

April 7, 2019

Ms. Julie Amoroso c/o Members of Executive Committee 10th floor, West Tower, City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 E-mail: <u>exc@toronto.ca</u>

## Subject: West Rouge Community Association Comments on Toronto's Transit Expansion Program - Update and Next Steps Report

The West Rouge Community Association (WRCA) has reviewed Staff Report from the City Manager on Toronto's Transit Expansion Program - Update and Next Steps dated April 3, 2019 to be considered at the April 9, 2019 Executive Committee Meeting.

While we are pleased with the City's commitment to investing in Scarborough transit through the extension of the Eglinton East LRT (EELRT) to Scarborough Town Centre and the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus (UTSC), the proposed options and phasing of the remaining portion of the EELRT to Malvern Centre is worrisome to our Association.

City Council approved the EELRT extension to Malvern with up to six stops to be within the same phase as the UTSC extension in May 2018. The most recent recommendation to leave the portion of the EELRT to Malvern Centre as a second phase dependent on further discussions with Metrolinx about timing and scope of the Sheppard East LRT (SELRT) and the construction timing for the Conlins MSF runs the great risk of this portion of LRT never being constructed. The planning and design process of the entire EELRT has been ongoing since 2016, with funding and construction strategies well underway. By introducing a phased approach, it would effectively halt the process for the Malvern extension.

The connection to Malvern Centre is critical to the continued health and vitality of the Scarborough community. Many of the end users of this segment are part of marginalized communities who need reliable and efficient transit as they have no other means of transportation. The investment in infrastructure will help foster renewal in the part of the Scarborough that could benefit most from it. Additionally, the Malvern Extension will close the transit loop on the east end of Toronto which makes sense from a long term transit planning perspective.



The overall difference in the dollars, effort and time spent implementing a full EELRT verses a partial one without the Malvern Extension is marginal, especially considering the overall benefit that would be generated if constructed fulsomely. WRCA urges Executive Committee to consider the risk of approving a phased strategy. Let's do this right and not create a "half pregnant" EELRT.

Best Regards,

Amy Emm, MCIP RPP Director of Planning West Rouge Community Association

Cc Councillor Jennifer McKelvie Kevin Narraway, President, West Rouge Community Association Kathi Loughran, Vice President, West Rouge Community Association Greg Long, Vice President, President, West Rouge Community Association