



Office of the Commissioner
Transportation Services Department

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Paul Jankowski
Commissioner of Transportation Services

Date: May 1, 2019

Re: Metrolinx Proposed Transit Project Prioritization Framework Update

This memorandum provides an update on the Metrolinx Transit Project Prioritization framework process (Prioritization process) being advanced by Metrolinx for potential implementation of the rapid transit projects identified in the Metrolinx 2041 Regional Transportation Plan. It also summarizes staff comments provided to the Peer Review Panel on April 29, 2019 (Attachment 1).

Regional comments to the Metrolinx Peer Review Panel continue to stress the need for continuity with Provincial decisions dating back to 2008 on transit project implementation

Metrolinx has now established a Peer Review Panel for the Prioritization process to review the methodology and approach with an eye to industry best practices, procedural fairness and objectivity. The Peer Review Panel consists of academia and other industry experts. The announced process allows for municipalities to provide written submissions to the Peer Review Panel via Metrolinx. In April 2019, staff provided comments to the Peer Review Panel.

In 2008, as part of the original Regional Transportation Plan by Metrolinx (*The Big Move*), Yonge Subway and the Viva Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Network were identified as part of the 15 transit priorities recommended by Metrolinx for implementation.

The Viva BRT Network was approved for implementation in its entirety. The Benefits Case was completed in 2008 and staged construction of the Viva BRT Network began. Since 2008, York Region has constructed approximately one-half of the Viva BRT Network, and the Region continues to be positioned to complete the entire approved network. In submitting comments, staff has reiterated the Viva BRT Network must not, as proposed by Metrolinx, be dissected into

separate segments for further evaluation at this stage of implementation. The Viva BRT Network Project is already a single project being implemented in phases and should be exempt from further prioritization.

Staff also reiterated York Region's position that the Yonge Subway extension remains York Region's highest rapid transit priority.

York Region concerns regarding the Prioritization process were previously communicated to Metrolinx

On [January 10, 2019](#), Council was informed of [concerns](#) raised by Regional and York Region Rapid Transit Corporation staff regarding the Metrolinx Transit Project Prioritization process. These concerns were also communicated to Metrolinx during municipal consultation on the Prioritization framework.

Staff will continue to communicate with Metrolinx and keep Council informed.

For more information, please contact Brian Titherington, Director of Transportation and Infrastructure Planning at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 75901.

Paul Jankowski
Commissioner of Transportation Services

Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments (1)
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