



York Catholic District School Board

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Carol Cotton
Vice-Chair
Markham
Area 1, Wards 1, 2, 3, 6

TBD
Markham
Area 2, Wards 4, 5, 7, 8

Dominic Mazzotta
Chair
Richmond Hill

Maria lafrate
Richmond Hill

Rose Cantisano
Vaughan
Area 1, Ward 1

Dino Giuliani
Vaughan
Area 2, Ward 2

Maria Marchese
Vaughan
Area 3, Ward 3

Jennifer Wigston
Vaughan,
Area 4, Wards 4, 5

Alessandro Casbarro
Sr. Student Trustee

Anthea Peta-Dragos
Jr. Student Trustee

September 21, 2021

Mr. Donald Wright, Chair, Metrolinx
Metrolinx Board of Directors

Re: Yonge North Subway Extension and St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School at 141 Kirk Drive, Markham ON

Dear Mr. Wright & Metrolinx Board of Directors,

On behalf of the York Catholic District School Board, I am writing to express our concern regarding the proposed alignment of the Yonge-North Subway Extension and the detrimental effect this alignment will have on the safety and well-being of students and staff at St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School, located at 141 Kirk Drive, in Thornhill, ON.

The background report initially released included three proposed alignments, all three avoided the school site completely. Shortly after release a revised option three was identified as the preferred alignment, with this alignment directly impacting our St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School.

The Board is seriously concerned with the lack of transparency with respect to the rationale (or what appears to be a lack of rationale) to support the “preferred alignment” and the absence of consultation with Board staff and the school community given the location of the proposed alignment directly under our St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School.

At a time when the province is encouraging students to return to school, and the emphasis placed on a “normal” school environment, Metrolinx has requested access to the school site to perform geotechnical investigations. This invasive investigation requiring numerous tests and 2 drill machines would be a serious disruption to students and staff at the school. The requested access to the site is proposed to be required for six weeks, with storage of equipment and materials on site which presents a substantial safety hazard for students along with the disruptive and unsightly condition.

The Board wishes to avoid the long term impact of a tunnel beneath the school, the impact on the structure, health and well-being of students, and the regular disruption to the learning environment. We request that Metrolinx reconsider the subway alignment given the sensitivity around the safety and disruption to students.

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Mr. Wright & Metrolinx Board of Directors
September 20, 2021
Page 2

The Board is pleased to carry out further discussions with respect to the planning for this project and the current request for access to the property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dominic Mazzotta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Dominic Mazzotta
Chair, Board of Trustees

CC: Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education
Hon. Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation
Hon. Gila Martow, MPP Thornhill
Frank Scarpitti, Mayor, City of Markham.
Keith Irish, Councilor Ward 1 Markham
Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor of the City of Vaughan
Phil Verster, President and CEO, Metrolinx
Patrick Daly, President, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association