



# Hamilton Light Rail Transit Project Project Update LRT Sub-Committee February 20, 2025

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

# Agenda

- Enabling Works
- Project Design
- Project Procurement
- LRT Operations Model
- City Standards and Guidelines
- Property Acquisitions and Demolitions
- Community Engagement and Communications
- Affordable Housing and Community Benefits
- Agreements
- LRT Enhancements
- Streamlining City Processes
- Council Directions
- Next Steps



# Enabling Works

Metrolinx is working with the City and Third Party Utilities to deliver enabling works

#### **City Works**

- Sherman Avenue (completed)
- Wentworth Street (active construction)
- Queenston and Nash (construction on hold)
- Main and Rosewood (tender award stage)
- Main and Ottawa (design stage)

#### Third Party Utility

- Alectra (Vineland, Maple Ave, Dunsmure and manhole investigations)
- Bell Canada (Main and Ottawa Streets)
- Enbridge (Rosewood and Queenston Road)



# Project Design

- Design concept available on the public website is from the 2017 Environmental Project Report addendum
- Some design modifications have already been confirmed and communicated to Council through various reports
- Since 2017, the City has adopted new standards and guidelines that necessitate revisiting the design

- City and Metrolinx are working together to update the design concept
- Metrolinx intends to publish an updated public-facing conceptual reference design in Spring 2025
- Design will continue to evolve during the detailed design phase





#### Project Procurement

Advance Enabling Works: Early strategic relocation of some select private and public utilities

#### Package 1 - Civil Works and Utilities

- Mainly Third Party assets designed, constructed, commissioned, and handed over to stakeholders; and,
- Private and Public Utilities, Civil Structures (bridges and grade separations), Road and Urban Realm.

#### Package 2 - Stops, Rail, Systems (SRS)

- Guideway, rail, systems, operations and maintenance storage facility (OMSF), and integration of Light Rail Vehicles (LRVs) delivered for Revenue Service; and,
- Potential to include light rail vehicles and operations and maintenance period.



#### Project Procurement

- Metrolinx initiated the Request for Qualification (RFQ) for Package 1 on November 6, 2024 and is recommending an Alliance Contracting delivery (a form of "Collaborative Contracting")
- Alliance Contracting delivery includes four phases:
  - Request for Qualification (RFQ)
  - Request for Proposal (RFP)
  - Development Phase
  - Implementation Phase
- Metrolinx anticipates issuing the RFP in Spring 2025
- One shortlisted partner will enter the Development Phase
- Timelines for the Development Phase and Implementation Phase are not known at this time



### Project Operations Model (continued)

- In 2023, staff was tasked to assess the City's roles in the operations of the LRT system
- Staff completed this assessment in three stages:
  - Stage 1: Operational models and assessment criteria for how staff will assess models
  - Stage 2: Preliminary analysis of operational models
  - Stage 3: Final analysis as well as recommended operational model
- Council recommendations on the preferred operations model were received at the April 17, 2024 GIC meeting
- City is currently waiting for Metrolinx's final decision



### City Standards and Guidelines

- Pursuant to the MOU, Metrolinx shall construct City infrastructure that is:
  - Built to the standards and guidelines for the design, construction, rehabilitation and protection of such City infrastructure in force in Hamilton on the date which is three months prior to the request for proposal issuance date;
  - Built to replace existing City infrastructure and assets on a "like for like" basis (unless otherwise provided in the Benchmark PSOS);
  - Built in compliance with the City's laws and those federal and provincial laws applicable to and enforceable against the City.
- Staff have taken the opportunity to streamline, address gaps, supplement and expedite revisions
- Robust library of over 80 standards, criteria and guidelines have been submitted in advance of the three month submission requirement prior to RFP



### Property Acquisitions and Demolitions

- Metrolinx is leading property acquisition and negotiations
- Approximately 102 full properties and 240 partial property purchases are required
- To date, 79 full properties have been acquired, and property acquisitions are ongoing for both partial and full properties

- Expropriation process has been initiated including 15 more full buyouts
- City has negotiated wider pedestrian zones for 122 properties
- City and Metrolinx are currently negotiating the transfer of portions of 14 adjacent municipal properties into road right-of-way



### Community Engagement and Communications

- For project-specific communications, Metrolinx has overall lead and responsibility, including major announcements
- Metrolinx community office opened in June 2024
- City and Metrolinx community engagement staff work collaboratively to resolve and respond to resident and media inquiries

- City and Metrolinx community engagement staff continue to meet with stakeholders and community organizations
- City and Metrolinx community engagement staff hold regular team meetings to discuss engagement opportunities, communications
- Metrolinx will develop a comprehensive strategy to support local businesses as the project evolves



## Affordable Housing and Community Benefits

- Metrolinx and MTO acknowledge the importance of affordable housing and community benefits in MOU
- City staff in the Corporate Real Estate Office have compiled preliminary options for strategic land acquisition on the LRT corridor for municipal uses, including affordable housing and community services and amenities

- Province will be initiating working group meetings to begin exploring approaches for meeting the above objective
- City staff has been following up with the Province to initiate working group meetings



### Agreements

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ratified in September 2021
- Council has provided authority or delegated authority to the City Manager to execute the following:
  - Staffing Agreement (fully executed)
  - Communications Protocol for Pre-Procurement Phase (fully executed)
  - Preparatory Activities Agreement (fully executed)
  - Real Estate Protocol
  - Governance Protocol

- Other schedules that are in active negotiations or outstanding:
  - Dispute Resolution Protocol
  - Payment for Services Agreement
  - Commissioning and Acceptance
    Protocol
  - Municipal Infrastructure
    Agreement
  - Permits, Licenses and Approvals
  - Train Operator Services
    Agreement
  - Fare and Non-Fare Revenue Matters





## LRT Enhancements

- MOU allows for the City to request enhancements to City infrastructure as part of LRT construction
- City will be responsible for funding incremental costs for all enhancement items

- City has allocated two budget items for potential enhancements in the 2023 Tax and Rate Supported Capital Budget (\$10M for Public Realm Improvements and \$10M for Underground Infrastructure Improvements)
- Staff will bring the list of potential enhancement items for Council approvals following further design advancement

# Streamlining City Processes

- Largest linear infrastructure project and first-ever LRT project in the City, coupled with a unique delivery model, created challenges for staff in their roles as Project Partner, Owner, Operator of the right-of-way and Permitting Authority
- Staff reviewed other similar projects to leverage the knowledge and experience of municipal staff in those areas

- Staff have identified opportunities to streamline, adapt, revise or create efficiencies in existing processes, such as:
  - Permit Process
  - Submittal Process
  - Construction Closure Process
  - LRT Streetscape Design Coordination Strategy



#### **Council Directions**

Staff has sought Council direction for various aspects of the LRT Project:

- LRT Governance Framework (PED23139)
- LRT Strategic Site Selection (PED23142(a))
- Community Benefits (PED23262)
- Small Business Grant and Support Program (PED24074 and PED24182)
- Climate Justice Lens (PED24087 and PED24087(a))
- Change Tracking Framework (PED24207)
- Major Transit Station Area (PED23105)
- Social Procurements (In Progress)



# Next Steps (12 Month Look Ahead)

- Lead the design and construction of City works
- Develop schedules, protocols and agreements of the MOU
- Investigate enhancements and additional City works for inclusion in LRT Project
- Review, approve, coordinate and issue permits for Third Party Utility works in the corridor

- Work with the Province on affordable housing and community benefits programs
- Address Council and Committee
  directions
- Continue to support Metrolinx in:
  - advancing the designs
  - procurement evolutions
  - property acquisitions
  - community and stakeholder engagement



**Conceptual Rendering** 

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# **QUESTIONS?**

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