



CITY COUNCILLOR

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Economic Benefits of High-Frequency Rail – Toronto to Quebec City Corridor

In December 2022, the Federal Government established the VIA Rail Subsidiary—VIA HFR to support High Frequency Rail. The High Frequency Rail (HFR) project is a proposed investment to create a new train network that will run on mostly dedicated tracks at higher frequencies, higher speeds and with greater reliability between Toronto and Québec City.

The HFR project presents a unique economic development opportunity by:

- Achieving greater connectivity for people living in and around major cities and communities between Toronto and Québec City, and to major airports and universities/ colleges in the region.
- Supporting economic growth by creating new employment opportunities in infrastructure, in new centres of economic activity and bringing people closer to markets and businesses.
- Promoting a competitive marketplace that gives Canadians more flexibility and affordable options for intercity travel.
- Increasing equitable access to passenger services for all people regardless of physical ability or socio-economic background.

Vinay Sharda, Vice President, Local Government and Community Partnerships of VIA HFR, will provide a presentation on the economic development benefits and opportunities of High Frequency Rail.

Recommendation:

1. The Economic & Community Development Committee receive the presentation by VIA HFR for information.

Sincerely,

Councillor Shelley Carroll
Don Valley North
Vice Chair, Economic & Community Development Committee
Mayor's Economic Development & Culture Champion