
News Release Communiqué

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BUS RAPID TRANSIT SERVICE BREAKS GROUND IN MISSISSAUGA

MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO — Bob Dechert, Member of Parliament, Mississauga-Erindale, the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Ontario's Transportation Minister, Her Worship Hazel McCallion, Mayor of Mississauga and Gary McNeil, GO Transit Managing Director participated in a groundbreaking ceremony today to mark the start of construction of the Mississauga Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridor.

This project, which is expected to be completed in spring 2013, will improve local and inter-regional bus operations across the City of Mississauga. It involves constructing an 11-kilometre east-west busway across the City of Mississauga between Winston Churchill Boulevard and Renforth Drive in the City of Toronto and a total of 12 stations along the route with related commuter facilities.

"Investments in public transit creates jobs and boosts the Canadian economy," said MP Dechert. "This rapid transit system will provide commuters in Mississauga with a more efficient transit option, while cutting commute times and taking more cars off the road."

"This is great news for Mississauga residents," said Ontario Transportation Minister Kathleen Wynne. "When the new bus rapid transit line is finished, more commuters will be able to leave their cars at home and take public transit. Investing in public transit is part of the McGuinty government's [Open Ontario](#) plan. Better public transit means a better quality of life for Ontario families." (TBC)

"We are doing everything we can to make Mississauga a transit-oriented city and show our commitment to ensure we meet the needs of residents and businesses," said Mayor Hazel McCallion. "The bus rapid transit system is an example of what can be done when we put our funding together to move our transit plans forward for the people of Mississauga. It is the key to our city's future and that of the GTA. Regional transit links will connect cities, fuel our economies and improve the environment."

"We are pleased to work with our government partners to improve public transit in Peel Region," said GO Transit Managing Director Gary McNeil. "We are working together to bring an integrated transportation network for all of our customers, making it easier for them to move around."

The total eligible cost of this project is \$259 million. The federal government is contributing up to \$83 million to the City of Mississauga and GO Transit (a division of Metrolinx) through the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund. The Province of Ontario has already provided \$65 million to the City of Mississauga to support the project and is contributing another \$48 million in GO Transit investments. The City of Mississauga will fund the rest of the project costs. Provincial funding for this project was announced under the 2006 Ontario Budget. Federal funding was announced on February 20th, 2008. For more information, visit: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/mediaroom/releases-nat-2008-08-h046e-4067.htm>

This project also falls under *FLOW*, the Government of Canada's transportation action plan for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), designed to reduce congestion, cut commute times, help clear the air and help drive the economy in the GTA. A backgrounder with additional information on funding for *FLOW* and Mississauga Transitway is attached.

Read more about Open Ontario — the McGuinty government's five-year plan that includes investing \$32 billion in infrastructure, and creating and sustaining over 300,000 jobs — at www.premier.gov.on.ca/openOntario.

As Canada's sixth largest city, Mississauga is home to 730,000 residents and 55,000 businesses, including 61 Fortune 500 companies with Canadian head offices or major divisional head offices.

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Backgrounder Information

INFORMATION ON *FLOW* AND OTHER TRANSIT PROJECTS IN THE GREATER TORONTO AREA

CANADA STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

The federal funding for this project is allocated from the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund (CSIF). Through the fund, the Government of Canada works with provincial, territorial and municipal governments, as well as with the private sector, to meet strategic infrastructure needs throughout the country. CSIF supports large-scale strategic infrastructure projects that improve quality of life and further economic growth.

FLOW

FLOW, the Government of Canada's transportation action plan for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), is designed to reduce congestion, cut commute times, help clear the air and help drive the economy in the GTA.

It consists of key transportation infrastructure projects that are being funded and built in the short to medium term. In most cases, the projects are being cost-shared by the three levels of government — federal, provincial and municipal.

The projects were selected following consultations with the Province of Ontario, mayors in the GTA, regional chairs, municipal councillors and various community groups.

This plan was developed to help enhance the quality of life for residents and help businesses increase efficiency by keeping people, traffic and goods *FLOW*ing in the largest metropolitan area in Canada. The *FLOW* transit infrastructure projects include the Mississauga BRT project.

Mississauga Bus Rapid Transit Project

The City of Mississauga's Bus Rapid Transit Project, a key future component of Mississauga's transit system, involves the construction of an 11-kilometre east-west dedicated bus right of way across the City of Mississauga between Winston Churchill Boulevard and Renforth Drive in the City of Toronto. This project will improve local and inter-regional bus operations across the City of Mississauga. A total of 12 stations will be constructed along the route, 11 new stations and one existing station incorporated into the busway.

The total eligible cost of this project is \$259 million. The federal government is contributing up to \$83 million to the City of Mississauga and GO Transit (a division of Metrolinx) through the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund. The Province of Ontario has already provided \$65 million to the City of Mississauga to support the project and is contributing another \$48 million in GO Transit investments.

The City of Mississauga will fund the rest of the project costs. Provincial funding for this project was announced under the 2006 Ontario Budget.

The project is expected to be complete by 2013.

Other GTA Transit Projects

Brampton Züm (formerly AcceleRide)

The Government of Canada has committed up to \$95 million, while the Province of Ontario has already provided \$95 million to the City of Brampton to support the project. The City of Brampton will fund the remaining \$95 million in total project costs.

The project will be constructed in two phases. The first phase is expected to be complete by 2012 with three BRT lines (Queen Street in 2010, Main Street in 2011 and Steeles Avenue in 2012). The second phase, comprising of BRT service on Bovaird Drive and service extensions on Queen Street and Steeles Avenue, will be completed by 2021.

Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension

The Government of Canada is committing up to \$697 million towards the eligible project costs. The Province of Ontario has provided \$870 million in funding through the Move Ontario Trust to support the project. The City of Toronto and Regional Municipality of York previously committed their contributions and are responsible for the remainder of the project costs.

The total cost of the subway extension is estimated at \$2.6 billion; it is expected to be complete by 2015.

York Region Viva Phase 2 (vivaNext)

The Viva rapid transit system will be enhanced through the construction of dedicated BRT lane systems along the Yonge Street and Highway 7 corridors.

The Government of Canada has committed up to \$85 million towards eligible project costs. VivaNext is a priority in Metrolinx's regional transportation plan for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. The Province of Ontario has committed up to \$1.4 billion for vivaNext.

FLOW also includes three highway projects. The Province of Ontario determines the appropriate financing and delivery for:

- extending Highway 407 east to Highway 35/115;
- widening Highway 7 in Durham Region; and
- extending Highway 404.

THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

As Canada's sixth largest city, Mississauga is home to 730,000 residents and 55,000 businesses, including 61 Fortune 500 companies with Canadian head offices or major divisional head offices. A diverse, progressive and award-winning municipality located on the shores of Lake Ontario in the heart

of the Greater Toronto Area, Mississauga is one of Greater Toronto's Top 90 Employers for 2010. Enhancing its citizens' quality of life by providing superior services, revitalizing its infrastructure and conserving the environment, Mississauga is committed to innovation, operational excellence and fiscal responsibility which is reflected in its motto: "Leading Today for Tomorrow."

The Mississauga BRT project will see the creation of a new 11-kilometre busway and 12 stations along the route, which will connect Winston Churchill Boulevard in the west to Renforth Drive in the east. The busway will run along the Highway 403, Eastgate Parkway and Eglinton Avenue corridors. The Mississauga BRT project forms part of a planned Greater Toronto Area-wide (GTA-wide) initiative to create a 100-km busway connecting municipalities from Oakville to Pickering.

The Mississauga BRT project will complement and connect with local bus services and interregional transit and subway systems, linking high-density development and employment centres across Mississauga. Upon completion in 2013, the Mississauga BRT project will support extensive bus service for thousands of riders per day, making it faster and easier to travel to, from and through Mississauga and the GTA.

THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

The Ontario government is tackling gridlock to build a strong and prosperous economy by getting people onto public transit with record investments and innovation.

Metrolinx

Metrolinx, an agency of the Province of Ontario, provides leadership in the co-ordination, planning financing and implementation of an integrated multi-modal transportation network in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. Metrolinx is responsible for the operation of GO Transit and for planning and implementing the regional transit network in the GTHA. With a real focus on public transit, people and businesses will be able to move more easily across the GTHA, making cities more liveable and the economy stronger, while protecting the environment.

Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan

In November 2008, Metrolinx released "The Big Move," its Regional Transportation Plan for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. As part of the regional transportation system, The Big Move identifies plans for expansion of the regional rapid transit network including subways, light rail and bus rapid transit lines, integrated with an expanded GO Transit commuter rail network. Metrolinx is now implementing a number of key projects identified in The Big Move, with the Province's \$11.5 billion MoveOntario 2020 funding commitment as the foundation investment.

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