 Open Houses, consulted with more than 2,000 people, and received almost 700 comments which were posted on the Virtual Open House web site. There more than 20 meetings with specific groups to talk about solutions for local issues. As a result of the tremendous feedback and suggestions, there were some major refinements to the project. Those major refinements included:

- A new Strachan Avenue bridge design that minimizes the impact on the adjacent community and creates opportunities for beautification;
- The preservation of the iconic Farmer's market at its current location in Weston;
- Plans to explore extending the West Toronto Rail Path and connect it with other cycling plans along the corridor in the future;
- Keeping streets open in the Weston and Liberty Village neighbourhoods where possible; designing a new pedestrian bridge over the John Street rail crossing in Weston and coupling it with a new vision for the community;
- Facilitating community revitalization opportunities afforded by the new Weston GO Transit station; and
- Initiating discussions for strengthening higher order transit connections into Pearson International Airport from all directions.

Metrolinx has completed an assessment of the potential environmental impacts related to the proposed project. The impacts and mitigation measures are included in an Environmental Project Report (EPR) prepared in accordance with the Transit Project Assessment Process. Copies of this report have been forwarded to your staff.

The EPR has been submitted to the Ministry of the Environment for a 30-day public and agency review period. During that period of time, members of the public, First Nations, and government agencies will have an opportunity to review the documentation and provide comments to Metrolinx staff. They are prepared to review and discuss any comments on the EPR which are received before August 31, 2009.

If people feel that there are outstanding issues, Ontario Regulation 231/08, under which this assessment was carried out, gives you the right to submit an objection in writing to the Minister of the Environment no later than August 31, 2009.

The Minister is required to consider any written objections to the transit project which are received within thirty days after the Notice of Completion of the Environmental Project Report becomes effective. He has up to 35 days to consider any objections which may be received and determine whether the project can proceed as described in the EPR, proceed subject to conditions, or requires further consideration.

If your staff has any questions, they should not hesitate to contact to Metrolinx staff with whom they have been dealing throughout the process.

Warm Regards,

Original signed by

J. Robert S. Prichard
President and Chief Executive Officer

cc. Rob MacIsaac, Chair, Metrolinx