

July 20, 2020
Open letter to City Council's Executive Committee



Dear Executive Committee,

On behalf of the Woburn Local Planning Table (WLPT), I am writing to express support for better bus service for Scarborough.

The WLPT supports the bus-lane implementation plan, along with other previous efforts to improve bus service in Scarborough, including creating an express bus for Markham.

The WLPT would like to see more done, faster to improve bus service in Scarborough.

As we move to recovery, we need to pursue all opportunities to improve bus service so as to avoid overcrowding, enabling physical distancing and ensure dignity for public transit users in Scarborough.

Some measures that WLPT supports are:

- 1. Allocating more resources to allow staff to report back much sooner than December 2020, on accelerating the four remaining transit priority corridors (Jane, Steeles West, Finch East and Dufferin). In other words, speed up the study so we can implement the approved bus-only lanes faster. ActiveTO got rolled out in about 2 months. The WLPT would like to see a similar timeline for bus-only lanes.**
- 2. Allocating resources to allow staff to study other busy routes in Scarborough, for potentially implementing bus lanes or finding other ways to move buses much faster including Lawrence, Sheppard, Markham, and others.**
- 3. Ensure more buses are available for transit riders in Scarborough especially along Lawrence, Markham and Ellesmere to ensure safety, equity, service reliability, economic growth and activity and promote livability as we move to recovery.**

As you know, a significant number of Scarborough transit riders rely on bus service to get around, and so better bus service for Scarborough is an essential part of respecting our right to ride.

The Woburn Local Planning Table hopes that you will approve measures that will do more, faster to improve bus service in Scarborough which is long overdue.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Respectfully,

THE SCARBOROUGH RESIDENT MEMBERS OF WOBURN LOCAL PLANNING TABLE (LPT)

Arulini Vithiyatharan, Woburn resident, Chair of Woburn LPT

Suad Abdillahi, Woburn resident, Co-Chair of Woburn LPT

Nita Goswami, Woburn resident, Founder/parent Lead Woburn Jr Families @Tuxedo Court, Chair Woburn Jr PS

Leah Yuyitung, Woburn resident, Founder/spokesperson Woburn LPT, Chair Woburn CI, Local Champion Network member

Biravei Vithiyatharan, Woburn resident, Youth lead of Woburn LPT Youth

Rick MacDonald, Woburn resident, Treasurer of Woburn LPT

Phylcia Davis-Wesseling, Woburn resident, Founder & Program Manager KGO Adult Literacy Program, Local Champion Network member

Louise O'Neill, Woburn resident, Convener of Friends of Cedarbrook and Thomson Park

Sandy Ewart, Woburn resident, St. Thomas More Catholic School Co-chair

Erhard Kraus, Scarborough resident, member of Friends of Cedarbrook and Thomson Park

Yuanda Zhang, Scarborough resident, Local Champion Network member

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