

March 14, 2014

Dear Executive Committee members,

As the local Councillors for the communities most impacted by the activities at BMO Field, we would like to offer our position on the proposed expansion of the stadium. We are in support of expanding BMO Field provided concrete measures are secured in advance that improve and encourage the use of public transit to and from the stadium.

Exhibition Place is Toronto's fairground. For the past century it has hosted international trade shows, fairs, races, and other events of municipal and national significance. In recent years, many thousands of people have moved into the neighbourhood surrounding Exhibition Place. The impact of the annual, seasonal, and one-off events, along with the daily travel of residents and businesses, has resulted in traffic that is paralyzing the area.

While Exhibition Place is ideally located in close proximity to major roadways and public transportation, GO Transit and the TTC, the roads are exceeding their capacity and the available public transit options are failing.

Should the expansion at BMO Field occur, the additional traffic pressure from events with larger audiences, like Argos games, could impact the viability of other economic drivers on the site and create traffic chaos for residents who live close by.

We do not want to miss this opportunity to improve the facilities at Exhibition Place, but there is a need to formalize how the City, Metrolinx, and MLSE will address traffic impacts before we agree to the stadium expansion.

We recommend that the City Manager, in consultation with the TTC, Economic Development and Culture, and Metrolinx, develop options to improve and encourage the use of public transit to BMO Field and report to City Council on options to be included in the LOI and mechanisms for securing these options.

Thank you,

Councillor Mike Layton, Ward 19

God Perks

Councillor Gord Perks, Ward 14

Councillor Adam Vaughan, Ward 20