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Ministry of
Transportation

Office of the Minister

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Ministère des
Transports

Bureau du ministre

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October 10, 2024

107-2024-1288

Andrea Horwath
Mayor of Hamilton
Hamilton City Hall
2nd floor - 71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4Y5
mayor@hamilton.ca

Dear Mayor Horwath,

Thank you for your continued support of building transit and the Hamilton Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project.

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO), Metrolinx and the City of Hamilton continue to work together to move the project forward. MTO and Metrolinx remain committed to working with the City and community stakeholders to determine how best to support the goals of affordable housing and community benefits as part of transit project delivery.

To reach our goal of building at least 1.5 million homes by 2031, Ontario is taking action to cut red tape and support municipalities to build the homes Ontarians need faster, improve quality of life, and create stronger communities for everyone – from students to families to people in need.

We are streamlining approvals and cutting costs, prioritizing infrastructure for housing projects that are ready to go, enhancing consultation tools while providing certainty once a decision is made, and building homes faster for more people. This includes much needed affordable and rental housing that is within a short distance of transit stations.

As MTO is working with Metrolinx to coordinate approaches and strategies for the implementation of the LRT, MTO is also working with Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada on their project funding commitment and to support goals for community benefits and affordable housing.

I have also taken the liberty of copying my colleague, the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, so that he is aware of the request to establish an Affordable Housing Working Group. We would also be interested in hearing more from the City of Hamilton about its analysis on potential properties that could be used for affordable housing and its ideas for how to use this strategy to achieve affordable housing outcomes.

We look forward to maximizing the transformative impact of the Hamilton LRT project through our continued partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria
Minister of Transportation

- Cc. The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities
The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs
The Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister Responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario
The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Marnie Cluckie, City Manager, City of Hamilton
Steve Robichaud, Acting General Manager, Planning & Economic Development Department, City of Hamilton
Abdul Shaikh, Director, Hamilton LRT Project Office, City of Hamilton
Megan Skinner, Chief of Staff to Minister Sarkaria
Savannah DeWolfe, Chief of Staff to Minister Fraser