

## **Exhibition CLC April 2025 MEETING MINUTES**

April 9, 2025  
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### **ATTENDEES:**

#### BIA/Community Groups/Non-Profit Organizations/Residents

- Abhi Kathuria (Liberty Village BIA)
- Chris Fraser (Moveable/BIA)
- Corina Severin (Allied Prop Mgmt)
- Michael Przybylowski (Allied)
- Stephanie McEwan (65 E Liberty)
- Jane Siklos (York Heritage)
- Carol Domitric (Woodbourne)
- Robert Howley (LVRA)

#### Ontario Transit Group (OTG)

- Garrick McIntosh
- Allison Dewhirst
- Bella Santos
- Geoffrey Cardoso
- Carlos Ramos Cruz

#### Government / City of Toronto

- MPP Chris Glover
- Chris Haskim (DM Malik Staff)
- Mohamed Ibrahim (CoT)

#### Metrolinx

- Bradley Naismith
- Mark Clancy
- Franca DiGiovanni
- Ross Andersen
- Mohammed El Hendy
- Daniel Voisin
- Anson Lam
- Tamer Ajab
- Rob Granatstein (Connect 6ix)

### **OVERVIEW:**

On Wednesday, April 9, 2025, Metrolinx hosted an in-person CLC meeting for the future Ontario Line station at Exhibition Station, in partnership with Ontario Transit Group (OTG). Due to the Ontario provincial election, this was the first CLC for this group in 2025. A public open house was held in January 2025.

After a land acknowledgment, and welcoming of new attendees, Metrolinx reviewed the action items, noting an overview of the step-up substation (SUSS) would be included in the presentation and that work is underway with the Liberty Village Business Improvement Association (LVBIA) to explore marketing opportunities on Ontario Line hoarding on Atlantic Avenue.

The meeting progressed with a construction update about the future Exhibition station and portal areas. Information about the Ontario Line work zones, current and upcoming work and a traffic planning update, was shared as a look at the progress made in the past several months.

### TRAFFIC UPDATE:

Metrolinx illustrated the anticipated future haul route, citing extensive work and community engagement. The route uses Dufferin Street to access a purpose-built road east-west, along the southern edge of Liberty Village, parallel to the railway. Metrolinx offered reassurance that work is being conducted in conjunction with the City of Toronto to evaluate the selected route and ensure the Dufferin bridge is suitable for truck volumes and weight anticipated. During the session, attendees asked questions related to construction.

### **QUESTIONS:**

#### **An attendee inquired into the current schedule and if the work is on track.**

- Metrolinx and OTG replied that there are minor variations in schedule as is typical in construction, and that the work is progressing as planned.
- Metrolinx noted the pedestrian bridge at Exhibition GO Station is expected to open in mid-April.

#### **MPP Glover asked about the Ontario Line portal, and the impact of excavating rock.**

- In terms of excavation progress, more than 10,000 cubic metres have been removed from the site to date, with another estimated 40,000 cubic metres remaining. Hoarding is in place around the site, facing the community, which helps to limit the noise. Metrolinx detailed the hours of work at the portal, and the fact that excavation is a gradual slope, moving down to 20 metres deep.

#### **A question was posed regarding the King Street West and Dufferin Street intersection later in 2025 and the subsequent City of Toronto TTC track repair work, questioning how it would affect Ontario Line hauling.**

- Metrolinx replied both Mowat Avenue and Fraser Avenue will be used as temporary access points, when the intersection is closed. Mowat Avenue is anticipated to become a two-way street during this period. Work with the City of Toronto will be required for planning.

#### **An attendee asked if AI can be a useful tool in sequencing traffic lights to assist with haul route movements.**

- Metrolinx indicated this was a City of Toronto initiative to review.

#### **An attendee asked what type of vehicles will be using Pirandello Street?**

- Metrolinx replied that this is anticipated to be access for GO Transit maintenance to cross the rail corridor, as well as emergency access if needed to the work site.
- An attendee noted that the future haul route makes sense, but there will still be congestion on Liberty Street and East Liberty Street.

**An attendee asked if the future haul route follows the same path as the future Liberty New Street.**

- Metrolinx confirmed this route follows the future path of Liberty New Street, but the future street will be a City of Toronto delivery, not Metrolinx or OTG.

**An attendee asked about the future turning lanes from Strachan to Liberty New Street.**

- Metrolinx noted this design and scope of work belongs to the City of Toronto.

**An attendee asked if the future Dufferin bridges will account for both TTC Streetcar and GO Transit electrification (overhead catenary wires).**

- The current Dufferin bridges are temporary. Any assessments and design work for bridge replacement, to accommodate all forms of transit, are advancing with the City of Toronto.

**A representative for the LVBIA asked about streetscape beautification in conjunction with the FIFA World Cup, in 2026.**

- Metrolinx replied that station entrances and exits will remain predominantly unchanged between now and 2026, with construction activities under review, when events are taking place.
- Metrolinx noted no hauling will take place immediately before and after games, as means to minimize construction impacts. However, the exact timings of these pauses are still under discussion and to be determined.
- Metrolinx noted discussions are taking place with the City of Toronto, and highlighted the City of Toronto is responsible for wayfinding as well. While Metrolinx is supporting this initiative, City of Toronto is leading.

**A representative for the LVBIA stated that they were pleased about the allocation of hoarding space for branded messaging on Atlantic Avenue.**

**Attendees asked about the status of Exhibition Station re-naming, specifically what are the parameters for inclusion in re-naming initiative or ensuring a discussion can continue. Members expressed concerns that the current name does not reflect the neighbourhood or travel patterns, suggesting "Exhibition-Liberty" as a name.**

Metrolinx responded that with regards to the Ontario Line the project, four stations are under consideration for re-naming, and Exhibition is not under consideration for re-naming at this time. Metrolinx noted that the issue will be captured.

**MPP Glover requested insight as to who determines which stations get considered for renaming.**

- Metrolinx replied that this falls under government jurisdiction, and that they expect updated wayfinding for Liberty Village will be included throughout the future Exhibition Station layout.

**A representative for the LVBIA requested station design details be shared.**

- Metrolinx replied that these designs are not final and will not be shared in the short term.

**A representative for the LVBIA shared concerns regarding street cleaning schedules and dust on Liberty Street.**

- OTG and Metrolinx replied that street sweepers are in operation during hauling activities (during excavation shifts), on entry and exit haul routes. Wheel cleaning is also in place. Metrolinx will review the street sweeping routes internally. Metrolinx committed to a follow-up conversation with LVBIA on the matter.

**A representative for the Liberty Village Residents Association (LVRA) voiced concerns over windows cleaning at condos near the Ontario Line portal site, noting some buildings are wondering when the best time to clean will be. They noted that if any window cleaning is conducted on behalf of the project, fair treatment needs to be applied across all the properties.**

- Metrolinx acknowledged Summer 2024 activities were dusty and replied that this concern is currently under review. They noted that an evaluation will take place for an equitable assessment.

Next meeting date: To be determined, June 2025