

7 June 2022

Executive Committee, City Council 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Executive Committee,

Re: EX 33.2 Advancing City Priority Transit Expansion Projects - Eglinton East Light Rail Transit and Waterfront East Light Rail Transit (WELRT)

The Longboat Area Residents' Association (LARA) is a vital community within the Esplanade, Old Toronto, St. Lawrence Market, Distillery, and the East Waterfront communities. Our community's area is currently undergoing massive revitalization and redevelopment with as many as 12 ultra high condominium and office towers under construction. Toronto is not keeping pace with providing transit, schools, libraries amidst the massive development it has approved, yet is calling from denser, taller development.

The significant delay to implement this critical transit project is extremely disappointing for our residents. As there will be sizeable population growth over the next five years in our area, we urge the Executive Committee to;

- 1. Accelerate the approval for a funding and financing strategy much earlier than Q2 2023, for the construction of the Waterfront East LRT in concert with the broader Waterfront Strategy.
- 2. Increase the funding and planning momentum to ensure that 60% design phase can be completed no later than the end of 2023.

We very much appreciate the efforts to-date of the City Staff in advancing this project, however we cannot delay in moving forward on the WELRT any longer. <u>Mayor Tory</u> has identified this as one of the City's four priority transit lines. With the increased volume that will result from additional commuters working downtown, residential and institutional growth plus the increase demand from visitors and tourism to access the east waterfront's parks, attractions, and businesses the WELRT is critical for the 'livability' of our expanding residential community and businesses. We must act now.

LARA thanks you for the opportunity to provide our input on this agenda item.

Sincerely,

Man Faithel

President, Longboat Area Residents' Association 11 Princess St. Toronto, ON M5A 4C8

--Alan Barthel 11 Princess St Toronto ON M5A 4C8 <u>alnbarthel@gmail.com</u> 416-434-2510 I live, work, and play on the lands of the Anishinabe Waki, Huron-Wendat, and Haudenosaunee nations.