

Office of the President & Chief Executive Officer
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December 8, 2021

Marit Stiles, MPP Room 157, Main Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

Dear MPP Stiles,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me on October 27th to discuss the questions and concerns of constituents in the Davenport community. I appreciate your follow up letter on November 8th outlining some of the action items we discussed. I've provided further comments below.

- 1. **Fare Integration:** Metrolinx is actively working on its plans for fare integration and has shared these with transit colleagues at the Fare and Service Integration table hosted by Minister Cho. We will publish these more widely once finalized.
- 2. SmartTrack Stations: The benefits of the three new SmartTrack stations in your Davenport riding will include more transit options, shorter commutes for residents and visitors, and a planned multi-use path at the Bloor-Lansdowne GO Station that will connect to the West Toronto Rail Path and Davenport Diamond Greenway. The stations are located along the Barrie and Kitchener lines and will have all day, two-way services as part of GO Expansion. The frequency of service will depend on ridership, but residents will have subway-style service to get them downtown and new connections to streetcars along St. Clair Avenue and the Bloor-Danforth subway at Lansdowne. The SmartTrack stations program is projected to bring 110,000 new daily riders to the rail network by 2031. More details will be shared in the live virtual engagements for and Bloor Lansdowne on December 9th.
- 3. Bell Ringing Pilot Project: As long as there is overnight work, the bell is a safety measure we will continue to use. We are aware that this is audible in neighbouring homes and we are exploring ways to minimize this. We are planning a Bell Ringing Cessation Pilot on UP Express that will be conducted once our safety team ensures the planned measures would mitigate every safety risk. Given the high level of interaction between our riders and our trains at stations, we have delayed the pilot slightly to allow more time for our team to design the safest plans possible. We will keep you updated on the project's progress.
- 4. Overnight Construction: Our goal is to have construction completed as soon as possible so we can move onto the Greenway and other projects in the area. This means that overnight work is required. Further to your question about how construction noise is measured, there are six noise monitors installed across the project and noise levels are monitored in 5-minute intervals, 24 hours a day. The noise limits for the project for the day are 80dBA (7 a.m. to 11 p.m.) and 70dBA for the night (11 p.m. 7 a.m.) periods. Noise is measured in a similar but more restrictive method than an average over these eight-hour periods. Going beyond either

of these limits will result in an exceedance by the contractor which would be addressed as quickly as possible.

5. **Antler-Lappin Connection:** As discussed, Metrolinx cannot create the requested connection on privately owned land, however the City of Toronto could. We would be able to provide our expertise if the City plans to work with the private landowners to deliver such a connection through an easement. Our design of the multi-use path will allow for such a connection, whether now or in the future.

In addition to the virtual engagement we had on the Davenport Guideway and Greenway in June 2021 and the monthly Construction Liaison Committees (CLCs) we have for both projects, the community will have further opportunities to get engaged on the Davenport Greenway project. This will include a two week virtual engagement from November 29th to December 13th with a live engagement on December 13th. The community relations team will be in touch with you and your office with more details on how the community can participate.

Finally, plans to electrify the Barrie and UP Express lines are on track to be incorporated as part of the OnCorr program.

Again, we look forward to continuing our work with the community and hope you will join us at all the upcoming community engagements.

Sincerely,

**Phil Verster** 

President and CEO

Cc: Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation
Julie Dzerowicz, Member of Parliament for Davenport
Tom Rakovevic, Member of Provincial Parliament for Humber River–Black Creek
Ana Bailao, Deputy Mayor, City of Toronto, Councillor for Ward 9