



*Frank Scarpitti*  
Mayor

September 10, 2024

Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
City of Toronto  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Deputy Mayor McKelvie and members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

I am pleased to provide my strong support of Deputy Mayor Jennifer McKelvie's motion requesting the establishment of a working group to study and advance the widening of Steeles Ave East from the Ninth Line to Beare Road.

As Mayor of Markham, I have been a longstanding advocate of the widening and improvements to Steeles Avenue East from Highway 48 to the Pickering Town Line. Steeles Avenue East serves as a critical east/west arterial road bordering Markham and Toronto and connects both cities with the City of Pickering and other communities in Durham Region. The current conditions and capacity of Steeles Ave is severely inadequate for the daily volume of commuters. With increased residential and employment growth in each of our communities relying on this corridor, time is of the essence to reduce commute times and lost economic productivity.

Our residents and businesses expect us to work together regardless of jurisdiction and advance the necessary measures to alleviate traffic congestion and ensure the timely flow of goods and services. The widening of Steeles Avenue East presents an opportunity to reimagine the corridor, with a focus on improving vehicular, pedestrian and cycling safety while providing alternative methods of transportation, including rapid bus lanes. This additional phase builds on the necessary work currently underway to widen Steeles Avenue East from Tapscott Road to Ninth Line and will provide a seamless connection to Taunton Road, a four-lane cross-section, in Pickering.

The City of Markham is committed to collaborating with the City of Toronto and the City of Pickering along with our respective Regional Governments to advance this important work. The widening of Steeles Avenue East will significantly reduce traffic delays, improve safety and increase economic productivity for all three municipalities.

In closing, I strongly support Deputy Mayor and Chair McKelvie's motion and request members of the Committee to give their support to this very important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Frank Scarpitti'.

Mayor Frank Scarpitti