

30 October 2023

City Clerk
Attention: Cathrine Regan, Administrator
Toronto Executive Council
100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor, West Tower
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

RE: EX9.14 - Advancing Waterfront East Light Rail Transit being considered by Executive Committee on October 31, 2023

Dear Ms. Regan,

The East Waterfront Community Association includes the municipal area of East Bayfront which is bounded on the south by the Waterfront just south of Queens Quay E.; on the west by Yonge Street; on the North by Lake Shore Blvd East; and Cherry Street on the east. This area encompasses the following existing and under-development condominium buildings: Pier 27, Monde, Artscape, Aqualina, Aquavista, Aquabella, Aqualuna, Pinnacle One, Menkes Sugar Wharf, Daniel's Lighthouse West and Lighthouse East, Empire Quay House, Lakeside Residences, 178-180 Queens Quay East, 307 Lake Shore Boulevard East, Victory Silos Condominiums, and Quayside: Next-Generation Sustainable Community.

When the extensive redevelopment of the East Bayfront is completed there will be over 50,000 residents plus several million square feet of commercial, hotel, and retail space that will offer tremendous economic and job opportunities for our community.

We are writing to express our wholehearted and complete support for the Transit Expansion Staff Report and encourage the Executive Committee to approve and adopt the items in the report, dated October 17, 2023, Report from the Executive Director, Transit Expansion presented at the meeting.

EWCA is proud to have been a member of the Waterfront East LRT Stakeholders Committee since 2020. We view the Waterfront East LRT as an essential and vital service to help build an inclusive, affordable, thriving, and complete community in which all residents and businesses have equitable opportunities to contribute to healthy communities and a prospering economy.

Through EWCA's Development Committee, we have attended presentations from developers regarding their proposed designs for buildings in the East Bayfront, Villiers Island, Keating Channel, and the Portlands. One particular item stands out: the reduction of vehicle parking spaces in condominiums and in the area. An example of this reduction is a building in our area that proposed 430 units with only 8 vehicle parking spaces; four of which are accessible parking spots and two of which are EV charging spots. We also note that existing above-ground parking lots are selected for development and green spaces.

City Planning's original intention is that by reducing the number of parking spaces required, issues such as traffic congestion (encouraging transit and active transportation methods), housing affordability (not requiring expensive parking spaces), and the climate crisis (greener transportation options, such as

transit). The WELRT will make it easier for residents who live without a car to purchase a home and for those who purchase or rent a home to have their family and friends visit them.

Another point from these Development meetings is that the Waterfront East LRT figures prominently in the graphics and maps used by the developers to highlight this location. Notable among those graphics and maps is the Quayside Urban Design Guidelines. The Waterfront East LRT becomes a sales feature for those considering purchasing or renting in the East Waterfront and is key to attracting new neighbours.

Additionally, with the planned revitalization of Parliament Slip, the Quayside project featuring a new Cultural Centre for the public realm, Villiers Island Precinct, and the Portlands, this location will be a major tourist destination. Safe and inclusive public transportation is essential to helping people move through and experience this incredible part of our city.

It is time to fast-track the Waterfront East LRT and improve public transit connectivity to sustain the growth planned and make the east downtown area accessible to all.

Sincerely,

Michael Bethke

Secretary

Development Committee

EAST WATERFRONT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION