

## **Ontario Line Moss Park Station Piling Information Session**

MINUTES

March 20, 2024

6:30 – 7:30 pm (Teams Meeting)

### **OVERVIEW:**

On March 20, 2024, Metrolinx, in collaboration with the Ontario Transit Group (OTG), conducted a virtual information session to inform residents about the next major phase of construction at Moss Park. Key topics discussed included an introduction to the project, an explanation of the need for pile drilling, how pile drilling will be carried out, and an outline of what residents can expect in terms of impacts.

OTG elaborated on the specifics of the construction process and that the community can expect piling work to begin in the coming days, commencing with mobilization of equipment onto site. Guidewall preparations and installation and then pile drilling would follow with an anticipated completion at the end of July 2024. It was also noted that work would respect standard operating hours (7:00 am – 7:00 pm), although there may be instances where weekend work or extended hours could be necessary.

The meeting addressed potential community impacts such as noise and vibration, the presence of construction equipment on-site, and increased truck traffic. Metrolinx and OTG reassured residents of the safety measures to mitigate these impacts, including air quality monitoring, site hoarding, debris management, and strategies to minimize noise and vibration impacts.

### **QUESTIONS:**

- **A Slido question inquired about noise mitigation during the day as the individual works shift work and sleeps during the day. Will construction be loud enough to disrupt sleep?**
  - **OTG** responded to explain that there are various mitigation strategies being used such as hoarding and auger cleaning and it also depends on how far the person lives from the site.
  - **OTG** encouraged residents to continue to provide feedback so they can determine additional mitigation strategies in collaboration with Metrolinx.
  
- **A Slido question was posed about the accessibility features at Moss Park Station (i.e. elevator access, washroom facilities).**
  - **OTG** responded to explain that Moss Park station will be fully accessible for all with escalators and elevators. In terms of washroom facilities, those will be for station staff with the nearest public restrooms at Queen or Osgoode station.

- **A Slido question inquired about alternative methods being considered for the piling drilling project.**
  - **OTG** confirmed that analysis was conducted during the design phase to explore alternative piling/shoring methodologies. Other solutions, such as shoring or lagging, also have their drawbacks. Secant piling was deemed the safest, most efficient, and least impactful option.
  
- **A Slido question inquired about the level of noise associated with the piling activities and the distance over which the sound would travel. How loud will they be?**
  - **OTG** explained that the noise from piling on-site typically measures around 85-90 decibels. Normally, there is a reduction of 6 decibels per meter. The existing noise barriers help dissipate much of the noise generated by the piling activities.
  - **OTG** added that there is a construction noise and vibration plan in place, including modeled predictions of noise and vibration levels for each phase of construction. For pile drilling, mitigation approaches can be implemented based on the predicted assessment to reduce noise impacts. Metrolinx and OTG monitor noise and vibrations in real-time using separate monitoring stations.
  
- **A Slido question was asked about measures being taken to minimize disruptions to residents and businesses during the piling drilling process.**
  - **OTG** explained that, in addition to the previously detailed features, the plan for the installed perimeter fencing includes incorporating community artwork to mitigate graffiti. There is an emphasis on making the park a pleasant place to ensure that people are not deterred from visiting during the construction phase.
  
- **Resident asked how many trucks would be coming into the construction site to take debris away and if there was a policy regarding the number of trucks allowed on site.**
  - **OTG** outlined a '1 to 1' ratio, indicating that for each amount of concrete installed, an equivalent amount of spoil would be extracted. The removal of spoil will not occur on a day-to-day basis; instead, the team plans to remove spoil from the site in batches to maximize hauling capacities and minimizing the number of trucks. Twelve (12) concrete trucks will consistently be used throughout the installation process.
  
- **A Slido question was asked about the expected vibration levels residents in the area might experience during the piling process.**

- **OTG** explained that, similar to noise monitoring, ongoing vibration monitoring is conducted with monitors positioned around the site. It's anticipated that the community may feel some vibrations.
  - **OTG** elaborated that a construction noise and vibration management plan was established even before the commencement of work, which predicted vibration impacts. Should there be a trend toward exceeding predefined levels, OTG will evaluate and take immediate and appropriate action.
  - **OTG** provided additional context, stating that OTG is managing this discussion on-site with the installation of a working platform. Certain limitations regarding vibration are in place to ensure safety within the area. However, this does not guarantee that residents won't feel any vibrations at any point. If a resident were to experience vibrations, they would likely be isolated and of short duration.
- **A Slido question was asked about how long the piling process would take and the overall timeline.**
    - **OTG** estimated that a total of 409 piles need to be installed, with 6 completed per day. This translates to approximately 80 working days, or roughly 4 months. Following the piling process, the team will need to excavate the shaft using machines before beginning construction of the station.
- **A Slido comment was posted regarding the dusty conditions in the area and inquired about the anticipation of more dust and the implementation of dust mitigation measures.**
    - **OTG** explained that the dust is primarily generated by construction vehicle movement. During the installation of the piles in spring and summer, natural dust suppression is expected with rainfall in the spring. If the spring and summer seasons are dry, dust suppression will be enforced through the application of water throughout the entire construction phase.
- **A Slido comment was posted asking for a copy of the presentation.**
    - **Metrolinx** confirmed that the presentation would be posted to the website in the coming days/weeks.
- **A Slido question was asked about the impacts on sidewalks and whether weather conditions would affect piling activities, potentially causing delays.**
    - **OTG** explained that no closures are anticipated for streets or sidewalks. Residents will retain access to Queen St E. and Sherbourne St sidewalks. Flaggers are stationed at the construction site entrance and exits to manage and ensure safety between pedestrians and trucks. While heavy rain and

unsafe weather conditions may slow down construction work, it shouldn't impact the overall duration of the construction program significantly.

- **A Slido question was inquired about the completion date of Moss Park Station.**
  - **OTG** confirmed that the station building (above ground portion) and restoration of the landscaping, is estimated to be complete in 2029.
  
- **A Slido question inquired about the completion date of the overall Ontario Line.**
  - **Metrolinx** shared that after OTG's work is complete, another contractor will be responsible for working on the tracks and commissioning of the station, with completion expected by 2031.