



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula Fletcher**

City Councillor | Ward 14 Toronto-Danforth

June 30th, 2025

Economic and Community Development Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Rat Reduction Plan around Ontario Line Construction

Dear Councillor Bravo and Economic and Community Development Committee,

Metrolinx's Ontario Line construction is highly intrusive and has been impacting hundreds of homes in Toronto-Danforth. Residents have contacted me and the media, including [the Toronto Star](#), with concerns about rodent infestations in and around their homes following this construction.

It is known that construction activity can displace rodents making it essential for mitigation measures to be a standard component of Metrolinx's Construction Management Plan. Effective site management, property maintenance, and solid waste practices must include proactive strategies to prevent infestations.

The presence of rodents not only poses serious health and safety risks but also imposes financial burdens on residents. These communities are already facing considerable disruption due to 24-hour construction, noise and dust pollution, intermittent utility outages, and restricted access to roads and sidewalks.

Currently, the pest control process is largely reactive and difficult for residents to access. As the City explores a comprehensive rat management strategy, it is imperative that Metrolinx-led transit projects align with these standards and adopt a preventative approach.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I urge the City to request Metrolinx to prioritize the health and well-being of residents by implementing robust rodent mitigation measures.

Recommendations:

1. City Council request the Executive Director, Transit Expansion in consultation with the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to notify Metrolinx that a rat management plan should be in the Construction Management Plan as an advisory



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comment through the Notice of Completed Review process for Metrolinx-led transit projects.

2. City Council direct the Executive Director, Transit Expansion to request Metrolinx to:
 - a. identify and undertake mitigation and pre-emptive actions, including those identified in this report as part of its Construction Management Plans, to minimize rodent activity caused by construction of its transit projects; and,
 - b. provide required supports to residents impacted by rodent activity near its construction sites, including compensation for hiring exterminators and to rodent-proof homes and buildings.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher
City Councillor
Ward 14, Toronto-Danforth

CC:
Derrick Toigo
Executive Director -Transit Expansion

Peter Tabuns
Member of Provincial Parliament

Sara Ehrhardt
Ward 15 Toronto-Danforth TDSB Trustee