

Ontario Line**Lakeshore East Joint Corridor Construction Liaison Committee (CLC)**

Thursday, April 3, 2025
Meeting Minutes
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (Teams Meeting)

ATTENDEES**BIAs/Community Groups/Residents**

Shelley Kline - LSE CAC
Stephen Davies - LSE CAC
Tony Whitaker - LSE CAC
Kit Chapman - LSE CAC
Linda Sargent - LSE CAC
Lanrick Bennett Jr. (East End 4 All)
Catherine Riddell - LSE CAC
Katherine Mellin - LSE CAC
Meredith K Ashton - LSE CAC
Brian Cunha - LSE CAC
Jennifer Lay - Riverside BIA
Cathy Q - Leslieville BIA

Elected Officials/Staff

Tamara Thanaraja - Councillor Paula
Fletcher's Office

City of Toronto

Michael Paolucci - Transit Expansion
Julia Murnaghan - Transit Expansion

Dufferin Construction Company/LURA

Michael Macaluso
Peter Stone
Thomas Williams
Hasnaa Maher
Nico Zucco

Metrolinx

Alexandra Grgas-Sorge
Frankie Lam
Katiana Moussa
Nima Nouri
Darren Cooney
Roberto Donatelli
Jason Brander

OVERVIEW

The twenty-first Lakeshore East Joint Corridor CLC took place at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. on April 3rd, 2025, via Microsoft Teams. During this meeting, the discussion was focused on CLC expectations, completed works, an update on the bridges, and work within the rail corridor.

DISCUSSION**1. Access Roads**

- **Lakeshore East Community Advisory Committee (LSE CAC):** What are the pedestrian safety mitigations for the access road construction work?
 - **Metrolinx (MX):** PDOs will be stationed at all road closures to redirect pedestrians accordingly. Under the bridges, there will be soft and hard closure signage indicating pedestrian restrictions. Only the area directly under the bridge will be closed to pedestrians. East-to-west walking along Broadview and Logan will remain open.

- **LSE CAC:** What hours will the PDOs be active? Will a PDO be present throughout the access road operations?
 - **MX:** PDOs will not be present throughout the entire access road operation; however, they will be present all day during long-term pedestrian closures. Also, when trucks enter and exit the rail corridor, four traffic control personnel are to be present.
- **LSE CAC:** Can renders of the access road construction be provided? Trucks appear to be driving straight up the hill - seemingly posing a safety concern for pedestrians and cars under the bridge.
 - **MX:** Excavation will occur, and a ramp will be built over top. Round rollers will also compact the dirt, making it solid and stable for trucks to drive over. Solid barriers will be built along the access roads to protect the public right-of-way.
- **LSE CAC:** Why aren't access roads being paved?
 - **MX:** Initially, MX planned to pave the access roads. However, the environmental team highlighted that laying the access roads with mud mats rather than paving with concrete would be more environmentally conscious because mats are better at mitigating dust. These mats will be used across the entire length of the access roads.
- **LSE CAC:** Acknowledging the election period, there was an absence of MX contact or support. MX representatives need to maintain constant and consistent communication with impacted residents. The election period caused community struggle, especially with limited communication through printed notices.
 - **MX:** The team will review its communication and engagement strategy during election periods for the future.

2. Discussion

- **Riverside BIA:** There are concerns regarding the May 30th and June 1st Queen Street and Dundas Street weekend road closures, as they overlap with two annual events near the bridge - The Riverdale Art Walk and Dundas Fun Fair.
 - **MX:** Due to TTC subway and streetcar diversion scheduling, road closure applications require six months of advanced notice and coordination with the TTC. The MX team will schedule a meeting to discuss messaging with organizers and mitigation for the two upcoming events. Additionally, a collective document containing major annual events in the neighbourhood will be produced to mitigate construction during those dates.
 - **Councillor Fletcher's Office:** The Councillor's Office is aware of the BIA and community's concern regarding the upcoming weekend closure dates and is communicating with MX regarding a mitigation strategy.
- **LSE CAC:** The presentation slides show that work on the west/north side is complete; however, construction is still being observed on the east/south side. What activities are still taking place?

- **MX:** The retaining wall and noise barriers are complete on the east/south side. Currently, high-security fences are being installed on Jimmy Simpson and will be complete on April 18th.
- **LSE CAC:** Regarding the access sewer installation work at First Avenue, is this where the future plaza will be?
 - **Dufferin Construction Company (DCC):** Yes, a catch basin will be installed at the end of First Avenue. The sewer runs through the area behind the noise wall and wooden hoarding, mostly within the closed rail corridor.

3. Completed Action Items

- **LSE CAC - Item #1:** What is the mitigation plan for light, noise, and sound complaints regarding Fontbonne residences?
 - **MX:** A wooden noise barrier/hoarding of about two meters in height is the only spatially feasible option. The team will consistently be monitoring complaints and monitors to make adjustments as needed. Once excavation starts, the machines and equipment will keep lowering below the wooden noise barrier/hoarding, which will block more noise. Additionally, MX is having ongoing discussions and has established a good working relationship with the board of Fontbonne; therefore, any requests for additional mitigations will be discussed with them and other residents.
- **LSE CAC - Item #2:** The Gerrard Station contractor should be required to attend these CLC meetings.
 - **MX:** The Gerrard Station contractors will attend the April Open House to introduce themselves to the community and join future CLC meetings.
- **LSE CAC - Item #2:** The Gerrard Bridge design appears to have changed drastically from two years ago. It would be good to have a look at the new design.
 - **MX:** This will be requested of the Gerrard Station contractors and provided at a future CLC meeting.
- **LSE CAC - Item #4:** Additional lights need to be installed at Jimmy Simpson Park to add visibility and deter graffiti, considering there are only two lights in the entire park.
 - **MX:** The team can look into installing additional lights.

4. Complaints and Issues Tracker (January)

- **LSE CAC:** There appear to be only two out of the three complaints I have made over this period of time; therefore, what is the accuracy of this tracker? Additionally, MX's statement noting that each resident was contacted and provided with information on the corrective actions taken to address their complaint is inaccurate.
 - **MX:** The MX-CE team will review the emails received and add the missed complaints to the tracker. There is a commitment for all complaints to be logged and investigated. Complaints received via email are responded to

via email, as complaints received via phone call are responded to via phone. Also, complaints made late in the month are captured in the following CLC presentation complaints tracker.

- **LSE CAC:** Does MX have an established protocol in place to respond to complaints? Are subcontractors held accountable?
 - **MX:** The MX and DCC teams take complaints and concerns very seriously, especially regarding safety. As soon as MX receives complaints, they are shared with DCC.
 - **DCC:** The DCC team receives the emails and corresponding videos from the complaints issuers and consistently speaks with their crew to coordinate accordingly. Regarding accountability, DCC has its own internal systems to ensure that appropriate consequences are issued when needed.
- **Riverdale BIA:** Regarding lighting, walking under the bridges as they are enclosed by construction is dangerous. How can the community ensure it is well-lit? There needs to be a 24/7 light, not just during the nighttime.
 - **MX:** This request was previously misunderstood as a request for night-time lighting only. The team will explore installing 24/7 lighting under the bridges.
- **LSE CAC:** Has MX been providing notices for drone activity? Drone use can cause a privacy issue.
 - **MX:** No, notices have not been issued for drone work. Moving forward, the team will investigate establishing a set flight schedule to communicate in the weekly notice.
- **LSE CAC:** Can vehicles be checked for silent backup beepers before they enter the worksite to avoid nighttime noise issues?
 - **MX:** Yes, the team has removed several vehicles with the tonal backup beepers and will continue to monitor the vehicles working within the corridor.
- **LSE CAC:** Can graffiti be removed sooner than the three-month requirement?
 - **MX:** This action can be addressed at the next CLC meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Metrolinx** to explore providing a graphic or render to visualize the access road construction.
2. **Metrolinx** to review its communication and engagement strategy during election periods for the future.
3. **Metrolinx** will schedule a meeting to discuss messaging and mitigation for the upcoming weekend road closures, which overlap with two upcoming community events (May 30th - June 1st).
4. **Metrolinx** will create a collective document containing major annual community events to mitigate construction during those dates.
5. **Metrolinx** will coordinate with the Gerrard station contractor to present the updated bridge design at a future CLC meeting.
6. **Metrolinx** will explore installing additional lights at Jimmy Simpson Park to add visibility and deter graffiti.
7. **Metrolinx** will review emails received since January 2025 and add missed complaints to the tracker.
8. **Metrolinx** will explore installing 24/7 lighting under the bridges to ensure pedestrian safety.
9. **Metrolinx** will investigate a set flight schedule to be communicated in the weekly notices.
10. **Metrolinx** will provide an update on the graffiti removal process, provide more information on removal timelines and future graffiti removals plans at the next CLC meeting.