

REPORT FOR ACTION

Ontario Line Update - Presentation by Metrolinx

Date: March 31, 2026

To: The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

From: Don Boyle, Chief Executive Officer

Wards: All Wards

SUMMARY

Announced by the Province of Ontario in 2019, the Ontario Line is one of four priority transit projects being led by Metrolinx in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). It represents the largest single expansion in Toronto's subway history, aimed at reducing congestion on existing transit lines and extending service to underserved neighbourhoods across the city.

The Ontario Line will add 15.6 kilometres of new subway service to Toronto, improving the speed, convenience, and connectivity of transit across the city. Stretching from Exhibition Place in the west to the future Eglinton Crosstown LRT at Don Mills Road and Eglinton Avenue East, the line will include 15 stations—six of which will serve as interchange stations—and provide more than 40 new connections to GO trains, existing subway lines, streetcars, and bus services.

Since the Board's last update in April 2025, construction at Exhibition Station has advanced significantly. Work over the past year has included completion of the Early Works project, completion of excavation for the Exhibition Portal, north main entrance building and traction power substation, completion of piling for the future station platforms, and completion of portal waterproofing and concrete pours.

Construction is also continuing on several major elements of the project. Tunnel boring machine assembly has started and remains ongoing, as has construction of the TBM logistics plant. Waterproofing and concrete pours at the north main entrance building are ongoing, along with foundation works for the station platforms and north main entrance. Miscellaneous utility crossings of the rail corridor have also started and are ongoing, and a crash deck has been erected to facilitate continued construction activities.

Across the broader Ontario Line project, construction has also continued to advance. Excavation is underway or completed at station sites across the downtown corridor, major excavation is now underway at Pape Station, East Harbour has moved into a new

phase of construction, and the north segment reached a major milestone earlier this year with groundbreaking for the elevated guideway and four new stations.

Staff from Metrolinx will be attending the Board meeting of April 16, 2026, to present the construction progress of the Ontario Line project for the benefit of Board Members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that:

1. The Board receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

DECISION HISTORY

The Exhibition Place 2022-2026 Strategic Plan has a Goal to Solidify Position as a Leading Convention and Event Space, and having an updated new infrastructure such as the Ontario Line in place to ensure Exhibition Place has the Transportation network in place to support this goal is important.

Metrolinx has previously provided updates to the Board on this project on, April 28, 2025, December 4, 2023, December 9, 2022, and October 29, 2021.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.EP16.17>

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EP7.12>

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EP1.12>

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.EP20.7>

COMMENTS

Announced by the Province of Ontario in 2019, the Ontario Line is one of four priority transit projects being led by Metrolinx in the Greater Toronto Area. The line will add 15.6 kilometres of new subway service to Toronto, extending from Exhibition Place in the west to the future Eglinton Crosstown LRT at Don Mills Road and Eglinton Avenue East. As previously reported to the Board, Exhibition Station will function as an important western gateway to the line and will integrate new Ontario Line infrastructure with the existing GO Transit station.

Ontario Line Early Works at Exhibition Station were advanced in areas where the project interfaces with other concurrently planned transit projects, including GO Expansion, and where the alignment runs parallel to the existing Lakeshore GO rail corridor. These works supported coordination between projects, maintained customer access during construction, and prepared the site for the next phase of major station and tunnel construction.

Early Works at Exhibition Station are now complete. As outlined in previous updates to the Board, this phase included extension of the existing passenger tunnel, opening of an unused tunnel and entrance building, installation of a temporary pedestrian bridge, construction of a new north platform with a corresponding shift of the northern GO tracks, and associated utility relocation and protection works. By April 2025, Early Works were reported as approximately 95 per cent complete, with the new station building and temporary bridge already opened to the public.

In November 2022, Infrastructure Ontario and Metrolinx awarded the Ontario Line South package to Ontario Transit Group to design, build, and finance the Southern Civil, Stations and Tunnel package. As previously reported, this scope includes the new above ground GO Transit and Ontario Line station at Exhibition, together with the tunnel works launching from the Exhibition portal and extending east toward the Don Yard portal.

Since the Board's last update, construction has advanced significantly across the Exhibition site. Through 2025, works progressed from excavation and enabling activities into permanent civil construction, including portal excavation, new station building and entrance works, foundational supports within the rail corridor for the future shared platforms and concourse, utility relocations, and preparations for tunnel boring operations.

Over the past year, major progress has been made on the future west side of Exhibition Station. Bulk piling for all future station platforms was completed at the start of January 2026, and foundation and structural works are continuing for the future shared passenger platforms and north station entrance. These works include waterproofing, rebar installation, concrete works, and related structural support activities.

At the east end of the site, the Exhibition portal has moved into tunnelling preparation and support activities. Portal excavation has been completed, and permanent works have advanced, including rebar installation, waterproofing, and concrete works associated with the traction power substation. Tunnel boring machine support infrastructure is also being installed, including conveyors, retaining walls, storage areas, muck pit, and related temporary works, while TBM assembly has begun at the portal.

Looking ahead, the next major visible phase of station construction is expected this summer with the start of concourse steel erection. Tunnelling preparations are also continuing at the Exhibition portal in advance of launch of the first tunnel boring machines from the site.

Figures 1 and 2 provide current views looking east and west across the Exhibition Station work zone, including the future station platforms, north station entrance, portal area, traction power substation, and ongoing tunnelling support works. These images illustrate the project's transition from enabling works into major station and tunnel construction.



Figure 1: Current view looking east across Exhibition Station and portal works

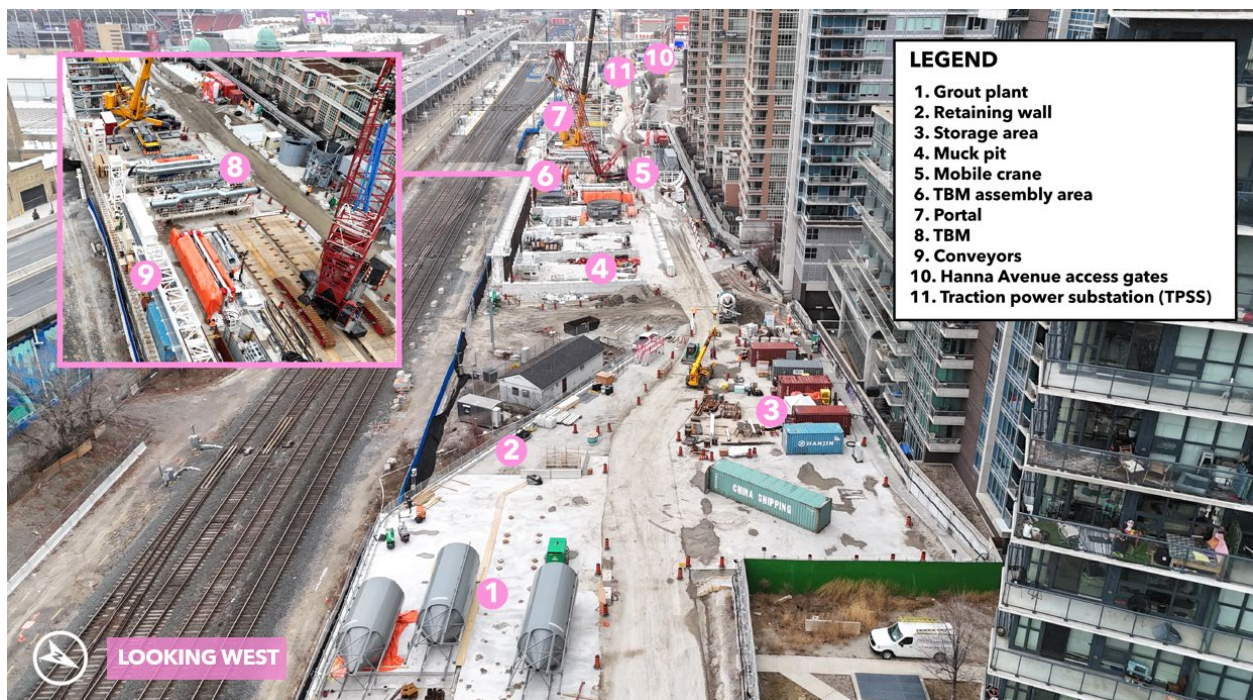


Figure 2: Current view looking west across tunnelling support and station construction works

Exhibition Place staff will provide updates to the Board on the status of the Ontario Line project as needed. Metrolinx staff will attend the Board meeting on April 16, 2026, to deliver a presentation outlining progress on the Ontario Line to date, as well as key plans for the upcoming year, for the information of Board Members.

CONTACT

Laura Purdy, General Manager, 416-263-3020, lpurdy@explace.on.ca

Tony Porter, Director Security & Transportation, 416-263-3564, tporter@explace.on.ca

SIGNATURE

Don Boyle
Chief Executive Officer