

Queen/Spadina CLC MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2023

6:00PM-6:45PM

ATTENDEES:

City of Toronto

- Michael Paolucci
- Julia Murnaghan
- Richard Borbridge

Province of Ontario

- Chris Haskim (MPP Chris Glover)

BIA/Community Groups/Non-Profit/Resident

- Alan Liu (Queen Street West BIA)
- Jeff Cohen -JC (Horseshoe Tavern)
- Erin Curran (Resident)
- Meg Marshall (Coordinator, Queen Street West BIA)

Metrolinx

- Mark Clancy
- Daniel Cicero
- Bradley Naismith
- Franca DiGiovanni
- Kenia Barreto
- Saba Sabet

OTG

- Sergio Gijon Ramirez de Arellano
- Allison Dewhirst
- Jennifer Marques
- Bella Santos
- Emaan Ali

OVERVIEW:

- On Tuesday, November 7, 2023, Metrolinx hosted the fifth Queen/Spadina CLC meeting in partnership with OTG. The meeting commenced with **Metrolinx** welcoming attendees, providing a land acknowledgement and sharing safety tips given the winter weather that is fast approaching.
- **Metrolinx** started the presentation portion of the CLC meeting by reviewing the action items generated from past meetings, relating to snow maintenance and traffic management, and indicated that updates on these items are going to be provided in the slides to come.

- From there, **OTG** shared updates surrounding site hoarding, including installing temporary signage, replacing fast fencing, replacing graffiti tagged signage and plans for future signage design. **OTG** also outlined plans for snow and ice clearing in adherence with by-laws at the City of Toronto.
- **OTG** then launched into construction updates that covered the following key topics: demolition and heritage preservation at the south and north station sites, weekend road closures associated with the panelization work on Spadina Avenue and Bulwer Street and traffic management plans for Spadina and Bulwer also associated with the panelization work.
- To provide more detail on heritage preservation, **OTG** described the steps being taken toward the installation of heritage retention towers at the north site. This work will take place in December 2023 and will carry forward into January 2024. **OTG** also offered updates surrounding overnight instrumentation work to install monitoring points on Spadina and Queen Street West and any lane closures associated with that work happening this and next week.
- To conclude the construction updates, **OTG** discussed upcoming work happening this fall, in early 2024 and in the spring and summer of 2024. This section included additional detail surrounding work at the south site, particularly rig drilling and the associated traffic impacts to be anticipated and eventually completed in early 2024.
- **Metrolinx** paused at the final slide on community outreach activities to ask if attendees had any questions for the presenters. **Metrolinx** also indicated that their team is looking for opportunities to be out in the community and invited attendees to reach out with ideas for potential site visits. A summary of the questions posed by attendees and the responses offered by the presenters is outlined below.

QUESTIONS:

- **Queen Street West BIA: I see that your approach to digging into the ground, up to 10 meters, includes piling. Is this approach considered to be innovative in the sector?**
 - **OTG** explained that the piles are only being built to support the pressure faced by the soil in the first 15 meters of depth. The team added that this technique is commonly used in Downtown Toronto, especially for condo buildings that require excavation at similar depths. For the deeper excavation required by the Ontario Line, beyond 15 meters, another technique will be used to break through the cavern and connect to the tunnel .
 - **Queen Street West BIA** expressed thanks for the explanation and flagged that attendees might be interested in hearing more information on these techniques at future meetings.
- **Queen Street West BIA: Will the community have an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the design and flow of the stations? The community will be able to easily flag any concerns, especially around the location of station entrances, and will feel excited about the work by being consulted on these pieces.**
 - **Metrolinx** displayed a rendering of one of the Queen/Spadina stations to give attendees a sense of what it could look like. The team explained that they are not sure how much input the community will have on the exterior

and where the entrances will be located, as a lot of that design is informed by guidelines from the City. As for the interior of the stations, there has not been much information available so far.

- **Metrolinx** agreed to bring any relevant information forward, as it becomes available, to future meetings.
- **Queen Street West BIA shared a series of recommendations surrounding actions that could be taken as construction proceeds at Queen and Spadina:**
 - (1) They recommended that a CPTED review of the hoarding installation be conducted to make police aware of any dead spots or areas for attention.**
 - (2) They wondered if there would be opportunities to share the results of the noise and vibration studies with the community.**
 - (3) They suggested that the team take a time-lapse video of the panelization work to keep people informed and as a cool product that can be shared widely.**
- **Metrolinx** was appreciative of the feedback and offered to take the recommendations back as agenda items for future meetings.
- **A resident asked when more information will be made available about the condo above one of the stations at Queen and Spadina.**
- **Metrolinx** explained that their team is responsible for building the stations, whereas Infrastructure Ontario (IO) will be leading the development around stations like condos. The stations will be built to support any development happening above them.
- **Metrolinx** offered to find and share additional information on the Transit-Oriented Community Program from IO, which should shed more light on the question posed by the resident.
- **Metrolinx** added that additional information, including site information and conceptual renderings, is available at <https://engageio.ca/en/queen-spadina>.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Metrolinx** to bring information on interior and exterior station design and flow forward, as it becomes available, to future meetings.
- **Metrolinx** to take back various recommendations surrounding (1) conducting a CPTED review, (2) sharing noise and vibration study results, and (3) capturing panelization footage as a time-lapse video as agenda items for future meetings.
- **Metrolinx** to find and share additional information on the Transit-Oriented Community Program from IO, as it pertains to any development above the Queen/Spadina stations.