Improving Public Transit on Sheppard Avenue East - by Councillor Raymond Cho, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker

* Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Growth Management Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations

Councillor Raymond Cho, seconded by Councillor Glenn De Baeremaeker, recommends that:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services, in consultation with the Toronto Transit Commission, to report to the Planning and Growth Management Committee on transit and other transportation initiatives that can achieve better public transit for Scarborough residents since the Sheppard Avenue East LRT has been shortened and will no longer serve residents east of the Scarborough Town Centre; and further, that each option presented include a cost/benefit analysis.

Summary

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Province of Ontario does not implement the Sheppard Avenue Light Rail Transit (LRT) and allows the City to pursue the financing and construction of a subway from Downsview Avenue to Yonge Street and from Don Mills Road to the Scarborough Town Centre. This plan leaves out TTC passengers east of the Scarborough Town Centre that were to have been served by the Sheppard LRT plan.

Further, the Sheppard Avenue subway proposal, currently unfunded, will involve substantial City investments. The City will also be responsible for the cancellation costs related to the sunk costs on Sheppard Avenue East (and Finch Avenue West). Any new proposal will need careful financial and transportation analysis including lost opportunity costs.

(Submitted to City Council on April 12, 2011 as MM7.9)