

### Ontario Line Update - Presentation by Metrolinx

**Date:** November 20, 2023

**To:** The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

**From:** Don Boyle, Chief Executive Officer

**Wards:** All Wards

#### SUMMARY

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Announced by the Province of Ontario in 2019, the proposed Ontario Line is one of four priority transit projects Metrolinx is leading for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The line will be the largest single expansion in Toronto's subway history, helping to ease congestion on existing transit lines throughout the city, and bring transit to underserved neighbourhoods.

The Ontario Line will bring 15.6 kilometres of much-needed subway service to Toronto to make moving around the city better, faster, and easier than it is today.

The line will stretch across the city, from Exhibition Place to the future Eglinton Crosstown LRT line at Don Mills Road and Eglinton Ave. The Ontario Line will have 15 stations including 6 interchange stations, and over 40 new connections to GO train services, existing subway, streetcar, and bus services.

The Ontario Line Exhibition Station early works has significantly progressed over the past year and is about 60% completed. Significant progress has been made on the station design, with expected design submissions in early 2024. Upcoming work in 2023/2024 will include opening of new temporary north platform, completion of temporary pedestrian bridge, and relocation and extension of the south platform and track realignments.

Staff from Metrolinx will be attending the Board meeting of December 4, 2023 to present the design and progress of the Ontario Line project for the benefit of the Board Members.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Chief Executive Officer recommends that:

1. The Board receive this report for information.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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The Exhibition Place 2022-2026 Strategic Plan has a Goal to Solidify the Position as a Leading Convention and Event Space, and having an updated new infrastructure such as the Ontario Line in place to ensure Exhibition Place has the Transportation network in place to support this goal is important.

Metrolinx last provided updates to the Board on this project on December 9, 2022, and October 29, 2021.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EP1.12>

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2021.EP20.7>

## **COMMENTS**

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Ontario Line Early Works are being advanced where the Project interfaces with other concurrently planned transit projects such as GO Expansion, and where portions of the alignment run in parallel to the existing Lakeshore East and Lakeshore West GO rail corridors.

Advancing work in these areas provides planning, design, and implementation efficiencies for the interfacing projects, and will facilitate timely implementation of the Ontario Line project and coordination of GO Expansion plans at Exhibition Station. These Early Works will set the groundwork for other construction while reducing risk of construction delays to the main Ontario Line contracts by completing the joint corridor work in advance of the main contracts.

Early Works construction at Exhibition Station officially broke ground in December 2021. Metrolinx continues to share detailed designs with Exhibition Place staff for review and will be providing updates on timelines. Staff are working collaboratively to put mitigation measures in place for any anticipated impacts so that visitors can easily access events throughout the construction phase.

The scope of the Exhibition Station Early Works includes an extension to the existing passenger tunnel, opening an unused tunnel and head house, new entrance building at Atlantic Avenue; construction and installation of a temporary pedestrian bridge, a new north platform and accompanying shift of the northern two GO tracks, and utility relocation and protection. The early works has significantly progressed over the passed year and is about 60% completed.

Key early works construction updates include ongoing progress on the existing temporary and new Atlantic Avenue headhouses, among other preparatory site work. Upcoming work includes the opening of a new station entrance and completion of the temporary pedestrian bridge by April 2024, while the permanent station is constructed; relocating and extending the GO station south platform to accommodate a 12-car GO train; realigning two GO train tracks and opening a new north platform, removal of the existing north platform; and new north platform opening and rail track relocation to be ready for December 04, 2023.



Metrolinx continues to coordinate with the City of Toronto to advance the relocation and demolition of Metrolinx assets and installation of new assets under the Gardiner Expressway.

The THESL relocation under the Gardiner Expressway is approximately 50% complete. Work along Manitoba Drive will start in late 2023 and continue into 2024.

Early Works will be followed by construction of a new concourse and other project infrastructure, including a connection to Ontario Place. Metrolinx has committed to involve Exhibition Place staff early in the design phase of these elements, working closely with the TTC, and City staff.

Exhibition Place staff will report back to the Board to provide updates on the status of the Ontario Line Transit project as warranted.

Staff from Metrolinx will be attending the Board meeting of December 4, 2023 to present an update on the progress of the Ontario Line to date and the upcoming year for the benefit of Board Members.

## CONTACT

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**SIGNATURE**

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Don Boyle  
Chief Executive Officer