

May 7, 2013

Dear Mayor and Members of Toronto City Council

**Re: EX31.3 - Metrolinx Transportation Growth Funding- Dedicated Revenues**

Executive Committee on April 23, 2013, deferred consideration of EX31.3 to its May 28, 2013 meeting. As EX31.3 has been removed from Executive Committee and added to the agenda of this City Council meeting, I would urge you to support transparency and accountability in adopting the following motion:

That the implementation of any taxes, fees, charges or levies not be implemented or collected until such time as:

1. Mechanisms are put in place to insure the accountability of Metrolinx, including the appointment of the Mayor or his designate to the Board of Metrolinx.
2. The operating costs of expanded transit are fully costed.
3. The Province of Ontario agree to fund 1/3 of the operating costs of transit in the city of Toronto.

These asks are reasonable and responsible. If we're going to be asked to support new regional taxes, fees, charges or levies that will result in less money in the pockets of Torontonians for decades to come, than tell us how much it is going to cost to operate and maintain the new transit lines and who will be paying for that. Our subsidy to the TTC is already in the range of \$450 million per year. Today, we don't know what it will be at the end of phase one of The Big Move.

The Province use to pay 50 per cent of the operating costs of the TTC. If we're going to support new revenues, born on the backs of Torontonians, I'm asking that you make your support for new revenue tools conditional on a commitment from the Province to fund 1/3 of the operating costs of the TTC. I also ask that your support be conditional on Metrolinx becoming more accountable to the very people of Toronto it wants to take more money from. This can be accomplished through municipal political representation on its Board.



Councillor Milczyn has agreed to move the motion on my behalf. I ask that you support the motion as a condition of support for any new regional taxes, fees, charges or levies to fund transit. We need to build transit and we'll all need to pay for it. Let's not do it, as is so often the case, without the transparency and accountability that those who will be footing the bill, deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denzil Minnan-Wong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Denzil Minnan-Wong  
Chair, Public Works and Infrastructure Committee  
Councillor, Don Valley East  
Ward 34