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Sheppard Avenue East Light Rail Transit (LRT)

Recommended LRT Connection at Don Mills Subway Station

Project Overview

The Toronto Transit Commission and the City of Toronto are planning to construct an LRT line from Don Mills Subway Station to Meadowvale Road which will improve transit operations on Sheppard Avenue East significantly.

- The LRT will operate in reserved lanes in the middle of Sheppard Avenue East between Consumers Road and Meadowvale Road.
- West of Consumers, the LRT is planned to operate in a tunnel under Highway 404, and connect directly to the subway level at Don Mills Station.
- The associated road works include a major widening of Sheppard Avenue between Pharmacy Avenue and Meadowvale Road to incorporate the LRT, two traffic lanes in each direction, separate left turn lanes, and new bicycle lanes.
- The project will include a grade-separation of Sheppard Avenue under the Agincourt GO line.

Recommended LRT Connection between Consumers Rd. and Don Mills Station

The Sheppard East LRT is recommended to enter a tunnel just west of Consumers Road, travel under Highway 404 and 'butt up' against the east end of the subway platform. This would allow transferring customers to walk from the subway to the LRT along a single continuous platform without having to change levels.

The recently completed Environmental Assessment (EA) study for this project identified a potential second option: extend the Sheppard Subway east to Consumers Road (a subway extension was allowed for in a previous EA study). In this option, the LRT would stop on the surface at Consumers Road and customers would transfer to the subway below via stairs and escalators that would be incorporated within an LRT platform in the middle of Sheppard Avenue.

The LRT connection to Don Mills Station is preferred because:

- It provides a much more convenient transfer between the LRT and subway; transferring customers can walk directly between the subway and LRT without having to change levels; and
- It would cost \$120 million less than an extension of the subway to Consumers Road.

Extension of the subway to Consumers Road would be more convenient for those 'walk-in' customers in that immediate area who are destined to the subway. However, more customers would be inconvenienced by this option. Those who are already on the LRT and destined either to the Fairview Mall area or to the bus services at Don Mills Station would be forced to get off the LRT at Consumers Road and travel only a single stop on the subway.

Next Step

Staff will be reporting on this matter to the May 28, 2009 meeting of the Toronto Transit Commission to be held at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Should you have any questions on this matter, please contact:

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If you have concerns with this matter that cannot be adequately addressed in discussions with staff, you may register to address the Commission at its meeting at City Hall on May 28, 2009 by contacting the TTC's General Secretary's Office at 416-393-3698 or via e-mail at gso@ttc.ca. Such requests must be received no later than 12:00 noon on May 27.