
Office of the President and Chief Executive Officer

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Ms. Lynn Clay
Executive Director
Liberty Village BIA
67 Mowat Avenue, Suite 104
Toronto, ON M6K 3E3

Dear Ms. Clay:

Thank you for your letter regarding an Airport Rail Link (ARL) station in Liberty Village, and congratulations on receiving one of the Smart Commute Employer of the Year 2010 Awards. We applaud your work in making your community transit, cycling and pedestrian-friendly.

We recognize that Liberty Village is a rapidly growing community, and I am aware that the Liberty Village BIA has communicated with Metrolinx in the past to ask for the addition of a Liberty Village/King West station stop as part of the expansion plans for the Georgetown South Corridor.

You are correct when you note that the ARL will be a two-car train, which is much shorter than the regular GO trains. However, most of the technical reasons that a regular GO Transit station stop was not deemed practical at King Street remain relevant to the consideration of an ARL station, because the ARL will use the same tracks as GO trains in that area.

In addition, the ARL is being designed as a premium, express service targeted primarily to business travellers who are looking for a quick and reliable trip from Pearson Airport to Union Station. It is not intended to be a local transit service. From an operating standpoint, adding an additional station stop only a few kilometres from Union station would add 5-6 minutes of travel time to the train service between the airport and downtown, which would reduce the incentive for travellers to take the ARL. As you may already know, there will be an ARL stop at Bloor and Dundas, which will allow both for easy connection to the subway and to the King St. streetcar, which serves Liberty Village.

We appreciate your point that Liberty Village and the surrounding area is becoming an important business and tourist destination, and note that both Exhibition Place and the Liberty Village areas are currently served by GO Transit's Lakeshore line, as well as by the TTC's streetcar and bus routes. We are sorry that we cannot accommodate your request for an additional ARL station, but we will continue to encourage better connectivity between the existing TTC, GO, and future ARL services.

Yours truly,



Bruce McCuaig
President and Chief Executive Officer

- cc. John Brodhead, Vice President, Strategy and Communications, Metrolinx
Stephen Lipkus, Executive Director, Georgetown South Project, GO Transit
Robyn Connelly, Community Relations, Georgetown South Project
Gord Perks, Councillor, Ward 14 Parkdale-High Park
Mike Layton, Councillor, Ward 19 Trinity-Spadina
Dianne Young, CEO & General Manager, Exhibition Place
Marco Iacampo, Smart Commute Toronto-Centra