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November 8th, 2021

Phil Verster
President and CEO of Metrolinx
97 Front Street West
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Dear Mr. Verster,

I am writing to thank you for the meeting two weeks ago. It was very helpful to have an opportunity to raise the questions and concerns of my constituents with you, and I hope that the follow up from the meeting will yield positive results for the community. I was glad that in the follow up from this meeting my staff was able to provide Metrolinx's community relations team with an improved list of places and times to table in the community. I hope that this helps improve the ability of Metrolinx to connect directly with residents of Davenport going forward.

I also want to take the opportunity to share some of my notes from our meeting, to ensure that we are on the same page regarding the actions items that we discussed, and to also ask about further follow up.

1. ***What is the plan for fare integration in the three new stations being built in Davenport?*** As I understood it in the meeting, you told us that fare integration is within Metrolinx's purview and that you have been working on this with regional transit authorities. You also mentioned that there will be an announcement coming on this soon. I am hoping that you will notify me about this announcement as soon as plans are made for it.
2. ***What benefits will the 3 new stations provide for Davenport residents?*** Metrolinx staff will create an origin and destination map for the proposed stations, and outline how they will be useful to the community.
3. ***What is the status of the bell ringing pilot project?*** The pilot project has not begun. Metrolinx hopes to have more than a pilot project re: bell ringing, and wants to set a higher goal here, based on experience in other jurisdictions. You committed to talking to Metrolinx's Chief of Safety to discuss this. You also noted that Susan Walsh would follow up with us on this.
4. ***What is your position on overnight construction? Our view is that this is an excessive burden on residents. We are also frustrated by having to revisit this issue every few weeks when the project moves to another location or phase. Residents will continue to organize in protest of this but it is unfair and exhausting. Can we see it eliminated or limited? We also think that measuring overnight noise limits in terms of average noise over a given period of time is not helpful to residents, who may be woken up by extremely loud noise followed by silence. Can Metrolinx consider creating an absolute noise limit for overnight construction, not one based on averages?*** Overnight construction is necessary. Metrolinx is considering providing noise mitigation for the community. Metrolinx can look at a 65 or 75 decibel absolute limit for overnight construction.

5. ***What happened with the Antler-Lappin connection? Why was it included on boards and then dropped? Are other community benefits at risk of being dropped?*** Connecting land like this is not a standard practice for Metrolinx and Metrolinx is not budgeted to do this. Metrolinx encourages private landowners to see the benefit of these connections. To avoid further confusion Metrolinx will make a deck specifically about what they can confirm that the community is getting out of this project.

Mr. Verster, further to our meeting, can you provide timelines for each of these follow-up items? We are particularly concerned about the timeline for follow up around overnight noise, especially given that the community has just dealt with another week of construction overnight until 6am, and that Metrolinx have announced that they will be following the same schedule this week as well. If you are going to take action and follow up with either noise mitigation for the community, or an absolute noise limit, it needs to happen *immediately*. We cannot wait until we've gone through several more weeks of overnight construction. This is deeply unfair to residents.

Finally, because we had so much to discuss in the meeting, I was not able to ask you about plans for rail electrification along the Barrie and UPX Lines. Can you confirm what the status of this is and when constituents should be able to expect this to be up and running? As I am sure you are aware, our community has significant concerns about the significant increase in diesel trains that will be running through residential neighbourhoods and affecting air quality. This is a concern not just among residents neighbouring the rails, but I would argue certainly all residents of Toronto. I understand that under the previous government there were delays, and we have yet to hear when the current Government envisions this project to be completed. My constituents are eager for timelines.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to meet and discuss these issues. I look forward to future similar opportunities,

Sincerely,



Marit Stiles
Member of Provincial Parliament for Davenport

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