

Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change

Ministère de l'Environnement et de
l'Action en matière de changement
climatique



Environmental Approvals
Branch

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May 09, 2017

Scarboroughtransitaction@gmail.com

To: Scarborough Transit Action Group.:

I am in receipt of your April 24, 2017 letter to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change outlining your concerns on behalf of the Scarborough Transit Action about the Scarborough Subway Extension Project from Kennedy Station to Scarborough Centre Station. I am pleased to reply on behalf of the Minister.

I understand from your letter that you are suggesting that consideration be given to re-evaluating the Scarborough Subway Extension in comparison with the five (5) stop Scarborough Rail Transit (RT) and with the seven (7) stop Light Rail Transit (LRT) that was originally under consideration. In your letter you indicate that you feel that these options are better from a greenhouse emission perspective during construction; are more cost effect; and offer better ridership and development potential.

The proposed one-stop subway project is subject to the requirements set forth in Ontario Transit Regulation 231/08, which includes specific requirements with respect to assessment of potential environmental effects associated with the subway project. The transit project assessment process (TPAP) under the regulation does not require a proponent to specifically look at transit options as part of the completion of the process under the regulation. However, it is understood that the proponent considered different transit options are part of its pre-planning work to address transit needs in this area. It is understood that there was stakeholder participation in this pre-work.

A key component of the Transit Regulation is the requirement for public consultation and stakeholder participation. The Transit Regulation requires proponents to consult with persons that may be interested in the proposed subway project. In this regard, a Notice of Commencement was published on April 27, 2017, which includes information as to how to become involved and participate throughout the TPAP for the proposed

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subway extension. Also when the City of Toronto and the TTC finalize the Environmental Project Report (EPR) for the project, a Notice of Completion will be published initiating the 30-day final public comment period that will allow all interested stakeholders to further voice their concerns to both the proponent and the ministry.

The Minister's role in this process is to review any potential negative impacts to matters of provincial importance (natural or cultural heritage or Aboriginal or treaty rights).

The ministry would therefore like to encourage you to participate in the Scarborough Subway Extension TPAP and to make your concerns known to the City of Toronto and the TTC at this time.

Should you have any further questions about the TPAP, please to contact Mr. Yves Dagssie, Special Project Officer of the Environmental Approvals Branch, at 416-314-7222 or by e-mail at Yves.Dagssie@Ontario.ca

Sincerely,



Annamaria Cross
Manager
Environmental Approvals Branch