

City Council**Motion without Notice**

MM32.27	ACTION			Ward: 15
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Urgently Requesting Transparent Public Consultation and Consideration of Alternative Options for the Ontario Line Maintenance and Storage Facility - by Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
** This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Jaye Robinson, seconded by Councillor Mike Colle, recommends that:

1. City Council express significant concerns about the impacts the proposed Maintenance and Storage Facility site would have on the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood.
2. City Council direct the City Manager to convey to Metrolinx the following requests related to the proposed Ontario Line Maintenance and Storage Facility site:
 - a. that Metrolinx engage the community in a transparent public consultation process that is inclusive of all Thorncliffe Park residents, providing translation services and tailored outreach as needed; and
 - b. that Metrolinx consider alternative site options.

Summary

Without prior public consultation, Metrolinx announced the proposed location of the Ontario Line Maintenance and Storage Facility in Thorncliffe Park through a blog post on April 8, 2021. The subsequent community meeting did not provide an opportunity for open, transparent dialogue. Comments and questions were limited to a 160 character chat box. Translation services were not provided and promotional materials were printed only in English. Despite these barriers, more than 500 community members were in attendance and 747 questions and comments were submitted through the chat box.

The proposed Maintenance and Storage Facility would directly impact what many consider to be the cultural centre of the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood, including the local halal grocer, place of worship, and several small businesses and community services. The proposed site will

be 175,000 square metres, equal to approximately 24 soccer fields.

Thorncliffe Park is a geographically small neighbourhood that is home to a large and diverse community. Their voices need to be heard as part of this process. The Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood deserves access to rapid transit, but not at the expense of important cultural institutions, community services, and local businesses.

This Motion is urgent because it relates to Metrolinx's recently-announced Ontario Line Maintenance and Storage Facility location and the significant impacts it would have on the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood. Public consultation must be undertaken as soon as possible to address urgent community concerns.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM32.27