



July 6, 2026

Re: Continuing Commitments to Liberty Village Neighbours by Keeping Metrolinx Exhibition Station Construction off of Strachan Avenue and Neighbourhood Streets

Dear Members of Toronto East York Community Council,

My office continues to work with Liberty Village residents and stakeholders around traffic congestion. Traffic remains a major concern for this community, which has only one main East/West Road. I continue to address traffic and transportation issues in this neighbourhood with seriousness through my Liberty Village Traffic Action Plan and the recently approved *Liberty for All* study.

As we bring much needed new transit infrastructure to this community, this work must be done collaboratively and respectfully. Metrolinx construction at Exhibition Station should not unduly limit Liberty Village' residents' and local employees' ability to navigate their neighbourhood safely and reliably.

My concerns are regarding a new haul route proposed by Metrolinx that would allow unrestricted access through the Strachan Gate, enabling trucks to access the site equally from both the Dufferin and Strachan gates.

This proposal is not aligned with previous agreements between the City and my office, and contrary to previous Council-approved direction in 2024, which emphasized minimizing the use of Strachan Avenue. City staff have advised that this plan would increase truck traffic at the Strachan Avenue and East Liberty Street intersection.

In Fall of 2024, my office successfully advocated alongside local stakeholders to significantly reduce the number of planned dump trucks at key intersections in the neighbourhood for Exhibition Station work.

At that time, Metrolinx committed to neighbours that Strachan Avenue would only be used as a backup route when absolutely necessary, and that the majority of the hauling would take place using the new route that will connect to Dufferin Street.

In advance of a recent Construction Liaison Committee Meeting on Exhibition Station, I shared these concerns with the CEO of Metrolinx and requested they consider alternatives. My office received a response to indicate that this work would be continuing as planned, which is not acceptable.

Ausma Malik

Deputy Mayor & City Councillor for Ward 10, Spadina-Fort York



Recommendations:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services, in coordination with the Executive Director, Transit Expansion, to request that Metrolinx:
 - a. re-examine the feasibility, including costs, to pursue alternative haul routes to reduce Ontario Line construction truck traffic on Strachan Avenue and neighbourhood streets; and
 - b. assess associated traffic conditions, community impacts, and mitigation measures to minimize effects on traffic operations in the surrounding neighbourhood.

And provide an update to the soonest possible meeting of the Toronto and East York Community Council.

Thank you,

Ausma Malik
Deputy Mayor
City Councillor, Ward 10, Spadina-Fort York