



# GOODERHAM & WORTS

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

**Subject: Comments for EX33.2 Executive Committee Meeting on June 8, 2022**

**Re: City Priority Transit Expansion Project - Waterfront East Light Rail Transit**

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Executive Committee,

I am writing today on behalf of the Gooderham & Worts Neighborhood Association (GWNA) to express our ongoing strong support for the proposed Waterfront East Light Rail Transit project.

We are supportive of the staff report recommendation to advance the planning work with the next report back to City Council in Q2 2023, and would also like to see the subsequent stages of planning work funded to start in 2023 immediately following that report.

Given the decades long history of study around waterfront transit expansion, we strongly urge that City Council take further measures to ensure that we do not lose more precious time between planning stages. **Specifically, we would ask that you accelerate funding for Waterfront East LRT planning by putting in place budget authorization to continue work to advance through to 60% design in 2023.**

Our area residents love the exciting waterfront revitalization initiatives and new developments at our doorstep, including Promontory Park on Villiers Island, Parliament slip, new commercial employment spaces such as T3 Bayside and 3C Lakeshore's The Bend, as well as the new world class Quayside. We are pleased to be able to share the much-needed public outdoor recreation spaces with the rest of Toronto, however, we are growing ever more concerned with the increasing traffic congestion choking our pedestrian-friendly neighborhood as citizens from other areas are forced to resort to driving their cars to reach Toronto's wonderful emerging public waterfront.

With the tri-partite government investment in port lands flood protection progressing on schedule to unlock more public recreation space and new housing construction, including desperately needed affordable housing, in 2024, it is vital to also complete planning for the Waterfront East LRT by 2024. We firmly believe that transit is critical to delivering on the promises, and realizing the economic and societal benefits, of waterfront initiatives in East Bayfront, Quayside and the Port Lands. Please accelerate funding for the Waterfront East LRT planning process to complete 60% design in 2023.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards  
Neil Betteridge  
Vice President  
Gooderham & Worts Neighborhood Association