

Moss Park Excavation Open House

MINUTES

June 13, 2024

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. (Teams Meeting)

OVERVIEW:

On Thursday, June 13, 2024, **Metrolinx**, in collaboration with **OTG**, conducted a virtual information session to inform the Moss Park community about the next major phase of construction, excavation, scheduled to start mid-July.

Metrolinx introduced the project, followed by an explanation on the process of excavation, potential community impacts such as noise, dust and vibration, construction equipment for this next phase of work, increased truck traffic, and hauling routes delivered by the contractor, **OTG**.

OTG provided a summary on the process of excavation and what to expect in terms of the timelines, hours of work (7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.) and mitigation efforts. The community can anticipate excavation of the station shaft to begin in mid-July as the crews are nearing the completion of piling works. The excavation process will remove layers of soil and bedrock to a depth of 30m with trucks hauling out materials to approved haul routes.

QUESTIONS:

- **An attendee on the call asked how Metrolinx and OTG plan to create opportunities for Moss Park residents during the excavation process under Pillar One of Metrolinx’s Four Pillar Community benefits program and how long will progress on targets be communicated to the community?**
 - **Metrolinx** explained that OTG recently held a job fair with opportunities specifically tied to the project with various other employers in attendance with the fair, sharing opportunities with attendees.
 - **OTG** further added that all open roles on the project are posted on the Ontario Transit Group LinkedIn page which is frequently updated with some roles being offered through the unions.

- **A Slido question asked what is excavation?**
 - **OTG** explained that various types of equipment will remove layers of soil and bedrock to a depth of 30m to where the tunnel and station will be constructed.

- **A Slido question asked how disruptive will the excavation process be for residents?**
 - **OTG** expressed that the noise level is not expected to increase but actually to decrease in comparison to the piling activities. As the excavators dig down into the shaft, the hoarding and the increase in distance from the community will be

less perceptive and the need for some equipment such as the compactors that produced vibration during earlier stages of work will not be required for this phase of work. There is no expectation that public transit will be impacted with all sidewalks and lanes to remain open, however, special circumstances may require a short-term closure of a lane or sidewalk. Traffic control persons will assist with trucks entering and exiting the site to ensure a smooth and safe transition and assist pedestrians and cyclists crossing the access points.

- **A Slido question inquired about the dust levels and the management of dust and minimizing dust. What about the excessive noise experience throughout the recent months?**
 - **OTG** addressed that mitigation efforts are in place with routine water suppression management ongoing with the saturation of exposed soils and debris during dry and hot weather with water and a sprinkler system, mud mats that collect dust before it is carried out to site from truck wheels, streetsweepers deployed to maintain clean roadways the addition of paved surface from the access routes to minimize airborne dust particles from truck traffic. In terms of noise, hydro vac trucks did produce a considerable and notable levels of noise which are mandated by the city to carry out some of the utility work safely and efficiently with no alternative methods. Fortunately, residents should not expect to hear hydro vac trucks back onsite in the immediate future and use of this equipment will be minimal moving forward.
 - **OTG** expressed that mitigation measures are always being reviewed and improvement measures are always in consideration and implemented when possible.

- **A Slido question asked for a larger map showing the plans for all station haul routes travelling through the Toronto centre. It is hard to provide comments when looking at one station at a time.**
 - **Metrolinx** explained that the traffic team has been working closely with the City of Toronto Transportation Services on construction project coordination throughout the city and will share the overall map.

- **A Slido question inquired about the number of trucks expected travelling into and out of the neighbourhood during excavation.**
 - **OTG** explained that the number of trucks will fluctuate depending on the activity. With the soil removal, the community can expect to see approximately 50 trucks per day (staggered), and during the excavation of the bedrock, which is more challenging to remove, the expectation is that approximately 30-40 trucks will be arriving and leaving the site.

- **A Slido question asked what controls/mechanisms/monitoring systems are in place to check acceptable noise levels assessed and who is responsible for recording and reporting them?**
 - **OTG** explained that real-time noise, vibration and air-quality monitors are operational full time, recording and providing data to the environmental and station team members. Should a level reach close to surpassing acceptable thresholds, the team is immediately alerted, and activity is halted and investigated.
- **A Slido question asked what is the process that Metrolinx follows to mitigate concerns once a noise complaint is received for the Moss Park site? Who is the on-site contact?**
 - **Metrolinx** explained that the community engagement team is always available to answer questions or concerns through their designated email addresses or contact numbers, additionally, the community can contact the Metrolinx telephone number.
- **A Slido question asked about the design of the station house and why isn't it more than a square glass box, with no thought, design or creativity put into the station?**
 - **Metrolinx** explained that the overall design of the station is part of the city's revitalization project incorporating the newly landscaped green space of the park minimizing the appearance of the station building.