May 9, 2017

Mayor John Tory
City of Toronto
100 Queen St. West,
Toronto, ON, M5H2N2

Dear Mayor Tory and Executive Committee Members,

Re: Don Mills Transit Line (Downtown Relief Line North)

I am writing with regard to the proposal put forward in EX25.1, Advancing Planning and Design Work for the Relief Line and Yonge Subway Extension, to begin work on the Don Mills Transit Line (Downtown Relief Line North).

I applaud the staff recommendation to move forward with developing a business case for this important transit route. Don Mills residents are not the direct beneficiaries of current transit expansion in Toronto. The Scarborough subway, TYSSE, Downtown Relief Line extension and the Yonge Subway Extension will not directly benefit Don Mills. The Eglinton Crosstown will not directly run through Don Mills. In fact, the Eglinton Crosstown has and will increase the congestion on Eglinton Ave.

The Don Mills Subway is a game changer.

Transit for many in Don Mills is long and inconvenient. It can take over an hour to get downtown. That is why many use their cars. That is why many use the Don Valley Parkway. We would use transit, but it isn’t very good in our community.

The Don Mills transit line means fast and efficient service downtown. It can’t come soon enough. That is why we have to start this project right now!

Therefore, I would request that the Executive Committee endorse recommendation 5 in the staff report.

I would also ask that the following amendment be placed and adopted:

1. That consideration be given to renaming the Downtown Relief Line North to the Don Mills Subway Line,
2. That consideration be given to building a subway as part of the Don Mills line,
3. That a robust community consultation plan be adopted in planning the Don Mills line,
4. That strong consideration be given to extending the Don Mills line north to the Sheppard subway line.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Denzil Minnan-Wong
Deputy Mayor
Councillor, Ward 34