June 14, 2019

TORONTO CITY COUNCIL:

Response to Administrative Inquiry
Re: Union Station Rail Corridor/Signal System Improvements

Councillor Paula Fletcher submitted an Administrative Inquiry under Municipal Code S27-61 to request a status update on the improvements to the Union Station Rail Corridor, including confirmation of schedule/delays for a new signal system. The following response has been prepared in consultation with Metrolinx.

1. Request a status update on the improvements to the Union Station Rail Corridor, including confirmation of the above schedule/delays for the new signal system and if this project is 9 years behind its originally scheduled completion date.

The Union Station Rail Corridor is approximately 6.4 km long from Bathurst Street to the Don River. It consists of 4 locally controlled interlockings (Cherry, Scott, John and Bathurst) with:

- 13 passenger platforms
- 14 station tracks plus 2 bypass tracks
- 180 signals
- 250 switches
- 40 km of circuited track

The proposed signal upgrades will replace (including all signals, track circuits and cables) the vintage 1920s system with modern, state-of-the-art equipment, high-tech Central Control System capable of handling ridership volumes and service patterns for the next 30 years. The original contract was awarded to Siemens in 2007 and discontinued in 2011 due to the complexity of the project and structure of the work. A subsequent intensive lessons learned exercise resulted in the work being restructured for better management and implementation. A new signalling contract was awarded to Alstom in 2014. Since the terms of the agreement predated the GO Expansion Program, it was adjusted to accommodate changes in the scope and the complexity of work proposed in the Union Station Rail Corridor. Based on information from Metrolinx, the signal system upgrades in the Union Station Rail Corridor are expected to be complete and operational by the end of 2021, 9 years after the original targeted completion date of the original contract.

Sincerely,

Tracey Cook
Deputy City Manager