

# The Big Move

## Baseline Monitoring Report

September 2013

*Executive Summary*



**METROLINX**

AN AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

# Executive Summary

## Introduction

The Big Move is the Greater Toronto and Hamilton's (GTHA's) multi-modal long-range regional transportation plan. Since 2008, this plan has been providing strategic direction for planning, designing and building a regional transportation network that enhances our quality of life, our environment, and our prosperity. To support this 25-year plan, it is important to regularly take stock of collective efforts to fulfill The Big Move, and to monitor its implementation.

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Metrolinx released an Investment Strategy recommending revenue sources to continue to pay for the major aspects of The Big Move. During that consultation, the public indicated that public accountability is a priority, confirming the importance of one of The Big Move's goals of fairness and transparency. Understanding how the region is doing, and setting a baseline to measure continuous improvement is an important aspect of understanding the region's progress in an efficient, accountable and transparent way.

The Big Move Baseline Monitoring Report establishes a foundation for monitoring progress, using a set of *Key Performance Indicators* (KPIs) to measure achievement of The Big Move's goals.

Five years is a short time to complete the bold changes set out in The Big Move, but taking a regional scan and compiling the available data now helps, going forward, to define regional trends and catalogue individual initiatives that contribute to successfully achieving the goals, objectives and vision of The Big Move.

The Big Move outlines goals and strategies that are affected by macro trends, outlined in the Baseline Monitoring Report, and are important to consider in monitoring the GTHA's progress.

This Baseline Monitoring Report is the result of a collective effort from partners across the GTHA, who are instrumental in implementing The Big Move, including municipalities, transit agencies, and provincial representatives.

Under the *Metrolinx Act, 2006*, Metrolinx has an obligation to review the regional transportation plan at least once every ten years. The information collected for this report provides foundational information to support the first review of the regional transportation plan in 2016.

## Monitoring our Goals – Key Performance Indicators

A set of KPIs was developed to align the goals of The Big Move and desired outcomes with currently available data. They make up a framework for which progress on achieving the goals can be measured over the long-term.

The Big Move's goals are:

- Transportation Choices
- Comfort and Convenience
- Active & Healthy Lifestyle
- Safe and Secure Mobility
- Fairness and Transparency
- Reduced Emissions
- Reduced Dependency on Non-Renewables
- Attractive and Well Planned Region
- Prosperity and Competitiveness
- Multi-Modal Integration
- Inter-connectedness
- Efficiency and Effectiveness
- Fiscal Sustainability

Using these goals and stakeholder input, the questions below were developed to help frame the KPIs and the data used to measure them.

Framing Questions	KPIs
How are we moving around the GTHA?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mode of transportation</li> <li>• transit ridership</li> </ul>
Is there more choice in how we travel?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• transit service per capita</li> <li>• length of regional rapid transit</li> </ul>
Do more people live and work close to fast and reliable transit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• living close to rapid transit</li> <li>• working close to rapid transit</li> </ul>
Are we providing transportation alternatives for those who need them the most?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• transportation choice for low-income households</li> <li>• accessibility of transit</li> <li>• transportation choice for children</li> <li>• transportation choice for seniors</li> </ul>
Are we safer as we travel?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• road safety</li> </ul>
Are we reducing the impact of transportation on the environment?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• air quality</li> <li>• emissions</li> </ul>
Are we better connected across the GTHA?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• transit between urban centres</li> <li>• highway travel speeds</li> <li>• Pearson Airport access</li> </ul>
Is transit provision in the GTHA becoming more fiscally sustainable?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• transit efficiency</li> </ul>

The progress of The Big Move should be reported at regular intervals, using the above KPIs as an initial framework. Ongoing work is anticipated to evolve the framework and the KPIs as new sources of data become available, ensuring that the most relevant data and the most appropriate indicators are reported.

## Measuring Progress – Actions & Policies

The Big Move sets out an action plan comprised of ten strategies, each of which contains both *Priority Actions* and *Supporting Policies*. In total, the Big Move identifies 92 Priority Actions and Supporting Policies, nine of which are the most transformative Big Moves, to support implementation of the ten strategies, which are:

- Strategy #1: Build a Comprehensive Regional Rapid Transit Network
- Strategy #2: Enhance and Expand Active Transportation
- Strategy #3: Improve the Efficiency of the Road and Highway Network
- Strategy #4: Create an Ambitious Transportation Demand Management Program
- Strategy #5: Create a Customer-First Transportation System
- Strategy #6: Implement an Integrated Transit Fare System
- Strategy #7: Build Communities that are Pedestrian, Cycling and Transit-Supportive
- Strategy #8: Plan for Universal Access
- Strategy #9: Improve Goods Movement within the GTHA and with Adjacent Regions
- Strategy #10: Commit to Continuous Improvement

Work has started on more than half of the Priority Actions and Supporting Policies, and there are a number of areas where policy and work have advanced. This report includes a summary of work underway, provided by Metrolinx and delivery partners across the GTHA, which is crucial to benchmark our progress to date and continue to monitor our progress as a region going forward.

## Building Rapid Transit

The most visible sign of progress in implementing The Big Move is the considerable progress on delivering the *Top Priority Transit Projects*. More than \$16 billion in funding has been committed to advancing these projects, which are in various stages of planning, development and construction:

- Mississauga Transitway
- UP Express
- Finch West LRT
- Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension
- Eglinton Crosstown LRT
- Scarborough RT Replacement and Extension
- Sheppard East LRT
- York Region VivaNext Rapidways
- GO Transit Rail service expansion

These Next Wave projects are in the planning phase, in preparation for funding commitments:

- Hamilton LRT
- Dundas Street BRT
- Hurontario-Main LRT
- Brampton Queen Street Rapid Transit
- Relief Line
- Yonge North Subway Extension
- Durham-Scarborough BRT
- GO Rail Expansion
- Express Rail on GO Lakeshore
- Electrification of GO Kitchener line and UP Express

The region is also making progress on those projects that have not received funding commitments. For the remainder of the projects to move forward, funding is required.

## Looking Ahead

The GTHA continues to grow and evolve. Regional shifts and trends are important to understand the context in which The Big Move is being implemented, to more fully understand the challenges and successes.

There are a number of areas where continued work is important to maintain momentum on delivering The Big Move over the next few years. We will continue to work with our delivery partners to add to the baseline of information summarized in this report, and to refine the methods of measuring our progress to implement The Big Move as a region in a transparent and accountable way.