

**Deputation by Shah Mohiuddin,
A resident of ward #20, Scarborough**

January, 17th, 2023

Hello, members of the Budget Committee. Happy new year to you all. My name is Shah Mohiuddin, resident of ward #20, Scarborough, living beside the Victoria Park subway station. I would like to speak on public/community safety and an elevator at Victoria Park subway station. It is delightful news that the TTC has also proposed a capital budget of 2023 for the elevator expansion.

Problems: Community safety is a top priority to help keep the community safe and secure. This can help address physical, mental and psychological health conditions. There are two steep, narrow, cracked, uneven and rough stairways at the north outside of the Victoria subway station. This is a subway exit leading to four Teesdale places, three Pharmacy Place buildings and many houses. More than fifteen thousand multicultural communities of all ages, gender, sex, colour, race, language, cultures, seniors, disabled and marginalized communities live there. The stairways are very difficult and dangerous to climb and pass over with strollers, shopping carts, wheelchairs, bicycles and scooters. During the rains and winter snow time, the stairways are completely invisible and covered with snow and ice and become very risky and slippery to walk up and down. On one extreme snowstorm day, a lady with a baby in a stroller could not cross the stairways and was helplessly waiting with a TTC token that is not accepted at the entrance gate due to the system. I helped her with a Presto ticket to enter the subway. Sometimes lights are not available and due to cloudy and foggy conditions, it becomes dark. As a result crime can occur. People have been victims of theft as these anti-social activities are happening.

Solution:

- The victimized of these areas are strongly demanding an elevator address these problems.

- The residents do not want a sophisticated elevator. There is one elevator on the west side leading to the bridge; similarly, another simple elevator on the east side is needed for these large populations for their benefit, safety and wellbeing.
- This important issue has been and is being raised and discussed at community meetings, to TTC officials, the local City councillor and MPP.
- They are given only hopes, promises, and commitments but the pledge, promises and commitments are broken and practically not implemented and executed.

The City councillor, City officials, TTC officials and other levels of government are urged to construct and install an elevator for the safety, reliability and well-being of the entire community.

Thanks for providing me with the opportunity to speak.

