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Subject: Review elevated Eglinton West Extension LRT through Eglinton Flats
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Donald Wright, Chair
Metrolinx Board of Directors
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Dear Sir,

As a long time resident and Vice President of the Mount Dennis Community Association, I call into question your statements, which amount to marketing communications, that my community was consulted about "design options" before the elevated guideway for the Eglinton West LRT was chosen. We were TOLD that the elevated guideway was the preferred option of your design team. We have repeatedly asked for details of the alternative designs and budgets you explored and have not been given that information. There was no publicity about a review of options and I was discouraged from attending consultations, as they seemed to apply only to the LRT extension west of the Humber River. So the residents of Etobicoke were consulted but very few of those in Mount Dennis. Yet, at this week's Metrolinx Board Meeting, much is being made of a public survey "in support of an elevated section" of the ECWE. Will Metrolinx staff outline to the Board what proportion of respondents to the survey live in Mount Dennis and what is their demographic compared to the economic and cultural demographic of the residential communities?

Metrolinx staff told us that the business case key decision is speed. Yet a tunnelled line from Renforth to Mount Dennis Station would be quicker than transferring to an elevated guideway part way along. Tunnelling below the water table is happening in Montreal. If cost was an issue for tunnelling in Mount Dennis, then why is the more expensive tunnelling option being used in Etobicoke, where Eglinton Avenue was deliberately kept wide with boulevards in the 1960s rebuild in order to afford space for ground level transit?

We have been clearly requesting that Metrolinx review alternatives for the Eglinton West LRT from Mount Dennis Station to west of Scarlett Road. Tenders can be deferred until this review is complete. There is overwhelming local support for putting the LRT underground.

Eglinton Flats, in addition to its extensive sports fields, contains popular walking areas and

urban forests housing wildlife which creates a corridor to the Humber River, the Toronto Carrying Place Trail and an area of indigenous archaeological and cultural significance. Metrolinx is also planning to use a third of Pearen Park, site of the only children's playground in the area, as a construction staging zone for at least seven years, and to build a portal into the tunnel to Mount Dennis station in that park.

City Council and Mayor Tory have requested that Metrolinx revisit the design. It is now vital for the Metrolinx Board and staff to conduct this review in order to preserve the valued park environment in Mount Dennis and the cultural heritage of this community.

I appreciate your consideration.

Judith Hayes

