



Laura Albanese, MPP
York South-Weston

May 22, 2009

The Honourable James Bradley
Ferguson Block
3rd Floor
77 Wellesley St W.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Dear Minister Bradley,

The past few months have seen the passage of important legislation in transportation as well as the announcement of some major investments by the Government of Ontario toward the future of transit in the province.

The GO Georgetown South Corridor expansion and Union-Pearson Airport Link is currently undergoing a transit environmental assessment which will conclude in the fall. This project is of particular interest to the residents of York South-Weston, whom I am elected to represent.

As part of the EA process, I had the opportunity to attend Open Houses hosted by Metrolinx, the regional transportation authority, during the month of April. One issue being discussed in my community is the desire to see electric train technology in this corridor.

In the Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan, the Georgetown Line is identified for electrification in the first phase of the plan. Movement toward adopting this new technology will benefit the province and demonstrate the bold vision that Ontario has adopted with regards to transit.

In speaking to experts working on this project, it is my understanding that the first step in electrifying the line is to begin advance feasibility studies, starting at Union Station as the primary hub. It will also be necessary to coordinate the plans to move toward the new technology across the system, and to acquire new train stock and signalling systems.

Identified in the Regional Transportation Plan as an appropriate corridor for electric train technology, I am writing today to voice my support for prompt commencement of the necessary studies so that we may move forward on this issue. The residents of York South-Weston look forward to electric train technology as part of Ontario's plan to increase transit use in the coming years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Albanese". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "L".

Laura Albanese, MPP
York South-Weston