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June 6, 2022

Mayor John Tory,  
City of Toronto  
Toronto City Hall

Attention: Derrick Toigo, Executive Director, Transit Expansion Office

Dear Mayor Tory, Toronto Executive Committee Members, and York South Weston Councillor Nunziata,

Re: [EX33.1 Metrolinx Transit Expansion Projects - Second Quarter 2022](#)

The June 8th Toronto Executive Committee agenda has the first item is the joint report from the Executive Director, Transit Expansion Office and General Manager, Transportation Services. The report contains a series of implementation recommendations mostly on road and sidewalk closures for the various priority subway projects, including the Eglinton West Crosstown Extension (ECWE).

It shockingly does not make any reference to the directions regarding ECWE to the Toronto Transit Expansion Office that were given unanimous Council approval on May 12th, 2022. [MM 43.34 Running the Elevated Segment of Eglinton Crosstown West Extension Underground](#) states "City Council, through the Executive Director, Transit Expansion, **request Metrolinx undertake an assessment of running the elevated segment of the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension underground and to identify any options that may exist to accommodate this change.**"

Instead, the report recommends a series of implementation measures regarding ECWE as the General Manager of Transportation Services ***"Seeks approval for temporary long-term traffic lane, sidewalk and multi-use trail closures on Eglinton Avenue West to support construction of the ECWE's elevated guideway and tunnel portals."*** (Bolding and emphasis added by us).

**We strongly request Executive Committee to put the series of implementation recommendations that relate to the elevated section on hold, that Executive Committee reaffirms and gives precedence to Council's direction to the Executive Director of Transit Expansion Office, with a report back once Council resumes sitting in January 2023.**

There are other matters covered in [EX33.1](#) that are of also of serious concern to the people of Mount Dennis. As the City is well aware, the Mount Dennis LRT station is to open early in 2023. Currently, the main street entrance to the station is on the north side of Eglinton, east of Weston Road.

There has been a total failure in community consultation about plans for pedestrian access to the station's main entrance that needs to be addressed, given what is contemplated by recommendation 29,: "City

Council approve a temporary closure to pedestrian traffic of the north sidewalk on Eglinton Avenue West, between Weston Road and a point 250 metres east, from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2030, inclusive, for the purpose of the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension project.”

In addition to the inconvenience to pedestrians and cyclists, the recommended (temporary?) eight-year closure of this sidewalk to pedestrians interferes with riders accessing buses as well as those using the LRT station. As the main intersection of Mount Dennis neighbourhood, Weston Road and Eglinton Avenue West has bus stops for well-used TTC services with routes running in four directions, it is critical that the contemplated plan for closures is made public well in advance, that there is open communication with the local community in planning for this significant connection point, and that the changes are clearly understood and supported..

**We further request that recommendation 29 be put on hold. A satisfactory plan for pedestrian and rider access should be properly addressed in consultation with members of the Mount Dennis community before such an authorization is given.**

Lastly, although there is no transparent connection identified to the projects outlined in the contents of the report before you, Attachment 4 provides a one page statement of Metrolinx Community Benefits and Supports. Please be advised that the unilateral revision to Community Benefits program by Metrolinx is still in negotiation with the Toronto Community Benefits Network and will be a subject for public attention at the June 30th Metrolinx Board meeting.

On behalf of concerned members of the Mount Dennis ecoNeighbourhood Team including:

Vikki Fox, Cultural Coordinator, ENAGB

Brad Ashkeweh, Humber River Lodge Keeper, ENAGB

Jona Javier, Mount Dennis Resident

Michelle Lopez, Mount Dennis Resident

Kuinia Seiloa, Mount Dennis Resident, and member St Mary and St Martha’s Anglican Church

Paida Ogunbiyi, Mount Dennis Resident

Simon Chamberlain, Mount Dennis Resident and Secretary, Mount Dennis Community Association

Stacey Greaves, Mount Dennis Resident, Mount Dennis Business Owner and Mount Dennis BIA member

Laura Power, Mount Dennis Resident and York South Weston Climate Action Champion

Respectfully submitted

Team Leads. Mount Dennis ecoNeighbourhood Initiative

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Michael Ford, York South Weston Member of Provincial Parliament <[Michael.Fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:Michael.Fordco@pc.ola.org)>

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**Mount Dennis ecoNeighbourhood Initiative**