

# SCARBOROUGH TRANSIT **ACTION**

## 2020 Budget Deputation Guide

Deputations are a powerful way to advocate for the changes you want to see in the city. They are an opportunity for councillors and elected officials to understand the issues that you care about. Speakers, are allocated 5 minutes to talk, however council can often cut deputation times down to 3 minutes depending on the number of people registered. Councillors are able to ask questions following deputations, if they choose. If you don't know the answer that's ok. You can just say, "I don't know, I'll get back to you."

### What makes a good deputation

- **3 minutes or less:** In case the time for speaking is cut down to 3 minutes, use a highlighter to ensure you can say everything you need to say in that time.
- **Clarity:** At the beginning and end of your speech you want to clearly state what your concerns are. For example: "We need rapid transit in Scarborough now. This needs to be a priority for the city"
- **Heart over head:** Instead of statistics to back up your point, talk about personal experiences. A great deputation is one that is relatable.

### Dates and Sign Up

Deputants must sign up in advance in order to be added to the City's speaker list. To register to speak, contact [buc@toronto.ca](mailto:buc@toronto.ca) (make sure you cc. [scarboroughtransitaction@gmail.com](mailto:scarboroughtransitaction@gmail.com)) and indicate which session you will be attending (location, and time). You should also provide your full name and the organization you are representing if applicable. If you're not able to attend any of these sessions you can still send in a written submission.

#### January 20, 2020

- Toronto City Hall, Committee Room 1; 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards
- Scarborough Civic Centre, Council Chamber; 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards

#### January 21, 2020

- Etobicoke Civic Centre, Council Chamber; 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards
- North York Civic Centre, Council Chamber; 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. onwards

## 2020 Budget Deputation/Letter Template

Hello Budget Committee members and thank you for your time.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am a \_\_\_\_\_  
(*senior, student, resident etc.*) and I am a community member from \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (*ward, neighbourhood*).

I am (writing/here to speak) about transit in Scarborough and how it needs to be a  
priority for the city. I rely on the TTC to

\_\_\_\_\_. (*share a personal story  
about why rapid transit in Scarborough matters to you. What are your concerns with it*)

In closing, I urge you all to \_\_\_\_\_ (priorities  
fundings for better transit service in Scarborough)

Thank you.

(If this is a written submission include your name, address and postal code and email to  
buc@toronto.ca)

## 2020 Budget Sample Deputation

Dear Budget Committee members,

My name is Candice L. I've lived in Scarborough for most of my life, in the Scarborough Centre Ward. I love this community and I take pride in calling it home.

I am here to speak about transit in Scarborough and how it needs to be a priority for the city. I am a consistent user of the TTC. Without it, I wouldn't be able to get to work, see my friends or take care of myself and others. That is why I am terrified by the city's lack of investment to improve transit service in Scarborough.

Transit in Scarborough is unreliable, under developed, and overcrowded. I get on at Kennedy Station and I'm lucky if I can find a seat most days. The 43 Kennedy bus often passes me in the morning because it is so full. Whenever it snows, my first thought is if the SRT will shut down. I do not rely on the SRT but on days when it is down I prepare myself mentally and physically for the most chaotic commute. There's a massive ripple effect to the underinvested transit system in Scarborough. When service goes down in Scarborough our streets become more unsafe than ever with enraged drivers and life threatening pedestrian conditions. I am constantly reminded of the urgency to improve transit in Scarborough, not only for me but for my community, for the environment and for the city. I need this budget to reflect that.

I know that there are solutions to this; bus priority systems, the shovel ready Eglinton East LRT network, and improved service... many of which this city has talked about. Mayor Tory even said that the Eglinton East LRT would be a priority for the 2020 budget but he lied. This committee has the power of recognizing the urgency of this issue, to make sure a predominantly racialized community that has been ignored, is funded equitably. In closing, I encourage you all to make transit service in Scarborough a priority.

Thank you for your time.