

September 23, 2024

Infrastructure and Environment Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St. West
Toronto, ON M5H2N2
iec@toronto.ca

Subject: Motion to establish a working group to study the widening of Steeles Ave. E.

between Ninth Line and Beare Rd. to support regional growth.

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

As President and Chair of the Scarborough Business Association, I am pleased to offer enthusiastic support of the motion to study the widening of Steeles Ave. E.

The business areas surrounding Steeles Avenue East in Scarborough have experienced continued growth and recent development has increased traffic volume significantly. It is clear that the capacity of Steeles Avenue East is inadequate for current needs. Congestion, particularly during peak periods, causes delays not only for commuters, but also for business and commerce. It is our understanding that this growth is projected to continue and that the area has been identified as a 'Higher Order Transit Connection' in the provincial plans, Metrolinx's 2041 Regional Transportation Plan and the City of Toronto's Official Plan.

For many businesses in Scarborough, Steeles Avenue East is an important arterial road that links East Scarborough to both York and Durham Regions. Widening this corridor offers an opportunity to re-envision the area, improving mobility and safety for pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles while facilitating the flow of goods and services.

The Scarborough Business Association urges you to recognize that establishing a working group to study widening Steeles Avenue East, with due consideration of the environmental impact, will support economic productivity and ensure our infrastructure can meet future expectations.

Sincerely,

Shawn Allen

President and Chair

Scarborough Business Association

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