

*FYI*

Minister of Transport



Ministre des Transports

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N5

- 3 AUG 2005

Mr. Alan Tonks, M.P.  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Councillor Frances Nunziata  
Ward 11, York South-Weston  
C49-100 Queen Street West  
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Colleague and Councillor Nunziata:

I am writing in response to your correspondence of May 4, 2005, regarding the environmental assessment (EA) being undertaken for the GO Transit Georgetown/Weston Subdivision Corridor Expansion project. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

As you are aware, on May 13, 2005, GO Transit's Board of Directors voted to upgrade the EA to an individual environmental assessment in response to concerns raised by the community. While Transport Canada is concerned about the potential for delay that may result from this action, the department respects the decision of its provincial partners.

As part of the upgraded process, the assessment will examine all alternatives to ensure that the project will provide the best service to the citizens of the Greater Toronto Area while remaining sensitive to impact on adjacent residents. You may be interested to know that SNC Lavalin has withdrawn from undertaking the EA. This action will eliminate any perception of a conflict of interest and ensure that the project can proceed as quickly as possible.

In closing, I would like to assure you that the EA process will harmonize both the federal and the provincial processes.

I trust that the foregoing has addressed your concerns. Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

  
Hon. Jean-C. Lapierre, P.C., M.P.

c.c. The Honourable Stéphane Dion, P.C., M.P.  
The Honourable Harinder Takhar, M.P.P.  
The Honourable Laurel Broten, M.P.P.  
The Honourable Joe Cordiano, M.P.P.

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