
Scarborough Rapid Transit

Environmental Project Report

September 2010

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AAQC *Ambient Air Quality Criteria*

ANSI *Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest* – refers to areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified by the Province as having life science, or earth science values related to protection, scientific study, or education.

AREMA *American Rail Engineering Maintenance-of-way Association*

ATC *Automatic Train Control*

CEAA *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA)*

CHBCD *Canadian Highway Bridge Design Code*

CN *Canadian National (Railway)*

COSEWIC *Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada*

dBA “A” weighted decibels, which corresponds to subjective perception of noise levels.

DM *Design Manual*

EA *Environmental Assessment*

EA Act *Environmental Assessment Act of Government of Ontario*

ECLRT *Eglinton Crosstown LRT*

EPR *Environmental Project Report*

ESA *Environmentally Significant/Sensitive Area* refers to natural areas within the Province that contain significant natural features that have been identified as exhibiting rare and/or endangered species, unique landforms, vital ecological functions, unusual wildlife, diversity or habitat or wildlife movement corridors.

FSI *Floor Space Index* - an expression of building density. An FSI of 2.0 would indicate a gross (building) floor area of two times the site area.

GO *Government of Ontario (rail and bus transit commuter service)*

GTA *Greater Toronto Area* – refers to areas under the jurisdiction of the City of Toronto, Durham Region, York Region and Peel Region.

Leq is the energy equivalent sound level (an energy average) of the noise received at a particular point during a specified period of time such as one hour, 16 hrs during the day or 8 hours during the night. It is reported in decibel (dBA for traffic or rail noise).

Lmax the maximum instantaneous sound (or vibration) level during a specified period of time for a noise event (example the pass by of a train or the pass by of a vehicle). It is measured in decibel (dBA for traffic or rail noise).

LOS *Level of Service* - a letter scale assigned as a quantitative measure of traffic flow on roadway. It is dependant upon the vehicle delay and vehicle queue lengths. The scale ranges from “A”, where no delay is experienced, to “F”, where saturation has occurred, with vehicle demand exceeding the available capacity of the roadway.

LRT *Light Rail Transit* - which uses electrically powered steel-wheel vehicles operated in various degrees of right-of-way (ROW) protection including semi-exclusive ROW to full exclusive ROW. In the context of this study, LRT excludes streetcar (i.e., transit vehicles operating in mixed traffic).

MNR *The Ministry of Natural Resources of Ontario*

MOE *The Ministry of the Environment of Ontario*

MTO *The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario*

NFPA *National Fire Protection Association*

NHIC *Natural Heritage Information Centre*

OBC *Ontario Building Code*

OCS *Overhead Catenary System*

OPA *Official Plan Amendment*

ORC *Ontario Realty Corporation*, a corporation under the province’s Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure

PHF *Peak Hour Factor*: ratio of peak hour (ridership) volume to 3-hour peak period volume (e.g. 0.60 for subway trips in downtown, or 0.55 for other subway trips, 0.40 for auto trips).

PIC *Public Information Centre*

ppb *parts per billion*

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ppm *parts per million*

PPUDO *Passenger Pick Up / Drop Off*

PPV *Peak Particle Velocity* which is a measure of the significance of a ground borne vibration signal using the velocity metric and expressed in mm/sec.

PSW *Provincially Significant Wetlands*

RGS *Ridership Growth Strategy (2003)* – refers to a TTC study that contains results of TTC’s transportation research and data, as well as provides a comprehensive approach to transit service improvements.

ROW *Right-of-way*

RT *Rapid Transit*

SMLRT *Scarborough Malvern LRT*

SRT *Scarborough Rapid Transit*

SPA *Site Plan Approval*

STC *Scarborough Town Centre*

TAC *Technical Advisory Committee*

TC *Transit City*

TPA *Transit Project Assessment*

TRCA *Toronto and Region Conservation Authority*

TSP *Total Suspended Particulate Matter*

TTC *Toronto Transit Commission*

GLOSSARY

Above-Grade

Transit Corridor above the roads or structures.

Alignment

Refers to the specific horizontal and vertical geometric configuration of the SRT tracks. An alignment appears as a line on a map.

At-Grade

Transit Corridor is on the same level as travelling vehicles and pedestrians.

Below-Grade

Transit Corridor allows the vehicles to travel below traffic through either tunneling or open trench.

Bus Bays

Off-street areas for loading and unloading passengers within the bus circulation portion of a transit station.

Bus Terminals

Off-street structures for loading and unloading bus passengers.

Easements

Right to enter subject property for specific reasons.

Elevation

The vertical distance of a point above mean sea level or above another datum.

Environment

- i.) Environment as defined in the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act means:
- ii.) Air land or water;
- iii.) Plant and animal life, including human life;
- iv.) The social, economic and cultural conditions that influence the life of humans or a community;
- v.) Any building, structure, machine or other device or thing made by humans;

vi.) Any solid, liquid, gas, odour, heat, sound, vibration or radiation resulting directly or indirectly from human activities; or

vii.) Any part or combination of the foregoing and the interrelationships between any two or more of them, in or of Ontario.

For more information about environmental assessments and the process, visit the Ontario Ministry of the Environment web site at: <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca>

Erosion

A slow wearing away of the surface by natural action of wind or water.

Evaluation Criteria

Principle or standard on which a judgment or decision may be based.

Excavation

The act of taking out material.

Exclusive Right-of-Way

An alignment that is not affected by transit signals or traffic, generally by means of grade separation.

Expropriation

The acquisition of property in accordance with the *Expropriations Act* of Ontario.

Flood plain

Normally dry land areas that are adjacent to a natural stream or watercourse and that are temporarily inundated during floods.

Footing

Portions of the foundation of a structure that transmits loads directly to the soil.

Geotechnical engineering

The application of scientific methods of engineering principles to the acquisition, interpretation and evaluation of subsurface data to predict the behaviour of the materials of the earth's crust. It

encompasses the fields of soil mechanics, rock mechanics, geological engineering, geophysics and related fields, such as pavement design.

Ontario Building Code

The Branch administers the Building Code Act (BCA) and the Ontario Building Code (OBC), which govern the construction of new buildings and the renovation and maintenance of existing buildings.

Official Plan

An Official Plan is a long-term policy document, which governs development and land use activities of a municipality that has been implemented in accordance with the *Planning Act*.

Overburden

The mass of soil that overlies a source of rock, gravel or other road material. This material is removed before the materials are quarried to avoid contamination.

Overhead Catenary System

The overhead power lines that provides electrical power to the Light Rail Transit vehicles.

Paid Fare Zone

The area within a subway station where only those passengers that have paid the appropriate transit fare are allowed.

Peak Hour

Maximum hour of travel demand during a weekday.

Platform

The area of the station which passengers use to enter and exit subway vehicles.

Profile

A longitudinal section of the subway (or road).

Right-Of-Way

Land generally publicly owned, acquired for and devoted to transportation purposes, predominantly roads.

Scarborough Town Centre

Scarborough Town Centre is the two level regional shopping mall located at the corners of Highway 401 and McCowan Road in Scarborough, Ontario.

Site Plan Control

Section 41 of the *Planning Act* grants the City the authority to include in its Official Plan areas to be designated as "areas of Site Plan Control". This authority provides a process that examines the design and technical aspects of a proposed development to ensure it is attractive and compatible with the surrounding area and contributes to the economic, social and environmental vitality of the City. Features such as building designs, site access and servicing, waste storage, parking, loading and landscaping are reviewed. Although the entire City is designated as a Site Plan Control area, certain types of development are exempt from this process and there are site specific exemptions. In most residential areas, the construction of a new single-family house and most house additions are exempt. In most employment areas, properties that do not front onto arterial roads are generally exempt. Please contact the Planning Consultant in your local district office to determine the status of your property.

Slope

Any ground whose surface makes an angle with the plane of the horizon.

Station Facilities

Associated station facilities including bus terminals, passenger pick-up / drop-off, commuter parking, pedestrian entrances, taxi stands and bicycle racks.

Station

A passenger facility on the SRT line which provides access to trains. A station always includes pedestrian entrances and may also include other commuter facilities, such as parking and bus terminals.

Superelevation

The elevation of the outside edge of a curve to partially offset the centrifugal force generated when a vehicle rounds the curve.

Traffic Control Devices

Signs, signals, markings and devices placed or erected for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic.

Traffic Lane

That portion of the traveled way for the movement of a single line of vehicles.

Traffic Volume

The number of vehicles passing a given point during a specific period of time.

Unpaid Fare Zone

Area in a subway station between the entrance and the fare collection.
