



Report
Staff Report
 The Corporation of the City of Brampton
 2/19/2025

Date: 2025-01-30

Subject: **Hazel McCallion Line Project Update**

Contact: Doug Rieger, Director, Transit Development

Report number: Brampton Transit-2025-104

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report from Doug Rieger, Director, Transit Development to the Committee of Council Meeting of February 19, 2025, re: **Hazel McCallion Line Project Update**, be received;
2. That Council delegate authority to the General Manager, Transit, or designate to take all actions and execute all documents on behalf of the City in connection with the transfer to and acceptance by the City of improvements, and City Infrastructure and any associated lands, easements and licenses in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Implementation Agreement between the City and Metrolinx, such documents to include terms and conditions as may be satisfactory to the Director, Transit Development, or designate and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor or designate.
3. That staff report back to Council on the status of the negotiations with Metrolinx and the City of Mississauga on the Operations and Maintenance Agreement for the Hazel McCallion Line and provide additional information on what assistance the City of Brampton may request from the Province to help support the operation of the LRT.

OVERVIEW:

- The City of Brampton staff continues to work with and support Metrolinx on design and construction of Project Infrastructure and City Infrastructure for the Hazel McCallion Line. Staff are also engaged with Metrolinx on establishing a process for the Commissioning and Handover of City Infrastructure (i.e. storm sewer, roadway, street lighting, traffic signals, boulevards and street trees), as outlined in the Implementation Agreement, which was executed with Metrolinx in January of 2023.

- **The Implementation Agreement contains broad roles and responsibilities for the development and construction of Project Infrastructure (to be owned by Metrolinx) and City Infrastructure (to be owned by the City), including the process of Commissioning and Handover of City Infrastructure constructed as part of the Hazel McCallion Line project.**
- **Council Resolution #C369-2020 delegated authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to execute on behalf of the City and deliver to Metrolinx, any approval, authorization, consent, waiver, condition and any notice or other document required or permitted under the Implementation Agreement.**
- **In order to streamline the process, Staff is recommending that Council now delegate authority to the General Manager, Transit (or designate) to take all actions and execute all documents on behalf of the City in connection with the transfer to and acceptance by the City of City Infrastructure and any associated property rights and interests, including acceptance letters, pursuant to the requirements of the Implementation Agreement.**
- **As previously directed by Council, staff have been in discussions with Metrolinx and City of Mississauga in relation to the operation and maintenance agreement for the Hazel McCallion LRT. Further details will be provided to Council in the coming months on the status of negotiations with Metrolinx and the city of Mississauga on the Operations and Maintenance Agreement.**

BACKGROUND:

The Hazel McCallion Line (formerly the Hurontario Light Rail Transit (LRT)) is one of the key transportation projects to help achieve the visions laid out in the Metrolinx 2041 Regional Transportation Plan, Brampton's 2024 Corporate Strategic Priorities and the Brampton 2040 Vision - a transportation system that is sustainable, safe, integrates walking, cycling, and transit, to support a high quality of life; healthy and complete communities, and prosperous economy with protected environment; that is aligned with land use.

On September 30, 2020, and confirmed by By-law 189-2020, Brampton Council delegated authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to execute on behalf of the City and deliver to Metrolinx, any approval, authorization, appointment, consent, waiver, condition and any notice or other document required or permitted under the Implementation Agreement.

As part of the Implementation Agreement, Metrolinx will be constructing City infrastructure (i.e. storm sewer, roadway, street lighting, traffic signals, boulevards and

street trees). The Implementation Agreement contains broad roles and responsibilities for the development and construction of Project Infrastructure (to be owned by Metrolinx) and City infrastructure (to be owned by the City), including the process of Commissioning and Handover (as defined in the Implementation Agreement) of City Infrastructure constructed as part of the Hazel McCallion Line project. The Implementation Agreement between the City and Metrolinx was executed on January 31, 2023.

At completion of the construction of any component of City Infrastructure, the Implementation Agreement requires that Metrolinx submit to the City, a Certification Package for the acceptance of the City Infrastructure. Once the Certification Package has been delivered to the City and all requirements are fulfilled to the satisfaction of the City, the City will issue acceptance letters for each type of City Infrastructure, and the infrastructure will be deemed to have been handed over and to become the property of the City.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The Province, through Metrolinx and Infrastructure Ontario, continues to lead the implementation of Hazel McCallion Line, supported by the City of Brampton, the City of Mississauga and Peel Region. The following is a brief update on the status of both the LRT implementation and the extension of the LRT into downtown Brampton.

LRT Implementation

City of Brampton staff continues to work with and support Metrolinx on design and construction of Project Infrastructure and City Infrastructure for the Hazel McCallion Line. Staff are also engaged with Metrolinx on establishing a process for the Commissioning and Handover of City Infrastructure, as outlined in the Implementation Agreement.

Design and construction activities are ongoing for the Hazel McCallion LRT, concurrently within the cities of Brampton and Mississauga. City staff are integral in the overall delivery of the line as the right-of-way authority, municipal planning authority and regulator. To date, more than 1,100 design packages have been reviewed by City staff and over 400 permits, licenses and approvals have been issued by staff to support the construction of the project. Within the City of Brampton, construction is currently focused on utilities and roadworks. We expect to see more work within the future guideway for the LRT through 2025.

Given the sequencing of construction activities, it is anticipated that commissioning activities for different types and portions of the City Infrastructure will proceed independently of each other and in a phased approach.

As per the Implementation Agreement, the City is required to issue acceptance letters to Metrolinx for each component of City Infrastructure constructed and commissioned.

Staff have consulted with the various City departments in developing a process to accept City infrastructure. Transit staff will continue to work with the various departments to ensure each component of City Infrastructure constructed, satisfies all requirements for Commissioning and Handover, prior to acceptance of the infrastructure by the City.

Currently, By-law 189-2020 only authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer to execute documents under the Implementation Agreement. Considering the issuance of formal acceptance letters is an administrative requirement, staff recommends Council delegate authority to the General Manager, Transit, or designate to take all actions and execute all documents on behalf of the City in connection with the acceptance of City Infrastructure from Metrolinx, in accordance with the terms and conditions for Commissioning and Handover provided by the Implementation Agreement.

LRT Operations & Maintenance

On September 30, 2020, Brampton Council directed staff to negotiate an operation and maintenance agreement with Metrolinx, which may be a tri-party agreement including the City of Mississauga. Staff have been in discussions with Metrolinx and City of Mississauga in relation to the operation and maintenance agreement over the past two years.

In November of 2024, the City of Mississauga sent a letter to Premier Ford requesting the Province cover the operating costs for the Hazel McCallion LRT for at least the first three years of its operation (see attached appendix A). To date, the City of Mississauga has yet to receive a response from the Province on this request.

As discussions continue to advance, staff will provide an update to Council on the status of the discussions with Metrolinx and the City of Mississauga on the various agreements that are envisioned to be entered into to support the Hazel McCallion LRT. Staff will also provide additional information on what assistance the City of Brampton may request from the Province to help support the operation of the LRT.

LRT Extension

In March of 2024, the Province advanced funding for planning activities for the LRT Extension, under the *Building Transit Faster Act*. On January 24, 2025, the Province announced that it will extend the Hazel McCallion Line into downtown Brampton with the development of a rapid transit tunnel. This transformative project will provide fast, reliable and sustainable transit while enhancing connectivity and supporting the City's vision for a thriving downtown core.

The City's project team continues to liaise with Metrolinx to answer questions on the 30% Preliminary designs for the tunnel alignment and support them with their planning and development process. Staff anticipate that Metrolinx will communicate more details on the project next steps and timelines shortly.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:

The transit project and initiatives outlined in this report support Brampton's 2024 Corporate Strategic Priorities and the Brampton 2040 Vision:

- **Transit & Connectivity:** Focusing on transportation and a connected infrastructure that is safe, convenient, efficient, and sustainable.

CONCLUSION:

Considering the issuance of formal acceptance letters is an administrative requirement, delegating the authority to the General Manager, Transit, or designate to take all actions and execute all documents on behalf of the City in connection with the acceptance of City Infrastructure from Metrolinx will help streamline the Commissioning and Handover process. Further details will also be provided to Council in the coming months on the status of negotiations with Metrolinx and the City of Mississauga on the Operations and Maintenance Agreement.

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Attachments:

Appendix A – City of Mississauga Letter to Premier Ford Regarding LRT Operations and Maintenance Costs for the Hazel McCallion LRT