

-----Original Message-----

From: Reading Ahead

Sent: January 29, 2009 10:37 PM

To: Jacquie Menezes; Brian Peltier

Cc: brockton neighbours; diginfo@yahoo.com;

truprecht.mpp@liberal.ola.org; councillor_giambrone@toronto.ca

Subject: The Georgetown Expansion and the Air Rail link

Hi Brian and Jacquie,

The major concern for our community is that this expansion does not benefit from it at all. We will have an increase in noise and pollution. Many people

I've just come from a meeting in our neighbourhood discussing this expansion. I think it's a great direction for transportation in the GTA to have a faster route out to the airport and also to use this corridor to move more people through it.

in our older neighbourhood are worried that the amount of traffic will put in jeopardy the foundations of their homes.

Many people believe that the value of their homes will decrease rapidly when all of these trains start running through it.

I believe that since the taxpayers are paying for this project, it should benefit everyone, including the ones who back onto the tracks. What I'm asking for is some consideration for our neighbourhood and some thought on how to improve it and not make it worse. Obviously this rail link is going to happen, but let's try to make it the best it possibly can, benefitting every community along the way.

Here are my suggestions to help improve my neighbourhood which could apply to other neighbourhoods along the line.

1) More stops -- these could be used as an alternative and addition to TTC. Everyone in my neighbourhood would probably love the fact that they could hop on this train and get downtown in 5 minutes instead of 45 on the TTC. Or that they could hop on and go north to Bradford or West to Brampton or the Airport.

I know there is a stop at Bloor/Dundas but what about a Queen/Dufferin stop - where people could access both lines north and west? Currently we have to go to Union Station to get on the train to go north when the tracks run right through the neighbourhood. There is huge development going in at this intersection - 1500 units in the next few years.

These all could be potential users.

I know that there is concern for "slowing down" the commute for people who live outside the community. Why not run 2 different types of trains - an express and a collector? Can you not put switches into the tracks at stations and doubly improve this corridor?

2) Noise reduction solutions - whether this be quieter trains or bigger walls or tunnels. Please try to think if you had a house that backs onto the tracks how you would like this rail line built.

3) More access to the communities on the other side of the tracks. Obviously train tracks split communities. How about some more pedestrian or bike paths across the tracks?

4) Other uses for the corridor. Jacquie emailed Faranza Doctor "The Study will not be reviewing ancillary uses of the Corridor." Why not? Isn't this the point of Metrolinx? To have one body that can look at multiple solutions for transportation in communities... This seems a little short sighted. I would suggest running a bike/pedestrian

tree-lined path along the whole route, so that people who live in those communities can enjoy the corridor, not just the people coming in from the outside. Toronto has already committed money to part of this corridor for a bike path. I'm sure other communities along the line could benefit from it too.

Can you please give us hope for our community? Can you change it for the better? Can you tell us that we shouldn't put our homes up for sale and move out?

I hope that Metrolinx is actually listening and changing their plans with feedback from communities along the line. I hope your not wasting everyone's time (and our money!) by creating these feedback/information sessions and not actually listening. Please help us put some thought into improving our community.

Thanks for listening,
Jason Bomers

To Mr. Giambrone and Mr. Ruprect and everyone else, please speak up and make this expansion something we can all be proud of.