

City Council

Motion Without Notice

MM24.23	ACTION			Ward: 24
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Toronto-New York Corridor High-speed Train - by Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Nick Mantas

** Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.
* This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.
* A communication has been submitted on this Item.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paul Ainslie, seconded by Councillor Nick Mantas, recommends that:

1. City Council express its support for a high-speed rail connection between Toronto and New York City to significantly reduce travel time between the two major urban centers, fostering closer economic ties and increased tourism.
2. City Council forward this Item to the Prime Minister of Canada, the federal Minister of Transport, the federal Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, members of the House of Commons, the Premiers of Ontario, the Ontario Minister of Transportation, each Municipality and Region on the Toronto-New York Rail Corridor, the Chief Executive Officer, VIA Rail, the Chief Executive Officer, Canadian National Rail, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Summary

I applaud the Federal Government as they prepare to support a high-speed rail along the Toronto – Quebec Corridor. I would also like to express my strong support for a high-speed rail connection between Toronto and New York City.

Last month New York State Senator Jeremy A. Cooney, on [X](#), [voiced his support for a high-speed-rail-connection stating that “It’s time to bring high-speed rail to Upstate New York and connect the major hubs of Toronto and New York City.”](#) Senator Cooney is the Chairman of the States senate Transportation Committee.

This project aligns with the City of Toronto's commitment to sustainable transportation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. As outlined in the article ["This state senator wants to see high-speed rail connect New York City and Toronto" published in the Toronto Star on December 2, 2024](#), there is growing support for this initiative.

On March 29, 2023, City Council supported my request ([2023.MM5.5](#)) to support the implementation of a High-Speed Train in the Quebec-Toronto Corridor. It would be beneficial

to request the Federal Government to also support a Toronto-New York Corridor High-Speed Train.

This Motion is urgent as the next regular City Council meeting is not until March 2025.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM24.23