Item 2066.7.1





100 Queen Street West, Suite A3 Toronto, Ontario

July 11, 2022

Toronto Transit Commission McBrien Building, 1900 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4S 1Z2

Dear Chair and fellow Commissioners,

RE: Item 7. Advancing the 5-Year Service Plan (2024-2028) & 10-Year Outlook Reset -Bringing Back Riders to the Leslie 51 Route

Today, a transit rider looking to get from Leslie Station to any point north towards Steeles will be told by Google Maps to get in a pricey Uber or Lyft instead of taking the Leslie 51 bus. This was not always the case. As recently as 2013, peak service on this route saw buses running every 13 minutes. Budget cuts in a previous term, compounded by challenges we've faced during the pandemic, have reduced peak service to its current 26 minutes.

This bus route services riders from four TCHC communities north of Sheppard, including a TCHC revitalization that is due for full occupancy this fall. Dropping services levels and lagging reliability are stopping us from reaching our full ridership potential along this route.

The 2023 Annual Service Plan presents a prime opportunity to address this issue and bring forward new solutions to improve service and reliability on this route that serves many equity-deserving communities.

Recommendation:

1. The TTC Board request the Chief Executive Officer consider options for improving service levels and reliability on the Leslie 51 route, in line with ridership demand, through possible increased service, splitting the route north and south of Leslie station, and other last mile options as part of the 2023 Annual Service Plan.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Shelley Carroll

City Councillor for Don Valley North