

June 13, 2022

Phil Verster
President & Chief Executive Officer
Metrolinx Inc.
97 Front Street West
Toronto, ON M5J 1E6

via email: CEO@metrolinx.com

Dear Mr. Verster,

Re: Ontario Line Construction Impacts - Osgoode Hall

The Toronto Lawyers' Association ("TLA") is the voice of its 3,400 members who practice law in all disciplines across the Greater Toronto Area. For over 130 years, the TLA has been representing the interests of its members.

The TLA is writing to you to express concerns relating to the proposed location of the Osgoode Station as part of the Ontario Line Subway.

As a preliminary comment, we commend Metrolinx for what will become the Ontario Line. Additional subway services across Toronto are in everyone's interest and will promote access to justice by facilitating access to courts in the downtown core. However, this development can occur without intruding upon the Osgoode Hall property.

Osgoode Hall and the property surrounding it is a national heritage site. It should not be intruded upon whatsoever, including to facilitate a subway station on Queen Street. This is particularly true given that there are reasonable alternatives available to Metrolinx. We understand that the owner of the property located on the northwest corner of Queen Street and University Avenue has expressed a willingness to have the subway station located on that property. Furthermore, we understand that there are no technical impediments to locating the subway station at that location.

From a safety perspective, we understand that the best practice is to have a streetcar stop (and the associated subway station), through a major intersection, as opposed to immediately prior to entering a major intersection. This safety best practice also supports locating the subway station on the northwest corner of Queen Street and University Avenue, with a view to facilitating easy and safe access to the westbound Queen Street streetcar.

Osgoode Hall and the Osgoode Hall property are amongst the most historic and treasured properties in the City of Toronto, the Province of Ontario and indeed, Canada. Its heritage designation extends to the Osgoode property garden and iron fence. Its history dates back to 1797

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and the property should never be excavated or expropriated, including in respect of the subway station that is currently being proposed. There are better and safer places for the subway station to be located.

Using the Osgoode Hall property as a staging area for the subway and subway station construction would also be devastating to the property and would change its character forever. We encourage Metrolinx to reflect on this and alter the placement of the subway station.

Furthermore, the construction of a subway station on the property of Osgoode Hall and use of the Osgoode Hall grounds as a staging area during construction would have profound negative effects on the operations of each of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, the Superior Court of Justice, the Law Society of Ontario, and the Great Library, each of which are critical pillars to the justice system. Overall, the impact on the administration of justice would be significant over many years, which underscores the need to use an alternative location for the subway station and staging area. Simply put, it is not necessary nor reasonable to build or stage on the Osgoode Hall property.

We have reviewed the letter dated June 1, 2022 to yourself from Mr. Judson on behalf of FOLA, and we agree with the concerns referenced therein.

We would be pleased to discuss these matters with Metrolinx and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours very truly,



Erin O'Donovan
President
Toronto Lawyers Association

CC Via Email:

The Honourable George Strathy, Chief Justice of Ontario (jacob.bakan@ontario.ca)
 The Honourable Geoffrey B. Morawetz, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Justice (joshua.patlik@ontario.ca)
 The Honourable Doug Downey, MPP, Attorney General of Ontario (doug.downey@pc.ola.org)
 His Worship John Tory, Mayor, City of Toronto (mayor_tory@toronto.ca)
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 County and District Law Association Presidents, (various)
 Douglas W. Judson, Chair, Federation of Ontario Law Associations (info@douglasjudson.ca)
 The Honourable Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (Minister.MacLeod@ontario.ca)
 The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, Minister of Canadian Heritage (pablo.rodriguez@parl.gc.ca)
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 The Honourable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation (minister.mto@ontario.ca)
 The Honourable Todd McCarthy (tmccarthy@fmlaw.ca)
 F. Leslie Thompson, President, Architectural Conservancy Ontario (president@arconserv.ca)
 Toronto Lawyers Association Sub-committee re: Metrolinx Proposed Osgoode Hall Station (various)