



**To:** Metrolinx Board of Directors  
**From:** Robert Siddall  
*Chief Financial Officer*  
**Date:** September 10, 2013  
**Re:** **Investment Strategy and Project Evaluation Quarterly Report**

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### **Executive Summary**

Metrolinx Board of Directors adopted an Investment Strategy report that contained 24 recommendations. These recommendations embody a four-part plan to integrate transportation, growth and land use planning in the GTHA, maximize the value of public infrastructure investment, optimize system and network efficiencies, and dedicate new revenue sources for transit and transportation. This report is now before the Provincial government and heads of Municipal Council for consideration.

### **Background**

#### **Investment Strategy Implementation Planning**

There are a number of recommendations that are contained within the Investment Strategy that can be implemented now. For example, undertaking world-leading evidence-based project evaluation and selection processes, supporting transit-oriented development, robust and transparent public reporting, and improving the level of service integration. These recommendations enhance and in some cases create new processes to deliver goals already being pursued by Metrolinx. High level activities that are being advanced for each recommendation include establishing the activity leads for each recommendation, determining resources required to implement, and identifying supporting activities which can be advanced for recommendations where provincial approval is required.

The Metrolinx Senior Management Team (SMT) directed that the Investment Strategy and Project Evaluation (ISPE) unit, now reporting to the Chief Financial Officer, be the central point of accountability and reporting for all 24 recommendations. Various Metrolinx activity leads will be responsible for advancing the recommendations wherever possible, and reporting on progress will be through ISPE to the Metrolinx SMT and the Metrolinx Board.

Key activities to date are outlined below:

- ISPE has initiated meetings with the various internal activity leads for the IS recommendations and is developing a project reporting methodology and governance structure for IS implementation.

- ISPE, Policy, Planning, and Innovation, and Community & Stakeholder Relations has begun work to identify communications material that can best support the ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders and the public around the benefits and need for transportation system investment.
- The Municipal CAO Forum with Metrolinx participation will continue as a way to consult municipalities on the implementation of IS recommendations that affect municipal interests, and contact has been made to establish working group(s).
- AMT, Metrolinx and TransLink are working collaboratively on a joint economics research assignment that will assess the combined economic impact of transportation and transit investment in Canada's three global city regions. A research and strategy team will be procured and managed by Metrolinx on behalf of the three agencies who will share the cost of the assignment. A draft report will be reviewed in November 2013. This report will support not just better knowledge for project development among the regional transportation authorities but also our on-going dialogue with the federal and provincial governments and other stakeholders.

### **Investment Evaluation**

Enhanced investment evaluation is continuing and building on the work of the Benefits Case Analyses (BCAs):

- ISPE has further developed investment evaluation methods with internal Metrolinx clients based on new research completed and collaboration with the Province. This work supports project planning, development, and implementation and is consistent with the forefront thinking of international best-practices.
- An expanded investment evaluation template, i.e., an enhanced BCA template, is being embedded within the planning work for the Regional Relief Line being led by Metrolinx Policy, Planning, and Innovation.
- The Hurontario-Main LRT planning, design, and engineering work with the cities of Mississauga and Brampton will result in an updated BCA. This BCA update will take into consideration updated costs and ridership figures resulting from refined design work, and will quantify other benefits previously only described qualitatively.
- The Yonge Subway BCA has been completed in partnership with York Region and will be posted online. Its findings confirm and support the Yonge Subway as a priority project, identified as a Next Wave project in the Metrolinx Investment Strategy.

### **Attachments**

Nil.