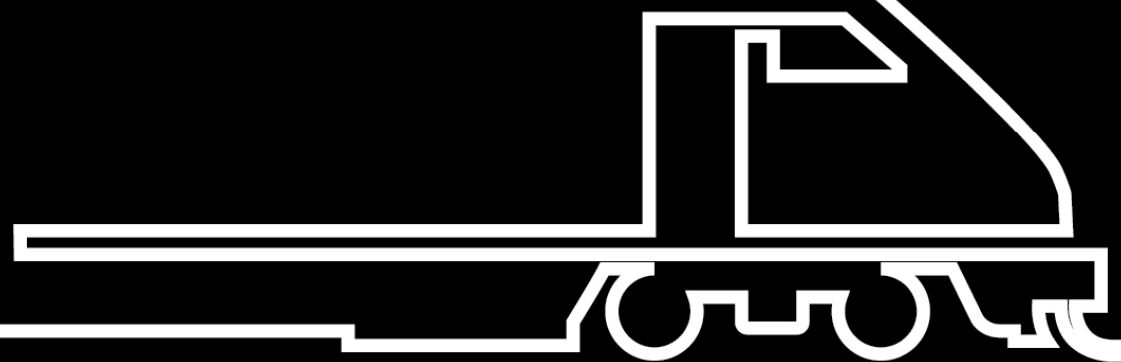


Building the transportation network we need for the future in Niagara Region

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WHO IS METROLINX?

Metrolinx was created in 2006 by the Province of Ontario with a mandate to create greater connection between the communities of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, and now beyond to the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

Since 2008, Metrolinx has been guided by its Regional Transportation Plan, *The Big Move*, which is currently under review – metrolinx.com/theplan.

Developed in consultation with municipalities, residents and stakeholders from across the region, the plan provides strategic direction for planning, designing and building a regional transportation network that enhances the quality of life, the environment and the prosperity of area residents.

PLAN



BUILD



OPERATE

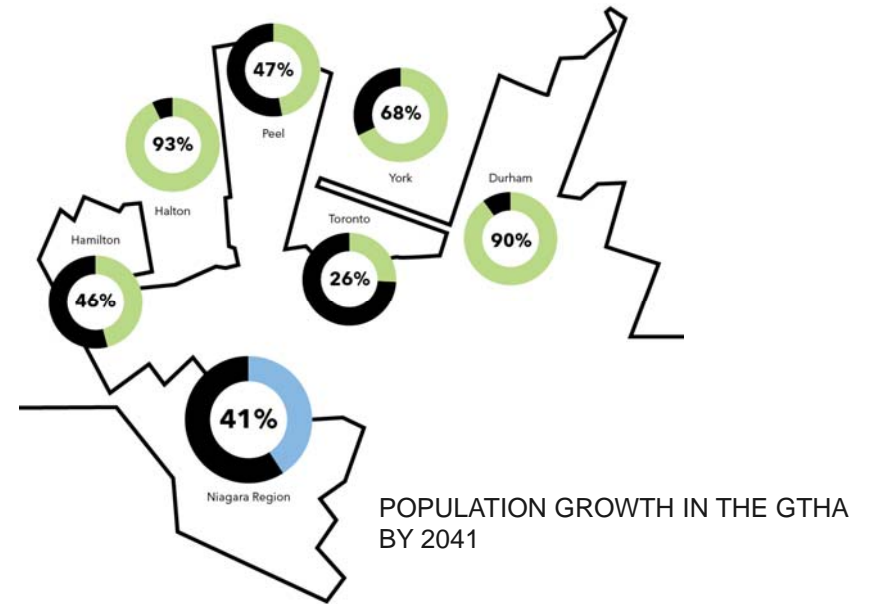
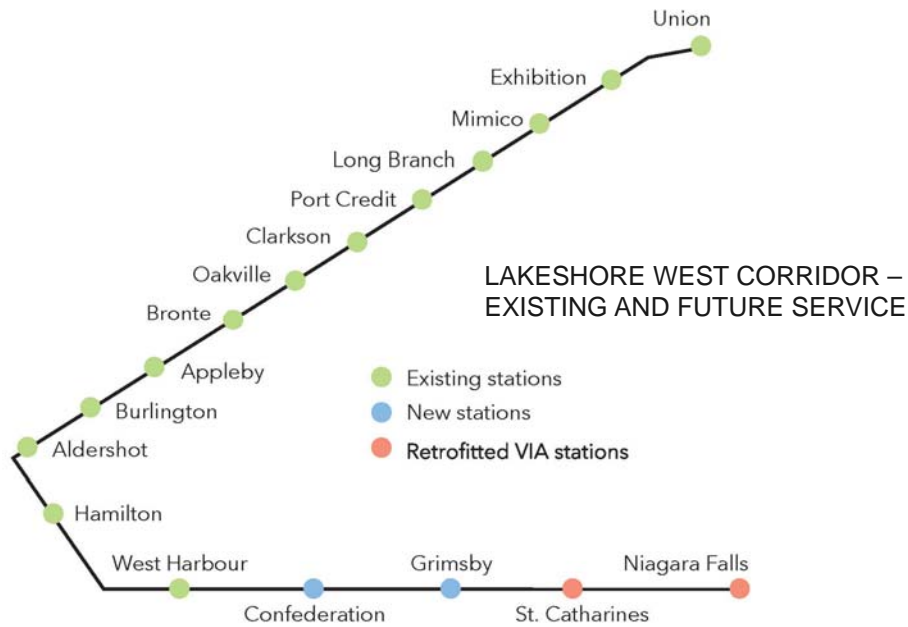


CONNECT



THE REGION IS GROWING

- GTHA is growing by over 100,000 people per year on average.
- Niagara Region's population is projected to grow to almost 500,000 people by 2031.
- Lakeshore West ridership – 70,139 rides daily.



HOW WE GOT HERE

- **2011** – Niagara Rail Service Expansion Environmental Assessment Study Report
- **May 2015** – announcement of GO train service expansion to Hamilton-Stoney Creek with a new Confederation station – targeting service for 2019
- **November 2015** – Initial Business Case: GO Rail Niagara Service Extension
- **June 2016** – announcement of GO train service between the future Confederation station and the Niagara Region, with service to Grimsby expected for 2021 and to Niagara Falls by 2023.
 - New stations in Hamilton-Stoney Creek and Grimsby
 - Upgraded stations in St. Catharines and Niagara Falls

WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR

- Coordinating with Municipalities and the Region via regular coordination through the joint *Metrolinx-Niagara Region Working Group*
- Supporting Niagara Region's Secondary Plan public engagement
- **June 2016** – completion of Valley Inn Road bridge replacement
- **December 2016** – completion of Desjardins Canal bridge expansion
- **August 2016** – completion of Lewis Road Layover Facility phase 1
- **April 2017** – launch of additional GO bus stop at Niagara College
- **May 2017** – GO/CN corridor scoping study complete
- **August 2017** – completion of crossing assessment study
- **December 2017** – projected completion of Hamilton Expansion Phase 1: Hamilton Junction-West Harbour Station
- **Late 2017** – construction to begin on Confederation GO Station
- **2018** – ongoing corridor capacity study

DESJARDINS CANAL BRIDGE EXPANSION



WHAT YOU'VE TOLD US

- **Preserve small-town feel of the area:**
 - approve development that's reflective of the current state of St. Catharines
 - limit high-rise development
- **Environmental impacts:**
 - concerns about impacts to local environment
- **Traffic:**
 - increased traffic congestion around the stations
 - traffic calming measures
- **Station parking capacity to meet demand**
- **Station noise and lighting:**
 - impacts to surrounding community
- **Station access:**
 - various modes of transportation, including active and local transit
 - consider St. Catharines station location at Glendale/406; better connection to downtown

WHAT WE NEED TO DO

Given the magnitude, scope, and complexity of the work involved, we have an initial plan that phases implementation of the project.

- Initial phases focus on completion of work in the Hamilton-Stoney Creek area, followed by Grimsby Station.
- Subsequent phases are focused on work to expand service to St. Catharines and Niagara Falls.



- More than 25 kilometres of new track and signals; at-grade crossings and corridor drainage.



- Additional GO rail fleet and facilities – new facility in Niagara Falls and expansion of the Lewis Road layover.



- Bridge widenings, expansions and upgrades.



- New stations and upgrades to existing VIA stations.

WHAT WE NEED TO DO – LOCAL CONTEXT

To provide service to Niagara Falls station and future Niagara Falls layover:

- grading, additional track and crossovers
- signalling and communications work
- drainage improvements
- level crossing upgrades



NEXT STEPS

- Continue working with CN Rail, Niagara Region, municipalities and communities to finish planning and design
- Addenda to the 2011 Niagara Expansion GO Transit Class EA will commence in early 2018
- Targeted start of initial service (pending an agreement with the corridor owner CN Rail):
 - Confederation – 2019
 - Grimsby – 2021
 - Niagara Falls and St. Catharines – 2023

