



# Agincourt Village Community Association

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23 November 2020

Mr. Donald Wright  
Metrolinx Chair of the Board  
97 Front Street West,  
Toronto, Ontario  
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Dear Mr. Donald Wright and Members of the Board  
Re: Stouffville Corridor Noise Walls

For consideration at the upcoming Board of Directors' Meeting November 26, 2020:

The Agincourt Community since 2014 has requested on the Stouffville Corridor - grade separations at the tracks for safety, noise walls for quality of life, and increased station parking for community access. Agincourt Village Community Association has forwarded letters to Metrolinx CEO on August 18, 2016 and to Metrolinx Chair of the Board June 23, 2017. It is now November 2020!

An Environmental Assessment for grade separations at Finch Avenue (Smart Track), and Huntingwood Drive (OnCor), as well as road closure at Havendale Road (OnCor) have begun – six years later. In the present rebuilding of Agincourt GO Station no increase in parking is planned.

Noise walls along the Stouffville corridor between Finch Avenue to Marilyn Avenue have been installed, however residents' "quality of life" continues to be diminished with diesel train noise from the present 34 trains and further diminished by the future increase to 180 trains. Thus AVCA with CEO Phil Verster present, requested in September 2019 that Metrolinx test the noise dB levels of the installed noise walls. In May 2020, in two locations, a contractor hired by Metrolinx tested the dB levels.

The results of the dB testing of the noise walls revealed to AVCA in October 2020 were rejected by AVCA for the following reasons:

- dB levels were based on 34 trains during COVID 19
- dB levels were based on Metrolinx ridership at 3.8% of usual ridership
- dB levels were based on 5 train cars rather than the usual 12 cars

Describing the train noise during the reduced operation of COVID 19 is meaningless and does not represent the noise levels the community will experience long term. The report is therefore invalid.

Even the dB levels of this testing were at the maximum noise guidelines World Health Organization (WHO) acceptable levels – that was based on 34, reduced trains per day. Stouffville Corridor is predicted to run 180 full trains per day.

As Metrolinx increases train traffic across Ontario it has become evident to AVCA that many communities are negatively affected by the diesel train noise.

Reassessment of the specifications of the noise walls being installed by Metrolinx contractors is necessary. Immediate improvement to the Stouffville Corridor noise walls is paramount for the health of Agincourt residents. Action is required!

The Agincourt Village Community Association asks you to respect the health of the Agincourt Community on the Metrolinx Stouffville Corridor. On behalf of the Agincourt residents our members implore you to value our safety and our health as Metrolinx forges ahead on the Stouffville Corridor.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhoda Potter  
President AVCA

Randy MacDougall  
Vice President AVCA

cc: Phil Verster