



# Agincourt Village Community Association

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To: The Chair and Members of the Toronto Executive Committee

From: Rhoda Potter, President Agincourt Village Community Association

## **EX22.8 - Community Parking at Terminus Transit Stations at Sheppard-McCowan Station**

Agincourt Village Community Association residents live west of the new McCowan Subway Station in Northeast Toronto and today I am advocating on behalf of these residents who would use this new welcomed public transit on the Scarborough Subway Extension if it was more accessible to them.

The following three points are paramount in supporting Councillor Myers' motion to ask City Staff to explore the need and opportunities for parking at the new McCowan Subway Station:

McCowan Station is at the east end of the Bloor Danforth Subway line. Providing parking at the end of this line would allow residents of all of Scarborough especially those in the northeast the opportunity to "ditch" their cars and "commute" to downtown Toronto. In addition, McCowan Station would become a transition site to public transit for Pickering and Markham drivers. These drivers would become commuters!

Scarborough's communities were built with crescents, cul-de-sacs and circular streets. It is often a kilometre or more for a resident to walk to a TTC bus stop to access public transit that may include many transfers and waits at bus stops. Scarborough communities were built based on the car. Yes this may change in time - but that reality is years away for residents of Scarborough! A parking lot at McCowan Subway Station is necessary to encourage the drivers in these communities to become commuters.

Toronto has a congestion problem! Drivers on the 401 through Scarborough and on the Don Valley Parkway are at a stand-still not only during rush hours but throughout the day. Then there is the downtown congestion to contend with in a vehicle. Much valuable time is wasted when driving from Northeast Toronto, Markham and Pickering to work, to appointments, and to events. Providing parking at McCowan Subway Station would encourage these drivers to become commuters. It would be a win-win situation both for their quality of life as well as for the downtown congestion challenge!

Let's enhance public transit access by providing parking space at McCowan Subway Station - the end of Subway Line 2 as has been done at the ends of other subway lines. Let's increase TTC riders and decrease vehicle congestion, greenhouse gas emissions and time spent in a car on streets and highways!

Respectfully,  
Rhoda Potter  
President  
Agincourt Village Community Association