

**MANAGEMENT REPORT TO METROLINX**

<b>Report Title:</b>	Revised RTP & Investment Strategy Consultation Plan					
<b>Report Number:</b>	COM 08-002	<b>Date to Board:</b>	June 13, 2008	<b>Date to Committee:</b>		
<b>Report To:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOARD		<input type="checkbox"/> ADVISORY COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> AUDIT COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE <input type="checkbox"/> TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:			
<b>Report Referred From:</b>	N/A					
<b>Author(s):</b>	Rita Scagnetti		<b>Telephone:</b>	416-874-5910		
			<b>E-mail:</b>	Rita.Scagnetti@metrolinx.com		
<b>Item Class:</b>	IN CAMERA	<input type="checkbox"/>	DECISION	<input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**1.0 RECOMMENDATION:**

*RESOLVED:*

**THAT** the Board review and approve the revised consultation plan contained in Report COM 08-002 Revised Regional Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy Consultation Plan.

**2.0 PURPOSE & EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report outlines the revised public consultation strategy to support the both the GTHA Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Investment Strategy (IS). A revised critical path timeline on the consultations is attached as Appendix A.

### 3.0 BACKGROUND:

At the meeting of the Metrolinx Board of April 25, 2008, the Board adopted a recommendation to table the draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Investment Strategy (IS) together for consideration on July 25, 2008. This decision also enables an option for coordinated public and stakeholder consultations on the RTP and IS together. The regional public meetings and follow-up series of stakeholder meetings have been rescheduled for August and September 2008.

At its meeting of March 28, 2008, the Board received an information report (CS 08-001) on the public consultation process to support the development of the RTP and IS. The multi-faceted process was designed to solicit the opinions and views of the public, stakeholders, experts across various industries, and Metrolinx's municipal, provincial, federal and transportation partners through a combination of events, meetings and on-line input.

At the April 25, 2008 meeting, the Board resolved:

***THAT the Consultation Plan outlined in report COM 08-001 and approved on March 28, 2008 be revised to accommodate the new release date for the draft RTP of July 25, 2008 and be brought forward by staff for Board review and approval.***

### 4.0 DISCUSSION:

Following the April 25, 2008 meeting, staff revised the public consultation schedule to reflect that the RTP and IS are now moving forward together. New opportunities for consultation have been identified and the revised schedule has been expanded to include the following:

- two stakeholder meetings in July to consider directions for the IS;
- public/stakeholder input can now be received on the draft RTP and companion IS simultaneously at meetings in August and September; and
- public/stakeholder input can now be received online on the draft RTP and IS at the same time from August –October.

It is expected that this approach, allowing for consultation on the RTP and IS together, will be well received, as it will allow an integrated discussion on the content of a plan to improve the transportation system in the GTHA and the ways to fund the new initiatives.

**THE REVISED CONSULTATION SCHEDULE:****GENERAL PUBLIC****Online Consultations:**

- Members of the public and stakeholders from across the region can provide input and make comments on-line throughout the developmental stages of the plans; RTP Green Papers, RTP White Papers, draft RTP and draft Investment Strategy by visiting the Metrolinx website from December 2007 – October 2008.
- Notice of the opportunity to comment has been placed on the province's Environmental Registry.

**Unconference Events:**

- The community that launched the original "Transit Camp" in February 2007 have already organized two highly successful events in Toronto and Hamilton. Their objective is to expand the audience interested in Metrolinx's initiatives using a series of contemporary and fresh collaboration tools and processes. More events are planned over the summer months.

**Public Meetings:**

- Members of the public will be invited to public meetings across the region through print ads and other media opportunities. They will be invited to provide their input into the draft RTP and Investment Strategy in September 2008.
 

• Richmond Hill	September 4, 2008
• Brampton	September 8, 2008
• Hamilton	September 9, 2008
• Oakville	September 10, 2008
• Toronto (2)	September 17, 2008 September 18, 2008
• Whitby	September 16, 2008
• Mississauga*	September 23, 2008
• Thornhill (to be confirmed)*	September 24, 2008

\* Public meetings may be organized locally and supported by Metrolinx staff. Requests may be made directly to Metrolinx.

Public meetings will include an open house where citizens can view display materials and speak directly with Metrolinx staff; formal staff presentations on the RTP and IS; and an opportunity to pose questions and comments.

**Stakeholder Meetings:**

- Organizations and associations with an interest in transportation and representing a cross-section of Metrolinx target audiences will be invited to facilitated workshop sessions to comment on the RTP White Papers and Investment Strategy in May/June 2008. Subject to minor logistical variations, these dates are:
  - Oshawa May 26, 2008
  - Hamilton May 29, 2008
  - Burlington June 4, 2008
  - Toronto June 6, 2008
  - Mississauga June 10, 2008
  - Markham June 12, 2008
- Stakeholder roundtables to discuss the draft RTP and draft Investment Strategy are now being scheduled in August;
- Metrolinx staff will continue to meet one-on-one with key stakeholders throughout the process to solicit input on the Green Papers, White Papers, draft RTP and draft Investment Strategy.

**Expert Design Charrette:**

- A one-day design charrette, featuring local and international experts in urban design, development, investment and transportation, will be held on June 23, 2008, to generate creative visualizations of potential RTP test concepts.

**5.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

The cost of these consultations is within the budget as approved by the Board.

**6.0 HUMAN RESOURCES MATTERS:**

N/A

**7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:**

Metrolinx will make all best efforts for events to have a low carbon footprint, including minimizing waste and making recycling available, using local food sources for catered events, and utilizing transit supportive locations as much as possible.

**8.0 COMMUNICATION MATTERS:**

The consultation process will be supported by a comprehensive communication strategy to reach and engage a broad audience.

**9.0 LEGAL MATTERS:**

N/A

**10.0 CONCLUSION:**

This report outlines Metrolinx's revised consultation process. Using both traditional and non-traditional tools and tactics, Metrolinx will seek opinions and views from various public stakeholders, experts across various industries, and municipal, provincial, federal and transportation partners. This input will assist Metrolinx in developing and promoting a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Investment Strategy.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved for Submission to the Board



Rita Scagnetti per Colleen Bell,  
General Manager, Community  
Relations & Initiatives



W. Michael Fenn, CEO

*Appendices:*

Appendix A: Metrolinx Consultation Timeline
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*Staff & Others  
Consulted:*

Name	Telephone

*Notifications:*

Name	Mailing or E-mail Address
N/A	

*Special Instructions:*

N/A
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