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November 1, 2013



Janet DAVIS

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Ward 31
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Request to Include the Main TTC / Danforth GO Stations in the recently requested Staff Report on a Fare Integration Pilot Project

Dear Chair Stintz & Toronto Transit Commissioners,

At its October 23, 2013 meeting, the Toronto Transit Commission requested that TTC staff engage Metrolinx staff in implementing a pilot project to integrate GO and TTC fares through Presto card technology at Bloor GO Station and the Exhibition GO Station. I am writing to request that you expand the pilot project to include the Main TTC/Danforth GO Stations.

Numerous TTC reports and nearly all Toronto transit experts have identified an east end relief line as the most significant transit need in Toronto. Diverting riders from the Danforth subway to GO transit has frequently been identified as a simple interim measure to partially address this pressing need. I was surprised that the Main TTC/Danforth GO station was not included in this pilot project.

I understand that the transfer between the Main TTC and Danforth GO stations is less convenient than in the other identified sites. However by including this location in the pilot project residents of Toronto's east end travelling downtown would be encouraged to choose between the frustrating transfer onto the overcrowded Yonge subway line and the challenging transfer from the Main TTC to the Danforth GO station. It would be helpful to have staff report on the viability of encouraging the GO transit option through the use of fare sharing, improved wayfinding signage and perhaps a sheltered connection in the future. Including this location in the pilot project could increase the desirability of the Main/Danforth transfer and result in a simple and immediate interim measure to reduce some of the pressure on the Yonge line while we work to find a means to construct the Relief Line.

I urge you to please direct staff to add the Main TTC/Danforth GO station in the fare integration pilot project. I would appreciate it if you could forward any reports that will be on the November agenda.

Sincerely,

Councillor Janet Davis,
Ward 31, Beaches-East York

PRESENTED TO
THE COMMISSION

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c. Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon