

From: Andrea Sanche Sent: March 29, 2022 4:50 PM

To: premier@ontario.ca; Chair of Metrolinx <<u>Chair@metrolinx.com</u>>

**Cc:** <u>savejsimpson@gmail.com</u>; <u>councillor\_fletcher@toronto.ca</u>; <u>tabunsp-co@ndp.on.ca</u>; <u>Julie.Dabrusin@parl.gc.ca</u>

Subject: Bury the Ontario Line

I write as a concerned citizen, voter, and user of city parks and services. There is absolutely no reason for a subway to traverse above-ground in the middle of a vibrant, thriving, world-class city. There is also no reason why this portion of the track cannot be buried, when it is being buried everywhere else, including in neighbourhoods that are more suburban, with considerably more space. These attempts to force through a sub-standard section of public transit is an embarrassment to us all.

Additional salient facts are as follows:

- The environmental impact assessment report that examines the cumulative impact of GO, VIA, freight and OL running in the same corridor has yet to be published or reviewed.
- Local residents have not been consulted on ANY alternatives that reduce negative impacts on host communities (e.g., noise, tree loss, parkland loss, business disruption).
- There is a viable alternate plan (the 'hybrid underground option, based on the previously approved Relief Line plan) endorsed by the city and supported by the community.
- Metrolinx has not costed out the hybrid underground option as requested by the City of Toronto. Our initial estimates indicate that underground is roughly the same cost.
- Metrolinx has ignored the potential health impacts on thousands of South Riverdale residents plus local businesses. Our community paid for its own Health Impact Assessment because Metrolinx's flawed EA will not look at health impacts.
- The City of Toronto Board of Health is reviewing the above vs underground OL Health Impact Assessment. This review should be carefully considered before any further actions are taken.

In an election year, I would have expected that our elected officials would realize that there is a better way to ensure citizens have access to public transit; by ensuring it is long-lasting, sustainable, and enhances residents' lives. Everyone expects subway-building to cost money and time. No one expects it to eradicate the benefits of urban living.

Bury the Ontario Line. Make Toronto a great place to live, for future generations.

Thank you.

Yours, Andrea Sanche