



Office of the Commissioner  
Transportation Services

## Memorandum

To: Regional Council  
From: Paul Jankowski, Commissioner Transportation Services  
Date: October 17, 2016  
Re: New GO Stations in York Region to Support Metrolinx's Regional Transportation Plan and Regional Express Rail Program

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New GO station locations are needed in York Region to support Metrolinx's next Regional Transportation Plan and the delivery of GO Regional Express Rail (RER) service over the next 10 years. It is recommended Metrolinx consider bringing new GO stations on line within the GO RER 10-year program to align with phasing in the York Region 2016 Transportation Master Plan (TMP).

On October 6, 2016, Committee of the Whole reviewed two staff reports:

1. [New GO Stations in York Region to Support Regional Express Rail](#)
2. [York Region's Response to Metrolinx's Discussion Paper for the next Regional Transportation Plan](#)

The staff reports recommend Metrolinx give consideration to and plan for new GO station locations that address the Province's plans for population and employment growth as outlined in the Proposed Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe 2016.

The 2016 Transportation Master Plan identified eleven new GO stations in York Region to accommodate growth to 2041

Attachment 1 outlines existing and potential new GO stations in York Region identified in the TMP to support forecasted increases in GO ridership due to future population and employment growth. Potential new GO stations are supported by local and regional land use planning in alignment with the Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan, The Big Move 2008, and the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe 2006. The TMP proposed phasing for GO stations considered Metrolinx's GO RER 10-year

program to deliver two-way 15-minute service from Union Station to Aurora Station on the Barrie GO corridor and from Union Station to Unionville Station on the Stouffville GO corridor. Due to geographical constraints and rail ownership issues, Metrolinx has not included the Richmond Hill GO corridor in the RER 10-year program. Table 1 summarizes potential new GO stations and proposed horizon years for phasing station implementation identified in the TMP.

**Table 1**  
**New GO Stations Identified in the 2016 Transportation Master Plan**

GO Corridor	Local Municipality	New GO Station	Horizon Year Phasing
Barrie	Vaughan	Concord	2022 – 2026*
	Vaughan	Kirby	2022 – 2026
	King	15 <sup>th</sup> Sideroad	2022 – 2026*
	Newmarket	Mulock	2027- 2031
Stouffville	Markham	Denison Street / 14 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	2022 – 2026*
	Markham	Major Mackenzie Drive	2027- 2031*
Richmond Hill	Markham	John Street / Green Lane	by 2041*
	Richmond Hill	16 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	by 2041*
	Richmond Hill	19 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	by 2041*
	Richmond Hill	Gormley	Under Construction
	Richmond Hill	Bloomington	Under Construction

\* Phasing of potential new GO stations not part of GO RER 10-Year program

Metrolinx has completed the New Stations Analysis study for the RER 10-year program and recommended two new GO stations on the Barrie GO corridor at Kirby in Vaughan and Mulock in Newmarket

The New Stations Analysis study focused on new GO stations that should be included in the RER 10-year program. The study considered opportunities to improve local transit, land use including transit-oriented development and a range of station access options including local transit, active transportation, pick-up and drop-off and park and ride.

The New Stations Analysis study initially examined more than 120 potential GO station locations across the GO service area and narrowed the list to approximately 50 locations. Feedback from affected municipalities and public engagement on the 50 locations informed Metrolinx’s preliminary evaluation and refined a shortlist of 24 stations for more detailed analysis via an Initial Business Case. The outcome of the Initial Business Case recommended 12 new GO stations across the GTHA. A high-level summary of the study process is shown in Table 2.

**Table 2**  
**Process for Metrolinx New Stations Analysis Study**

Process Description	Number of Sites Evaluated	Timeline
1. Identified Initial List of sites (based on key site and network considerations)	120+	Early 2015
2. Focusing Analysis (site factors, service considerations and historical requests)	120+ → 50+	Early 2015 to Sept 2015
3. Evaluating (strategic, economic, technical/operational and cost/revenue factors)	50+	Sept 2015 to Feb 2016
4. Municipal and Public Engagement (consultation meetings, online feedback, review)	50+	Sept 2015
5. Refining the List (sites scoped for further analysis after public engagement)	50+ → 24	Feb 2016 to Spring 2016
6. Further Analysis (IBCs) (more detailed business case analysis to inform recommendations)	24	Spring 2016 to June 2016
7. Recommended New Stations (for inclusion in the 10-year GO RER program)	12	June 28, 2016

The study noted some locations, such as Denison Street/14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Major Mackenzie Drive and John Street/Green Lane, did not perform well due to challenges and constraints including:

- Prohibitive construction costs
- High cost impact of travel time delays on the GO corridor
- Unsupportive of Provincial growth policy (constrained by Greenbelt area)
- Current or planned land uses and/or low densities
- Constrained development potential

Metrolinx acknowledged that in the longer term it is expected GO service increases will align with regional growth and enable more stations to be brought into service. In June 2016, the Metrolinx Board adopted Metrolinx staff recommendations for new GO stations, including the two stations at Kirby in Vaughan and Mulock in Newmarket.

On October 6, 2016, Committee of the Whole recommended Council endorse the new stations at Kirby and Mulock and recommended Concord GO station be considered for construction within the 10-year horizon. In addition, Committee of the Whole acknowledged the merits of protecting for and phasing-in additional GO stations as prioritized in the TMP. This includes stations at 15<sup>th</sup> Sideroad on the Barrie GO corridor and at Denison Street/14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive on the Stouffville GO corridor as well as at John Street/Green Lane, 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the Richmond Hill GO corridor.

For more information on this memorandum, please contact Stephen Collins, Director, Infrastructure Management and PMO, at ext. 75949.

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Paul Jankowski  
Commissioner, Transportation Services

LC/ag/sjc/sb

Attachments (1)

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## Existing and Proposed GO Rail Stations in York Region

GO Station Location			Existing/ Proposed (YR)/ Planned (Mx)	York Region Official Plan (Consolidated 2016)	York Region Transportation Master Plan (2016)	Local Official Plan**	Local Transportation Master Plan**	Metrolinx 10-year RER Program	Comments
Local Municipality	Station Name	Line							
Aurora	Aurora	Barrie	Existing	√	√	√	N/A		
East Gwillimbury	East Gwillimbury	Barrie	Existing	√	√	√	√		
Georgina	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		No station identified. Local OP only mentions GO <b>bus</b> transit services.
King	King City	Barrie	Existing	√	√	X	√		In effect Rural OP (1970) does not include GO.
	15 <sup>th</sup> Sideroad	Barrie	Proposed	√	√	X	N/A		
Markham	Mount Joy	Stouffville	Existing	√	√	√	Master Transportation Servicing Plan (Draft)		
	Markham	Stouffville	Existing	√	√	√			
	Centennial	Stouffville	Existing	√	√	√			
	Unionville	Stouffville	Existing	√	√	√			
	Denison St/14 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Stouffville	Proposed	X	√	X			City of Markham Council recently endorsed Denison St as opposed to 14 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
	Major Mackenzie	Stouffville	Proposed	X	√	X			
	John St/Green Lane	Richmond Hill	Proposed	√	√	√			
Newmarket	Newmarket	Barrie	Existing	√	√	√	N/A		
	Mulock	Barrie	Planned	√	√	√	N/A	√	Metrolinx IBC recommended location; not funded within 10-year RER Program
Richmond Hill	Richmond Hill	Richmond Hill	Existing	√	√	√	√		

GO Station Location			Existing/ Proposed (YR)/ Planned (Mx)	York Region Official Plan (Consolidated 2016)	York Region Transportation Master Plan (2016)	Local Official Plan**	Local Transportation Master Plan**	Metrolinx 10-year RER Program	Comments
Local Municipality	Station Name	Line							
	Langstaff	Richmond Hill	Existing	√	√	√	√		
	Gormley	Richmond Hill	Planned	√	√	√	√		Station under construction
	Bloomington	Richmond Hill	Planned	√	√	√	√		Planned Extension by GO
	16 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Richmond Hill	Proposed	X	√	X	X		
	19 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Richmond Hill	Proposed	√	√	X	√		
Vaughan	Maple	Barrie	Existing	√	√	√	√		
	Rutherford	Barrie	Existing	√	√	√	√		
	Kirby	Barrie	Planned	√	√	√	√	√	Metrolinx IBC recommended location; not funded within 10-year RER Program
	Concord	Barrie	Proposed	√	√	√	√		
Whitchurch-Stouffville	Lincolntonville	Stouffville	Existing	√	√	√	N/A		Town does not have a final TMP
	Stouffville	Stouffville	Existing	√	√	√	N/A		Town does not have a final TMP

\*Stations highlighted in grey are *proposed* in the Transportation Master Plan

\*\* N/A represents not applicable as the municipality does not have an OP/TMP

√ indicates the listed GO Station is identified in the document.

X indicates the listed GO Station is not identified in the document.