May 28, 2013

Councillor Peter Milczyn
Planning and Growth Management Committee
100 Queen Street West, Suite C51
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Milczyn:

RE: PG33.12 RELIEF LINE PROJECT ASSESSMENT: FINALIZED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION PLAN

The Toronto Financial District BIA encourages the Planning and Growth Management Committee to support staff recommendations to approve the final terms of reference and public consultation plan and to proceed with the Relief Line project assessment.

The BIA has appreciated the high level of engagement between staff and our organization throughout the study process. Further, the BIA commends staff for amending the study scope to include an evaluation of future potential alignments in the western and northern expansion areas for the Relief Line. Understanding these alignments are important to planning a highly integrated and accessible transportation network.

Access into the central business district is becoming increasingly difficult. With approximately 33% of all Toronto’s jobs located in the downtown core, 15% of which are located in the Financial District, the City needs to promptly progress options to improve access to such a vital employment hub to support existing jobs and ensure Toronto remains competitive in the future.

The Toronto Financial District BIA looks forward to working with staff and the TTC as they proceed with public consultations and the Relief Line Project Assessment. Should you have any questions, please contact me at ghumes@torontofinancialdistrict.com.

Best regards,

Grant Humes
Executive Director

cc:  Councillor Josh Colle
     Councillor John Filion
     Councillor Frances Nunziata
     Councillor Karen Stintz
     Nancy Martins, Secretariat Contact
     Andy Byford, CEO, TTC
     Bruce McQuaig, President & CEO, Metrolinx
     John Livey, City Manager
     Jennifer Keesmaat, Chief Planner
     Tim Laspa, Transportation Planning
     David Cooper, Transportation Planning