



May 24, 2023

The Honourable Kinga Surma
Minister of Infrastructure
777 Bay St
Toronto, ON
Via email

Re: Funding commitment for Main Street LRT Extension

Dear Minister Surma:

The Brampton Board of Trade thanks your government for being a reliable partner on advancing important projects like the GTA West Corridor and efforts that continually improve regional connectivity through Two-Way, All Day, GO train service.

One of the most urgent pending decisions for Brampton is regarding the Main Street LRT Extension. As the Hazel McCallion Line nears completion and operation in 2024, the portion of the route north of Steeles to the downtown Brampton GO has been in political limbo for more than 8 years.

While still considering a surface or partially-tunnelled route, on May 10th, Council directed staff to undertake more detailed work on the project, including liaising with Metrolinx as well as the provincial government, which will no doubt include conversations with your ministry.

Council has asked staff to report back on those conversations in approximately six months. One specific aspect that they have requested staff explore is funding envelopes from senior level governments. Those discussions will inform which option the City brings forward through the Transit Project Assessment Process (TPAP). Our understanding from the City is that a choice must be made – that according to provincial regulations only one option, a surface or partially-tunneled option, can be brought through the TPAP process. This is where we need your help Minister. We need a firm funding commitment.

The benefits of LRT along Main Street are well established: LRT will result in an uptick in property values along the corridor; there will be even further investment in our downtown, a process well underway in anticipation of LRT that will spur revitalization; and busses that previously served the corridor can be re-deployed to east/west routes, resulting in better overall service for the entire city.

To help staff provide council with the most complete information possible before entertaining next steps, such as TPAP, I am requesting that your ministry provide a firm funding commitment to the Main Street LRT Extension no later than November 10, 2023. We understand that this request may not be



typical of the process for a project of this nature, given that the project is only at 30% design and the City has not completed the project's TPAP. A funding commitment is nonetheless important though, because it gives Council clear direction on which option to choose and allows the community and economic benefits to accrue in a timelier way.

Our Board of Trade will be making a similar request of Minister LeBlanc. Your government has worked collaboratively with the federal government to make growth-enabling investments across Ontario, and this is an ideal opportunity to do so once again.

Thank you for considering this important request that will no doubt advance Brampton's prosperity for generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Todd Letts', is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Todd Letts, MBA, CCE
Chief Executive Officer

Cc:

Brampton MPPs, MPs
Premier Ford
Mayor Brown & Brampton City Council
The Honourable Domenic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure & Communities