



Office
of the
Chair

April 27, 2012

Ms. Karen Stintz
Chair, Toronto Transit Commission
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West, Suite B32
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - *P23*

Dear Chair Stintz:

At Authority Meeting #3/11, of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), held on April 27, 2012, the Resolution in regard to Naming of Steeles West Station was approved as follows:

WHEREAS the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), in partnership with the Regional Municipality of York, is constructing a new station for the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project on Steeles Avenue West, approximately 800 metres from Black Creek Pioneer Village;

AND WHEREAS Black Creek Pioneer Village is an historic museum opened in 1960, representing a typical 19th century crossroads community that became the foundation for modern Toronto and Ontario;

AND WHEREAS Black Creek Pioneer Village is regionally, nationally and internationally recognized for its collections and artifacts, as well as its public and education programs;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) request that the Toronto Transit Commission consider naming the Steeles West Station as Black Creek Pioneer Village (Steeles West);

THAT staff report back on the naming process for stations on the Eglinton LRT line once that process has been formally initiated by TTC;

AND FURTHER THAT the TTC, City of Toronto, Regional Municipality of York, City of Vaughan and York Region Rapid Transit Corporation be so advised by the CAO's Office.



Enclosed for your information and any action deemed necessary is the report as presented to the Executive Committee on April 13, 2012. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the undersigned at 416-661-6600 extension 5264 (kstranks@trca.on.ca) or Beth Williston at extension 5217.

Sincerely



Gerri Lynn O'Connor
Chair

cc. **Sent via email**

Joanna M. Kervin, Deputy Chief Project Manager Third Party, Planning and Property,
Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension, Toronto Transit Commission
Roy McQuillin, Manager of Corporate Policy, City of Vaughan
Mary-Frances Turner, Vice President, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation, Regional
Municipality of York
Ulli S. Watkiss, City Clerk, City Clerk's Office, City of Toronto
Brian Titherington, Director, Roads, Transportation and Community Planning
Department, Regional Municipality of York

/Encl.

Item EX7.7

TO: Chair and Members of the Executive Committee
Meeting #2/12, April 13, 2012

FROM: Carolyn Woodland, Director, Planning and Development

RE: **NAMING OF STEELES WEST STATION**

KEY ISSUE

Request the Toronto Transit Commission recognize the pioneer heritage of the Greater Toronto Area in the Toronto York Spadina Subway Extension project, by reflecting the proximity of Black Creek Pioneer Village in the naming of the Steeles West station.

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO THE AUTHORITY THAT the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), in partnership with the Regional Municipality of York, is constructing a new station for the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project on Steeles Avenue West, approximately 800 metres from Black Creek Pioneer Village;

AND WHEREAS Black Creek Pioneer Village is an historic museum opened in 1960, representing a typical 19th century crossroads community that became the foundation for modern Toronto and Ontario;

AND WHEREAS Black Creek Pioneer Village is regionally, nationally and internationally recognized for its collections and artifacts, as well as its public and education programs;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) request that the Toronto Transit Commission consider naming the Steeles West Station as Black Creek Pioneer Village (Steeles West);

THAT staff report back on the naming process for stations on the Eglinton LRT line once that process has been formally initiated by TTC;

AND FURTHER THAT the TTC, City of Toronto, Regional Municipality of York, City of Vaughan and York Region Rapid Transit Corporation be so advised by the CAO's Office.

BACKGROUND

The Toronto Transit Commission has requested public input to naming the new stations that are associated with the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project and TRCA has been invited to participate. Through consultation with TTC staff, TRCA staff has been advised that there are two main policy considerations for the naming of stations. The first is that the station be named after its geographic location, namely the local crossroad. The second criterion is that the name should be simple. It was noted that consideration may be given to naming stations after a regional destination.

There are numerous examples of stations being named after local or regional destinations, with the major crossroads appearing in brackets as a subset of the main station name. There are numerous other examples of the station being named after the local community. These examples are:

Regional Destination

- Museum – named after the Royal Ontario Museum;
- Osgoode (Queen Street) – named after Osgoode Hall;
- Queen's Park (College Street);
- St. Andrew (King Street) – named after St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church;
- St. Patrick (Dundas Street) – named after St. Patrick's Catholic Church;
- Union – named after Union Station.

Local Community Destination

- Bay (Yorkville);
- Downsview;
- North York Centre;
- Rosedale;
- Scarborough Centre.

TTC has recently approved a request from the City of Vaughan to rename the Vaughan Corporate Centre Station to the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Station in recognition of Vaughan's new downtown area. The Vaughan Metropolitan Centre was renamed from the Vaughan Corporate Centre in 2009 as a result of a public process. The name has been formally adopted by Vaughan Council and York Region Transit. Vaughan Centre has no formal status with either of these local and regional levels of government. TTC noted that their approval to name this station the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre is an exception to its naming policy, which is to have simple names for stations to geographically inform travelers, in the most understandable way possible, of their location. The renaming was also approved in recognition of the fact that the City of Vaughan is a major funding partner and should be respected in its contribution to the station naming process.

TTC has also approved the naming of the "Highway 407 Station". This station is located on the banks of Black Creek, a tributary of the Humber River. Through discussion, TRCA members have expressed concerns regarding the appropriateness of this station name. It will be the first of two subway stations located at Highway 407, as there will be a second (unnamed) Highway 407 station built on the Yonge subway line in the future. Members noted that a way to differentiate between the two Highway 407 stations could be to include "Black Creek" in the naming of the Highway 407 Station, for example, name the station *Black Creek (Highway 407 Station)*, or to include the other major crossroad street, namely *Highway 407 - Jane*. At this time, TTC is also constructing an LRT line across Eglinton Avenue, with a station being located at Black Creek Drive. Names for stations on this line have not been approved.

It is recognized that the multiple naming of stations as "Black Creek" is both improbable and impractical. Recommending station names that reflect local crossroads is beyond the mandate of TRCA and would be better addressed by our municipal partners. As such, the focus of this report has been confined to a recommendation that the Steeles West station be named to reflect the proximity to, and significance of, Black Creek Pioneer Village.

RATIONALE

Black Creek Pioneer Village is owned and operated by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and supported with significant annual funding from the City of Toronto and The Regional Municipality of York. The Village is located in the community of Black Creek, in the City of Toronto, as well as in the City of Vaughan. It is a replica of a typical crossroads community from the early to mid-19th Century. Approximately one-half of its buildings have been relocated from across the Greater Toronto Area, the remaining half are on their original foundations. The artifacts and collections at the Village are of local, national and international significance.

Black Creek Pioneer Village is recognized as a heritage destination by Tourism Toronto, has buildings of significance to the Ontario Heritage Trust, and is affiliated with the Ontario Museum Association and the Canadian Museums Association. Black Creek Pioneer Village is also a "living" museum, with artisans, interpreters and educators working interactively with visitors and students to provide individuals and groups with knowledge and experience. It is a regional cultural tourism destination in the Greater Toronto Area.

Black Creek Pioneer Village is located approximately 800 metres from the Steeles Avenue West station. To reflect the significance of the Village, as well as respecting the naming policy of the Toronto Transit Commission, it is suggested that the name reflecting Black Creek Pioneer Village be considered. Options considered include:

- Black Creek Pioneer Village Station;
- Black Creek Village Station;
- Pioneer Village Station;
- Black Creek Pioneer Village (Steeles West);
- Black Creek Village (Steeles West);
- Pioneer Village (Steeles West);
- Steeles West (Pioneer Village Station);
- Steeles West (Black Creek Station);
- Black Creek (Steeles West Station).

It is the recommendation of TRCA staff, in consultation with its members, that the name selection be based on the Village itself, including Black Creek Pioneer Village Station; Black Creek Village Station; Pioneer Village Station; Black Creek Pioneer Village (Steeles West); Black Creek Village (Steeles West) or Pioneer Village (Steeles West). Given the precedent set by TTC in naming numerous other stations after places of local or regional significance, it is recommended that the name *Black Creek Pioneer Village (Steeles West)* be recommended to TTC in the naming of the Steeles West Station. Of additional note is that the TTC Jane Street bus notes "Black Creek Pioneer Village" as its destination thus the naming of the subway station to reflect the significance of the Village already has precedent.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

- A letter from Chair Gerri Lynn O'Connor be sent to Chair Karen Stintz, advising of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority request for the naming of the Steeles West Station.
- Staff report back on the naming process for stations on the Eglinton LRT line once it has commenced.

Report prepared by: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

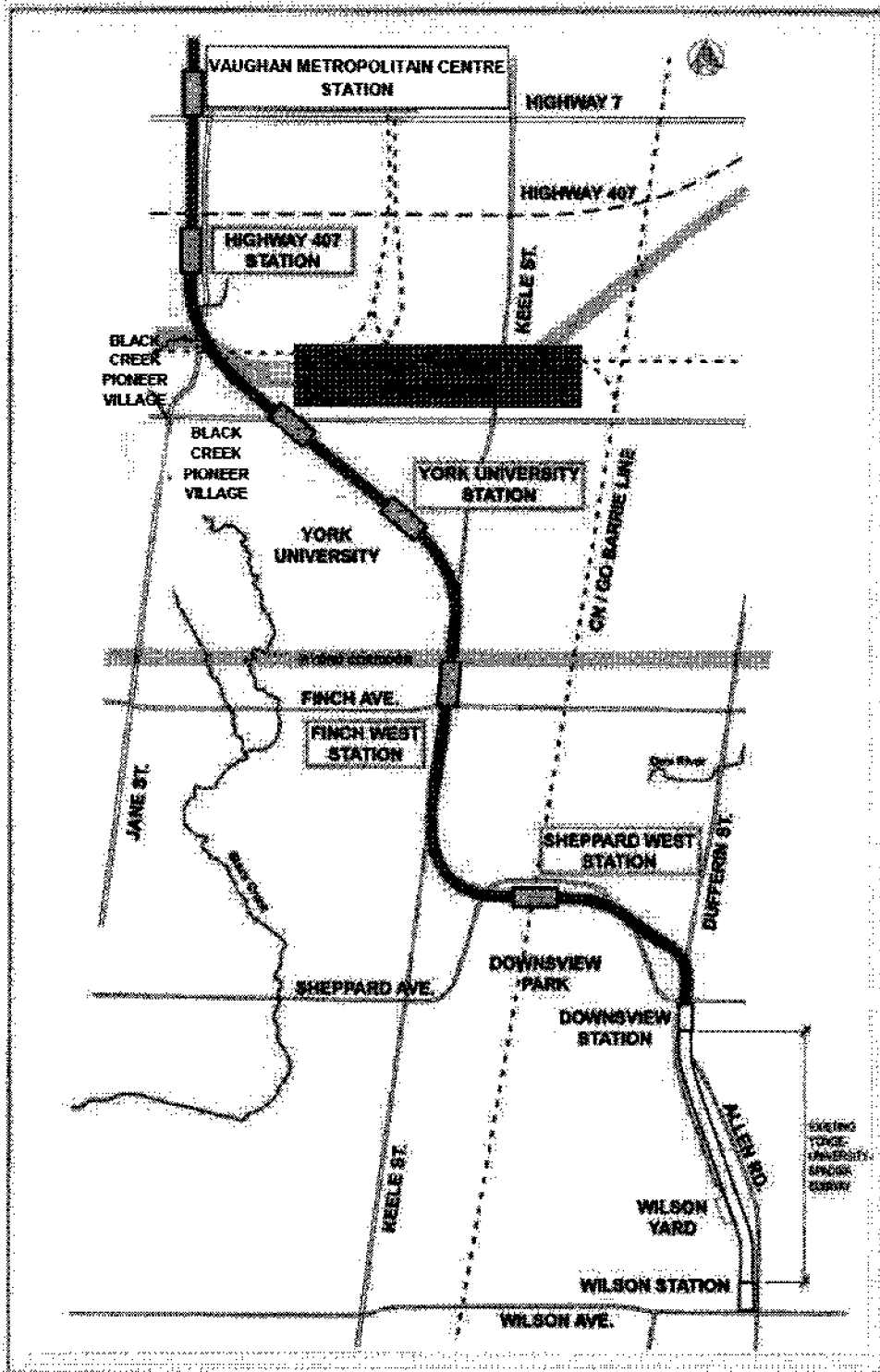
For Information contact: Beth Williston, extension 5217

Emails: bwilliston@trca.on.ca

Date: March 19, 2012

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1



Toronto-York Spadina
Subway Extension