February 27, 2018

Metrolinx Board of Directors
97 Front Street West
Toronto, ON M5J 1E6

Dear Chair Prichard and Metrolinx Board Members:

RE: Comment on the 2041 Regional Transportation Plan on March 8, 2018 Agenda

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft 2041 Regional Transportation Plan and for your excellent work in advancing the expansion and enhancement of our region’s transportation infrastructure. We support the vision and goals articulated in this plan of aligning transportation and land use planning to strengthen our environment, economic competitiveness, and quality of life.

LFL Group and our companies Leon’s Furniture, The Brick, and TransGlobal, have been a part of this region for over 100 years, and have grown alongside the Greater Golden Horseshoe. We are deeply integrated into the local economy and our business has evolved along with the advances and development of the region. As our population continues to expand, we recognize the need to intensify urban development by providing high quality public transit. The area of Jane Street and Highway 401 is a prime example of a site where improved public transit can leverage existing public investments to facilitate infill development, economic growth, and new services for an already dense and growing population.

The Draft 2041 Regional Transportation Plan identifies Jane Street as a corridor for high-order public transit. Jane Street is already an important public transit corridor where existing bus services struggle to meet the demands of the surrounding community and regional travelers connecting to major destinations. This corridor would benefit immensely from increased investment and opportunity.
Delivering on the Jane LRT project identified in the Plan is of critical importance to realize the potential of this area. As such, we request that Metrolinx consider the following:

- As a priority, advance the phased implementation of the Jane LRT to accelerate this Metrolinx Project.

- Undertake project planning to determine an appropriate phasing of the Jane LRT project that incorporates community concerns, establishes details of project design, and fully develops the benefits of this project.

- Consider a first phase of the Jane LRT project that could link Mt. Dennis and the recently opened Spadina subway at York University.

We believe the Jane LRT will be a crucial step in the implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan and trust you will view our request favourably.

Sincerely,

LFL Group

Edward Leon, President

cc: Local MPP, Minister Laura Albanese
Local MP, Minister Ahmed Hussen
Local Councillor, Executive Committee Member, Frank Di Giurgio
WSP, Jim Gough