December 5, 2016

Dear Mr. Pritchard and Members of the Board,

RE: Davenport Diamond Grade Separation
Board of Directors Meeting, Thursday December 8th, 2016

It is with great frustration I write to you today on the subject of the Davenport Diamond Grade Separation project.

As you are well aware, Metrolinx is planning on building a 1.5 kilometre two-storey train bridge – an enormous project by any standards – through our neighbourhood, through our only park and past our bedrooms.

While our community is being “consulted” by way of a community advisory committee, these meetings are useless. The facilitators were without answers when community members asked what kind of meaningful input the community might contribute. These feel-good exercises leave community participants with the impression that they are nothing more than PR pawns, so that Metrolinx can claim “consultation” took place.

Specifics have gone ignored. Despite repeated requests, Metrolinx hasn’t provided the community with the specific budget for public realm.

It was only through media reports out of Barrie that we learned that Metrolinx intends to increase train traffic before actually completing the Davenport bridge. This is contrary to what your representatives said to Options for Davenport just prior, namely that the traffic would only increase once the bridge was built, and even then to no more then 36 trains before electrification.

I remain worried that the project is not truly being given the resources and attention commensurate with this incredible infrastructure undertaking. We do not need more community relations managers and communications specialists. We need to hear more about the budget, design, engineering, safety, connectivity and public realm.

Sincerely,
Erin Pleet
Cc: Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
    Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation
    Cristina Martins, Member of Provincial Parliament for Davenport
    Julie Dzerowicz, Member of Parliament for Davenport
    John Tory, Mayor of Toronto
    Ana Bailao, Councillor, Ward 18 (Davenport)
    Cesar Palacio, Councillor, Ward 17 (Davenport)
    Options for Davenport