November 25, 2011

Ms. Ulli Watkiss
City Clerk
City of Toronto
12th Floor, West Tower
Toronto City Hall
Toronto, ON  M5H 2N2

Dear Ms. Watkiss:

This letter is in response to the Administrative Inquiry from Councillor Joe Mihevc dated November 17, 2011 entitled "An Inquiry of the City Manager on TTIL and Related Issues."

"Transit City," a transit plan consisting of LRT lines and bus rapid transit, was not approved by Council as a comprehensive framework, although a number of related technical requirements were approved by Council during 2008 to 2010.

On November 28, 2008, the Board of Directors of Metrolinx, a Government of Ontario agency, approved the "Big Move: Transforming Transportation in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area," a regional transportation plan which included "Regional Transit" projects for a Sheppard East LRT, Finch West LRT, Eglinton Crosstown LRT and a Scarborough RT. The Metrolinx Act 2006 provides Metrolinx with the responsibility to own and control the assets, and deliver these projects.

At its meeting of September 30, 2009, City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with Metrolinx and the TTC, wherein Metrolinx will provide interim funding for the implementation components of the provincial "Regional Transit" projects in Toronto, as directed by Metrolinx.

In 2011, Metrolinx announced that it would modify its plans for the Eglinton-Scarborough Crosstown initiative and would not proceed with the Sheppard East LRT. Metrolinx has not yet submitted a request to the City for the recovery of any costs for work conducted prior to this announcement. It is unclear at this time whether these costs would have any impact on the City's 2012 capital budget.

The TTIL is a subsidiary of the TTC which is working with the Mayor's Office to conduct research on a Sheppard subway line. I understand that the Mayor intends to bring forward proposals to Council relating to a Sheppard subway line.

Once Council reaches a decision on this matter, the City Manager, and City divisions and agencies, will execute all interests related to transit expansion, as directed by Council.

Yours truly,

Joseph P. Pennachetti
City Manager