



CC17.1.48

Karen Stintz
Councillor - Ward 16, Eglinton Lawrence

February 7, 2012

Dear Colleagues:

In response to Chair Pritchard's letter from Metrolinx that City Council confirm the direction the City wishes to take with respect to transit investment, I submit the following background and recommendations for your consideration.

Background:

Toronto City Council has approved and supported the light rail transit plan for Toronto through the following actions:

- July 2007-Toronto City Council approved the "Climate Change, Clean Air, and Sustainable Energy Action Plan" and directed the initiation of appropriate environmental and engineering studies for the light rail transit plan and requested the General Manager of the TTC to submit to Executive Committee in 2007 a schedule for the completion of the studies and a financial plan including funding sources and revenue tools.
- City Council supported the light rail transit plan and included initial funding for it in the 2007, 2008 and 2009 budgets:
 - At its meeting in December 2007 Toronto Council directed TTC and City staff to continue discussions with other orders of government to increase funding for transit in Toronto, including funding for the light rail transit plan, report back to Budget Committee when Federal funding for the light rail transit plan is confirmed or when the Province approves Provincial funding, and approved \$0.7M in 2008 to proceed with light rail transit plan EA work.
 - The TTC 2008-2012 Capital Program approved by Toronto City Council included \$12.8M for light rail transit plan projects.
 - The TTC 2009-2013 Capital Program approved by Toronto City Council included a further \$17.1M to continue preliminary planning and environmental assessments for the light rail transit plan and the Scarborough RT.
 - On September 30 and October 1, 2009, Toronto City Council considered the report "Transit City Funding Request" (Ex 34.11) and increased the 2009-2013 approved Capital Budget and Plan by 134.5M to continue work on the priority light rail transit plan lines (Sheppard East LRT, Finch West LRT, Eglinton

Crosstown LRT and the Scarborough RT) with \$125M to be funded by the Provincial government through Metrolinx.

- On September 30 and October 1, 2009, Toronto City Council considered the report "Interim Funding Agreement with Metrolinx and the TTC" and authorized the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of the City with Metrolinx and the TTC for the interim funding for the implementation of components of the Sheppard East LRT, Finch West LRT, Eglinton Crosstown LRT and Scarborough RT projects. The Memorandum of Agreement was effective November 2009.
- On January 27, 2009, Toronto City Council considered the report "Yonge Subway Extension - Environmental Assessment Submission and Project Update" and amended the recommendations to note that the light rail transit plan is the first priority for the Toronto Transit Commission and the City of Toronto.
- Toronto Council approved Environmental Assessments for the Light Rail transit Projects as follows:
 - Sheppard East LRT EA and Official Plan on July 15, 2010
 - Eglinton Crosstown LRT EA on November 30 2009.
 - Scarborough RT EA on June 8 2010.
 - Finch West LRT EA on January 26 2010.

Further, Toronto City Council has considered and approved numerous reports for the acquisition of properties for the light rail transit plan projects.

Through these actions and decisions Toronto City Council has repeatedly asserted that the light rail transit plan is the City's priority for transit expansion and has provided funding for the implementation of this plan and has authorized the Interim Funding Memorandum of Agreement for Provincial funding of the light rail transit plan.

Recommendations:

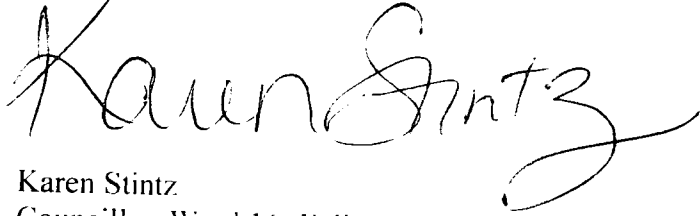
1. Toronto City Council affirm its support for the light rail transit priority plan for Toronto consistent with the Metrolinx "5 in 10" plan as presented to the Metrolinx Board at its meeting on May 19, 2010 and the early implementation of the following projects:
 - The Finch West LRT from the Spadina Subway extension to Humber College
 - The Eglinton Crosstown LRT from Jane Street to Kennedy Station
 - The Scarborough RT conversion to LRT from Kennedy Station to Sheppard Avenue, with an extension to the Malvern Town Centre as funds become available.

2. That Council request the City Manager establish an expert advisory panel regarding transit on Sheppard Avenue that will report back to a Special Meeting of Council no later than February 21, 2012

The advisory panel will determine the most effective means of delivering rapid transit to the greatest number of riders with the funds currently allocated for a public transportation project on Sheppard and Council requests that the City Manager request the following participants for the expert advisory panel:

- senior representatives from Metrolinx.
 - senior representatives from the Toronto Transit Commission.
 - senior representatives from the Toronto Board of Trade.
 - senior representatives from the Greater Toronto CivicAction Alliance.
 - David Crombie.
 - Eric Miller, and
 - Dr. Gordon Chong.
3. Toronto City Council affirms its support for the continued discussions between Metrolinx and the TTC regarding the TTC delivery, operations and maintenance of the light rail transit priority projects on behalf of Metrolinx.
 4. Toronto City Council direct appropriate City staff to communicate to the Province of Ontario and Metrolinx its support for the continued discussions between Metrolinx and the TTC over the light rail transit plan and the early implementation of the priority projects by the TTC on behalf of Metrolinx.
 5. Toronto City Council authorize the City Manager and all appropriate staff to execute any and all agreements with Metrolinx for funding and implementation of the above.
 6. Toronto City Council authorize the Toronto Transit Commission to direct staff to enter into discussions with Metrolinx to study the future feasibility of the following transit projects:
 - Extension of the TTC Sheppard Subway line westward from the current Sheppard Station to the current Downsview Station, thereby relieving ridership pressure off of the eastern portion of the Yonge-University-Spadina Subway line.
 - Extension of the Sheppard LRT to end at the Toronto Zoo.
 - Extension of the TTC Bloor-Danforth Subway line from Kennedy Subway Station north-eastward to the Scarborough Town Centre.
 - Extension of the Eglinton Crosstown line from Jane to Pearson Airport including a study of its alignment.
 - The construction of a Downtown Relief Line.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Stintz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "K" and a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Karen Stintz
Councillor, Ward 16 (Eglinton-Lawrence)
Chair, Toronto Transit Commission