

April 7, 2021

Stephen Collins, Program Sponsor: [Stephen.Collins@metrolinx.com](mailto:Stephen.Collins@metrolinx.com)  
Rajesh Khetarpal, V.P., Community Engagement: [Rajesh.Khetarpal@metrolinx.com](mailto:Rajesh.Khetarpal@metrolinx.com)  
Azim Ahmed, Manager Community Relations: [Azim.Ahmed@metrolinx.com](mailto:Azim.Ahmed@metrolinx.com)

Re: **Metrolinx Initial Business Case Option 3 for the Yonge North Subway Extension**

Dear Gentlemen,

Thank you for meeting with the Royal Orchard Ratepayers' Association last Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. We understand a little more now about the breadth and scope of the proposed project.

We also understand that you are committed to improving the transit system and we support that effort. However, you must realize we cannot support the route outlined in Option 3 of the Metrolinx Initial Business Case for the Yonge North Subway Extension presented on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We recognize that you will make an effort to provide examples of other train tunnels built with the latest technologies that had benign impact on communities on the surface; however; you will find this to be a hard sell to the residents of our community. There is no guarantee that homes will not suffer damage during the subway construction. Nor can you offer a guarantee that there will be no noise or vibration from trains running underneath homes when the project is completed. This uncertainty and worry will hang over our community for a decade. In the end, what if the noise and vibration mitigation technologies do not work? What then?

You have provided a few examples of what you consider to be successful underground rail line builds. A simple google search with respect to just one rail line; the London Undergrounds Jubilee Line, which you have provided as an example is found in this article linked below:  
<https://www.railway-technology.com/features/featurenoise-on-the-underground-londoners-cry-foul-5793199/>

Running a subway line underneath homes is unreasonable and unnecessary for the residents of our community when there are other options available.

We are open to continuing the dialogue and to provide support for the subway development north up Yonge Street. In the longer term, in the years ahead, well beyond the completion of this extension, there will no doubt be further extensions north up Yonge Street, developed by the planners of tomorrow. Let's make it easier for them and for the political leadership in place at that future time and keep the subway on its true path – direct up Yonge street.

Yours Truly,

The Royal Orchard Ratepayers' Association

Cc: Keith Irish, Ward 1 Councillor, City of Markham

---

#### **About RORA**

The Royal Orchard Ratepayers' Association is a volunteer organization registered with the City of Markham. Defined geographically by Yonge Street on the West, Bayview Avenue on the East, Ladies' Golf Club of Toronto on the South, and The Holy Cross Cemetery on the North, RORA is led by volunteers committed to sharing information relevant to our community, engagement, and advocacy.