EX4.1.17



KINGA SURMA, MPP Etobicoke Centre

April 8, 2019

To Mayor Tory and Members of Executive Committee,

As many of you know, I used to work at City Hall and have consistently been a huge advocate for subway expansion and underground transit options. Having lived in Etobicoke for many years, I have used TTC buses, the Bloor-Danforth Line and the GO from both Etobicoke North and Kipling Stations.

Tomorrow, you will discuss how to proceed with the third phase of the Eglinton West extension of the Crosstown LRT. It will run directly through the middle of my Etobicoke Centre riding.

Etobicoke Centre is the best riding in the province to live in, but there is one thing missing – fast, reliable public transit. We don't have a subway line or a GO Train stop. From here, it takes well over an hour to go downtown for work. That's just not fast enough.

Etobians need a fast, reliable and convenient way to get around the city.

At the same time, we cannot afford to add to the current congestion on Eglinton. It is the busiest arterial road in the riding. If anything, you could explore widening Eglinton from Scarlet to Renforth.

If transit does not start moving people faster, we will not keep up with population growth and congestion will keep getting worse. And, let me be clear, an at-grade LRT would NOT be a fast option.

As someone who knows the area, understands the transportation challenges, and speaks to residents daily, I'm urging you to support the only option that is suitable for Etobicoke – full grade separation of the Eglinton Crosstown.

During the election I made a commitment to the people of my riding that I would fight to tunnel the Eglinton Crosstown. I keep my promises.

The province supports tunneling so please put politics aside and partner with us to expand underground transit that will get people moving.

Regards,

Kinga Surma, MPP Etobicoke Centre