

To: York Region Rapid Transit Corporation Board of Directors

From: Mary-Frances Turner, President

Subject: **Spadina Subway Project Update**

Ref: YORK-#3369547

Recommendation

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

Purpose

This report:

- Updates the Board with respect to the progress of the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension (TYSSE) project.
- Updates the Board with respect to the upcoming major milestones expected to be achieved over the summer.

Background

The last update on the project was provided at the March 2011 Board meeting and included the following:

- Project is transitioning from design phase into the construction phase. The subway extension route and stations are illustrated in *Attachment 1*.
- The two largest construction contracts for the project have been awarded:
 - South tunnel, which includes Sheppard West Station (Nov '10), and
 - North tunnel, which includes Highway 407 Station (Jan '10)

- Tunnel boring machines (TBM) have been delivered to launch shafts at Sheppard West Station and Steeles West Station. The TBM is illustrated in *Attachment 2*.
- Designs for schedule critical elements of Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) and Steeles West Stations are progressing through Vaughan's approval process.
- Project remains on time and on budget.

Analysis

Viva service now operates on the Downsview - York University Busway and avoids the delays caused by construction of the Finch West Subway Station

- Viva Orange service started operating on the busway in May 2011 and avoids significant construction impacts on Keele Street.
- Route includes a stop at Dufferin/Finch and a new stop on Murray Ross Parkway, located just west of Keele Street.
- Viva fare equipment will be in place for the two line stations before the fall semester at York University.

The existing Viva and YRT stations at York University are being relocated to facilitate construction of the York University subway station

- The stations are being shifted approximately 100m north from their current location on Ian MacDonald Boulevard.
- The work has been carefully staged to ensure that passengers always have access to shelter and ticketing equipment.
- The Viva/YRT station relocation work is expected to be complete by the end of June 2011.

Tunneling in York Region is scheduled to begin in the spring/summer of 2012

- Launch shafts have been constructed at Sheppard West Station and on the Toronto side of Steeles West Station.
- Tunneling at these sites is scheduled to begin this summer at Sheppard West Station and this winter 2011 at Steeles West Station.

- Truck routing and disposal sites for these excavation sites have yet to be identified by the tunneling contractors. YRRTC staff will work with TYSSE and York Region Transportation to mitigate the impact on York Region roads.
- The first tunnel drives of the north tunnel contract will be from the south end of Steeles West Station, south to the north limit of Finch West Station.
- Tunneling in York Region will commence at the Highway 407 site once the new bridge across Black Creek is complete and the first drives from Steeles West to Finch West are complete.

The site plan for Phase 1 of Steeles West Station will be submitted to the City of Vaughan in June/July of 2011

- In order to protect the project schedule, the site plan for this station is being submitted in phases.
- The Phase 1 site plan for Steeles West Station only includes the underground subway box, the main station entrance and the electrical substation within York Region. The Phase 1 site plan is shown in *Attachment 3*.
- The YRT bus terminal, the commuter parking lot, the PPUDO and the associated roads will be included as a separate submission. The conceptual layout of the remaining surface facilities is shown in *Attachment 4*.
- The Phase 1 site plan is being presented to Vaughan City Council on June 13th, 2011 in order to obtain approval in principle in advance of the summer hiatus.
- The designs of the YRT bus terminal, TTC commuter parking lot and surface roads serving the station are progressing.

At the Highway 407 site, the advanced contract is nearing completion which clears the way for the tunneling operation to begin

- The advanced contract included the relocation of a section of Black Creek, the relocation of a Vaughan sewer, and the construction of a new 6-lane access bridge to the site.
- This work is now complete with the exception of the bridge construction which is expected to be complete by fall 2011.
- The TBMs are expected to be delivered to this site at the beginning of 2012 which coincides with the scheduled construction of the launch shaft.

The site plan for VMC station was approved by Vaughan City Council in May of 2011

- Similar to Steeles West Station, in order to protect the project schedule, the site plan for this station is also being submitted in phases.
- The phase 1 site plan includes the underground aspects of the subway station (including the Viva direct connection), the main station entrance (including associated surface facilities), the tunnel under Millway Avenue, and the electrical substation.
- The YRT bus terminal and the Viva direct canopy will be included as part of a subsequent site plan submission.
- The phase 1 site plan was approved by Vaughan City Council on May 10, 2011, subject to a number of standard conditions.
- The design and construction of the underground portions of the Viva direct connection to the subway were included in the main station tender which closed in early June 2011.
- All utility and road works associated with the station at VMC are included as part of the main station contract (i.e. there is no advance contract).

Construction activity at VMC station is expected to begin this summer with the closure of Millway Avenue

- Millway Avenue is scheduled to be closed to traffic this summer and will remain closed until the subway is open at the end of 2015.
- The City of Vaughan is also planning to undertake improvements to Edgeley Boulevard this summer to help alleviate increased demands resulting from the closure of Millway Avenue.
- Impacts for traffic on Highway 7 as a result of construction could begin as early as the fall of 2011, depending on the schedule of the successful construction team.
- The road work on Jane Street for the Highway 407 station advanced contract is essentially complete.
- The road work on Steeles Avenue for Steeles West Station is not likely to begin until early in 2012. The road work for the new intersection on Jane Street will not begin for at least another couple of years.

Communication efforts will continue while the construction advances to keep the public and stakeholders informed

- The following communication tactics will be used to ensure the local community is fully aware of construction activity in the months ahead and throughout the project – such as utility relocation, waterline shut-offs, traffic lane closures/shifting and long-term closures:
 - Printed advertisements in local/regional newspapers and newsletters;
 - Radio and television reports via traffic reporters;
 - Bi-annual project newsletter and quarterly vivaNext newsletter;
 - On-street project signs showing the station design and a 1-800 construction info line for all public enquiries;
 - Construction notices sent by email, social media, mail and posted on the project website;
 - Construction Community Liaisons and Project Information Centres for the public to learn more about the project and make enquiries; and
 - Direct communication with affected property owners and tenants.
- Media events will be hosted and communications issued to celebrate milestones of the project, including:
 - The launch of the first tunnel boring machine at the Sheppard West launch shaft site in June;
 - Launch of the second tunnel boring machine at a launch shaft in York Region;
 - Completion of the first leg of tunnel boring (and subsequent legs);
 - Quarterly construction completion targets reached (i.e. half way there); and
 - Grand opening event of the subway extension.

Conclusion

- Viva service now operates on the busway between York University and Downsview station and avoids traffic delays created by subway construction.
- The existing Viva/YRT shelters at York University will be relocated over the summer in time for the fall semester at York University.
- Tunneling in York Region is scheduled to commence in early 2012 from the Highway 407 Station site.
- Steeles West Station is being designed and constructed in phases in order to maintain the overall project schedule. York Region facilities are primarily part of the second phase.

- The advance construction work at Highway 407 Station is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2011 which clears the way for tunneling in York Region.
- The station at Vaughan Metropolitan Centre is also being constructed in phases to protect the overall project schedule. Similar to Steeles West Station, York Region facilities are primarily included in the second phase.
- Construction activity is scheduled to begin at VMC station this summer with the closure of Millway Avenue for the duration of the project.
- Roadwork for Steeles West station is not scheduled to begin until early in 2012.

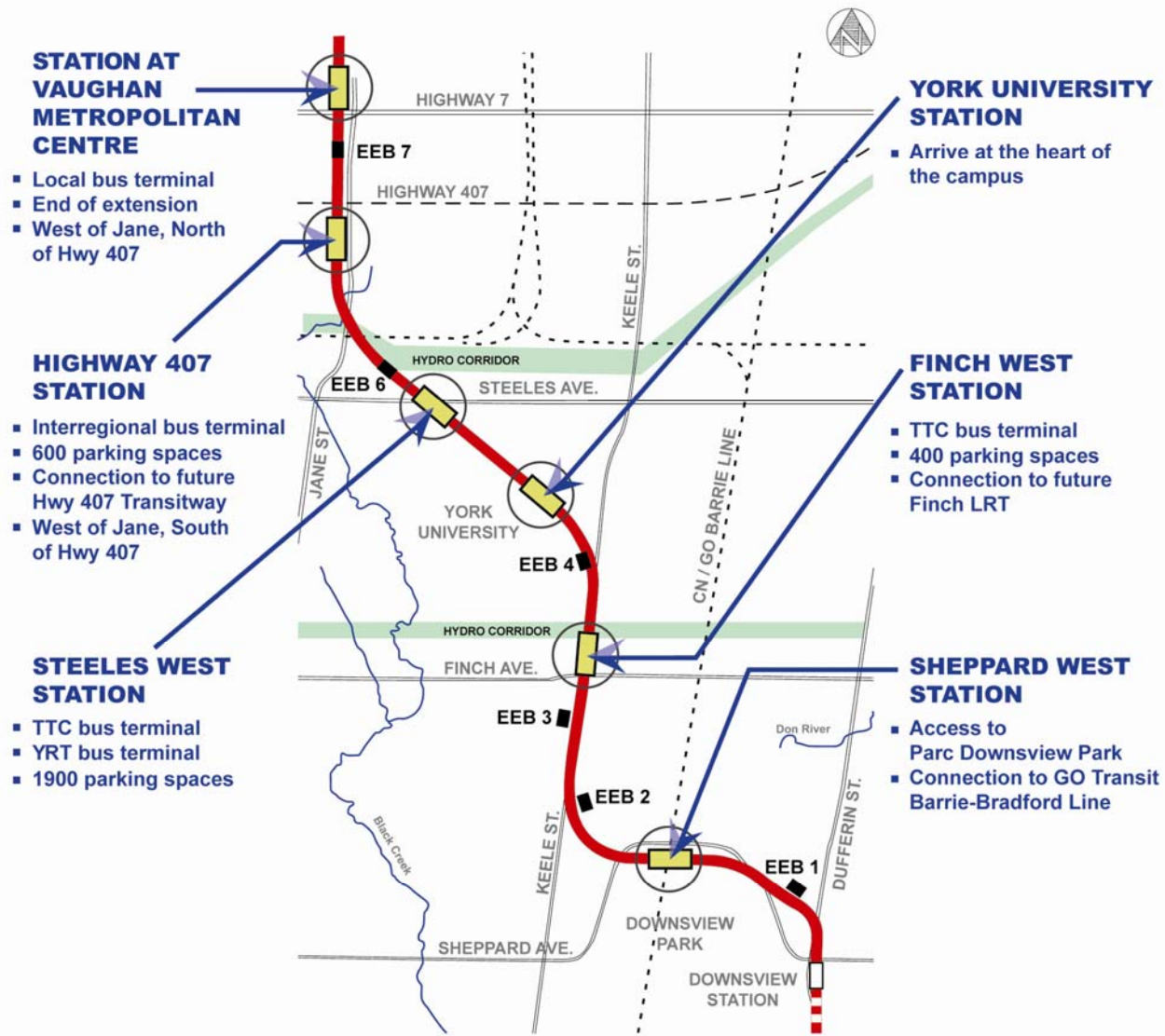
For more information on this report, please contact, Paul May, Chief Engineer, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation at 905-886-6767, Ext. 1030.

Mary-Frances Turner
President

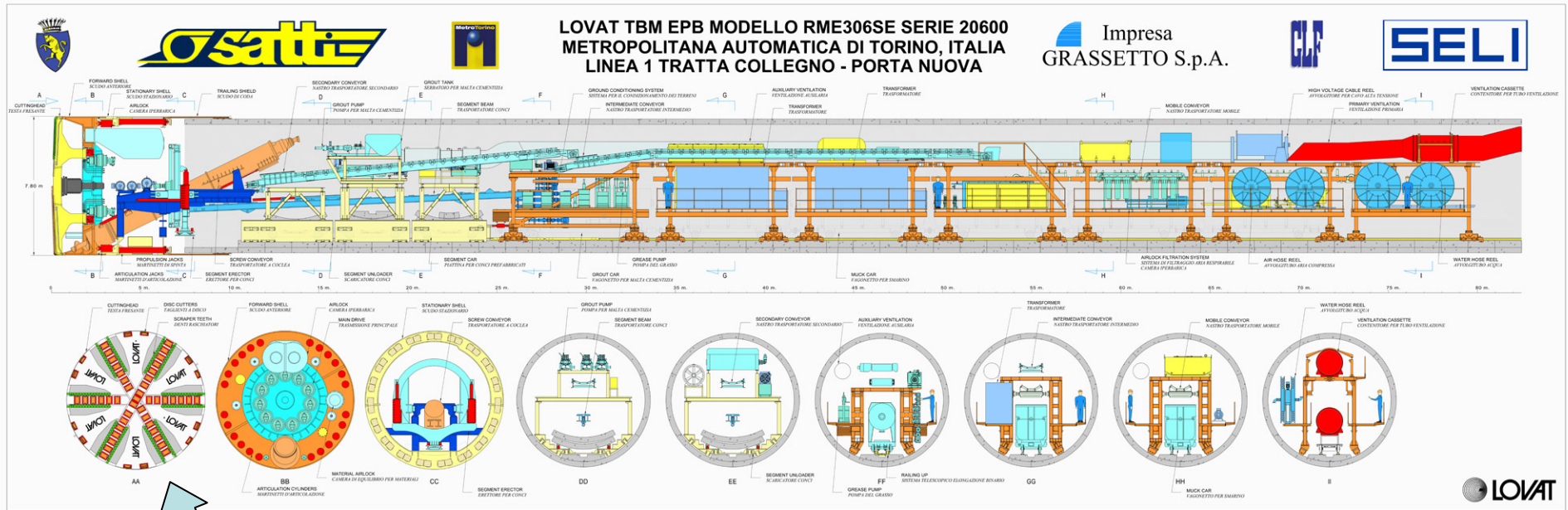
May 31, 2011

Attachments (4)

Toronto York Spadina Subway Extension



Lovat Tunnel Boring Machine



Toronto – York Spadina Subway Extension Steeles West Site Plan - Phase 1



Site Plan - North of Steeles Avenue

