

February 3, 2023

Kristin Olson
Manager Project Planning, Metrolinx
Kristin.Olson@metrolinx.com

RE: Queen Street Highway 7 Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Dear Kristin,

The City of Vaughan respectfully requests that Metrolinx, as part of the Preliminary Design Business Case for the Queen Street Highway 7 BRT, prepare a preliminary design and plan for Segment 6 (Kipling Avenue to Wigwoss Drive) to consist of a 6 general purpose lane cross section (in addition to the two BRT lanes), with appropriate active transportation facilities, consistent with the balance of the Queen Street Highway 7 corridor towards Highway 410 in the west and Highway 400 in the east.

The segment of Highway 7 between Kipling Avenue and Wigwoss Drive is the last remaining four-lane section of Highway 7 in Vaughan, resulting in a major bottleneck and limiting the efficient movement of goods and people in the City and more broadly, in York Region.

The broader area surrounding this segment of Highway 7 is one of the most dynamic in Vaughan, with the Woodbridge core directly north of this segment, and the Vaughan Enterprise Zone located immediately to the west. Elimination of this key bottleneck for goods movement, transit, active transportation and private autos will have a significant impact on the transportation network in Vaughan. These improvements will assist in better transit service, enhanced management of traffic for all road users and provide necessary infrastructure in facilitating Vaughan's growth plans as directed by the Province of Ontario.

Given the context of this segment of Highway 7, which includes crossings of the Humber River and the CP Rail MacTier subdivision, which leads to the Vaughan Intermodal facility, and it is critical that the planning for increasing the number of lanes on Highway 7 occurs at this early stage. This will minimize future impact to businesses and residents, and result in reduced total costs to the taxpayer.

The improvements to this segment of Highway 7 align with long standing York Region and City of Vaughan transportation planning, including the 2022 York Region Transportation Master Plan and the soon to be finalized Vaughan Transportation Plan.



Sincerely,

Vince Musacchio

Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure Development

c. Nick Spensieri, City Manager Selma Hubjer, Director, Infrastructure Planning and Corporate Asset Management Christopher Tam, Manager, Transportation Planning and Engineering