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April 9, 2019

Chair and Members of the Executive Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON, M5H-2N2

RE: Amending EX4.1 as pertains to the Eglinton East Light Rail Transit project

Dear Mayor Tory and members of the Executive Committee,

As you all know, we are once again embarking on a broad and increasingly heated public policy debate on building long-overdue public transit in our city and region.

Regardless of past promises, retreats, successes, and mistakes, the need for a dense, integrated, and robust public transit system city wide is growing by the hour. Our population is rising, economic activity is on the up, and infrastructure is decaying.

Scarborough has been left out in the cold on public transit for almost 40 years, despite having 20% of Toronto's population. We have not enjoyed the completion of a major transit project in many decades.

The Eglinton East LRT (EELRT) in full, from Kennedy station to UTSC and then Malvern Centre was promised almost 13 years ago and was subsequently approved by City Council and the province in 2009.

The EELRT project is fundamental to achieving the completion of a Scarborough public transit network that properly integrates with the rest of Toronto. You cannot achieve the closed loop of the EELRT and the Sheppard East LRT without building to Malvern Centre.

Malvern is a transit thirsty neighbourhood in need of investment, jobs, and connectivity. It will never reach its full potential until it is delivered decent public transit. It has waited for decent public transit for a lifetime. We cannot settle for a LRT that fails to right this wrong and that fails to deliver an integrated transit network.

Recommended amendments to the Toronto Transit Expansion Program – Update & Next Steps:

10. City Council request Metrolinx to work with the City to develop a plan to address the following matters:

A. The phasing for completion of Eglinton East Light Rail Transit extension of Line 5 (Eglinton Crosstown), including a first phase to University of Toronto Scarborough as described in Attachment 4 and a second phase to Malvern Centre; with terminus at Malvern Centre (Option 3);

B. The location and construction timing of the Conlins Maintenance and Storage Facility located north of Highway 401 at Conlins Ave. as discussed in Attachment 4;:-

C. Commencing the preliminary design and engineering phase of Option 3 of the Eglinton East Light Rail Transit project; and,

D. Requesting the Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure and Development Services to report back to City Council with a recommended plan, schedule, and cost and funding requirement for consideration in the City's 2020 Budget process.

E. That planning, scheduling, and cost and funding requirements for Option 3 include track and stops along Sheppard Avenue East between Morningside Avenue and Nielson Road (assumes EELRT is built before SELRT).

If we truly are as wealthy, dynamic, inclusive, and ambitious a City as we present ourselves to be, than we owe it to not leave Malvern out in the cold and to not settle for a second-rate Scarborough transit network.

I trust that you all share in our determination and resolve to follow in the footsteps of our predecessors; to believe in big achievements, and to be bold, to be right.

Thank you for adding the letter to the committee agenda and for all ongoing work on this crucial file.

Sincerely and with warm regards,

Jennifer McKelvie
Councillor, Ward 25, Scarborough-Rouge Park