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Facebook: facebook.com/MariaAugimeri**Date: September 9, 2016****To: North York Community Council****Subject: Construction of a pedestrian & cycling overpass of the Metrolinx Barrie Line railway corridor to connect the Stanley Greene and Ancaster communities****SUMMARY:**

As per the Council approved Downsview Secondary Plan, providing a variety of travel options including for pedestrians and cyclists is central to the vitality of this emerging community. A pedestrian overpass of the railway corridor is identified as a key element to achieve pedestrian and cycling connectivity and access for new and existing communities.

As the Stanley Green community is developing, the principal of connectivity and enhancing pedestrian and cycling networks for recreation, transit and access to Downsview Park with an overpass of the railway corridor has been protected for in the latest subdivision plan (Block G).

City Council's decision to designate the west side of Murray Road a Regeneration Area, and the subsequent direction to staff for a Murray Road study provides the opportunity to realize the pedestrian and cycling overpass as a key element to provide connectivity between the Stanley Greene and Ancaster communities. This will enhance opportunities for pedestrian and cycling access to recreation in Downsview Park, for transit, commercial and retail opportunities along Wilson Avenue, and as a catalyst for streetscape improvements to the public realm.

The overpass is also a key component to completing a missing link in the City's existing bike routes and objective of connecting our communities. Enhancing the City's cycling network provides residents an alternative transportation option.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Transportation Services staff begin design work on a pedestrian & cycling overpass of the Metrolinx railway corridor and report back by the second quarter 2017 with preliminary findings on design options and costing;
2. That Transportation Services staff initiate discussion with other City staff including Build Toronto, on completed and in progress railway overpass projects to determine best practices and opportunities to utilize existing design options and an accelerated construction time-frame;
3. That Transportation Services staff in conjunction with other appropriate Divisions, initiate discussion with the Federal Government of Canada to determine eligibility for infrastructure funding for this overpass project.

Your consideration and support of this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maria Augimeri". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Maria" being more prominent than the last name "Augimeri".

Councillor Maria Augimeri
Ward 9 – York Centre