

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM23.4	ACTION			Ward:All
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Moving Forward: Improving Public Transit and Relieving Traffic Congestion through a Regional Funding Strategy - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Karen Stintz

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Karen Stintz, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to engage and participate with Metrolinx in establishing a working group of appropriate officials representing the City of Toronto, Greater Golden Horseshoe municipalities, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, the Ontario Ministry of Finance, the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and any other relevant bodies to provide input into the preparation of a funding strategy for the Metrolinx regional transit plan.

Summary

To fund public transportation and relieve traffic congestion for Toronto and the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH), it is imperative to move forward with a regional funding strategy.

Our transit needs are too urgent to continue relying on one-time provincial funding. Gridlock has become so severe that the status quo, traffic congestion that costs the GGH \$6 billion a year and which has an adverse impact on our residents' quality of life, is unacceptable.

Metrolinx is currently preparing a funding strategy for their regional transit plan, The Big Move. There are a variety of funding mechanisms that may be considered including the feasibility of implementing road tolls or a regional sales tax dedicated to transit priorities.

This motion requests the City Manager to work with Metrolinx to explore a variety of regional funding mechanisms with officials from across the GGH to achieve these aims. Any funding initiative should be done on a regional basis to mitigate unintended consequences including job loss and consumer avoidance.

Toronto and GGH residents want a faster, reliable and more accessible public transportation

system.

(Submitted to City Council on May 8 and 9, 2012 as MM23.4)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM23.4