Section K.12: Notice of Commencement







Notice of Commencement of Transit and Rail Project Assessment Process

Waterfront East Light Rail Transit (LRT)

City of Toronto, Waterfront Toronto, and Toronto Transit Commission

Project Overview

The City of Toronto, Waterfront Toronto, and the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) are proposing an expansion of streetcar service to the eastern waterfront, referred to as the Waterfront East LRT (project). The portion of the network included within the project area spans slightly over 2 km, including an underground connection from Union Station to Queens Quay using existing streetcar tunnels underneath Bay Street, and dedicated surface streetcar right-of-way along Queens Quay East to the future Street A (immediately east of Parliament Street). The purpose of the project is to bring much needed higher capacity transit service from Union Station to the eastern waterfront to serve current and future residents, visitors and workers in the area as dense existing and planned development proceeds. Environmental approvals for the project are being sought through the Transit and Rail Project Assessment Process (TRAP), previously Transit Project Assessment Process, as an update to the previously approved 2010 East Bayfront Transit Class Environmental Assessment, which has since expired.

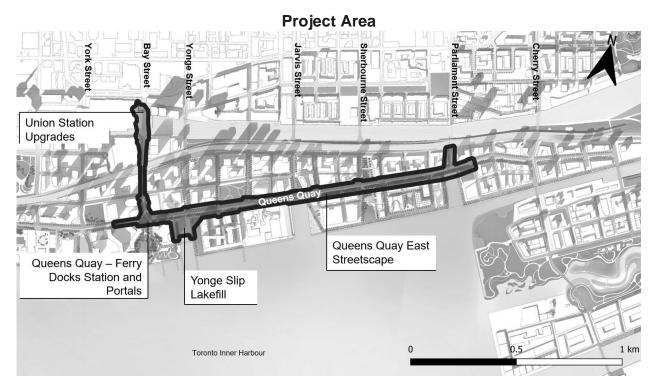


Figure 1. Map of the Waterfront East LRT TRAP Project Footprint.

Process

The project will be assessed according to the TRAP as prescribed in Ontario Regulation 231/08. The TRAP is a proponent driven, self-assessment process that provides a defined framework to follow to complete the focused assessment of the potential environmental effects and decision-making within the up to 120-day regulated assessment timeline. The process also includes consultation and an assessment of mitigation measures. As part of the TRAP, an Environmental Project Report (EPR) will be prepared. Following the up to 120-day assessment period, interested persons will have an opportunity to review the EPR during a regulated 30-day period, followed by a regulated 35-day review period by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. All information produced as part of this project is available at www.toronto.ca/waterfronttransit.

Consultation

Public participation is an important part of the TRAP. We welcome your feedback, and thank everyone for their input to date, which has helped to shape this work. We encourage the public, government agencies, Indigenous communities and other interested parties to participate in the TRAP by visiting the project website linked above, or contacting staff directly for information, or to share comments or questions.

Consultation opportunities have taken place throughout the development of the project, to provide information and opportunities for feedback on the project. To date, three public meetings have been held, in Winter 2021, Spring 2021, and Spring 2023, which provided valuable input that helped to influence the project design reflected in this TRAP.

A draft Environmental Project Report is posted on the project website at www.toronto.ca/waterfronttransit for public review and input. The proponents welcome feedback, comments or questions regarding the project, assessment of potential impacts, and proposed mitigations.

If you would like to be added to our project mailing list or have project-related comments or questions, please contact:

Transportation Planning,
Toronto & East York District

Toronto City Hall 21st Floor, East Tower 100 Queen Street West

Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Email: waterfrontlrt@toronto.ca (Nigel Tahair, Program Manager, City Planning Division, City of

Toronto)

Phone: 416-214-9990 (Patrick Meredith-Karam, Transportation Project Manager, Waterfront Toronto)

Website: www.toronto.ca/waterfronttransit

All personal information included in your request – such as name, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, under the authority of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public. As this information is collected for the purpose of a public record, the protection of personal information provided in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* does not apply (s.37). Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential.

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Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Environmental Assessment Branch

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Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Direction des évaluations environnementales

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> EA File No. EA-07-03-02-02 EA Reference No. 22009

Ontario 🕅

March 14, 2024

Patrick Meredith-Karam Waterfront Toronto 301-251 Queens Quay East Toronto ON M5A0X3

VIA Email: PMeredith-Karam@waterfronttoronto.ca

Dear Patrick Meredith-Karam:

Re: Acknowledgement – Waterfront East Light Rail Transit (LRT) Notice of Commencement

Thank you for your email dated March 14, 2024 notifying the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (ministry) of the Notice of Commencement for the Waterfront East LRT. The ministry understands that this Notice of Commencement was formally published on March 14, 2024 thereby starting the 120-day environmental project report (EPR) development period.

Should you have any further questions related to the Transit and Rail Project Assessment Process (Ontario Regulation 231/08) and its requirements, please contact Wai Hadlari at 416-786-4922 or by e-mail at Wai.Hadlari@Ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Wai Hadlari Project Officer

Environmental Assessment Branch

C: Cindy Batista, Special Project Officer/Transit Coordinator, EAB Nigel Tahair, City of Toronto