

# Yonge Relief Network Study



December 4, 2013

# Study Overview

**Metrolinx is conducting the Yonge Relief Network Study because congestion has effects both locally, in central Toronto, and regionally across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.**

- This study will address the timing and priority for a new subway line in Toronto downtown and other GTHA network capacity improvements and policies (such as GO service, fares, and Union Station). The study will also address the phasing of other priorities.
- The Regional Relief Strategy is part of a larger suite of studies to provide congestion relief to the regional transit network.

# Regional Relief Strategy



## Yonge Relief Network Study

Enabling capacity on the Yonge Subway, while providing congestion relief to the regional transit network.



## Relief Line Project Assessment

Following on the Downtown Relief Transit Expansion Study (DRTES), to undertake route evaluation and review of station opportunities.

## Other Related Studies

City "Feeling Congested" Official Plan Review

Metrolinx Union Pearson Express Electrification EA

Metrolinx Transportation Study of the Pearson Airport Area

Metrolinx Lakeshore Express Rail Study

Metrolinx Fare and Service Integration

Metrolinx/City Union Station Studies

Yonge North Subway Extension Benefits Case

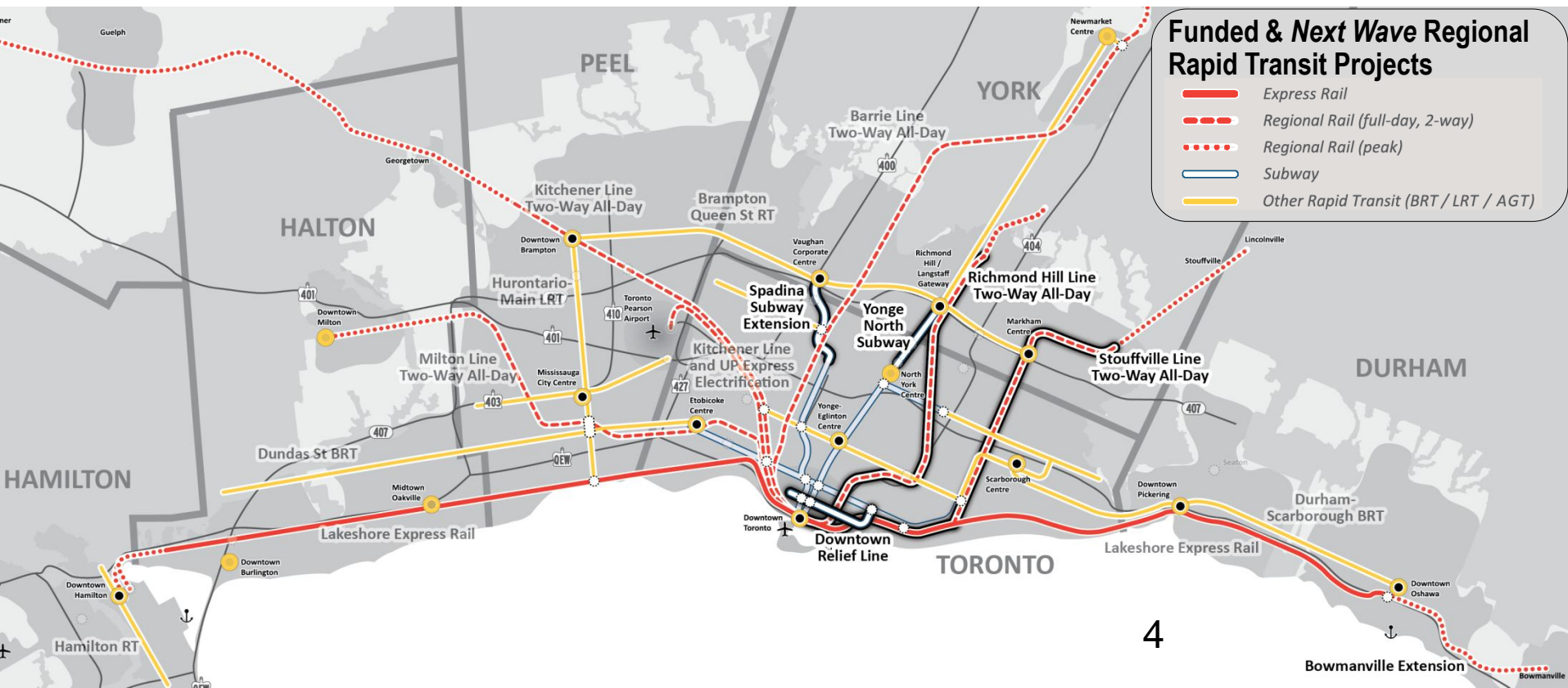
TTC/York Region Yonge Subway Extension EA

York Region Transportation Master Plan

The Big Move Legislated Review

# A Network Approach to Capacity Relief

- The Big Move 15 year plan and Top 15 Transit Priorities identify a Downtown Core Subway.
- A number of other projects in The Big Move also affect demand on the Yonge Subway.
  - Spadina subway extension to Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (funded)
  - GO Rail improvements (*Next Wave*)
  - Planned Yonge subway extension to Richmond Hill Centre (*Next Wave*)



# Yonge Subway Still at Capacity in 2031

- Even with current improvements, the Yonge subway will likely still be at capacity in 2031
- Bloor-Yonge interchange station is a key constraint

2031 AM Peak Hour Southbound Subway Volumes Compared to Capacity



Source: TTC, Madituc, 2031 forecast

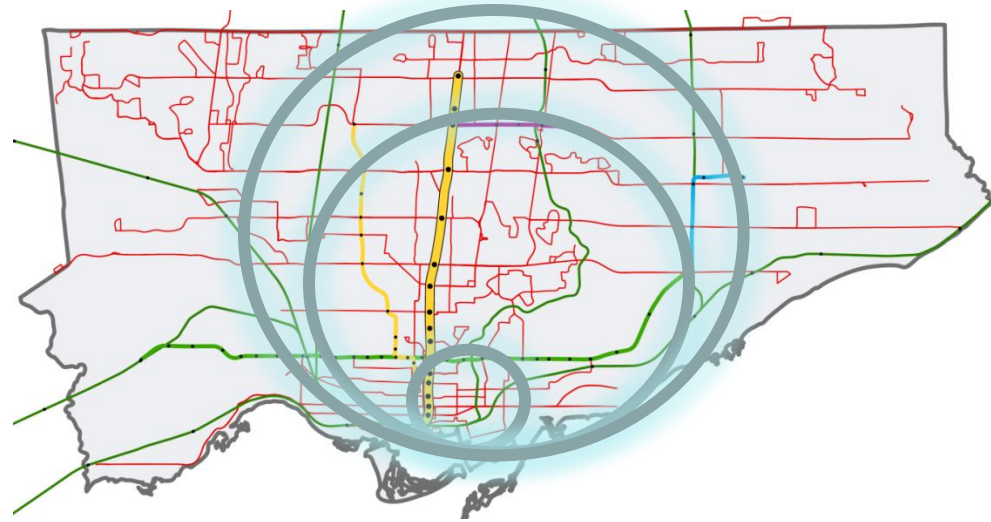
2031 modelled scenario includes First Wave (funded) transit projects; and selected Next Wave (unfunded) projects: Two-way, all-day GO and Yonge subway extension to Richmond Hill

# YRNS Key Considerations

- Looking at the region as a whole, what are the transit network alternatives that relieve the Yonge-University-Spadina subway and provide the greatest system-wide benefits?
  - We know that the Relief Line could alleviate Yonge Subway congestion; what are new infrastructure and policy alternatives (LRT, GO Rail, fare changes) that should be considered as shorter-term or complementary solutions?
  - Can GO Transit serve longer and/or shorter distance trips more effectively?
  - What is the full range of alternatives that needs to be considered?
  - What are the land use, development and other benefits of different alternatives?
- What is the optimal phasing of related projects?

# Metrolinx Yonge Relief Network Study: Work Plan

1. Understand current and future travel demand and supply into Downtown Toronto
2. Identify regional network alternatives
3. Develop evaluation framework
4. Evaluate options and communicate preliminary findings
5. Further analysis of project performance and phasing options
6. Final consultation and recommendations



# Draft Stakeholder Engagement and Public Consultation

- **Public consultation** in Toronto and York Region in Winter 2014, Spring 2014 & Fall 2014
- **Steering Committee**, including GO Transit, the TTC, City of Toronto, York , York Region Rapid Transit Corporation
- **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**, including the TTC, City of Toronto, York , York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, and the Ministry of Transportation
- A **Peer Review Panel** composed of academics and senior experts
- A **Stakeholder Advisory Group** to provide input on key stakeholder issues



# Next Steps

- February 14, 2014 – Update Metrolinx Board
- February 2014 – Public consultation on problem statement, vision, and objectives and long-list of alternatives
- March-May 2014 – Incorporate input from public consultation; Evaluate alternatives and develop and test scenarios
- June 2014 – Public consultation on preliminary findings

# Thank You



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