

Moss Park CLC MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2023

6:00PM-7:30PM

ATTENDEES:

Ontario Legislature

- Emma Beattie (MPP Kristen Wong-Tam)

City of Toronto

- Edward LaRusic (Councillor Chris Moise)
- Mike Pisano (City of Toronto/ Moss Park Arena)
- Richard Borbridge (City of Toronto)

Community Groups/Non-Profit Organizations/Residents

- Walled Khogali Ali (Moss Park Coalition)
- Diane Devenyi (Resident.)
- Nick Culverwell (Garden District Residents Association)
- Henry Hong (Garden District Residents Association)
- Carol Mark (Resident)
- David Anderson (Moss Park Coalition)
- Elena Taylor (Resident)

Metrolinx

- Amanda Kusick
- Jihad Bouzid
- Zahrah Munas
- Malcolm MacKay
- Matthew Beaudoin

Ontario Transit Group

- Bella Santos
- Garrick McIntosh
- Eric Devera
- Carlos Ramos Cruz
- Francisco Metcalf
- Chloe Mills
- Julia Orsini
- Ryan Sebastian

OVERVIEW:

The Metrolinx and OTG teams hosted an in-person CLC meeting for Moss Park on October 24, 2023. This meeting took place at the Gabrielle-Roy Elementary School in their auditorium. The meeting commenced with attendees welcomed by OTG and Metrolinx staff and asked to provide their feedback throughout the meeting. Following their registration, attendees were invited to review maps and planned designs on poster boards with Metrolinx and OTG staff on-hand to speak to the images and answer any questions.

The poster board content provided by Metrolinx and OTG included an overview of the Ontario Line project in within a GTA transit map, renderings of the future Moss Park Station platform model, current and upcoming construction work at Moss Park, archaeological discoveries along Queen Street, and renderings of the Moss Park station entrance and interior.

A summary of the questions posed by attendees and the responses offered by the team is outlined below.

QUESTIONS:

Design

- **Garden District Residents Association** commented that the exterior design (specifically the glass box element), does not align with the existing architecture of the neighbourhood. We requested a design that involved high visibility, but this approach is uninspiring when compared to the other station designs.
 - **OTG** made note of the feedback and has passed it along to the proper channels.

- **MPP Wong-Tam's Office** asked if the team was planning to intentionally animate the paved space in front of the station. MPP Wong-Tam's Office has received questions about the program intentionally for that space.
 - **Metrolinx** mentioned that there will be lots of activity in this area due to transit and snow removal. Any infrastructure concerns expressed for safety entering the station will be considered.
 - Other CLC Attendees also brought up similar inquiries about the space in front of the station entrance.
Metrolinx confirmed that in terms of programming, this work will be delegated to Parks and Rec of the City of Toronto, while Metrolinx is funding the restoration of that area. He is happy to collaborate with MPP Wong-Tam's office on assembling a team and creating the space.

Hoarding

- **Moss Park Coalition** attended the last Moss Park Coalition meeting which was dedicated to the hoarding. David inquired about what the budget looks like for community members to incorporate their own art to the hoarding, and whether they

would be covering a large portion of the wall at once or in gradual process. Overall, he hopes a good portion of the budget is dedicated to community art, as the local art community organizations are eager to send in their proposal to the Metrolinx team.

- **Metrolinx** is working on an approach to determine how much of the construction hoarding space/panels will be allotted to the community. More information will be shared when it becomes available.
- **Garden District Residents Association** noted that the new hoarding on Queen should be beautified, and mentioned getting students involved, the Indigenous community involved and incorporating the archived boards from Allen Gardens.
- **Councillor Chris Moise's Office** added that the city still has those boards from Allen Gardens, but unsure who owns the IP.

Dump Truck Staging Routes

- **Garden District Residents Association** inquired about the dump truck route and ensuring that bike lanes along Queen St. would not be blocked.
 - **OTG:** Garden District Residents Association offered OTG some additional context to be shared following the CLC. He has experience with local traffic routes and wanted to ensure trucks didn't queue up on bike lanes and restrict local traffic/residential streets.
- **City of Toronto/ Moss Park Arena** inquired about the construction trucks' proximity to surrounding buildings, specifically for area parking and driveway access.
 - **OTG** confirmed there will be temporary disruptions. The team has prepared for all possible situations and if there is the slightest damage to the building exterior, OTG would compensate for the loss. Safety measures include on-site staff (a flagger and security guard) to direct traffic, safety fencing, signage and CCTV cameras installed.
 - For parking, the team will be increasing the parking lot volume to accommodate approx. 21 cars, in addition to the available street parking at Queen and Sherborne.

Community Engagement

- **Moss Park Coalition** expressed interest in opening the CLC meetings to more residents. He provided tips on engaging the community including childcare, catering and interactive elements to ensure high attendance and engagement.
 - **OTG** made note of the feedback and the team will keep these engagement tactics in mind as the engagement is expanded to residents.
- **Garden District Residents Association** applauded Metrolinx for their responsiveness for their concerns during this project.

- **Resident** urged the Metrolinx team to get in touch with other community construction projects to coordinate their plans to better the community.
 - **Metrolinx** mentioned that while the team is in the area, they want to be proud of the work they are doing.
- **Garden District Residents Association** inquired into Community Benefits and how they will be applied; discussed apprentice programs for trades jobs and how that model could be emulated from Eglinton Crosstown LRT.

Construction Communications

- **MPP Wong-Tam's Office** noted that local businesses are concerned about losing business during upcoming street closures.
 - **Metrolinx** explained the construction of the subway line (all contained within the park) and noted that all area roads and sidewalks will be open which will avoid disruption to small business owners.
- **Resident** learned at last week's BOLD meeting that the arena will be doing work at night and inquired as to why the work was not being completed during the day.
 - **Metrolinx** confirmed that they will keep in contact with the arena operations team and share any information on construction updates.
 - **Resident.** let the team know that since the archeological work ended, the dust has stopped.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Metrolinx** and team to provide Moss Park Coalition an update on community art for the hoarding when available.
- **Garden District Residents Association** to email OTG to further discuss approaches for the dump truck route and ensuring that bike lanes along Queen St. and residential streets will not be blocked.
- **Metrolinx** to continue to notify MPP Wong-Tam's Office on street closure impacting businesses and noise and vibration updates.
- **Metrolinx** to keep in contact with Resident. to share any arena construction updates.