

City Council**Motion without Notice**

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| MM47.77 | ACTION | | | Ward: All |
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Next steps in building the Sheppard West Subway Extension - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Cynthia Lai

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.
* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Cynthia Lai, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Executive Director, Transit Expansion and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to request the Province of Ontario and Metrolinx to provide the approach and timing to advance the planning for the Line 4 extension from the Sheppard/Yonge Station to Sheppard West Station and to report back by the second quarter of 2023 on the steps the City must take to move this vital infrastructure project forward.

Summary

On May 29, 1985, the Network 11 report, a 28-year, \$2.7 billion transit plan, was released to the public by the City. Its recommendations included a Sheppard Avenue subway linking Scarborough City Centre with the Spadina subway.

Unlike its many other transit projects, the scope of the Sheppard Avenue subway line was not expanded, and in fact shrank significantly from the breadth originally imagined in Network 11 in 1985. Despite being the first of these projects to commence, plans for the Sheppard Avenue subway line were never fully implemented, and today Line 4 Sheppard extends only from Yonge Street to the Don Mills subway stop.

In the past 10 years, City Council has adopted numerous motions supporting the completion of the Sheppard Avenue subway line. Most motions ask the Toronto Transit Commission and City staff to report on steps needed to achieve that goal. On March 31, 2013 and March 2012 City Council asked City staff to advance discussion of an environmental assessment for the construction of the subway link between Sheppard and Yonge and Sheppard West Stations. On May 7, 2013, City Council direction listed this subway line as a Toronto "priority" transit project. In July 2016, City Council asked the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to include this subway construction project in the City's long term transit network plan. In May 2017, City Council directed City staff to prepare a cost-benefit analysis of the constructing the Sheppard subway extensions.

While the intent of Line 4 was bring investment to North York and provide residents with high level transit options, future transit infrastructure must be built to accommodate the exponential growth in North York. Currently over 600 acres of land in the Downsview area are slated for development in the coming decades. This could bring over 80,000 new residents to the area. The full span of Line 4 must once again be prioritized, and an eastward and westward Sheppard Avenue subway extension be implemented.

On June 15 and 16, 2022, City Council adopted Item 2022.MM45.5, in which City Council requested Transit Expansion and City Planning to request the Province of Ontario and Metrolinx to begin steps towards the planning of a Line 4 extension from Don Mills Station to the anticipated Scarborough subway expansion at its new McCowan/Sheppard Station. This Motion asks that the same consideration be given to an equally needed westward expansion, so that subway service may be extended from Sheppard Station on the Yonge Line, to Sheppard West Station on the Spadina Line.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM47.77