

CAC Follow Up Questions

Email sent from Shelley Kline on Nov 28:

1. What is the timing and follow up with our questions from our, "**LSE CAC's List for Inclusion in the LSE Corridor Expansion Project**" document? We did not discuss our neighbourhood requests.

We will share our updated response by Dec. 20, 2019.

2. Can you confirm if this document will be included in the 'Schedule A' signed by the chosen contractor company? We were previously told it that would be.

A: The language that Metrolinx provides in the Project Agreement is written in general terms such that Metrolinx stipulates what *needs* to be completed, mitigated, etc. rather than *how* work is completed, mitigated, etc. The CAC has been thoughtful and worked hard on the development of the list. Metrolinx will share this information as much as the procurement process allows.

3. When the RER construction begins early 2021 for tree & vegetation removal, and track bed preparation, does that include our Riverside section of track from Pape south to Don river? I was confused about that. Or will this be done as the separate combined project for RER/OL?

A: It does not include the Riverdale section (Pape to Don River). This section will be included in the Ontario Line project.

4. What is the purpose of the "Community Office"? Where will it be located? And how will it be staffed?

A: We are finalizing locations of the community offices with our realty department. We'll announce the locations at a later date.

The offices will be staffed with Metrolinx Community Relations Specialists working on the project. They will be available to answer questions, complaints and requests from the public and local businesses about the Ontario Line or other Metrolinx projects such as the work on the rail corridor. They will also be working on community initiatives such as small business seminars and shop local campaigns. To increase outreach, the Community Staff members will also host information tables in various locations along the corridor such as libraries, community centres and other public places.

Additional question sent from Shelley Kline on Nov 28:

5. - Re Property Takings - When will notices be sent - we know that no one in our area has been informed so far and from our last meeting it says, "Owners were to be contacted by end of 2019 via email, notice or phone call by 'experts in your Property & Realty division'. Can we can a timeline on this please?

A: Impacted property owners will be directly contacted in the New Year.

Email sent from Shelley Kline on Dec. 2, 2019 (forwarded email from Dina Waik):

Good morning,

I represent a community of approximately 25 households located on Aldergrove Ave, west of Woodbine, north of Gerrard and parallel to the train tracks - a location that also encompasses an off leash dog park and ravine.

We have been following with interest the discussions held between Metrolinx representatives and CAC - Riverdale South and are very very concerned. We have signed up to attend the December 5, 2019 Metrolinx Town Hall and pose our questions and in preparation for this, are sending out an email outlining our concerns and requesting a meaningful and substantive response.

First, we want to applaud the initiative to bolster and strengthen our public transit - the more cars off the streets the better, the better our public transit is, the more cars off the street - we are definitely supportive of Metrolinx's mandate.

I will be brief and outline our areas of concern:

- 1) We have been notified that Merrill Bridge Dog Park is going to be used as a staging site for heavy equipment during the construction, but have not been assured that the community surrounding and using this park will be invited to the table to participate in a meaningful way in decision making regarding this appropriation- how much of the park? What damage will be done and how will it be repaired? Are trees to be uprooted? If so, what will be replanted and when? What are the parameters of usage? How long will the park site be used in this manner?
- 2) Work in the ravines north and south of the tracks (Merrill Bridge Park and Williamson) - what is planned? When and why does this work need to be done? Has the TRCA assessed the environmental damage? Can we review the TRCA assessment?
- 3) Hours of construction and noise mitigation protocols - we are appalled at the 1-5am construction window as our houses are either overlooking the tracks or less than 100 feet from them, especially as our park will be used as a staging site. We need clear guidelines to be agreed upon in relation to the significant disruption to our lives and the enjoyment of our properties that will result from this horrendous work schedule. How long will this go on? How will we be notified of nights in which excessive noise and light pollution will be our lot from 1 am until 5 am? Who will be responsible for any health concerns arising from this work schedule? Who will we call at 3am when an overzealous contractor decides to rev her bulldozer and shine her lights into my bedroom window? What noise and pollution mitigation is planned to ease this burden on our community?
- 4) Final outcome - we need assurances that sound barriers will be installed along the full length of the tracks. There is no one community more worthy of quiet than another, no one that is less deserving of the ability to enjoy their property than another.

Our requests are simple. We are asking Metrolinx to provide us with substantive answers to our concerns, a forum to impact decisions and a reasonable and respectful approach to the misery that will be our lives during this construction process and the increase of train traffic that will be part of our lives.

We need to be at the table and impactful. We are ready to join our sister communities along the tracks in meaningful discussion with Metrolinx (or escalation to the courts if necessary) to ensure they do this job correctly - cutting costs now will only ensure further construction in the future.

We respectfully ask to be treated reasonably and with respect. We look forward to saying the same at the December 5, 2019 meeting and every subsequent meeting after that.

We trust our elected officials have our concerns at the forefront of their minds and look forward to their full support.

Metrolinx information:

- The Merrill Bridge dog park is not being used as construction staging area for the entire project; however, there will be some activity at that park on north and south side of corridor for Culvert installation and retaining wall installation. The new culverts require launching and receiving shaft for tunnel construction which need some equipment to be there but once tunnels are constructed, there won't be any equipment there.
- In order to facilitate the track expansion, Metrolinx is upgrading the culvert at Small's Creek; which will also provide an ecological benefit of connectivity as the current structure is a barrier. Avoiding any damage to vegetation is not feasible. However, all efforts will be made to limit encroachment into the feature. A restoration/compensation plan will be implemented once the construction is completed. The approach for compensation/restoration is still underway. Metrolinx will meet or exceed the requirements of all tree by-laws. We don't have the baseline schedule to know how long contractor will be there but its approximately 4-6 months.
- The construction of LSE West Corridor Expansion is planned for winter of 2021, however, the exact date on when the contractor will be at Merrill Bridge Park is not known at this time. A new culvert required to be installed and a retaining wall on the north side of the corridor will be installed. TRCA is involved during the EA process and commented on the EPR, and continues to provide feedback though the Voluntary Project Review process.
- The duration of work in the park area will be anywhere from 4 to 6 months but there are mechanisms in place for contractors to work during the day given they obtain track closures during specific days. At this time it's not known whether the contractor will work at night or during day in that specific area. The mitigation strategies will be developed as part of the noise, vibration management plan by Project Co. to ensure the impacts are mitigated to the extent possible.
- Regarding whether a noise wall will be installed, Metrolinx is in the process of updating the noise and vibration assessment that was completed as part of the Electrification TPAP. This work is currently underway and we will be conducting public engagement sessions in Q1 of 2020 to provide updates.