

**Yonge North Subway Extension (YNSE)  
Royal Orchard Community Liaison Committee  
March 7, 2024**

**ATTENDEES**

City of Markham

- Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Mayor of Marham
- Councillor Keith Irish, Markham, Ward 1
- David Fleischer, Senior Planner
- Kant Chawla, Project Manager - Yonge North Subway Extension

Community Representatives

- Cory Ching, Local Resident & Member of the School Council for Baythorn P.S.
- Chris Collucci, President & CEO, Markham Board of Trade
- Alice Young, Director, Royal Orchard Ratepayers Association
- Dwight Richardson, Director, Royal Orchard Ratepayers Association
- Dale Murray, Local Resident

Metrolinx

- Rajesh Khetarpal, Vice President, Community Engagement
- Laura Adams, Director, Community Engagement, 905 East
- Alyx Hopton, Senior Manager, Community Engagement, York/Simcoe
- Giuliana Ferraro, Senior Advisor Community Engagement, YNSE
- Lena Ibrahim, Community Engagement Advisor, YNSE
- Judy Brooks, Manager Community Benefits
- Flora Devarajah, Senior Advisor Community Benefits

Overview

The second Royal Orchard Community Liaison Committee meeting took place on Thursday, March 7, 2024, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM on Microsoft Teams. This Committee serves as a forum to regularly share information and solicit feedback and input on the Yonge North Subway Extension through effective dialogue between Metrolinx and stakeholders (including elected officials, area residents and businesses). The Yonge North Subway Extension will bring five stations of roughly eight kilometres of new subway service on TTC's Line 1, extending north from Finch Station to Richmond Hill.

The meeting started with a presentation that covered introductions for members who were not present at the first meeting, a discussion to finalize the Terms of Reference following feedback that was received, and an overview of Metrolinx's Community Benefits and Supports (CBS) Program. This was followed by a Q&A session.

## Questions

- 1. Current projects have a 10% hiring target for BIPOC, women, and apprentices. Will future projects such as YNSE increase that target?**

Currently our targets remain at 10%. Metrolinx continues to build connections and create opportunities with our Project Company. This includes exploring opportunities such as job fairs, that connect jobseekers with the Project Company. Additionally, we will engage social enterprises who employ youth as apprentices. Our goal is to find a balance ensuring that the Project Company is meeting standards, while respecting market pressures and operational considerations.

- 2. How are community benefits budgeted? Is there a separate project budget line item for them?**

The YNSE project agreements will include requirements for Pillar 1 (Employment Opportunities) and 2 (Local Business Supports) of the Community Benefits & Supports Program, which were developed in consultation with Infrastructure Ontario.

Project Companies who are currently preparing bids for work on the project must factor in these requirements when preparing proposals for how to deliver the project, rather than adding as a separate budget line. It is important to note that meeting these requirements does not necessarily increase costs for the project. For example, we have seen in other projects that sourcing local suppliers may reduce costs related to transportation and materials handling.

With respect to Pillar 3 (Public Realm Improvements), these improvements are things that Metrolinx can include within budget and scope for the project but will not be a separate budget line.

In regard to Pillar 4 (Community Improvement Supports), these are ideas and initiatives where Metrolinx does not have the funding and will be over and above requirements. For these initiatives, Metrolinx will play a connector role by connecting the idea to the right decision-maker or funder.

- 3. CLC member suggested Metrolinx develop graphics that inform local communities about the economic opportunities associated with the YNSE project through the Community Benefits and Supports Program.**

## **Next Steps**

- The next CLC will be scheduled for the last week of April or early May and will be held in our Community Office. An availability poll will be sent to committee members the week

of April 8<sup>th</sup> 2024. Please note, meeting date may be subject to change based on Community Office readiness.

- CLC members will have an opportunity to experience the Sound Lab and receive information on the tunnel depth profile for Royal Orchard.
  - CLC members are invited to share any other requested agenda items in advance for consideration.
- Future meeting tentatively planned for June/early July.

#### **Action Items**

1. Metrolinx will engage our TTC partners around emergency response processes that involve emergency exit buildings and share information with the CLC at a future meeting.