July 7 2016

Councillor Jon Burnside  
Toronto City Hall  
By Email: Councillor_Burnside@toronto.ca

RE: EX16.1 Developing Toronto's Transit Network Plan to 2031

Dear Jon,

This is to request that at City Council on July 12 you vote to oppose the recommendation to build a 1-stop subway. Council can choose to build either a one subway stop from Kennedy Station to the Scarborough Town Centre (STC) OR two LRT lines for approx. the same City funding.

The 1-stop option would provide fast service from STC. But Scarborough is a big place with 35% of Toronto’s land area. What about the rest of Scarborough who will be left on a bus? You can choose instead to build 2 LRT lines:

- 7 stops using the existing, traffic-separated RT corridor to link STC and Centennial College to Kennedy Station on trains with the same top speed as a subway (80 km/h) and a 17-stop extension of the Eglinton Crosstown through Kennedy, serving Kingston Rd, UofT Scarborough and several neighbourhoods in between. That’s 24 stops (not 1-stop) for Scarborough.

The two LRT lines would provide rapid transit to

- 96,200 existing residents and employees who are within walking distance of a station - 6 times more than a 1-stop subway
- 25,900 people living in 5 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) and 3 former Priority Neighbourhoods - 1-stop subway would only serve 1,700 NIA residents.

The 1-stop subway will require at least $2 billion in maintenance/capital costs over the next 60 years. If we move forward with the LRT plan, these ongoing costs would be covered by the province, leaving more money available to fund real needs, including: daycare spaces, tree planting, employment programs, recreation programs, parks, and libraries.

We strongly recommend that you vote for the option that actually serves transit users, with more transit, better transit, and faster transit for the residents of Scarborough.

Regards

Geoff Kettel and Carol Burtin Fripp  
Co-Presidents

c.c. Mayor John Tory