



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**PETER TABUNS**  
MPP/DÉPUTÉ PROVINCIAL  
Toronto-Danforth

December 3, 2018

Metrolinx  
97 Front St W  
Toronto, Ontario M5J 1E6

Mr. Donald Wright, Chair, Metrolinx Board of Directors  
Mr. Phil Verster, President & Chief Executive Officer, Metrolinx

**Subject:** GO Expansion Full Business Case – Agenda Item 10 your Board Meeting of December 6, 2018 - Enhanced Mitigation of Environmental Impacts

Dear Messrs. Wright and Verster,

I am writing to address the issue of the RER expansion on the Lakeshore East Line. As you may be aware the Lakeshore East rail line runs diagonally across my riding of Toronto-Danforth. This expansion is part of your much larger GO Expansion.

In reviewing the related documents there is little mention of the ongoing and potentially increased environmental impacts on rail side communities.

The members of the Local Community Advisory Committee, in their memorandum of November 20<sup>th</sup>, have already communicated their concerns and demands regarding the increase in diesel service on the line without the investment in train management, vibration reduction or sound mitigation.

I support their assessment and ask you to seriously assess their calls for a halt to increase in service until all the safety measures and health protection measures have been taken. A failure to adequately protect human health and safety could be damaging to them and prove to be a huge liability for you.

I am also writing to ask the status of your efforts to go “above and beyond” the Environmental Assessment commitments to sound and vibration mitigation.

In the course of consulting with the community about the RER Metrolinx realized that there were existing deficiencies in sound and vibration mitigation which it stated it would try to address:



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**PETER TABUNS**  
MPP/DÉPUTÉ PROVINCIAL  
Toronto-Danforth

**Ask Metrolinx, September 26, 2018**

“Regarding concerns about noise and vibrations we have been in touch with a few communities along the Lakeshore corridor and have heard their concerns.

We continue to look for ways to go above and beyond what is outlined in the Environmental Assessments we have completed to date to mitigate noise and vibration caused by rail service. Any potential solutions are subject to constructability and funding.”

Is Metrolinx still committed to ways to go “above and beyond what is outlined in the Environmental Assessment”?

If it is, and it should be, can you tell our community what process you are engaged in to address these noise and vibration problems?

Can you tell our community what are your timelines for informing the community of the measures that are proposed?

Can you tell us what budget is being considered for these measures?

There is no doubt that Metrolinx is under considerable fiscal pressures. At the same time, it is clear from your business case that the payback on the investment is substantial, allowing some room to enhance mitigation along the rail lines. Since this region will need expansion of transit to continue to function in the future it is to the advantage of Metrolinx that in each expansion steps are taken to minimize conflict with rail side communities. Once expansion is seen as a political negative then it will be harder to summon the necessary political support to carry it forward.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Peter Tabuns  
MPP, Toronto-Danforth