



February 12, 2020

Mayor Tory and Executive Committee Members,

RE: EX13.2 Capital and Operating Budget

Scarborough Transit Action (STA) , Connect Sheppard East (CSE) and 42 Voices is a coalition of grassroots advocacy and community organizations working to improve transit in Scarborough's underserved neighbourhoods, now.

We urgently request that you include the following items in this year's budget:

1. Funding to further the design and construction of the Eglinton East LRT (EELRT),
2. Funding for establishment of bus-only lanes this year in Scarborough, along the route of the EELRT as an interim measure, and along Lawrence and Sheppard Avenues,
3. Funding for buses to improve service and to serve riders affected by the breakdown of the Scarborough RT.

That the budget contains no funding to move the EELRT forward is an insult to Scarborough. It repudiates the city's policy and obligation to expand the rapid transit network in Scarborough by building the EELRT.

The inclusion of just a feasibility study for bus only lanes is at best, a delaying tactic, and at worst, an indication of support for congestion, unsafe streets and more greenhouse gas emissions in our part of the city. That these bus routes are among the city's most crowded, and the volume of study that has already taken place for rapid transit along the EELRT route and Sheppard Avenue should be evidence enough that bus-only lanes are long overdue.

That there is no plan, nor provision of resources for when the Scarborough RT breaks down is a foolhardy tempting of fate and an abandonment of the line's 35,000 daily riders.

We cannot find reference to the funds that were previously committed to the Scarborough Subway Extension. That money was committed to building rapid transit in Scarborough and now that the

Province has taken over delivery of the Scarborough Subway Extension, the city must ensure that these funds be used solely to build the Eglinton East LRT.

Scarborough transit riders are shouldering the burden of inadequate transit with long commutes, unsafe streets and growing levels of working adult poverty. Rapid transit expansion and bus only lanes in Scarborough must not be further delayed.

Yours truly,

Brenda Thompson, Ward 20

Moya Beall, Ward 20

Felicia Samuel, Ward 22

Jennifer Robinson Ward 23

Jamaal Myers, Ward 24

Howard Cyrus, Ward 25

Cc: Councillors Karygiannis, Lai and McKelvie