

Ontario Line

Lakeshore East Joint Corridor Construction Liaison Committee (CLC)

June 20, 2024

Meeting Summary

6:00 pm to 7:30pm (Teams Meeting)

ATTENDEES

Elected Officials/Staff

Nicolas Valverde- Councillor Fletcher’s Office

City of Toronto

Terry Francoeur- Transportation Services
Michael Paolucci- Transit Expansion

BIAs/Community Groups/Residents

Shelley Kline- LSE CAC
Eric Kular
Cathy Q- Leslieville BIA
Kit Chapman- LSE CAC

Dufferin/LURA

Michael Macaluso
Hasnaa Maher
Nico Zucco

Metrolinx

Mark Clancy
Alexandra Grgas-Sorge
Frankie Lam
Malcolm MacKay
Katiana Moussa
John Potter

OVERVIEW

The thirteenth Lakeshore East Joint Corridor CLC took place at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on June 20, 2024, via Microsoft Teams. During this meeting, the discussion was focused on the upcoming demolition works at the bridges, the structural works within the rail corridor, and the mitigation measures being implemented to reduce the impact of construction on the community and the environment.

DISCUSSION

1. Review of Action Items from May 16 CLC

- **Lakeshore East Community Advisory Committee (LSE CAC) Item number 1:**
 - Corresponding Action: Metrolinx to provide an update on Jimmie Simpson Park banner.
 - **Metrolinx (MX):** This is the portion of construction fencing that goes behind the playground in Jimmie Simpson Park. Proposal to work with JSP youth council to design banner artwork will not be proceeding. MX is currently exploring other design opportunities for the playground and to be able to reuse banner when construction moves to west side of corridor.

- **LSE CAC:** Having the banners installed depended on timing, preferably when children were on break. Acknowledges that City did not approve concept of children's artwork. If it will take a while to design concepts for the banners, should just focus on producing art hoarding for the West side. MX can consider working with BIA to produce nice mural, which would border businesses areas along Queen St E.
- **MX:** Concerns are fair, and we will focus on the other side of the corridor to hopefully get it up sooner. Happy to work with BIA and residents on the other side.
- **LSE CAC Item number 5:** When can we see final arborist report. What is the process for MX to get from City. Were told that we'd have report in June. How can we have a look to see what trees are being removed.
 - Corresponding Action: Metrolinx to provide an update on the tree removals planned for the north side of the rail corridor. Specifically, residents want clarity on what trees are being removed and how many.
 - **MX:** Working on finalizing the arborist report with the City. Report is still not finalized, and an update will be shared with the CLC membership when the report is received. MX is always trying to minimize tree removals and details are being ironed out between MX, the contractor, and City.
 - **LSE CAC:** September is tentative date for removal - when will we get report?
 - **MX:** Will provide the information at the CLC before trees are removed.

1. Complaints Tracker

- **LSE CAC Item 1-4:** Queen East - unclear where complaint came from. Can it be made more specific for better tracking.
 - Corresponding Complaint: Complaint received about noise in the morning due to crane delivery.
 - **MX:** The complaint was received on the east side of the Queen bridge, near McGee Street.
 - **LSE CAC:** Was no notification provided for overnight delivery of the crane?
 - **MX:** Construction notice for Queen bridge outlined work can begin as early as 5 a.m. MX recognized the additional notice could have been provided and will provide this notice moving forward.
 - **LSE CAC:** Requesting for this work to be done later in the day instead of 5 a.m. Noise exceedance was registered.
 - **MX:** MX will look into alternatives, but the Contractor is working within the limits of the City permit and avoid stopping rush hour traffic. Construction notice for work at the Dundas bridge, provided crane delivery information.
- **LSE CAC Item 7 and 8:** Seeking more details on mitigations.
 - Corresponding Complaint: Complaint received about noise later in the morning.

- **MX:** In-house mitigations provided to the resident and MX had regular check-ins with resident to accommodate their needs and challenges due to close proximity to Queen St E. bridge.
- **LSE CAC Item 10:** In resolution, why was resident added to notice distribution list and not already getting notices.
 - Corresponding Complaint: Complaint received about noise during the day.
 - **MX:** Distribution list is for emailed notices. Their address would still be receiving mailed notices.
- **LSE CAC Item 15:** Homeowners went to media regarding vibrations because they don't feel listened to and are very worried about property damage to their homes. We understand that conversations are being had but want MX to rethink approach when receiving many complaints in close proximity (cluster) and time. Complaints were made in morning that homes in the same area were shaking. MX response is that monitors were checked and there were no exceedances. We understand this is official response, but it is not reassuring to residents and needs to be better. Work needs to stop if there is a cluster of complaints.
 - Corresponding Complaint: Complaint received about vibration during the day.
 - **MX:** We're working behind the scenes with residents. We know that even though there are no exceedances, residents may still be feeling vibration. Meeting is being scheduled with residents to discuss this topic in person. MX will look at a more hands-on approach when people are experiencing these discomforts from construction.
 - **LSE CAC:** When you're moving to the other side of the corridor you will be closer to the houses. Will really need to document more, and someone needs to be on site when vibrations are strong. Would like MX to take videos of when this is happening to educate the community as to what they should do. More education and outreach in the community is needed regarding 'safe' levels of vibrations.
 - **MX:** Clarifying that there are always personnel on-site actively monitoring vibration levels and stopping work when exceedances are detected. When exceedance is detected, work stops.
 - **LSE CAC:** Homeowners don't care about monitoring or standard since it affects heritage homes very differently. Many residents in the Dundas/Logan area are exhausted.
- **LSE CAC Item 30:** Site cleanliness is getting a lot better, but there is garbage on Logan Ave that was requested to be picked up. However, MX said it was outside the Contractors work site and will call 311. How was it known that it wasn't Dufferin? What process is in place - it shouldn't be up to the community to tell Metrolinx.
 - Corresponding Complaint: Complaint received about scattered garbage around Logan Ave.
 - **MX:** Some of the locations from this complaint were outside Dufferin work zones and sites. MX assisted in calling 311 and in future, whoever notices

the garbage should call 311. Dufferin will continue to ensure work sites are clean and be good neighbors, but appropriate action is 311.

- **LSE CAC:** But if it looks like construction debris, don't understand why they don't pick it up.
 - **MX:** It was not construction related garbage. MX personally went to site and a lot of the garbage was coffee cups, so it was not construction related. Some was on private property which the City and Dufferin cannot remove.
 - **LSE CAC:** Thanks for going to look at it and taking photos.
- **LSE CAC additional issue to add to tracker:** For residents that have parking at Dickens St lot, people are parking in their spots and there's nothing they can do. Can towing company be called?
 - **MX:** We will take this back and work with contractor to find a solution. MX is in direct contact with the residents and in the past have been able to have cars moved within 10 minutes. MX will continue to do this and will take this action back to contractor.

2. Noise and Vibration Update

- **MX provided overview of noise and vibration update for May 2024**

3. Construction Update

- **Abutment construction**
 - **LSE CAC:** What is involved in construction of the bridge abutment? What equipment? Is there vibration?
 - **Dufferin Construction Company (DCC):** Same piling method as used previously, such as in construction of piers. Hole is drilled, steel rebar is placed inside, then filled with concrete. This then makes the foundation with columns. Work activity will cause some vibration but not the same as retaining wall construction.
- **LSE CAC:** Wants confirmation that there will be no work on Monday for the Canada Day long weekend.
 - **DCC:** No work on Monday during the day but will possibly begin at night after midnight (Tuesday morning, not Monday morning). This would give the community with 3 full days of no work.
 - **MX:** Will take back as action item to confirm if work is happening.
- **In-corridor work**
 - **LSE CAC:** Behind First Ave at the rail corridor, what is the combined height of the retaining wall and the noise wall. Is it 7 metres, or taller?

- **MX:** 6 metres is the noise barrier height – the combined height varies because there’s a hill behind the townhomes on the shared land. There can’t be a continuous combined height because it’s variable – it’s about the topography not the height of the infrastructure.
- **2024 Lookahead**
 - **LSE CAC:** Request to highlight what is new when something is added to lookahead.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Metrolinx** to explore opportunities for artwork, banners, murals on the west side of the rail corridor.
2. **Metrolinx** to seek update on when arborist report will be finalized and ready for distribution.
3. **Metrolinx** and DCC to investigate whether crane deliveries or similar work can be done later in the day.
4. **Metrolinx** and DCC to confirm work schedule over Canada Day long weekend.
5. **Metrolinx** to provide drawing of retaining wall and noise barrier heights along rail corridor around First Ave.
6. **Metrolinx** to highlight new information when added to lookahead.