



Gary Wright, Chief Planner & Executive Director
City Planning Division

Transportation Planning
Metro Hall
55 John Street
22nd Floor
Toronto ON M5V 3C6

Rod McPhail
Director

Tel: (416) 392-8100
Fax: (416) 392-3821
Refer to: Joanna Kervin
(416) 392-8572
E-mail: jkervin@toronto.ca
www.toronto.ca/planning

September 5, 2008

Mr. Paul May, P.Eng.
Director of Infrastructure Planning
Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Paul:

Re: Don Mills Road LRT EA Coordination with York Region studies

The purpose of this letter is to propose an effective way of moving forward with a coordinated approach to completing the planning and design studies needed for the construction of an LRT line on Don Mills Road that extends from Toronto into York Region.

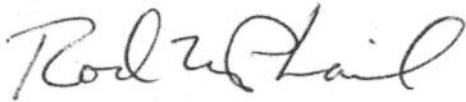
Based on a meeting held on July 16th, 2008 between City, TTC and York staff to discuss the Don Mills LRT EA and Leslie Street Road Widening EA, it is our understanding that a number of ongoing York Region EA studies, including the Leslie Street EA study, are on hold awaiting direction from Regional Council in the Fall. However, York Regional Council (June 2008) requested that the Don Mills LRT EA be expanded to include an extension into York Region as far as Major Mackenzie Drive and we discussed this request at a subsequent meeting between City, TTC, York, Markham and YRT staff on September 4, 2008.

We are strongly supportive of having a well-integrated planning approach to the provision of LRT on Don Mills into York Region. However, we (TTC and City) are moving forward with a program of LRT studies in Toronto, all of which are targeted for completion in 2009. We are well along with our planning process for the Don Mills LRT in Toronto and expect to be reporting to Toronto City Council in early 2009 with the preferred design. The planning for an extension of the line further north has not yet commenced, and fundamental issues are still to be resolved (length and termination point, ultimate road cross-section, transfer/terminal connections at Highway 7, etc.) and it is unlikely that these issues can be resolved quickly enough to allow us to maintain our schedule for finalizing the "in Toronto" section by early 2009.

To begin the coordination process, we will add York Region staff, Loy Cheah, Grant Robinson and Jon Hulse from York Region Rapid Transit and Al Brown from Town of Markham to our Don Mills Road LRT TAC. We will advise them of our next meeting which is likely to occur in the early fall. I suggest that the next step would be for York Region to identify a Project Manager for the portion of the Don Mills LRT project in York Region and to draft a work plan and scope of work for consulting assistance to undertake this additional planning work. We would be glad to assist you in this. We would then want to work with you to jointly develop a strategy to coordinate the community consultation process and formal approvals for the two parts of the project recognizing the desire on our part to proceed in a timely way with the work we have completed to date in Toronto.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the Don Mills LRT in greater detail feel free to contact Joanna Kervin, Project Manager at 416-392-8572.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rod McPhail".

Rod McPhail,
Director, Transportation Planning

cc: Loy Cheah – York Region
Grant Robinson – York Region
Jon Hulse – York Region Rapid Transit
Al Brown – Town of Markham
Bill Dawson – TTC
Mike Ronson – TTC
Joanna Kervin – City of Toronto
Victoria Witkowski – City of Toronto