

Ministry of  
Transportation

Office of the Minister

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Ministère des  
Transports

Bureau du ministre

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J. Robert S. Prichard  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Metrolinx  
97 Front Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5J 1E6

August 29, 2017

*Rob*  
Dear Mr. Prichard:

I am writing today with respect to the proposed new GO stations at Kirby Road in the City of Vaughan, and Lawrence East in the City of Toronto.

I believe that it is critical for Metrolinx to plan and build transit infrastructure as communities grow. As we have learned, building after-the-fact is almost always more expensive and more disruptive, and leads to more regional gridlock in the interim.

In the specific case of Kirby, it is estimated that within the next ten to fifteen years, approximately 27,000 new residents could live in the area immediately adjacent to the station.

In addition, there are several significant residential and employment developments planned for areas to the west, some of which are already under construction. Many of those individuals living or working in these new communities would likely be inclined to access a GO station at Kirby, particularly when GO Regional Express Rail is providing two-way, all-day service at 15 minute intervals along the Barrie Corridor by 2024/2025.

I know that the Initial Business Cases are always a part of a process that evolves over time, especially as new information becomes available. As we have always said, all proposed new stations require additional technical and planning analysis, environmental assessments, preliminary and detailed design and extensive community engagement. That said, it is clear that concerns have been raised about the process by which the Kirby and Lawrence East stations were ultimately approved.

As I said in my public statements this week, I expect that Metrolinx will not enter into any contractual obligations or agreements with respect to the proposed Kirby and Lawrence East GO stations until relevant management staff and the Board are satisfied that both the land planning information provided by the City of Vaughan and the City of Toronto, along with the finalized RER service concept, justify this station.

Further, if in the opinion of Metrolinx's management team and Board, the aforementioned information is not adequate to justify these stations, then both Kirby and Lawrence East GO stations should be deferred to the next round of consideration at a future date.

Please let me know if you require additional information or have any questions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Del Duca", written in a cursive style.

Steven Del Duca  
Minister of Transportation