

**Osgoode CLC #7
MEETING MINUTES**

February 28, 2024
2:00PM - 3:00PM

ATTENDEES:BIAs/Community Groups/Non-Profit
Organizations/Residents

- Andrew Robertson (Toronto Financial District BIA)
- Alan Liu (Queen Street West BIA)
- Anojan Sasthasivam (Toronto Downtown West BIA)
- Jason Gennaro (Chief Justice of Ontario)
- Simon Di Vincenzo (Law Society of Ontario)
- Trevor Guy (Ontario Superior Court of Justice)
- Liz Driver (Campbell House Museum)
- Helen Da Ponte (Crossbridge Condominium Services Limited)
- Ahmed Mesbah (GWL Realty Advisors)
- Max Allen (Grange Community Association)
- Monica Contreras (Bell Real Estate Services)
- Sheldon Kennedy (Stevens Burgess Architects Limited)
- Thomas Ngo (University of Toronto)
- Amy Mushinski (Four Seasons)
- Davin Leivonen (Canadian Opera Company)
- Brandon Purcell (PAA Advisory)
- Charles Maurer (CLC Member)
- David McIntosh (FoSTRA)
- Dennis McIntosh (CLC Member)
- Ram Nadarajah (215 Queen Smart House Condos)

City of Toronto

- Marouan Malaeb-Proulx (Councillor)
- Malik
- Keisha Lake
- Nazli Dehghani

- Julia Murnaghan
- Vanessa Opassinis
- Tom Schwerdtfeger
- Michael Paolucci
- Lais Siqueira
- Terry Francoeur
- Lancefield Morgan (Toronto Transit Commission)
- Michael Vieira (Toronto Transit Commission)

Province of Ontario

- Jeff Giffen (Infrastructure Ontario)
- Emma Baker (Infrastructure Ontario)
- Bradley Donohue (Infrastructure Ontario)
- Lorne Burger (Ministry of the Attorney General)
- Irene Mangoutas (Ministry of the Attorney General)
- Andrew Nizielski (Ministry of the Attorney General)

Metrolinx

- Ross Andersen
- Julia Orsini
- Phil Rodrigues
- Amanda Kusick
- Sarah Conway
- Ali Masnavi
- Louis Vattr
- Daniel Cicero
- Malcolm MacKay
- Antonio Capobianco
- Robert Chisholm
- Zaidun Alganabi

OTG

- Pedram Roshani
- Allison Dewhirst
- Jennifer Marques
- Javier Sanchez Moreno
- Amparo Mendez
- Emaan Ali

OVERVIEW:

Metrolinx and **Ontario Transit Group (OTG)** hosted a virtual Construction Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting for Osgoode Station on February 28, 2024. The meeting commenced with **Metrolinx** welcoming attendees, providing a land acknowledgment, and sharing a safety tip about winter weather preparedness.

Metrolinx reviewed the agenda and three action items from past meetings. Each action item was introduced with the opportunity for attendees to comment or ask questions. The first item related to the design of the northeast station and the proposed amount of greenspace surrounding it. **Metrolinx** updated CLC members that the team does not have finalized information on the size and location of the station yet. The second item requested **Metrolinx** to confirm any closures to the laneway east from Duncan Street and west from Simcoe Street. The laneway will remain open, although there may be partial obstruction as the façade of the headhouse is removed. Finally, regarding the third item, **Metrolinx** explained that future meeting dates were listed at the end of the slides.

Metrolinx provided updates about the track work at York Street. Staff explained that the **City of Toronto** is completing the portion of the work on Adelaide Street, while **Metrolinx** is completing the portion on York Street. The current stage of work is anticipated to continue for another two weeks as **Metrolinx's** contractor completes the duct work along York Street. Before the tracks are installed, poles and traffic signals need to be put in place at the intersection of Queen Street and York and Richmond Street and York Street. A paid duty officer will be on site for traffic management during construction of the current and upcoming stages of work.

OTG provided a brief construction update. They started with the fence removal happening at 130 Queen Street and noted the work will be complete in the next two weeks. Crews are preparing the future station site area for the next phase of construction, including removing topsoil, installing a new construction gate, installing a tree protection zone and work to preserve cobblestone and other heritage pieces happening in March. **OTG** provided pictures of these activities in the slides to help attendees visualize them.

OTG also addressed the work happening to the median at University Avenue. Here, the team has removed the South African War Memorial, preserved the Victory Statue, and dismantled the obelisk. Heritage stones are being moved one-by-one for preservation, while additional items like tree and vegetation planters and stones forming the foundation are being dismantled and salvaged. The team similarly provided pictures and videos of these activities to help attendees visualize and explained that the work will be complete in two to three weeks.

When it came to the future south station entrance, **OTG** explained crews are preparing to protect and relocate the east panel wall, to be stored in front of 168 Simcoe. Abatement and

removal of heritage fences around the north station entrance is also underway, alongside installing a metallic beam to support the basement and work to preserve the interior view of the façade.

OTG shared a workback plan that summarized ongoing and upcoming work. They explained that the team will continue with heritage preservation in the winter and early spring, in addition to site preparation, cobblestone removal and tree protection. The spring will see the installation of monitoring devices, the closure of the existing northeast TTC entrance, as well as construction piling. **Metrolinx** let attendees know that the team is planning a public information session on piling for the spring.

Metrolinx closed the meeting by sharing the CLC dates for 2024. **Metrolinx** noted that a new colleague will be leading the future CLC meetings.

QUESTIONS:

- **Campbell House Museum commented on the conversation surrounding the height and location of the future northeast station, raising concerns surrounding a loss of greenspace and impacts to viewscales and heritage attributes in the neighbourhood. They explained that adjustments to height and location would have impacts on the public realm. They recommended that a future meeting or another session dedicated to future station design plans, and that other organizations like BIAs and the Grange Community Association be invited to the table. Campbell House Museum recommended that an opportunity for feedback about station design be provided earlier before the team makes decisions and comes back with specifications.**
 - **Bell Real Estate Services** noted they support concerns shared by Campbell House surrounding the design of the northeast station.
 - **Metrolinx** reiterated that the location and dimensions of the station have not yet been confirmed.
- **Members agreed that receiving and finalizing the terms of reference will enable them to better understand the role, scope, and influence of the CLC.**
 - **Metrolinx** will report back on the status of the terms of reference at the next CLC meeting.
- **Grange Community Association asked whether the northeast station design of being spare, modern, and transparent was requested by the City of Toronto.**
 - **Metrolinx** clarified that, while the **City of Toronto** provided guidance on some concepts in collaboration with heritage and other stakeholders, **Metrolinx** owns the design of the building.
 - In response, **Grange Community Association** offered to share feedback on the design and location by writing a letter on behalf of their organization.

- **Toronto Financial District BIA asked questions about track work at York Street. First, what is expected to unfold after the initial work is complete in the next two weeks. Second, could they receive a schedule detailing when there will be work producing a lot of dust, as the Richmond Adelaide Centre will be undertaking repainting in the coming months. Finally, they brought to attention that the laneway between Richmond and York that was closed due to plate installation, which interrupted delivery times for one of the businesses in the area.**
 - **Metrolinx** explained that, after two weeks, its contractor will focus on pole and traffic signal work in coordination with the **City of Toronto** and the **Toronto Transit Commission**. From there, the traffic management plan will be confirmed after similar coordination, with an update being provided to the public as soon as it is ready. Later, track installation will commence.
 - **Metrolinx** will follow up regarding the days where higher dust is expected to be produced by construction and confirmed that, going forward, any laneway closures will be communicated.
- **Queen Street West BIA asked whether the team could include more detailed timelines in the track work update at the next meeting. The BIA would like to be kept to date on construction status for the streetcar diversion.**
 - **Canadian Opera Company** expressed that this type of information will be helpful for them and their patrons as well.
 - **Metrolinx** confirmed that target completion is still September and will update the group as soon as dates are confirmed.
- **Queen Street West BIA asked that, at its next meeting with Metrolinx, they discuss the plaque in front of 205 Queen Street.**
 - **Metrolinx** agreed.
- **Crossbridge Condominium Services Limited raised a series of questions for the team to address. First, with regard to housing the south façade on Simcoe Street, they asked the team to consider that the fire route access to 168 Simcoe Street is from the north side of Richmond Street or the west side of Simcoe Street. Second, they flagged that contractors are parking at the north end of their property, which has interfered with waste collection services to their building. Finally, they communicated that overnight work has been disturbing their residents.**
 - To the first concern, **Campbell House** suggested that the team share the fire plan with **Crossbridge Condominium Services Limited** and any other concerned residents. **OTG** confirmed that the team will work with Toronto Fire Services to ensure that there are no blockages.
 - **OTG** was aware of the waste collection concern and explained that the team will work with crews to have them avoid parking at that site.
 - **OTG** clarified that there is one monitoring point installation project that will be completed at night. The work is to-be-scheduled.
 - **City of Toronto** clarified that the overnight work was approved after preference expressed from the contractor and not at the behest of the **City of Toronto**.

- **Metrolinx** will work with **OTG** to provide responses to **Crossbridge Condominium Services Limited** prior to the next meeting.
- **Crossbridge Condominium Services Limited asked whether Metrolinx and OTG are open to holding a forum meeting with the owners and residents of 168 Simcoe to discuss the project and its impacts.**
 - **Metrolinx** will follow up on this question.
- **A resident shared additional concerns, first, surrounding the trimming of trees that hung over the one of the fences in the area. They were concerned that the trimming was so severe that the trees will die. Additionally, they expressed that there was no visual notice of the fencing on the lawn to the west of Osgoode Hall, an area that is used for sports and other activities.**
 - **City of Toronto** explained that the work may have been ECS Construction, a City contractor, working on University Avenue.
- **Campbell House Museum expressed that, before the long weekend for Family Day, not enough notice was given for work coming up in the area. They and other members requested that timely and specific notices be given and that, in the future, the team consider developing signage plans with affected stakeholders.**
 - The work required includes instrumentation and monitoring work, which is completed across multiple areas and requiring intermittent access.
 - **Metrolinx** apologized for the short notice and noted that **Metrolinx** has worked with businesses in the past to develop wayfinding signage to direct foot traffic.
 - **Campbell House Museum** clarified that it and other businesses are open in the evening for events and that **Metrolinx** is not always aware of these activities. They shared a schedule with **Metrolinx**, and in return, the team should consider working with them on signage for future works.
- **Grange Community Association asked to be introduced to the new Metrolinx contact given that the role of leading the CLC meetings is transitioning to them.**
 - Julia Orsini, the new Community Engagement Advisor for Osgoode, (**Metrolinx**) briefly introduced herself.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Metrolinx** to provide a status update on the terms of reference during the next Osgoode CLC meeting.
- **Metrolinx** to follow up with **Toronto Financial District BIA** on what construction days are expected to produce higher dust volumes given that the Richmond Adelaide Centre will be undertaking painting in the coming months.
- **Metrolinx** to ensure that any further closures along York Street are well communicated with the **Financial District BIA**.

- **Metrolinx** to discuss the plaque in front of **205 Queen** at the next meeting with the **Queen Street West BIA**.
- **Metrolinx** to work with OTG and the **City of Toronto** to gather information and /or dates about overnight work happening near **168 Simcoe Street**, where possible.
- **Metrolinx** to follow up with **Crossbridge Condominium Services Limited** on the opportunity to explore holding an information session for the residents of **168 Simcoe Street**.