

GEORGETOWN SOUTH SERVICE EXPANSION AND UNION-PEARSON RAIL LINK



The best thing we can do for cleaner air and a healthy environment is get people out of cars and on to transit.



Cars and trucks are the single largest source of the air pollution that kills 1,700 people a year in Toronto, according to the Toronto Board of Health.



GO's new MP40 locomotives run on ultra-low sulphur fuel and meet US EPA's most advanced emissions standards.

Metrolinx is making travel by transit easier and faster for you.

Metrolinx is undertaking the largest transportation expansion in half a century. The Georgetown South Service Expansion and Union-Pearson Rail Link project is part of the plan.

Why is this project being proposed?

- Getting people out of cars and on to transit is the most effective way to ease gridlock and improve air quality.
- Georgetown corridor GO trains are already filled to capacity. The corridor needs to be expanded now to meet demand.
- Toronto needs to move people efficiently between Pearson Airport and downtown, with stops at Bloor GO and Weston GO stations.
- We need to fight traffic congestion. It's costing the region an estimated \$6 billion a year in delays and lost economic opportunities.
- This project will generate 10,000 new jobs.

Will this expansion impact my health?

No. The expansion of transit service on the Georgetown GO line can be operated safely without posing a risk to human health on a normal day. To address exceptional situations when extreme weather conditions combine with high traffic volumes, Metrolinx will be implementing mitigation measures. These include locomotives which emit fewer pollutants. Metrolinx is committed to protecting the community.

Metrolinx has also been working collaboratively with Toronto's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David McKeown. In a September update to his earlier August report to the Ministry of the Environment, he agreed that:

- "There is no increased leukemia risk associated with the proposed project."
- Metrolinx did not underestimate the projected increase of local air concentrations of several contaminants due to the proposed rail expansion;
- Metrolinx did not underestimate the predicted increase in acute health risks; and
- As an alternative to electrification, other mitigation measures proposed by Metrolinx may, subject to demonstration, be acceptable.

What has Metrolinx done to respond to the public's concerns?

Metrolinx has held dozens of meetings with the general public, interested groups and individuals, and regulatory agencies, to talk about community issues and concerns. We also hosted an online forum. Metrolinx responded to public input, making numerous changes to the proposed project, including:

- A new Strachan Avenue bridge design that minimizes the impact to the adjacent community and provides beautification opportunities
- Preservation of the iconic Farmer's Market at its current location in Weston
- Working with cycling advocates to extend the West Toronto Rail Path along the rail line where possible and connecting to other cycling paths along the corridor in the future
- Tunnelling the tracks through Weston to keep two cross streets open
- Metrolinx is commissioning a study of how to electrify its entire GO rail network

We will continue to work with neighbourhoods along the corridor to minimize impacts.



Find out more:

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