

June 7, 2022.

exc@toronto.ca

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 East Waterfront Community Association (EWCA) includes the East Bayfront, with our area of coverage starting from East of Yonge Street to Cherry Street and from Lake Shore Boulevard East down to the Waters Edge Promenade. Our community area is currently undergoing massive revitalization and redevelopment including Canada's tallest 95-storey condominium at Pinnacle One, plus numerous 20 to 80-storey condominiums, the first mass-timber office building and institutional building as well as the first net zero community at Quayside which will include Canada's largest mass-timber multi-storey housing. Together with the new Parliament Slip, Silo Park and new mixed use cultural centre the East Bayfront will be transformed into a world class destination.

When the extensive redevelopment of the East Bayfront is completed there will be over 30,000 new residents plus several million square feet of commercial, hotel, retail and recreational space that will offer tremendous economic and job opportunities for our community. The Waterfront East LRT, is therefore an important transit project for our community as the economic benefits are compelling. Public transit development has not kept pace with the rapid redevelopment at the East Bayfront and current transit options are currently deficient to sustain the recent residential, commercial, and institutional growth. For our resident's access to connected transit services is also key to enabling equity which is essential for a diverse, inclusive and vibrant community.

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 the East Bayfront, 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. [Mayor Tory](#) has identified the WELRT as one of the City's next priority transit lines for expansion. 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.

EWCA thank you for the opportunity to provide our input on this agenda item.

Yours sincerely,

David Chan

David Chan, President & Chair of Development Committee
EAST WATERFRONT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION