September 28, 2010

To the residents of Concord West,

I look forward to participating at this evenings’ debate addressing any questions you may have of me.

Let me be clear in response to your question submitted to me that I am, and will continue to be on the side of “the people.” I will be a strong voice for the interests and concerns of the Concord West Residents, and will do everything in my power to ensure that the ownership of the ORC lands are transferred to the TRCA.

You have my commitment that I will be a strong advocate to ensure that if and when a GO/Metrolink plan for a GO Station is approved by the province, I will be your communities voice at the Regional table. I will support your associations position to locate the GO Station on the Concord Floral lands. In my opinion this is the appropriate location for a Go Station necessary to provide accessible transit services to the future high density development on that site.

The following is information received by our staff which may provide some clarity on the subject matter.

Kind Regards,

Joyce Frustaglio
Regional Councillor
“People First”
Highway 7 GO Station

Through the development approval process, the City and the Region of York have been protecting for a potential new GO Station at Highway 7 (along the existing GO Transit Barrie Line running in a north-south direction through Vaughan). This has primarily occurred in conjunction with the active Official Plan Amendment and Zoning applications for high density development on the east side of the CNR corridor at Highway 7 (the Concord Floral / Go Centre Development Concept). In addition, York Region's latest Transportation Master Plan Update and the City's updated OP Volume 1 document both identify this proposed GO Station.

However, we have been recently advised from the Region of York that this proposed GO Station currently does not appear in the GO Transit 10-Year Capital Plan. It is York Region's intention to continue to work with GO Transit in order to advance the need for and potential construction of this new station at Highway 7.

Highway 407 Transitway

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has been undertaking preliminary planning studies for the 23 km central segment of a transitway facility along the Highway 407 corridor through York Region, from east of Highway 400 to Kennedy Road (407 Transitway) since 2007. During this period, two public information centre meetings were held by MTO and their consultants. The work to date has included identifying the problem and opportunities, an evaluation of alternative transit solutions, alternative design concepts and the preparation of preliminary designs for this segment of the transitway and stations.

The Transit Project Environmental Assessment Process will include the preparation and release of an Environmental Project Report (EPR) at the end of the preliminary design phase. All future public notices related to the Study will continue to be published in local newspapers and on the project website at www.lgl.ca/407Transitway. Any issues or concerns related to the preliminary design for the preferred alignment and stations can be raised directly with MTO and/or with their consultants as noted below:

Robb Minnes (MTO Project Manager)
416-235-5481
robb.minnes@ontario.ca

or

Khaled El-Dalati (Consultant Project Manager - Delcan Corporation)
905-943-0505
k.eldalati@delcan.com

Based on the latest available project schedule, the notice of completion is expected to be issued this fall at which point a 30-day final public review period is provided. The 407Transitway Study has identified the need for a transitway station at the transitway's intersection with the GO Transit Barrie Line (in Concord).

Best Regards,

Michael Frieri, C.E.T.
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