

CC 20.1.143

Marilyn Toft - Our Comments for 2012.CC20.1 on March 21, 2012 City Council

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**From:** Ryan Eickmeier <reickmeier@realpac.ca>  
**To:** "clerk@toronto.ca" <clerk@toronto.ca>  
**Date:** 3/20/2012 10:29 AM  
**Subject:** Our Comments for 2012.CC20.1 on March 21, 2012 City Council  
**Attachments:** Guiding Principles.pdf

2012 MAR 20 P 3:41

To the City Clerk:

Please add our comments to the agenda for the March 21, 2012 City Council meeting on item 2012.CC20.1, Report from the Expert Advisory Panel Regarding Transit on Sheppard Avenue East

We understand that our comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that our name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, we understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and our name(s) may be indexed by search engines like Google.

**Comments:**

On behalf of the *Business Owners and Managers Association Toronto* ('BOMA'), the *International Council of Shopping Centers* ('ICSC'), the *Commercial Real Estate Development Association Greater Toronto Chapter* ('NAIOP'), and the *Real Property Association of Canada* ('REALpac'), we would first like to commend the City of Toronto for embarking on the difficult task of improving transit in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). As the Associations who represent the full spectrum of the real property sector in the region, we have an inherent interest in a streamlined, reliable, modern, and sustainable transit plan.

As a coalition of stakeholders we refer to the following **Guiding Principles** when examining the future of transit in the Greater Toronto Area:

- We support good, responsibly financed transit and transportation infrastructure as it is important to the social and economic viability and sustainability of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
- We support revenue sources that are broadly based and do not put undue pressure on one segment of the economy;
- We support revenue sources that are environmentally friendly and have traffic demand management potential;
- We support revenue sources that support user pay principles; in other words, those that use the transportation system should pay for it;
- We support revenue sources that are transparent, fair, and equitable; and,
- We support revenue sources that solve the long-term, transit-related financial challenges of the G.T.A.

By way of background, BOMA, ICSC, NAIOP, and REALpac have been very active on transit related revenue issues in Vancouver and Montreal, and would gladly share these experiences with Council. Based on our collective expertise, this group hopes to be seen as a key consultative partner as this process moves forward, and would welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with the City of Toronto and Metrolinx on a regional based transit plan at the appropriate time.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions regarding the comments made above.

Sincerely,

Chris Conway  
 President & Chief Staff Officer  
 BOMA Toronto

Paul Morse  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 REALpac

Ryan J. Eickmeier  
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