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## City Council

MM43.34	ACTION			Ward: 5
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### **Running the Elevated Segment of Eglinton Crosstown West Extension Underground - by Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão**

*\* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

*\* This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral. This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate*

#### **Recommendations**

Councillor Frances Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Ana Bailão, recommends that:

1. 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.

#### **Summary**

The Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto entered into a Preliminary Agreement in February 2020 that included the delivery of four priority transit projects, one the projects is the westerly extension of the Eglinton Crosstown, known as the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension. The Eglinton Crosstown West Extension extends underground from Mount Dennis Station in the east and surfaces west of Weston Road where it then travels on an elevated guideway to a location west of Scarlett Road where it then travels underground to its western terminus at Renforth Road.

The elevated segment of the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension will result in significant impacts to the local environment including parklands and trees along Eglinton Avenue West. The loss of parklands, including the treasured Eglinton Flats and forests, outlined by Metrolinx at recent community consultation sessions, is a significant concern to residents and visitors from across the City.

While the Province's and the City's investment in transit projects is improving and expanding Toronto's transit network to respond to growth across the City it should not come at the cost of losing valuable, irreplaceable parkland and trees. The commencement of tunneling activities for the ECWE at Renforth Avenue provides an opportunity for Metrolinx to consider running the elevated portion of the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension underground reducing the impact to the surrounding community. It is recommended that City Council, through The Transit Expansion Office, request Metrolinx to undertake an assessment of running the elevated portion of the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension underground.

This Motion is urgent because Metrolinx has begun construction on the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension.

## **Background Information (City Council)**

Member Motion MM43.34

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2022/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-225808.pdf>