

## **Queen Spadina Virtual Information Session MEETING MINUTES**

January 17, 2024

7:00PM-8:00PM

### **PRESENTERS:**

#### Metrolinx

- Daniel Cicero
- Mark Clancy
- Athavan Nadarajah

#### OTG

- Loïs Rouveyrol
- Francisco Metcalf

### **OVERVIEW:**

On Wednesday, January 17, 2024, Metrolinx hosted a Queen/Spadina public information session meeting in partnership with OTG. The meeting was hosted virtually and focused on upcoming piling works.

During the session, attendees were provided with an overview of what to expect during upcoming piling works at the future Queen-Spadina station sites, including working hours, expected construction activities and mitigations in place to help limit impact to the neighbours. During the meeting, attendees were encouraged to ask questions via Teams chat and Slido. Following the presentation, representatives from Metrolinx and OTG addressed questions. Metrolinx closed the formal presentation with information on how to contact their project team.

### **QUESTIONS:**

- **A community member inquired if OTG/Metrolinx is looking for support for the station design and considerations for the limited pedestrian space around the station entrances.**
  - **Metrolinx** advised that design is complete.
  - For housing, the station has been designed to support potential future construction. Infrastructure Ontario (who would be leading this project) has already announced their intent to further develop housing around the site.
- **A community member asked about the construction timeline, specifically project completion and delivery by 2030. What are the factors and risks that might impact the timeline?**
  - **OTG** noted the timeline anticipated for the station is specific to the site, and that the team does not current foresee any barriers. With regards to planning, the team shared that risk factors are taken into consideration as part of project planning.

- **A community member inquired if there is a need for additional staff required for the project and where to get more information.**
  - **Metrolinx** shared that Metrolinx is actively posting job opportunities on the career page and will be hosting a job fair soon.
- **A community member inquired about the tunnel boring machine not currently underground and if this could delay the construction.**
  - **OTG** confirmed the machine is expected to go underground at the station at a later date. This is the planned sequence.
  - **Metrolinx** added the TBM is currently in the procurement stage and is expected to start at Exhibition Place, moving east towards at Queen-Spadina.
- **A community member inquired about the depth of the TBM, recognizing that the area has many deep parking concaves. The individual also asked about the measures being taken to include community youth groups (i.e. Alexandra Park Community).**
  - **Metrolinx** confirmed they're currently preparing a youth engagement strategy that with engage and involve communities across the project to make sure their opinions are voiced and addressed.
  - **Metrolinx** spoke to tunnel depth expecting to be around 30-40 metres.
- **A community member inquired about the drilling machine and potential for exhaust smells.**
  - **OTG** confirmed the drilling machines run on diesel.
  - **Metrolinx** added that the team has installed an air quality monitor near stations.
- **A question from Slido inquired about the name of planned for the station.**
  - **Metrolinx** confirmed there will be opportunities for the community to provide input on the station name through surveys and/or voting, in the future.
- **A community member asked about sidewalk closures during tunnel construction.**
  - **Metrolinx** confirmed Metrolinx will contain the excavation processes and majority of the work (including TBM) would be underground. There is potential for minor closures, but the goal is to ensure construction happens under the restricted areas.
- **A question from Slido inquired about the measures to limit noise and vibration.**
  - **OTG** shared that noise and vibration monitoring equipment has been installed and has been active and providing the team with real time data for the team to respond to immediately.
- **A community member commented on the notice for the Graffiti Alley closure and the presentation showing the exceptions for garbage trucks and traffic. The individual asked if there would be an exception for pedestrian access too.**
  - **OTG** provided further content over the timing of the closure and that there would be some access allocated for pedestrians when risks to safety were not present.

- **A community member inquired about the monitoring systems installed and if there were any exemptions on the noise level.**
  - **OTG** shared details on the monitoring equipment being used. Based on the results gathered, OTG would react to mitigate noise levels if required.
  - **OTG** added that piling and drilling activities would also follow mindful practices throughout the construction.
- **A community member inquired about the 2030 timeline asking if its only for the station or does it involve the residential housing as well?**
  - **Metrolinx** confirmed that the 2023 timeline is related to construction of subway line and station. The development above the station would be led by Infrastructure Ontario, which is on a different timeline.
  - **Metrolinx** added that Infrastructure Ontario is expected to start as soon as the station construction is completed, and Metrolinx is working close with the team.

### Questions and Comments from Slido

- This should not be a one-story building. Please develop above the station building with housing. Preferably low rent or co-op.
- What is Metrolinx doing to help integrate the new Ontario Line service with both the Spadina and Queen streetcars and make transferring easier?
- What is the depth of the subway tunnel in this area?
- Will the local community have the opportunity to provide input into the final station name, as is done with other Metrolinx projects?
- Does that mean that Horseshoe Tavern is done for?
- What will Queen-Spadina Station be called once the Line is complete? I believe it should be called Chinatown Station to better reflect the area/community the station is in. It could also feature art from Asian-Canadian artists and promote the area with diversity.
- Will Metrolinx obtain pre-construction surveys prior to the commencement of the construction? If so, will the reports be shared with the landowners? If not, will Metrolinx pay the cost for landowners to obtain a pre-construction survey?
- Why does construction need to start at 7 am? Does this mean, construction crews show up at 7 or are they showing up earlier? If so, the noise will start before 7 am!
- I feel like this is going to cast shadows on neighbouring parks...maybe a few less floors please!!! Thanks!!!
- What is happening after the piling work finishes?
- Does Metrolinx anticipate reducing the size of the intersection of Queen and Spadina at any point and, if so, for how long? Are there any other anticipated traffic impacts resulting from the construction activities in the area?
- Will the existence of the tunnel require additional permits when a property is redeveloped?
- What measures will Metrolinx put in place to ensure that buildings are not damaged by any vibration, etc., as the construction progresses?
- What mitigation measures does Metrolinx contemplate implementing to assist the businesses in the area during the construction?

**Attendees:**Metrolinx

- Ross Andersen
- Bradley Naismith
- Athavan Nadarajah
- Franca DiGiovanni
- Flavia Santiago
- Daniel Cicero
- Mark Clancy
- Mark Farmer
- Kenia Barreto
- Kristin Jenkins
- Mehran Khavarian
- Raheel Ahmed

OTG

- Bella Santos
- Loïs Rouveyrol
- Jennifer Marques
- Allison Dewhirst
- Ryan Sebastian
- Francisco Metcalf
- Flavie Hamelin

City of Toronto

- Michael Paolucci
- Lais Sequeira

Community Members

- Adrian Yu
- Ahmed
- AL
- Alejandro Trillos
- Alex Horber
- Althea
- Ann Marie Strapp
- Aspa
- Ava Kramer
- Bluboho Store
- Brad Struthers
- Brian Buss
- CH
- Chris MacLean

- Corina Severin
- Darrell
- David
- David Gross
- Don Young
- Moore
- J
- Jae
- Jackson
- Jason Fidalgo
- Jay Wong
- Jeanna
- Joe
- Johnson
- Jonathan Katsouleas
- Joseph L
- K
- KK
- Karen
- Katherine
- Kevin
- Kim
- Kristina Kock
- Laura
- Lis
- Marie-Josée Vinet
- Mark Richardson
- Matt Zuckerman
- Moggy
- Niki L
- Nikoloski Ljubisa
- PW
- Richard D
- Ron Huybrechts
- Ryan Chatterjee
- Sabrina Z
- Sandy & Cynthia
- Shachindra Tripathi
- Sorough
- Stefan B
- Steven Lemay
- Tatjana Trebic
- Terry
- Tristen
- Valerie Eggertson
- Vikram Rai
- Yoshie Nagata
- Zane