

Exhibition Piling Virtual Open House MINUTES

June 12, 2024

7:00 - 8:00 pm

***68 Attendees including:** *List to be Updated

BIAs/Community Groups/Non-Profit Organizations/Residents

- Paola Palazzo
- Ellen Lai
- Elijah Johnson
- Stephanie McEwan
- Robert Howley
- Ross Howey
- Vitha Sivatharman
- Nina Sloma
- Alan Wong
- Luis Diaz
- Tony Porter (Exhibition Place)
- Andrea Siemens
- Alex Horber
- Abhi Kathuria (Liberty Village BIA)
- Jack Tattersall
- Corrie Galloway

Metrolinx

- Ross Andersen
- Mark Clancy
- Bradley Naismith
- Franca DiGiovanni (Bechtel Corporation)
- James Francis
- Mehran Kavarian

- Mohamed El Hendy
- Sheila Qassemi
- Malcolm MacKay

City of Toronto

- Councilor Malik
- Louie Lenti
- Sheikh Alam
- Nancy Aranha
- Michael Paolucci
- Julia Murnaghan
- Tom Davidson
- Mohamed Ibrahim

OTG

- Shane Adams
- Sevim Coskun
- Allison Dewhirst
- Emanuel Gameiro
- Garrick McIntosh
- Alonso Ortega
- Dominique Job
- Jorge Rodriguez
- Juan Marcos
- Jennifer Marques
- Aga Szczotka

OVERVIEW:

To inform residents about the upcoming milestone phase of piling activity, Metrolinx and OTG conducted a virtual information session on June 12, 2024, to inform residents about the upcoming milestone phase of piling activity.

The meeting commenced with a land acknowledgment, followed by an introduction to the Ontario Line project, highlighting its significance, scope and community impact. The teams provided a detailed update on construction progress to date, presented a truncated version of the Liberty Village traffic management plan (to mitigate construction-related traffic disruptions), and reviewed the plans and timelines of the upcoming Exhibition Station and Ordinance Triangle Park piling works.

The primary focus was on the upcoming piling activity, explaining its process, timeline, and expected community impact. After the Q&A session, the meeting concluded with Metrolinx thanking attendees for their participation and inviting them to the upcoming Exhibition Community Liaison Committee (CLC) meeting on July 9, 2024, for further construction updates.

QUESTIONS:

A resident asked about nighttime work hours, expressing concerns about being awakened by construction noise at nighttime.

- Metrolinx and OTG responded that they would provide a dedicated contact email from the partner in charge of nighttime work for more detailed information and assured the resident of their availability for further assistance. The same resident also inquired about road repairs, to which Metrolinx explained that road maintenance falls under the City of Toronto's jurisdiction, but they are coordinating with the city to improve traffic conditions.

The same resident inquired if Metrolinx could repair damages to key roads, including Hanna Avenue.

- Metrolinx explained that road maintenance falls under the City of Toronto's jurisdiction, but they are coordinating with the city to improve traffic conditions.

A resident asked whether the Ontario Line would open all seven stations at once or in sections.

- Metrolinx confirmed that the entire line will open at once.

A resident inquired if the main entrance of Exhibition Station would integrate businesses.

- Metrolinx stated they are in discussions with the city about having a retail concourse area and are still exploring options. Additional information will be shared with the community once available.

A resident asked if the Ontario Line would connect with the Suffering Bus Stop.

- Metrolinx responded that coordination with TTC is ongoing and given the proximity of the bus stop to Exhibition Station, a connection will be offered. Further updates will be provided in future CLC meetings.

A resident asked about noise level limits during work on-site and the expected decibels during peak noise levels.

- OTG responded that sound levels close to the machinery can be between 85 and 95 decibels, but this level decreases significantly at a distance from the site.

A resident questioned the traffic conditions during the FIFA World Cup.

- Metrolinx informed that traffic management for the event is handled by the City of Toronto, and Metrolinx is part of a working group collaborating with the city to ensure optimal public transport conditions during the 2026 event in Liberty Village.

A resident asked if a new Liberty Street is part of the project.

- Metrolinx responded that a pedestrian bridge will provide access to the new Liberty Street, and that the city of Toronto is responsible for the design and implementation of the street (aside from the portion directly in front of the new Exhibition Station building on the north side of the rail corridor).

A resident inquired about the cleaning schedule, currently impacted by truck traffic.

- Metrolinx stated they have measures to mitigate dust, including mats at site.

A resident expressed concerns about green spaces at Exhibition Station.

- Metrolinx replied that they are collaborating with the city to include tree areas adjacent to the station.

A resident asked if noise barriers will be installed along Exhibition Station.

- Metrolinx responded that the elevated structure of the station's main entrance will serve as a noise barrier, and the use of electric trains will further reduce noise impact.