

SHEPPARD SUBWAY ACTION COALITION



ARIS BABIKIAN

MPP  Député

Scarborough-Agincourt

“Your voice to deliver results”

Spring 2024

Sheppard Subway East Extension

As a 34-year resident and elected official of Scarborough-Agincourt, I am delighted to inform you that the long awaited Sheppard Subway East extension is on its way to fulfillment. The Ministry of Transportation allocated the financial resources to start the studies on the extension of the line.

On December 6th, 2023, Minister Raymond Cho (MPP Scarborough North), MPP David Smith (Scarborough Centre) and I organized a town hall meeting to seek input from community organizations, residents, and other stakeholders. The town hall was well attended and the participants, including the three above mentioned elected representatives and MPP Vincent Ke (Don Valley North), unanimously spoke in favour of a Subway extension from Don Mills to McCowan.

The following community organizations: the Sheppard Subway Action Coalition, the Agincourt Village Community Association, Heathwood Ratepayers Association, CD Farquharson, Pleasant View Community Association, the Federation of Asian Canadians, the Board of MTCC 872 Condo Board, the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto, the Rosewood Community Association, and the Filipino Centre of Toronto presented their studies and analysis in support of a subway extension. During the town hall and in their written submissions, the community organizations made persuasive and well supported arguments for the subway option. Metrolinx also organized three community consultations to seek the input of the community.

Since then, I have been actively advocating for the extension to be a subway and not an LRT with many of the key decision makers. I wrote a letter to Metrolinx's CEO and also briefed my colleagues in the Legislative Assembly on this historic milestone and the latest developments.

The Sheppard East Subway Extension will enhance and support the economic and employment opportunities of the Consumers Business Park plan and Scarborough. At the same time, thousands of new residential units have been approved for construction along Sheppard and thousands more are in the planning pipeline. The subway needs to be in place to support this growth and development and to have a better and more accessible Scarborough and Toronto.

The extension of the Sheppard Subway is vital to creating a transit network that will serve a significant part of the city that has been subjected to inferior transit service for far too long.

As we build more homes to accommodate our growing population, access to good transit service is critical to the success of these expanding communities. Not only will the subway extension provide for the tens of thousands of residents that currently must rely on transit, but better service will entice tens of thousands more to stop using their cars and choose public transit. The Sheppard Subway extension is part of the Ontario government's \$70 billion transit plan to build first class public transit. The people of Scarborough-Agincourt and adjoining communities have waited decades for this subway extension, and I am fully committed and support the subway extension on Sheppard Avenue.

Scarborough residents deserve the same opportunities to go to work quicker and to enjoy the things that the city has to offer.

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