

TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION REPORT NO.

MEETING DATE: September 25, 2013

SUBJECT: ST. CLAIR WEST STATION EASIER ACCESS
PROJECT - UPDATE

INFORMATION ITEM

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:

This report is about a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land for municipal or local board purposes

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Receive the information contained in the public report;
2. Receive a confidential verbal update as requested at the TTC Board meeting of July 24, 2013; and
3. Note that the information provided in the confidential verbal update remain confidential until such time as the transaction discussed closes.

FUNDING

The recommendation of this report does not have any financial impact.

BACKGROUND

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requires that the TTC be fully accessible to people with all levels of mobility by 2025. Through the TTC's Easier Access program, all 69 stations along the TTC Subway and RT system will be made fully accessible by that time. To date, 31 have been completed and three more (Pape, Dufferin and Lawrence West) are currently under construction. Construction of the elevators at St. Clair West Station is scheduled to begin in early 2014 and be completed in 2016.

DISCUSSION

At its meeting of July 24, 2013, the TTC Board referred the report entitled "St. Clair West Station Easier Access Project – Update" to staff to facilitate an in-camera and public discussion on the matter at the next regular meeting.

Easier access improvements planned for St. Clair West Station will provide customers with a barrier free path to all levels of the station. This will be accomplished by the installation of an accessible fare gate and automatic sliding doors, improved signage, including wayfinding, security cameras, and three elevators to access street, bus and streetcar level, concourse, and northbound/southbound platforms.

Design has been completed for the two elevators accessing the northbound and southbound platforms. The elevator to surface presents some challenges. The design must take into account the structural constraint of the station and its integration with the Loblaw's store that lies above the station.

Two options have been considered for locating the elevator from street level to the bus transfer concourse level. The TTC's preferred option locates the elevator on the north side of St. Clair Avenue West within the Loblaw's structure, in a space currently leased to the LCBO. This is consistent with TTC's policy to locate elevators at the main entrance of the station whenever possible.

The north side option provides the shorter travel distance from elevator to platform/concourse and the most direct easier access path; it is within the main station entrance, is located close to the collector booth, uses a regular easier access fare gate, and is preferred by the Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit (ACAT). However, building this option requires property to be acquired from Loblaw's. Discussions with Loblaw's about the property were initiated in 2010.

The other possibility is locating the elevator installed on the south side of St. Clair Avenue West in a stand-alone building. This option would require a longer access path for customers and more extensive construction, and is more costly.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The St. Clair West Easier Access project was presented to the community at an open house (presentation boards attached), held on June 25, 2013 in the Loblaw's Community Room, directly above the station. Approximately 35 people attended the open house, including three people using mobility aids.

Attendees were able to speak with Councillor Joe Mihevc, members of the project team, Community Liaison staff, and both the St. Clair West Duty Station Manager and Group Station Manager for the Osgoode – Downsview Stations.

The vast majority of those who attended the open house expressed their preference for the north side option.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

TTC is tendering the contract this summer and expects to submit a contract award report to the Board in the fall with construction to start on elevators from the platform to concourse in early 2014. The contract will include the option to also build the elevator from concourse to surface, should the property negotiation with Loblaw's be successful.

The TTC and the City of Toronto are continuing discussions with Loblaws regarding the property for the elevator to surface.

JUSTIFICATION

This work is required in order to comply with AODA.

September 13, 2013
87-2-11/1-9
03078-5-41

Attachment: St. Clair West Station Easier Access Project Community Update – Open House



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St. Clair West Station Easier Access Project Community Update – Open House June 25, 2013



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Easier Access – Program Wide

- Committed to making all 69 stations accessible by 2025
- 31 stations completed - almost halfway there
- Working with the Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit on effective design
- Look for elevators, sliding doors, fare gates and other features that will improve mobility for all transit riders





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Easier Access Project Background

- 31 of 69 stations are accessible
- Three stations are currently under construction:
 - Pape (2013 year-end completion)
 - Dufferin (2014 completion)
 - Lawrence West (2014 completion)
- All stations will be made accessible by 2025
- St Clair West Station elevators are scheduled to be in service in 2016



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Context Map



June 25, 2013

Easier Access - St Clair West Station



Easier Access Improvements

- **Barrier free path to all levels of the station including installation of:**
 - **Three elevators to access street, bus and streetcar level, concourse, and northbound / southbound platforms**
 - **Accessible fare gate and automatic sliding doors**
 - **Improved signage including way-finding**
 - **CCTV – security cameras**
- **Reviewed by ACAT (Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit)**



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Easier Access Improvements

Challenges

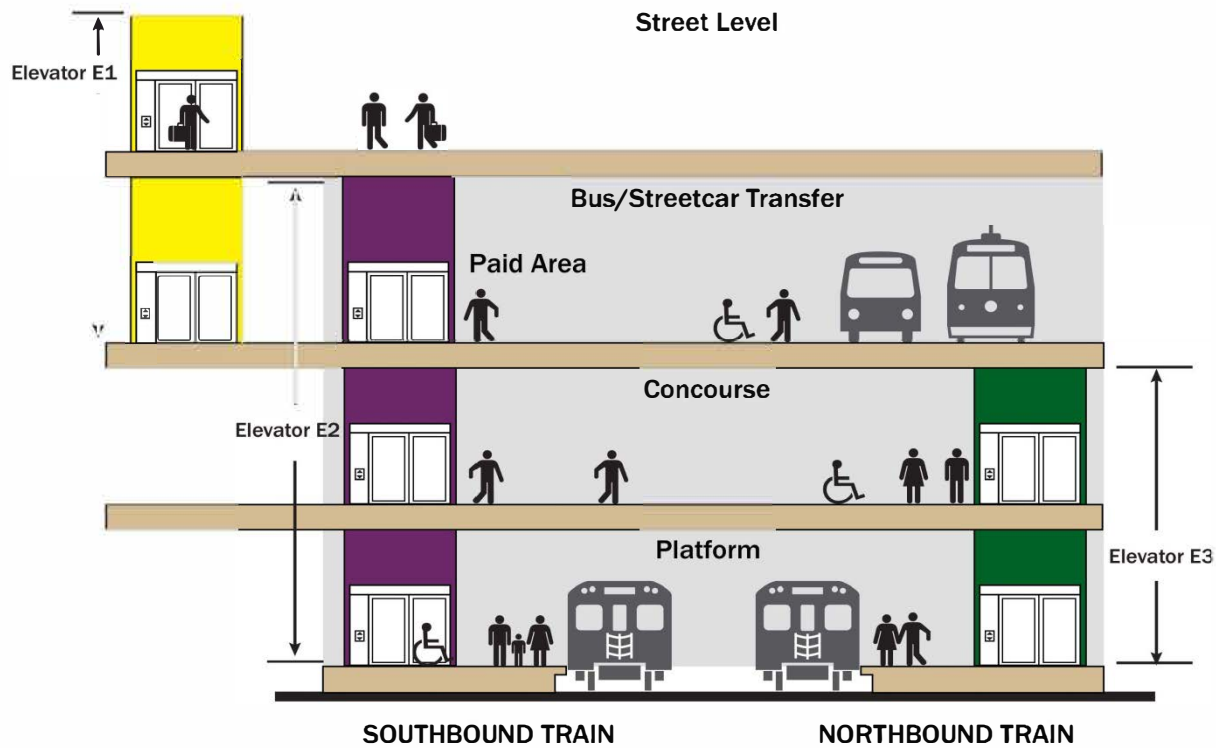
- Fitting new elevators within an existing station
- Structural engineering considerations of the subway station and Loblaws building
- Minimizing TTC customer inconvenience during construction



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Elevator Plan – St Clair West Station

Preferred Option – North Side Entrance

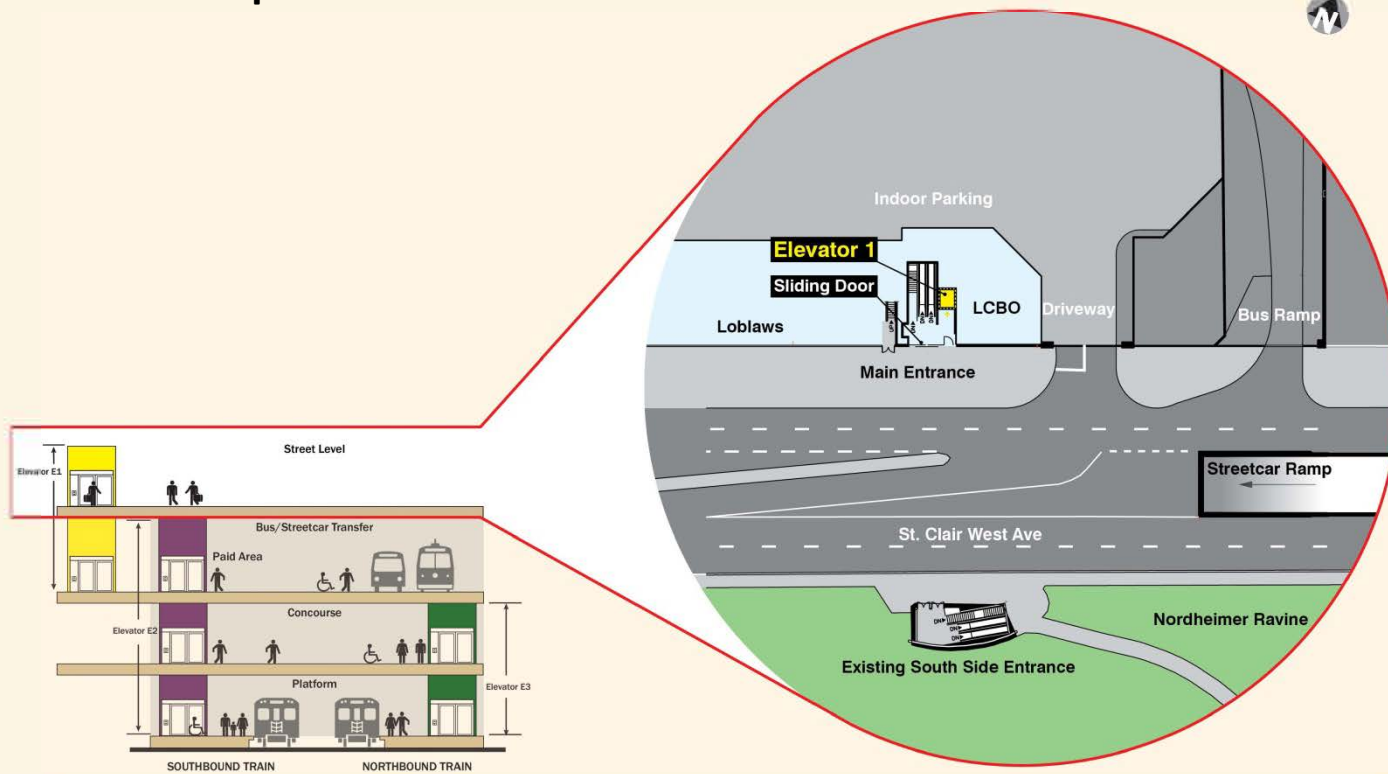




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Street Level - North Side

Preferred Option





Street Level - North Side

Preferred Option

Benefits:

- Shortest travel distance
- Most direct Easier Access path
- Within main station entrance
- Regular easier access fare gate
- Located close to collector booth
- Preferred by the advisory committee on accessible transit (ACAT)

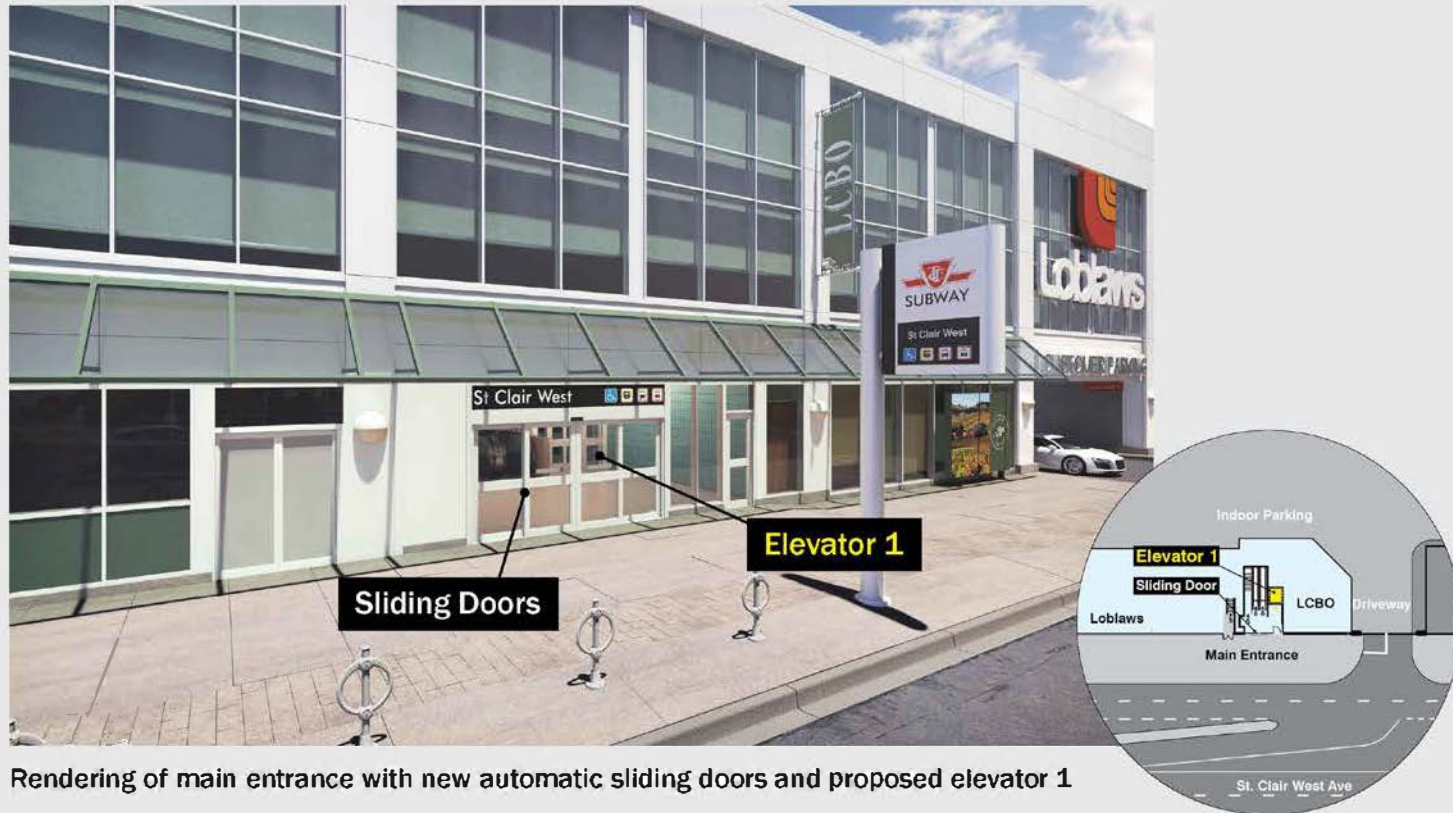
Issues:

- Property required from Loblaws



Street Level - North Side

Preferred Option



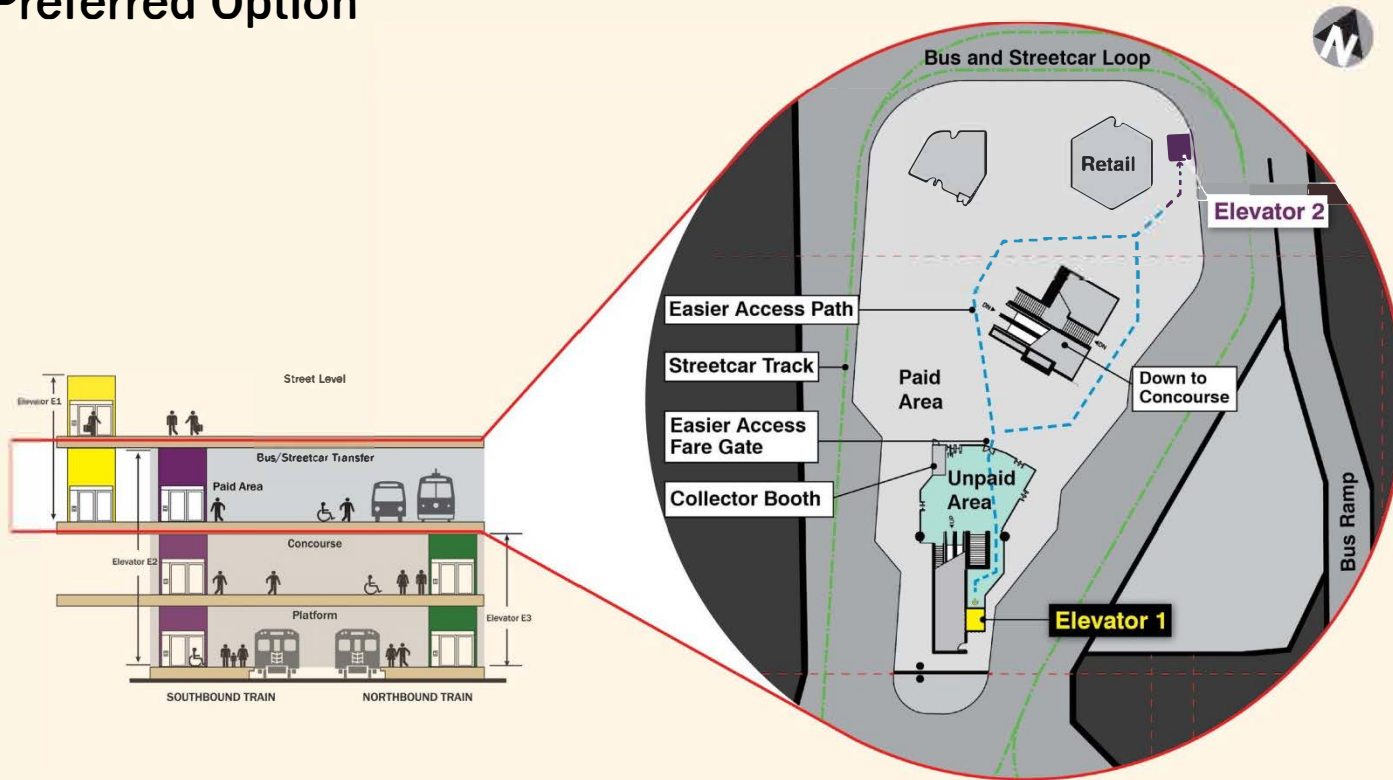
Rendering of main entrance with new automatic sliding doors and proposed elevator 1



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Bus/Streetcar Transfer Level

Preferred Option

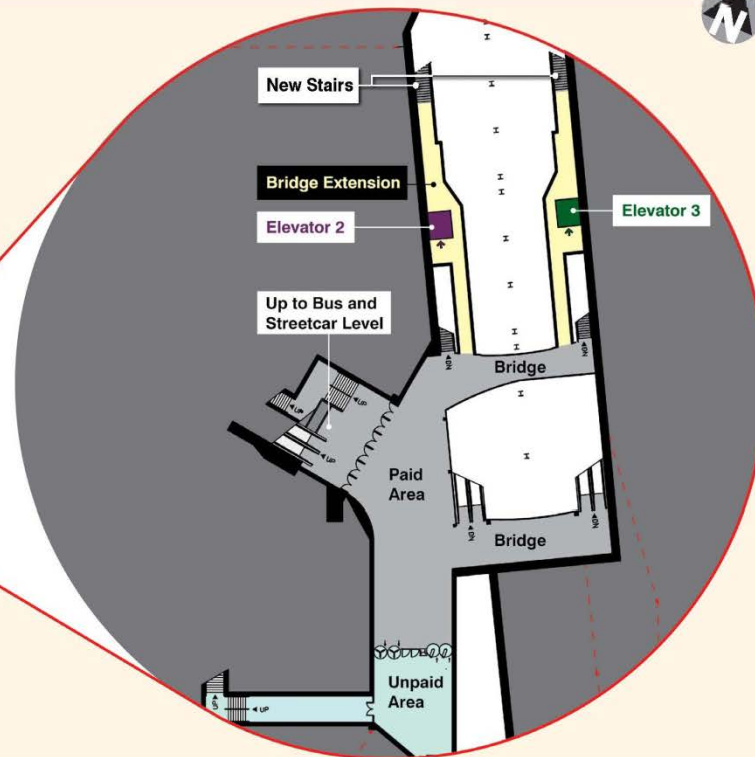
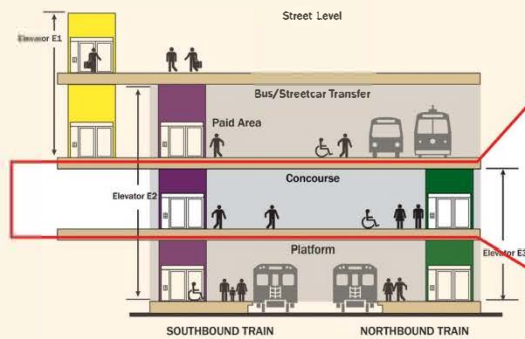




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Concourse Level

Preferred Option

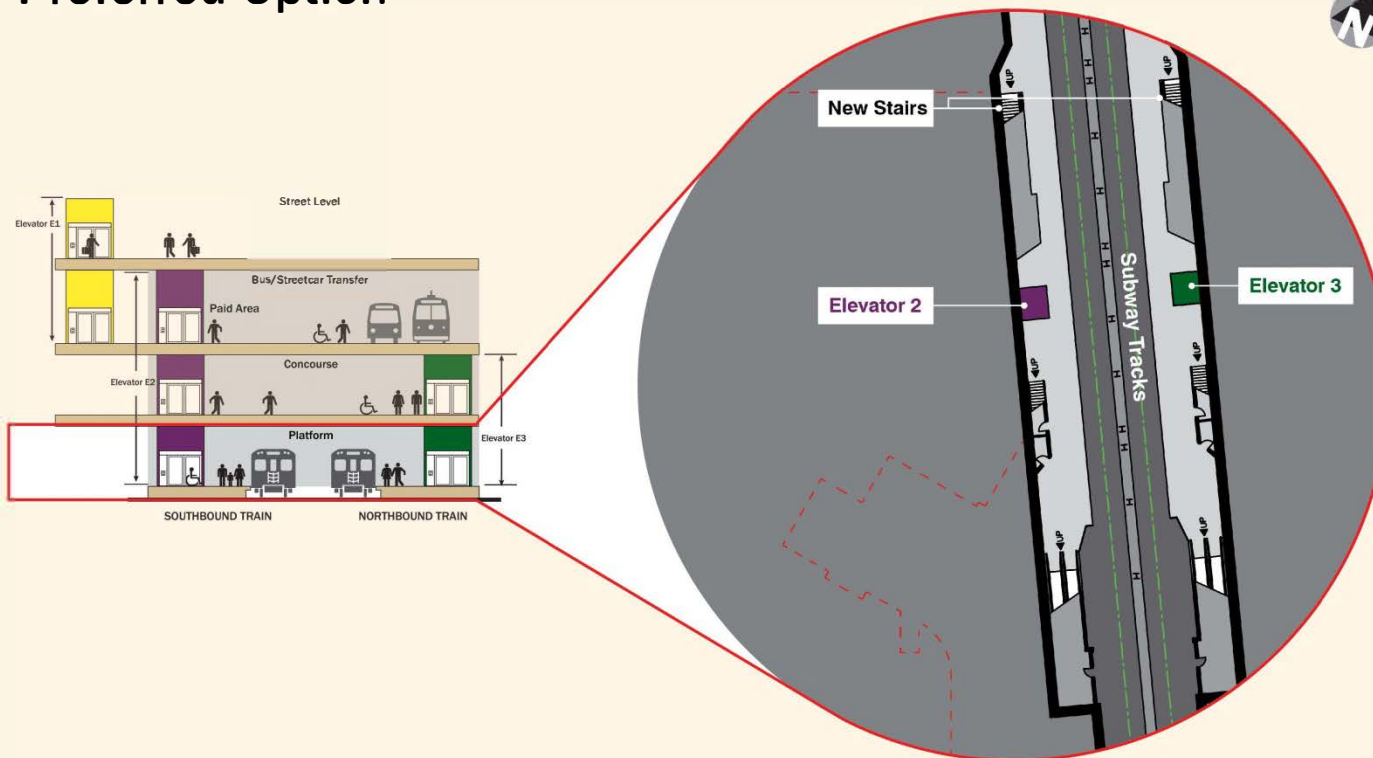




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Platform Level

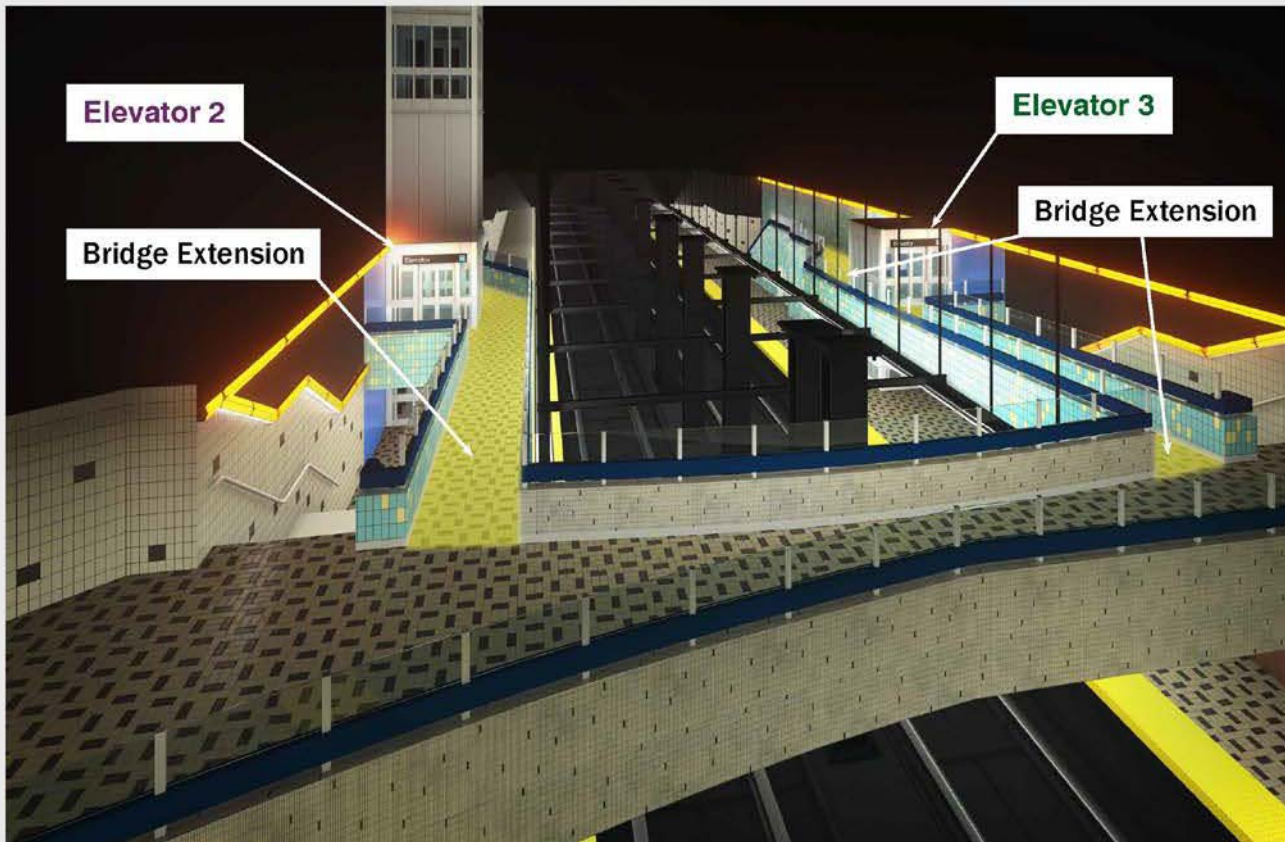
Preferred Option





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Elevator And Bridge Extension



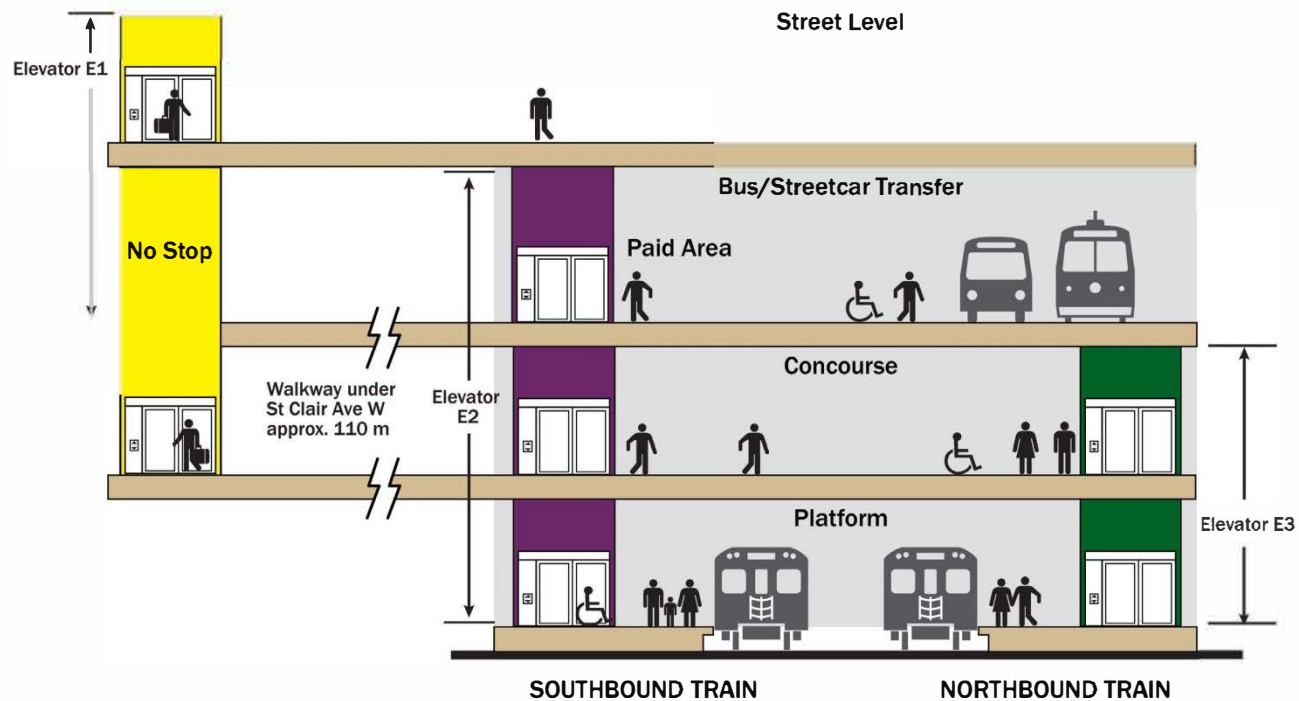
Rendering of new elevators 2 and 3 and the bridge extension required to access them



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Elevator Plan – St Clair West Station

Alternate Option – South Side Entrance

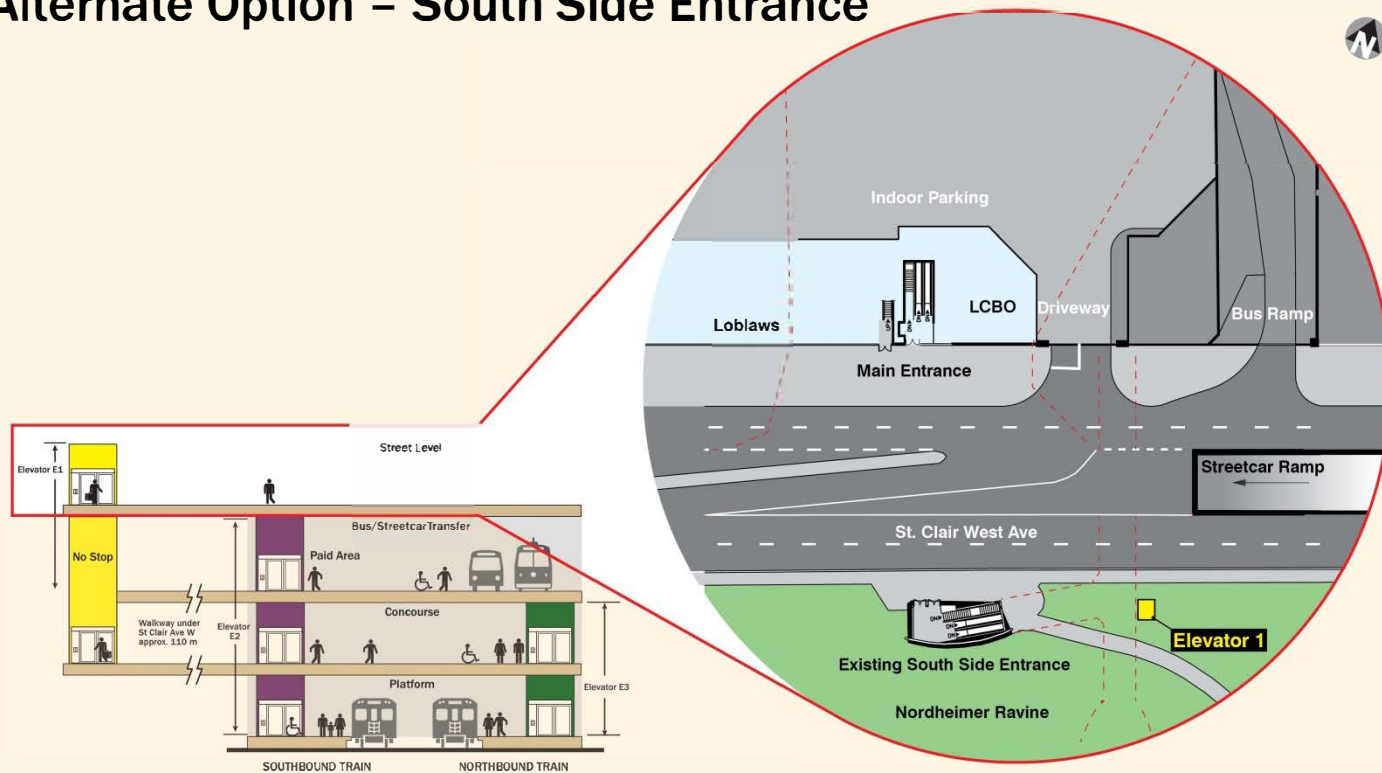




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Street Level - South Side

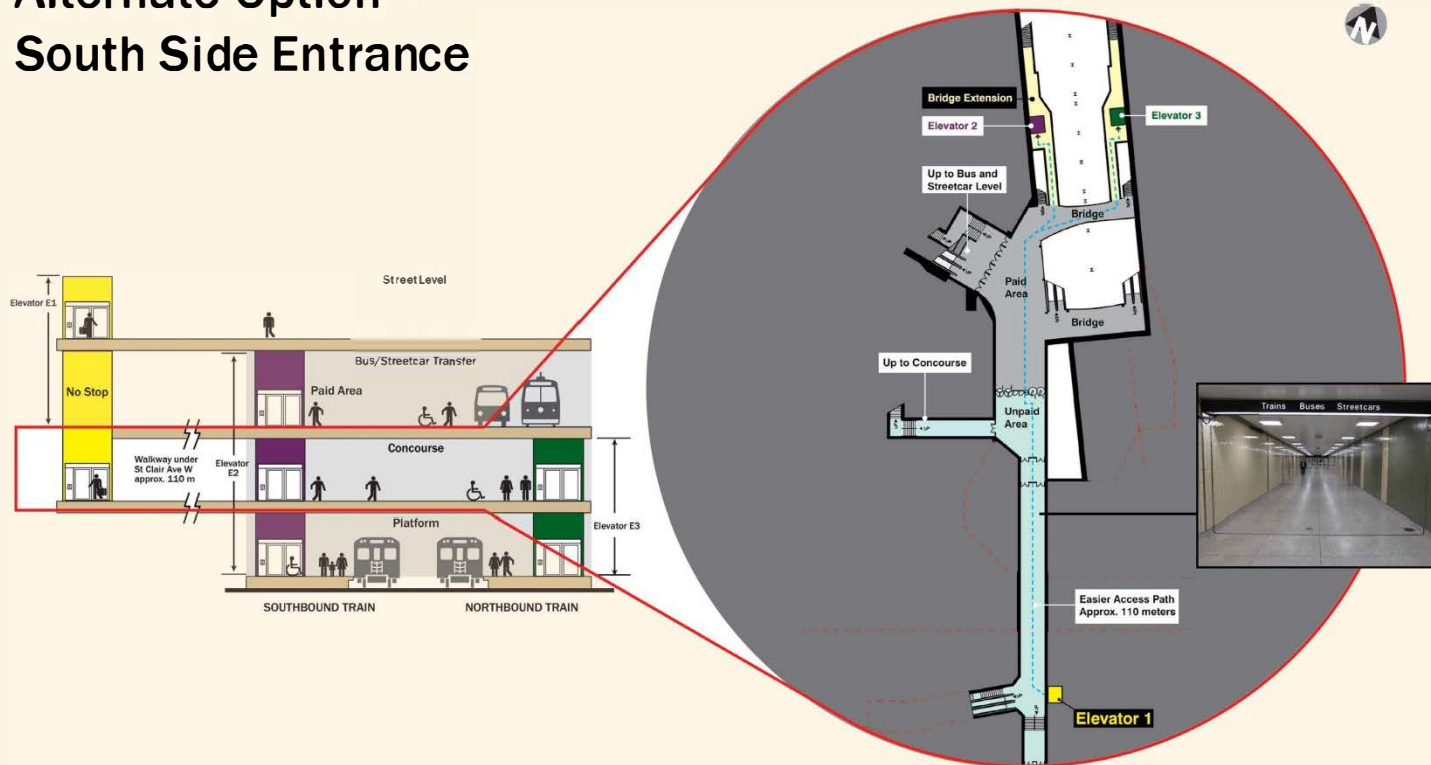
Alternate Option – South Side Entrance





Concourse Level

Alternate Option – South Side Entrance

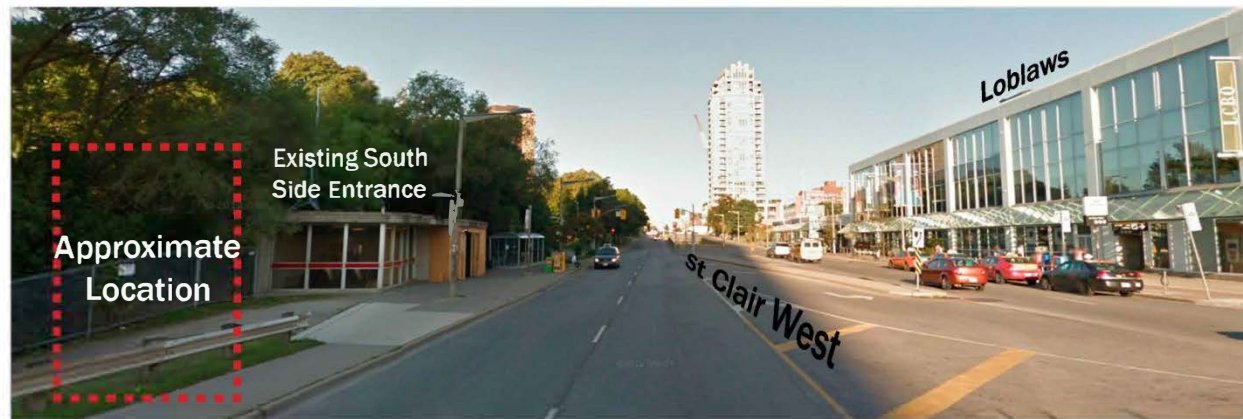
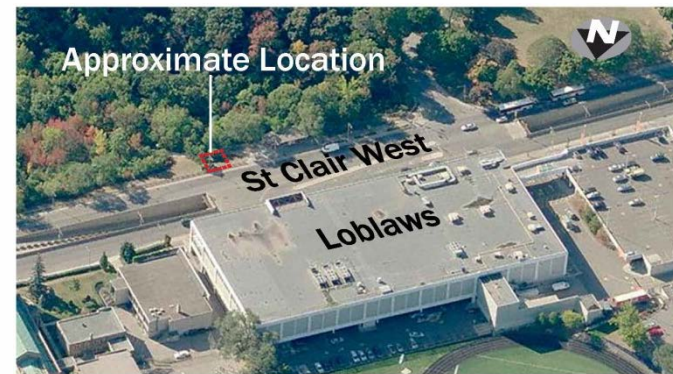




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Street Level – South Side

Alternate Option





Schedule

St Clair West Easier Access – Planned Schedule

- **Late 2013** **TTC Board**
- **Late 2013** **Tender contract / start construction on Elevators 2 & 3 (limited impact on customers)**
- **TBD** **Commencement of construction on Elevator 1**
Dependent on property discussions
- **2016** **Complete construction**



Comments

- 1) Do you have any comments on the preferred north side location?**
- 2) Do you have any comments on the alternate south side location?**
- 3) What is the best method to communicate with you? (Email, Phone, Face-to-Face, Social Media, Notices)**



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Contact Us

Devin Horne

Senior Community Liaison Officer

Engineering, Construction and Expansion

Toronto Transit Commission

416-397-8696

devin.horne@ttc.ca

projects.ttc.ca

www.ttc.ca