

City Investment in SmartTrack at East Harbour

Date: November 14, 2021

To: City Council

From: Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and Executive Director,
Transit Expansion

Wards: Ward 14 Toronto–Danforth

SUMMARY

This report responds to a Toronto and East York Community Council motion related to TE29.17 Transit Oriented Communities Update, which directed staff to report directly to City Council on the significant investment being made by the City in the East Harbour Transit Hub through the SmartTrack program.

The City Council approved investment in SmartTrack totals \$1.463 Billion, inclusive of \$1.195 Billion for Base Station Infrastructure and \$268 Million for City-Initiated Station Requirements. This investment covers five new SmartTrack stations across the City: Finch Kennedy, East Harbour, King-Liberty, St Clair-Old Weston and Bloor Lansdowne.

The investment at East Harbour is an important way for the City to help unlock the development potential in the area, and to support the creation of up to 50,000 jobs at East Harbour. An update on the City's investment in the East Harbour Transit Hub will be included in the broader financial assessment of the East Harbour Transit Oriented Communities proposal in the upcoming East Harbour TOC report to Executive Committee in January 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and Executive Director, Transit Expansion recommend that this report be received for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

A full financial impact assessment is to be provided in the report to Executive Committee on East Harbour in January 2022.

DECISION HISTORY

In November 2016, City Council considered the report EX19.1 Transit Network Plan Update and Financial Strategy and endorsed a Summary Term Sheet that established principles for cost-sharing on a number transit expansion initiatives, including the SmartTrack Stations Program. Link:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.EX19.1>

In April 2018, City Council considered EX33.1 Implementation of the SmartTrack Stations Program and the Metrolinx Regional Express Rail Program and approved a contribution of up to \$1.463 billion to Metrolinx for the SmartTrack Stations Program subject to the terms and conditions described in Attachment 1 of the report. The approved funding and financing strategy includes \$585 million in federal funding under Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Public Transit Stream. Link:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.EX33.1>

In October 2019, City Council considered EX9.1 Toronto-Ontario Transit Update and authorized the City Manager to negotiate, enter into and execute a Preliminary Agreement with the Province and/or any other relevant provincial agency, in accordance with the terms set out in the term sheet in Attachment 6 to the report. Link:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.EX9.1>

On February 2 2021, City Council adopted EX20.2 Advancing the SmartTrack Stations Program, which updated terms that will be incorporated into a revised Agreement in Principle to advance the SmartTrack Stations Program.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.EX20.2>

In January 2020, City Council considered EX12.3 Toronto-Ontario Transit Partnership - Status Update, which included as Attachment 1 the Memorandum of Understanding on Transit-Oriented Development (TOD MOU) that established the roles and responsibilities of the City and the Province for the Subway Program, GO Expansion, and the SmartTrack Stations Program related to TOD.

Link: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.EX12.3>

On November 24th 2021 Toronto East York Community Council directed City Planning to report directly to City Council at its December 15th meeting on the City's investment in the East Harbour Transit Hub through the SmartTrack program.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.TE29.17>

COMMENTS

City Planning and Transit Expansion received direction from Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting November 24, 2021 to report directly to City Council on the City's investment in the East Harbour Transit Hub through the SmartTrack program.

Staff from Transportation Planning and Transit Expansion will report to Executive Committee in January 2022 on the East Harbour TOC proposal. The East Harbour SmartTrack station is an important infrastructure component that supports the development at East Harbour.

The City Council approved investment in SmartTrack totals \$1.463 Billion, inclusive of \$1.195 Billion for Base Station Infrastructure and \$268 Million for City-Initiated Station Requirements. This investment covers five new SmartTrack stations across the City: Finch Kennedy, East Harbour, King-Liberty, St Clair-Old Weston and Bloor Lansdowne.

The investment at East Harbour is an important way for the City to help unlock the development potential in the area, and to support the creation of up to 50,000 jobs at East Harbour.

The report will include a financial impact analysis related to the East Harbour TOC that will include a discussion of the City's investment in the East Harbour Transit Hub.

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SIGNATURE

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