

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM31.12	ACTION			Ward: All
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Ontario Line - Getting Transit Right: Federal Environmental Assessment and Hybrid Option Review - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Communications have been submitted on this Item.

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy recommends that:

1. City Council express support for Save Jimmie Simpson and the Lakeshore East Community Advisory Committee's request that the above ground section of the Ontario Line through Riverside and Leslieville be designated for a federal Environmental Assessment pursuant to s. 9 (1) of the Impact Assessment Act.
2. City Council request the City Manager to:
 - a. provide City Council with the impacts on the City's infrastructure, social housing, as well as overall neighbourhood impacts related to shifting both tracks to the west side of GO tracks for the proposed 2 kilometre above ground section of the Ontario Line; and
 - b. review the feasibility of the proposed hybrid Ontario Line developed by the local community from the Don River to Gerrard Street which maintains the at-grade station at East Harbour and creates a portal to underground the line immediately to the east of the station through the South of Eastern employment area and moves the Ontario Line station to Queen and Carlaw in Leslieville immediately.
3. City Council request the City Manager to provide an update on the status of the Metrolinx Subway Expansion Program to the Executive Committee by the third quarter of 2021.
4. City Council request that a copy of this Motion be provided to the Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation and the Honourable Jeff Yurek, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

5. City Council request that a copy of this Motion be provided to the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Federal Minister of the Environment and Climate Change and the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities.

Summary

At its meeting of November 25, 2020, City Council adopted a number of recommendations requesting the Executive Director, Transit Expansion Office to request information from Metrolinx about economic business case, impacts on the local community, mitigation measures, costs comparison for running the Ontario Line underground and other previous requests City Council has made of Metrolinx; and to report to the January 27, 2021 meeting of the Executive Committee on the information from Metrolinx.

Those previous requests include Council voting, at its January 29, 2020 meeting, to call for a full, formal Transit Project Assessment Process and to include consideration of alternatives for the technology, station locations and alignment, including putting underground those sections proposed to be above ground in the Ontario Line Initial Business Case.

The Transit Expansion Office did not report back to the January 27, 2021 meeting of the Executive Committee on the Ontario Line nor did it report to the subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee on March 30, 2021.

City Council on February 2, 3 and 5, 2021, adopted the following:

City Council reiterate its support for a below ground subway in the segment of the former Relief Line from Pape to the Don Yards, the elevated segment of the proposed Ontario Line that runs through the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood and the length of the Ontario line from Eglinton East through the Flemingdon Community and that Metrolinx, the Ontario Provincial Government and the Federal Government be formally advised of City Council's decision.

In an attempt to get answers to the questions the community and City Council have requested regarding the Ontario Line, Save Jimmie Simpson and the Lakeshore East Community Advisory Committee, along with hundreds of community members, have formally requested the federal government do an environmental assessment of the proposed Ontario Line.

Such a review would not only strengthen the project but given that the provincial government is asking the federal government to help fund the Ontario Line it is a prudent course of action.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM31.12

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-165256.pdf>

Communications (City Council)

(April 1, 2021) E-mail from Hamish Wilson (MM.Main)

(April 7, 2021) Submission from Lenka Holubec, Protect NatureTO (MM.New)