



METROLINX IS PLANNING TO RUN MORE THAN 350 DIESEL TRAINS EVERY DAY ON THE UNION STATION TO GEORGETOWN RAIL CORRIDOR WITHOUT FULLY CONSIDERING THE PEOPLE WHO WILL BE AFFECTED THE MOST. THESE DIESEL TRAINS WILL BE SPEWING FUMES AND DIVIDING OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS.

THAT'S A DIESEL TRAIN EVERY 5 MINUTES.

CLEAN TRANSIT IS POSSIBLE

Our city deserves a clean, effective and modern transportation system. Now is the time to build a transit solution that will benefit all of us and serve our region for decades to come. The solution should:

Use clean-running, quiet and light weight electric trains

Eliminate the harmful effects of diesel pollution

Maintain and enhance neighbourhood connections

Prevent the division and isolation of communities along the corridor

Create accessible and affordable transit for everyone

Ensure this public infrastructure project provides a lasting benefit to us all

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Are you concerned about the harmful environmental, social and economic effects of the proposed plan?

Get involved! Visit www.cleantrain.ca for more information. We need your help to ensure that this transportation project is a clean and healthy solution for the GTA.

clean-train-coalition

TRANSIT FOR A HEALTHY CITY www.cleantrain.ca

The Clean Train Coalition represents the communities along the rail corridor. We believe that a healthy environment and vibrant neighbourhoods depend on smart investment in public transit infrastructure. Build it once, build it right!

Frequently Asked Questions about the Georgetown South Service Expansion and Pearson-Union Rail Link

1. What is this project?

It is actually two projects: a GO Transit expansion of service from Union Station to Georgetown, and a Rail Link from Union Station to Pearson Airport which will be partially owned by SNC Lavalin. The Environmental Assessment is currently under way and will be completed by July 30th 2009. Construction is slated to start in 2010, and conclude in 2014.

2. What is Metrolinx?

Metrolinx is the arms-length body put in place by the Provincial Government to oversee public transit planning and implementation in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Areas. You can find out more about what Metrolinx plans for our region by going to www.metrolinx.com.

3. What is the Clean Train Coalition?

The Clean Train Coalition represents neighbourhoods along the rail corridor who support public transit. We want to ensure that the Georgetown South Service Expansion and Pearson-Union Rail Link are built once, and built right. We're advocating for electrified trains, the maintenance and enhancement of communities along the corridor, and accessible and affordable transit for everyone.

4. Where will the trains run?

The trains will run on the existing rail corridor from Georgetown in the north, through Weston, parallel to Weston Road to Dundas West and Bloor, beside Sorauren Park and diagonally through Brockton and Liberty Village to meet the Lakeshore Line near Fort York. These are all densely populated urban areas; they are our neighbourhoods.

5. How many trains will go through the neighbourhood I live in?

Currently, approximately fifty trains per day run through the corridor. Metrolinx plans to immediately implement 300 or more trains per day, leading in time to up to 500 trains per day, depending on how far south you are in the corridor; that is one train every five minutes. Four additional tracks will be built to accommodate the extra train traffic.

6. How will the trains be powered, and why is this a concern?

The trains will use diesel engines. Use of diesel engines will produce a significant increase in the level of air pollution in the area around the rail corridor, posing a health hazard for the communities along the tracks and potentially the entire city. Metrolinx has said they will consider electrification in 15 years, but there is no budget, plan or commitment to ensure this happens.

7. Transit is a good idea, why should I be concerned?

Good transit is a good idea. The Metrolinx plan to use diesel engines will create a significant increase in toxic emissions, vibration and noise. While any transit project would ideally take private cars off the road, it shouldn't concentrate those same emissions in a narrow rail corridor that goes through densely populated urban areas. A good transit project would work to eliminate the harmful effects of pollution as best as possible, for the benefit of the entire region.

8. How does this affect the West Toronto Cycling Path?

Metrolinx has committed to accommodating the Rail Path bicycle trail from the Junction to Queen Street. However, it isn't clear why cyclists would risk breathing harmful diesel emissions throughout their journey, or why the path could not be accommodated all the way downtown.

9. Will extra stations be built?

Metrolinx has no plans to build extra stations in the affected neighbourhoods except for "Future Eglinton" and "Possible Future Woodbine" stations. If you want to access the system, you will have to go to the existing Union, Dundas West, or Weston Stations.

10. What can I do to have my concerns about the project known?

You can join us in the Clean Train Coalition; visit the website at www.cleantrain.ca where you will find more information. Tell your neighbours and friends about the project and get them to sign up too. We'll be sharing information about how to have your voice heard. Contact Metrolinx directly via their website at www.metrolinx.com to tell them what you think of their plan. This is urgent, we have only a very short time to act on this before final approval of the EA.