

NOTICE OF MOTION

Billy Bishop Way Revisited: Leveraging a road less travelled

Moved by: Councillor Pasternak



Seconded by: Councillor Crisanti

SUMMARY:

Over the next 30 years Downsview will be re-developed with an estimated 115,000 new residents and 52,000 new jobs across 15 new neighbourhoods. Redevelopment plans for Downsview Lands are proceeding through a number of studies and district applications, including the Downsview Major Streets Environmental Assessment Phases 3 & 4. The Environmental Assessment Plan includes envisioning two major north-south streets: notably an extension of Dufferin Street from Wilson Avenue to Sheppard Avenue and a second major arterial, an extension of Billy Bishop Blvd that will feed onto Chesswood Drive.

Members of the Downsview Ancaster residential community have expressed deep concerns about the Dufferin Street preliminary proposals and the traffic impact these will have on their neighbourhood. The Dufferin extension will be a north-south expanded route through the Downsview lands carrying thousands of cars, trucks and TTC vehicles daily. To take the pressure off the Dufferin Street extension and to provide some relief for the Ancaster community to the west, this motion asks the Downsview Major Streets Environmental Assessment team to explore and investigate designating and designing Billy Bishop Way as the main north-south bus and truck throughfare that would ensure the rapid and safe movement of TTC buses, truck traffic and other vehicle traffic.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

City Council direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, in consultation with the General Manager Transportation, to remove traffic pressures from the Dufferin Street extension proposal in the Downsview Major Streets Environmental Assessment area and explore the option of designating and designing Billy Bishop Way

as the main north-south dedicated alternative route for heavy vehicles (truck) traffic, TTC busses, in addition to regular vehicle traffic, and that such recommendations for the future Billy Bishop Way extension include bus lanes, and a roadway appropriate for truck traffic.