BRT

Welcome to the Queen Street-Highway 7 Bus Rapid Transit Project

Public Information Centre #1–Virtual Live Meeting





Table of Contents

- 1. Land Acknowledgment
- 2. What is Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?
- 3. Project Overview and History
- 4. The Business Case Process
- 5. Project Study Area
- 6. How are Planning Concepts Screened?
- 7. Next Steps



Land Acknowledgment



Treaties and Reserves in the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Let us take a moment to acknowledge we are on lands that have been, and continue to be, home to many Indigenous communities including the Anishnabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Huron-Wendat peoples.

We are all Treaty people. Many of us have come here as settlers, as immigrants or involuntarily as part of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, in this generation or generations past.

We acknowledge the historic and continued impacts of colonization and the need to work towards meaningful reconciliation with the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge that Metrolinx operates on territories and lands covered by many treaties that affirm and value the rights of Indigenous Communities, Nations, and Peoples.

We understand the importance of working towards reconciliation with the original caretakers of this land. At Metrolinx, we will conduct business in a manner that is built on a foundation of trust, respect, and collaboration.

What is Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)?





What is BRT?







Dedicated lanes and shorter travel times

Frequent service

Enhanced transit stops with higher standards of passenger amenities



Smart signals to support smoother traffic flow



Passenger information systems



Project Overview





Project Overview

- 24 km study area of Queen Street and Highway 7 (18 km within Peel Region and 6 km within York Region).
- Main transit spine, connecting Brampton and Vaughan.
- Crucial transportation corridor connecting the northwest and northcentral sections of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA).
- Enables faster, more reliable connections to:
 - Downtown Brampton transit hub.
 - Vaughan Metropolitan Centre.
 - Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE).
 - 7 QUEEN STREET-HIGHWAY 7 BRT



Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT

- City Boundaries
- Downtown Brampton
- Queen Street BRT
- GO Rail
 - Hazel McCallion Line

- Claireville Conservation Area
- Commercial/Industrial Area
- 🛃 🛛 Brampton GO
- Bramalea City Centre and Bus Terminal
 - Transit Hub

₽₽

- College/University
- **Western end of the Viva Rapidway on Hwy 7**
- --- Proposed Rapid Transit Extension*





The Case for Change







METROLINX

The Case for Change





Opportunities and Challenges





The Business Case Process





Initial Business Case Study

IBC tested three BRT service options and three infrastructure scenarios for the Queen Street-Highway 7 corridor:

Service Option Scenarios



Infrastructure Scenarios



Why Median BRT versus Curbside?

Median BRT is preferred for this corridor where possible for the following reasons:

- 1. Provides service reliability with fewer delays on busy streets.
- 2. Maintains seamless cross-regional transit network integrations.
- 3. Enhances safety with fewer conflicts between turning traffic and transit.
- 4. Future-ready for LRT, as dedicated lanes in the centre of the street are more flexible for future conversions.



For illustration purposes only.

What is a Preliminary Design Business Case?

- The PDBC evaluates the costs and benefits of the project based on preliminary design and environmental studies.
- This stage of the business case lifecycle typically occurs in parallel with the Environmental Assessment process.
- The initial phases of the Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT Preliminary Design Business Case commenced in May 2022.



Transit Project Assessment Process



How is the community involved?

Metrolinx believes that when you have your say our transportation system gets stronger. We are committed to keeping you informed, building understanding and collecting your feedback. Engagement presents an opportunity for you to provide your input.



Our Goals for this Phase of Work

- 1. Plan, design, and advance an enhanced transit corridor along Queen Street and Highway 7 to support greater regional connectivity and mobility.
- 2. Advance the Preliminary Design, Environmental Assessment Process for Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP), and Preliminary Design Business Case.



Project Study Area





Corridor Segments and Focus Areas

SEGMENTS



(6)

Mississauga Road to McLaughlin Road McLaughlin Road to Kennedy Road

Kennedy Road to Highway 410

Highway 410 to Highway 50

Highway 50 to Kipling Avenue

Kipling Avenue to Wigwoss Drive

FOCUS AREAS



Highway 427 Interchange - 6 Lane Structure

 (\mathbf{H}) Humber River / Rail Corridor The characteristics of Queen Street-Highway 7 vary throughout the 24 km study area. To ensure that the unique features and conditions of each location are considered, the study area has been divided into **SEGMENTS**. Each **SEGMENT** has its own set of concepts for BRT design.

Within the segments, there are **FOCUS AREAS** which have specific challenges and opportunities. Each FOCUS AREA has its own set of concepts for BRT design.



Nashville Rd



How are Planning Concepts Screened?





Screening Criteria for Long List Planning Concepts*

Planning concepts for BRT infrastructure scenarios are screened using the below criteria:

Strategic



Natural Environment

Support and enhance natural areas and avoid or mitigate negative impacts.



Social Environment

Strengthen neighbourhood, promote development, and create an environment to live, work, and play.



Integrate existing transportation network to provide more choice, reduce congestion/travel times, and make travel more reliable.

Financial and Economic



Financial

Costs-what will the option cost? Consider property impacts and operating costs.

Economic

Benefits-ridership benefits, potential for integrated corridor development and transit time improvements. * Concept illustrations are for discussion purposes only and are subject to change once the design phase has been initiated.

Delivery and Operations

elements.



Project Delivery Consider potential risks to

construction for complex



Facility Operations

Consider potential for delays to multi-year construction schedule.

21 QUEEN STREET-HIGHWAY 7 BRT

What is a Constrained vs. Non-constrained Area?

When considering planning concepts for Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT, Segments and Focus Area are screened separately to account for their unique characteristics.

Constrained areas	Non-constrained areas	
Locations with features that limit the potential to widen the road (i.e., rail overpasses, highway ramps, Downtown Brampton, major bridges, etc.).	Locations with fewer limitations that prevent the potential to widen the road. Most of the study area is considered non-constrained.	We need your input on the long list planning concepts. Please use our interactive mapping tool beginning January 23, 2023 to learn more about planning concepts

for each area and provide

your feedback.



Planning Concepts





Planning Concepts for Segment 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Non-constrained)





Concept A:

Convert general purpose lane for median BRT.





Legend

Bus Only 📃 D

Drive Lane Sidewalk

-> Direction of Travel

Concept B:

Keep all existing lanes and widen to include median BRT.





Concept C:

Convert general purpose lane for curbside business access and transit lane.



Crem St B Crem St B Crem St B Crem St B

Legend



Drive Lane 📃 Sidewalk

→ Direction of Travel

Concept D:

Keep all general purpose lanes and widen for curbside business access and transit lane.





Planning Concepts for Focus Areas A and D









30 QUEEN STREET-HIGHWAY 7 BRT



Future Cross Section

This focus area has many future conditions that must be considered when screening planning concepts for Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT:

- 1. The potential rapid transit expansion east of Main Street. Undetermined if transit route will cross over Queen Street or go underground at this location.
- 2. Location for a new Brampton Downtown Bus Terminal is to be determined.
- 3. Queen Street Transformation will narrow this portion of Queen Street to one lane in each direction.
- 4. Widening of GO Train tracks.



Downtown Bus Terminal / GO Station

Concept A:

BRT stays on Queen Street with station located near Main Street.



Considerations:

- Faster, more direct BRT.
- Better service reliability.
- Inconvenient transfers.
- Accessibility concerns.
- Safety perception.
- Operational Issues.

- Weather obstacles.
- Queen Street delays.
- Location of downtown bus terminal to be confirmed in a separate study, currently underway



Downtown Bus Terminal / GO Station

Concept B:

Divert BRT off Queen Street to the Future Bus Terminal or GO Station.

Brampton Downtown Bus Terminal Brampton Study Area S **GO** Station **GO** Station Parking 10septist Church St Ē Railroad St MainSte Residential Proposed Quee Highway 7 BRT **Proposed Queen Street-**Neighbourhood

Considerations:

- Better LRT, bus, GO transfer.
- Improved accessibility.
- Transfer safety.
- Diversion travel times.
- Service reliability.
- Path through downtown affects neighbourhoods.
- Bus terminal site unconfirmed.





This focus area has future conditions that need to be considered when screening planning concepts for Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT:

- 1. The Brampton 2040 Vision includes the Bramalea New Town Concept, which includes three new, built-up districts that introduce various land uses to Bramalea City Centre such as commercial (retail and office), residential, recreational, and institutional.
- 2. The Bramalea New Town Concept is projected to increase population and density of the area.



Concept A:

Station located on Queen Street.



- Considerations:
 - No diversion.
 - Time lost.
 - 3-4 minute walk to Terminal transfers.



Concept B:

BRT diverts off Queen Street to Bramalea Terminal via Central Park Drive.



- **Considerations:**
- 3-5 minute diversion from route.
- No added transfer or walk for passengers (same as Züm).
- Bus priority measures already in place.



Concept C:

BRT diverts off Queen Street to Bramalea Terminal via Peel Centre Drive.



- **Considerations:**
- 4-6 minute diversion from route.
- No added transfer or walk for passengers (same as Züm).
- No priority through mall parking lot (slightly longer diversion times).

Next Steps





Next Steps



We want to hear from you!

Public feedback is important to this process. We appreciate the time you have taken to learn more about the Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT, and we would greatly value your input on the following:

- The proposed Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT in your community.
- What is important to you about this project?
- Features of Queen Street and Highway 7 that you consider important for screening planning concepts.



Please complete the <u>online feedback form</u> and add your input to our interactive map starting January 23, 2023 at **metrolinx.com/Q7BRT** by

February 3, 2023.

Your input will help us to determine any additional considerations as we refine the planning concepts for Queen Street-Highway 7 BRT in advance of Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP) commencement.

Thank you for attending this meeting.



We want to hear from you. Please use the online comment form found at <u>metrolinx.com/Q7BRT</u> to provide your thoughts on the project.



Use our interactive map beginning January 23, 2023 to share your thoughts on specific locations within the study area.



Alternatively, you can e-mail your comment to the project team at the address below: <u>BramptonYorkBRT@metrolinx.com</u>





Next Steps:

- All information from the virtual live meeting will be available at <u>metrolinx.com/Q7BRT</u>
- The next round of public meetings are planned for Fall 2023.



Stay up to date by:

- Signing-up for the project mailing list.
- Visiting the project website: metrolinx.com/Q7BRT

Comments and information regarding this study are being collected to assist the study team in meeting the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

###