September 8, 2017

The Honourable Steven Del Duca  
Minister  
Ministry of Transportation  
Ferguson Block 3rd Floor  
77 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Dear Minister Del Duca,

**RE: Response to your Letter of August 29, 2017**

I write in reply to your letter dated August 29, 2017 concerning the proposed new GO stations at Kirby Road in the City of Vaughan and Lawrence East in the City of Toronto.

Metrolinx will not enter into any contractual obligations or agreements with respect to the Kirby and Lawrence East stations unless and until the management and the Board are satisfied that the stations are justified. As you know, following the preliminary approval of these stations and ten others, we are engaged in detailed analysis of each proposed station including undertaking detailed designs and Environmental Assessments for each of them. We do not anticipate entering procurement contracts for these stations until the Spring of 2018 so there is ample time to complete the detailed analysis.

With respect to Kirby and Lawrence East in particular, I have asked management to initiate a thorough and comprehensive review of all the relevant analyses and information for each station and then report back to the Board. This will include requesting updated submissions from the City of Vaughan and the City of Toronto on proposed changes in land use and new proposed land developments in the areas served by the stations, updated population and jobs projections, local transit plans that may affect the catchment area, and any other relevant information for the areas served by these proposed stations. Management’s work will also include updating the business case analyses for the stations, reviewing the proposed station designs and associated cost estimates, and incorporating the Regional Express Rail service plans for the Barrie and Stouffville corridors. We will complete the analysis by including consideration of municipal support and financial contributions, community readiness, the overall network effects of each proposed station and any other relevant consideration.

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Once this work is completed, management will report to the Board with its recommendations whether or not to proceed with each of these stations and, if so, on what conditions and with what commitments from the City of Vaughan and the City of Toronto. The Board will make management’s recommendations and background work publicly available in advance of considering the recommendations in a public session of the Board. I expect we will have management’s recommendations before the Board not later than at our Board meeting scheduled for February 16, 2018.

You have confirmed to me that you will respect and support whatever conclusion the Board reaches and we will proceed on this basis.

Warm regards,

J. Robert S. Prichard
Chair