



Backgrounder

STEVE MAHONEY'S PLAN TO MOVE MISSISSAUGA AND CREATE JOBS

As mayor, Steve Mahoney will work with Council, regional mayors, the provincial and federal governments, and transportation stakeholders to implement his Move Mississauga Plan – his 25 year transportation and transit plan that will unlock a new era of economic growth for the city, better connect commuters to home and work, and better integrate Mississauga into the Greater Toronto Region.

The Blueprint

“Mississauga needs a stronger, faster transportation network that better connects people to jobs and the City to the regional economy. If we want Mississauga’s economy to grow for the next thirty years like it has over the last 30, then we have to invest in smart high-order transit and bring it to the areas of our city where the jobs are and will continue to be. That’s why as mayor, I will move forward with the Hurontario LRT, implement HOV lanes for buses and cars on our major east-west corridors, and work with the province and regional mayors to bring a new rail link line to Mississauga.”

- **Steve Mahoney**

The Opportunity

Mississauga has grown so much over the years. As Mayor McCallion has noted, more people come into Mississauga each and every day than go out. Mississauga is now Canada’s sixth largest city and is home to the largest commercial office footprint in the GTA outside of the City of Toronto. As the City’s 2008 Mississauga Office Strategy Study noted:

“Over the past 25 years, the City of Mississauga has become the dominant player in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) office market outside Toronto, having added an average of 1 million sq. ft...of office space a year – despite two severe recessions and economic restructuring following the introduction of free trade. With 28 million sq. ft... of office development, the City now contains almost one third of all the office space in the 905 and in the past five years Mississauga has captured almost half (46%) of new office growth in the 905.”¹

The Study went on to estimate “...a minimum demand for another 10 million sq. ft...of office space

¹ Mississauga Office Strategy Study, 2008,

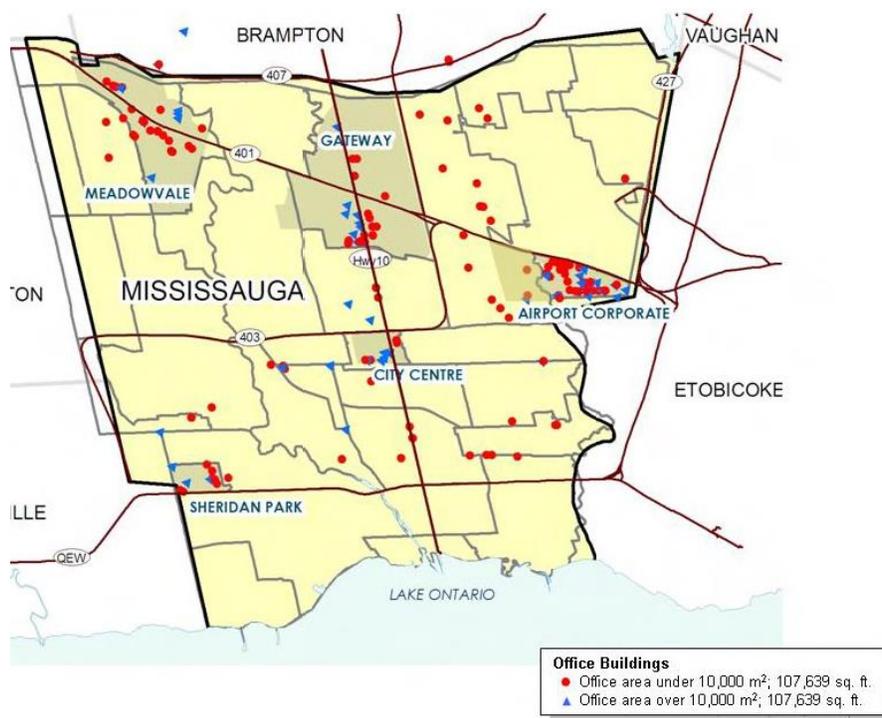
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between now [2008] and 2031, and a maximum of 25 million sq. ft...² Achieving 25 million sq. ft would result in more than 100,000 new jobs in Mississauga.

Since 1992, most of Mississauga’s office space expansion has happened in the Airport Corporate Centre and Meadowvale Corridor. This corridor is home to thousands of businesses in finance, insurance, real estate, science and other smaller sectors. The continued growth of this corridor and kick-starting growth in the City Centre is contingent on Mississauga strengthening its transportation network.

Mississauga’s Office Footprint³



The Hurontario LRT will help with intensification along the Hurontario corridor, including the development of new office space. However, smart transit is required to incent new office space development and intensification in the ACC and Meadowvale corridor. As the Study noted:

“Tenants have driven the marketplace by seeking out low cost, high quality, highway accessible locations. Meadowvale and Airport Corporate Centre, the two employment districts in Mississauga responsible for 70% of all new office development over the past decade, are heavily dependent on automobile access. Only 6% of rush hour trips are made by public transit. Without appropriate policies, congestion will worsen, and potential office tenants may gravitate to less congested sites elsewhere.”⁴

² Ibid., p. iv.

³ Ibid., p. 7.

⁴ Ibid., p. v.



What is needed for this critical economic corridor is a regional relief rail line⁵ similar to John Tory’s proposed Smart Track that will come to the Airport Corporate Centre. A new rail link can be expanded to the Meadowvale GO station from the Airport Corporate Centre. Bringing a new rail link line to Meadowvale, combined with the Mississauga BRT, can provide the rapid transit necessary to support new investment in high quality office space in this corridor.

A long-term transportation and transit plan for Mississauga is critical to providing a better quality of life for Mississaugans and achieving the 25 million sq. ft. in new office space that will attract more than 100,000 new jobs to the City.

Steve Mahoney’s *Move Mississauga Plan*

Steve’s **Move Mississauga Plan** is a 25 year transportation and transit plan for Mississauga that will help to unlock Mississauga’s next phase of economic growth and make the city more livable for communities.

Steve Mahoney’s Move Mississauga Plan



⁵ Strategic Regional Research Associates, The Business Case for the Regional Relief Line, October 2013, <http://static.squarespace.com/static/52e56487e4b06bec4dd7898a/t/5395b705e4b0643446adb503/1402320645843/SRRA%20-%20Business%20Case%20Regional%20Relief%20Line.pdf>



The Plan involves a number of short, medium and long-term initiatives to move Mississauga and create jobs.

Short-term initiatives (less than four years) under the **Move Mississauga Plan** include:

- Establishing High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes north-south on Erin Mills Parkway and Hurontario, and east-west on Eglinton Ave., Burnhamthorpe Rd., and Dundas St. These lanes will operate in rush hour and will be open to MiWay buses and cars with two or more passengers.
- Working with the province to expand the number of rush hour GO trains on the Milton and Kitchener lines and move the rush hour on these lines to 9 am in the mornings, and 8 pm at night.
- Working with the province to study route options, costing and funding options for the creation of the regional relief line including the *Mississauga Rail Link* from Airport Corporate Centre to Meadowvale GO station.
- Implementing 21st century smart traffic light technology. The University of Toronto has developed traffic lights that learn using artificial intelligence that can greatly reduce travel times called MARLIN. MARLIN combines machine learning, traffic cameras and computers to create traffic lights that can measure vehicle delay, understand what it means and adapt signal patterns to reduce congestion. Steve will work with Council to pilot MARLIN in Mississauga and expand it if it proves successful.

Medium-term initiatives (five to 10 years) under the **Move Mississauga Plan** include:

- Building the Hurontario LRT and delivering it as promised in 2022.
- Working with province to implement two-way all day electrified regional express rail service on all Mississauga GO lines.

Long-term initiatives (10+ years) under the **Move Mississauga Plan** include:

- Implementing the *Mississauga Rail Link* from the Airport Corporate Centre to Meadowvale GO station. Steve's goal will be to have this line in place by 2028.
- Subject to ridership volumes, converting the Mississauga Bus Rapid Transit Way to an LRT and connecting it to Pearson International Airport.

Mississauga Rail Link

The *Mississauga Rail Link* will involve building approximately 20 km of new rail along the 401 corridor beginning at the Airport Corporate Centre. This line would link with the regional relief line, proposed by John Tory as Smart Track, which would connect from Union Station to the Airport Corporate Centre.

The Mississauga Rail Link will connect the approximately 100,000 workers who work in Airport



Corporate Centre to Meadowvale corridor to real rapid transit and create the conditions that could double the office footprint and jobs in this corridor over the next 20 years.

Planning the extension will require partnering with the province to study route options to select an optimal route and developing a funding strategy.

Funding the extension will require provincial and federal government participation. As mayor, Steve will work to bring pension plan investment to the project and explore using innovative tools like Tax-increment Financing (TIF) to finance the City's share of project.

Have your say

You are encouraged to provide Steve with your feedback at info@votemahoney.ca using the Subject Line "Move Mississauga".

Please visit www.move-mississauga.ca to learn more.