

## **Moss Park CLC #6 MEETING MINUTES**

February 8, 2024  
6:00PM - 7:00PM

### **ATTENDEES:**

#### BIAs/Community Groups/Non-Profit Organizations/Residents

- David Anderson (Moss Park Coalition)
- Walied Khogali Ali (Moss Park Coalition)
- Henry Hong (Garden District Residents Association)
- Captain Nick Hepburn (Moss Park Armoury)
- Paul Prince (Fred Victor Centre)
- Marilyn (Resident)
- Sylvie (Resident)
- Andre (Resident)
- Elena (Toronto Community Benefits Network)
- Terry (Resident)

#### City of Toronto

- Nazli Dehghani
- Julia Murnaghan
- Terry Francoeur

- Michael Paolucci
- Mark Vantresca
- Louie Lenti

#### Elected Officials

- Asiya Barakzai (MPP Wong Tam)
- Yussuf Hussein ( Councillor Chris Moise)

#### Metrolinx

- Zahrah Munas
- Amanda Kusick
- Daniel Cicero
- Malcolm MacKay
- Phil Rodriques

#### OTG

- Allison Dewhirst
- Eric Devera
- Bella Santos
- Emaan Ali

### **OVERVIEW:**

The Metrolinx and Ontario Transit Group (OTG) teams hosted a virtual Construction Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting for Moss Park on February 8, 2024.

, **Metrolinx** provided a status update on the Connect6ix Job Fair hosted on January 24th at Thorncliffe Park. The event, which saw over 1,300 attendees, featured information on the over 100 current and future employment opportunities available to help with delivering the Ontario Line. Moss Park CLC members offered reflections and points of feedback related to the event, all of which are detailed below in the section titled "Questions."

- **OTG provided construction updates** . The first topic discussed was current works, starting with the excavation and removal of concrete foundations interfering with station installation. Another item related to site preparation for installing the working platform, which includes removing unsuitable material and importing suitable fill and granular to build the platform. The third item focused on completing hoarding and perimeter fencing at the east access gate, where there will be scaffold framing with plywood and eventually local artwork in collaboration with the community. The final item related to monitoring device installation,

understanding that the Permission to Enter (PTE) program will be applied to the infrastructure around the tunnel as a means to protect the buildings in its midst. To illustrate the various items discussed, **OTG** showed pictures of excavation tools and utilities related to platform preparation that gave attendees a sense of the methodologies being used to address their concerns around noise and vibration levels.

**OTG** continued the construction update by providing attendees with an overview of completed works, including signage installation, painting hoarding to mitigate graffiti, temporary site trailers in place to safely manage activities onsite and the arena parking lot handover in order to promote its continued use by the community.

To close the construction update, **OTG** detailed two pieces of upcoming work. They explained that crane installation will begin April/ May 2024, with the crew employing the safest and most proficient methods to install the crane and ensure that loads, equipment and materials never pass over property. There will also be pile drilling activities to ensure stability and support for tunnels, stations and other structures starting in Q2 2024.

**Metrolinx** closed the meeting by sharing the dates of upcoming CLC meetings throughout 2024, aiming for hosting them on the second Thursday of every month for Moss Park

#### **QUESTIONS:**

- **TCBN Group** provided feedback on the Connect6ix Job Fair and stated that they were approached by attendees expressing disappointment with the lack of information or opportunities offered at the event by Metrolinx, including participants not getting a chance to share their resumes, newcomers' unfamiliarity with technological job application methods or receive job search support, or
  - **Metrolinx** expressed their appreciation for the feedback and noted that they will take it away and apply feedback when planning for the future job fair events.
- **Moss Park Coalition** added that the team should be intentional in supporting youth, newcomers and other marginalized community members to access good jobs. They encouraged the team to ask how residents can be supported in qualifying for those jobs in the first place. They offered the solution of working collaboratively with local agencies already connecting residents to upskilling or jobs as a way to increase the impact of a job fair initiative.
  - **Metrolinx** expressed their appreciation for the solution and, similarly, noted that they will take it away in planning for future job fairs.
- **Moss Park Coalition** asked if it is possible to add the hoarding art proposal to the action items in order to be discussed at future meetings. They reiterated the importance of considering this piece and suggested that, at future meetings, the Moss Park Coalition (MPC) do a presentation on the art plan being proposed for the hoarding.
  - **Metrolinx** agreed and confirmed that it can be added to the agenda at a future meeting.

- A **resident** shared their concern that the black paint on the existing hoarding is unattractive and negatively impacts the mood and spirit of residents in the area. They recommended using local art to beautify the space and better communicate the work being undertaken by Metrolinx.
  - **Fred Victor Centre** and **another resident** commented that anything painted on the hoarding will get dirty and not look as nice after some time, instead preferring black as a sleek colour that will get less dirty.
  - **Metrolinx** explained that the existing signage containing Metrolinx branding is the first phase and is important for communicating that it is a Metrolinx construction site. Similarly, the black paint is a branding standard across the South Civil alignment that is meant to help with potential graffitiing or papering of the site. They assured attendees that local art is a key part of their plan and that the team is currently discussing how to roll it out now across the alignment in a manner that is fair but also considerate of the unique characteristics of each neighbourhood.
- A **resident** expressed their concern that local businesses on Queen and Sherbourne Streets will be impacted by the construction given that less commuters and community members will be visiting them. They asked what measures will be taken to support those businesses.
  - **OTG** reiterated that there are no planned road closures or sidewalk closures as part of the construction, except for extreme circumstances where the team might need to temporarily block traffic for a big delivery. As a result, impacts to local businesses are not expected.
- **Moss Park Coalition** reminded the group of the importance of residents gaining economic opportunities amidst the construction. They reiterated an earlier suggestion that the team look at contracting social enterprises in the area and asked for an update on whether that piece is being considered for implementation.
  - **Metrolinx** explained that the team is still working on their framework for engaging with community groups but that they welcome recommendations on groups to reach out to.
  - **Moss Park Coalition** explained that they have a directory of enterprises that they support or have partnerships with and offered to come up with a list of organizations to share with the team.
- **Moss Park Armoury** asked whether the team foresees any impacts to the armoury given the piling work happening in May 2024.
  - **OTG** explained plans to monitor the grounds and infrastructure adjacent to the station. The team does not anticipate any impacts given the stringent parameters for installation in place. In the event something is detected, the team will be informed and can take remedial actions.
- **Garden District Residents Association** asked for any updates on ongoing meetings with community organizations like Indigenous partners in the neighbourhood.
  - **Metrolinx** offered to discuss this matter further and take more detailed conversations offline.

- **Garden District Residents Association** wondered about the impacts of construction on local businesses and noticed that, in other cases, developers have been required to add vibration detection units in buildings themselves. They inquired whether this measure is a possibility for historic buildings in Moss Park.
  - **OTG** explained that, currently, the team is looking at monitoring infrastructure within the existing zone of influence - which includes several buildings on Queen Street and the Moss Park Arena. If any alarming readings are detected, they will consider expanding monitoring outside of that zone - which could include looking more to the north.
  - **Metrolinx** added that, should attendees have any urgent concerns, they should reach out to the Ontario Line number.
- A **resident** asked why there are piles of garbage at the west end of the Queen Street entrance to the site.
  - **OTG** confirmed that they flagged this issue to City Services on Tuesday and that the team will continue to stay on top of it.
- A **resident** flagged that contractors have been leaving large orange and black construction cones in front of retail locations.
  - **OTG** explained that the cones support the teams working on monitoring, confirmed that they should not be left in public areas and committed to taking the concern away to be addressed.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- **Metrolinx** to add art proposal as an agenda item for future meetings, with the opportunity for the MPC to do a presentation on it.
- **Moss Park Coalition** to share a list of local social enterprises for **Metrolinx** to include in their community engagement plan.
- **Metrolinx** to follow up on offline conversations regarding community partnerships with **Garden District Residents Association**.
- **OTG** to take away concern related to traffic cones being left in front of retail locations.
- **Metrolinx** to send out a copy of the presentation and calendar invites for all future meetings.