

**Mike Sullivan**

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**From:** Mike Sullivan [msullivan@cep.ca]  
**Sent:** September 27, 2006 11:23 AM  
**To:** 'Letters to the Editor'  
**Subject:** Porter Airlines

Mayor Miller has it right when he says that 160 flights a day are too disruptive for a residential area. Island homes are only two kilometres from the runway, and Harbourfront condos are a little closer than that. But it does seem somewhat hypocritical to oppose quiet modern aircraft while supporting 50 year old diesel trains rumbling 227 times a day 3 metres from hundreds of backyards, schools and churches. The Mayor's continued support for the Union Station to Pearson Airport Rail Link has not gone unnoticed by the residents in the former village of Weston, whose representations have caused a major Environmental Assessment to take place, examining other potential routings and technologies. And residents in other communities along the route, including Mount Dennis, Carleton Village, Brockton Village, the Junction, and Liberty Village are paying attention to the ugly potential of this plan. There is a sense that because these communities are less affluent, and are not in the downtown core, they matter less. We hope that isn't true.

The Federal Government's original proposal was to pay most of the infrastructure costs to allow a private, for profit operator to run trains through these communities every seven and a half minutes. The Provincial government signed on too, and committed the city to paying up to \$90 Million. The plan is seriously flawed, will cost thousands of residents along the route their health, safety, and enjoyment of life, not to mention millions in their property values. It ought to be taken off the table completely. Mayor Miller should realize the Air-Rail Link plan is more disruptive to more people than Porter Airlines plans, and be as forceful in his opposition to the proposed Air-Rail Link as he is to the Island Airport.

Mike Sullivan  
Chair  
Weston Community Coalition  
72 Church St.  
Toronto (Weston) Ontario  
M9N 1N3  
416-240-7836