FINAL GO TRANSIT MOTION
ADOPTED BY TORONTO COUNCIL - May 4, 2005

J(4)   GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor
Moved by Councillor Nunziata, seconded by Councillor Grimes

"**WHEREAS** GO Transit has begun a Class Environmental Assessment for expansion of commuter rail service in the GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor; and

WHEREAS the project will address the expansion of the Georgetown GO Transit line and the Blue 22 airport link that would, rationally and technically, require two separate Environmental Assessments; and

WHEREAS there has been an overwhelming and resounding concern by residents that the closure of any street or roadway could separate and divide communities, and thus be catastrophic to their continued viability; and

WHEREAS GO Transit is undertaking a Class B Environmental Assessment which addresses the potential for low to medium negative environmental effects, and/or medium public or agency concerns and a Class C Environmental Assessment requires more information and analysis to identify environmental effects and more comprehensive public and agency notice; and

WHEREAS resounding concern was expressed by the over 3,000 residents that attended GO Transit' s Public Information Session on April 28, 2005, about the negative environmental and social impacts of the GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor; and

WHEREAS at the same meeting, the proponents presented their proposal that would entail the closure of John Street to vehicular traffic which would have negative implications on the local community; and

WHEREAS on April 12, 13 and 14, 2005, Toronto City Council adopted Motion J(3) with respect to the Environmental Assessment for expansion of commuter rail service in the GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor which clearly stated that:

'the City of Toronto adopt the official position concerning the Class Environmental Assessment for expansion of commuter rail service in the GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor that no streets be closed'; and

WHEREAS an underlying principle of the Environmental Assessment process is that when there are serious unresolved concerns, one has the right to request the Minister of the Environment to 'bump-up' a project;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Toronto take the official position that it will oppose any proposal of the GO Transit Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor that completely or partially closes any roadway;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Toronto advise GO Transit that a station in Weston and a tunneled alignment through Weston is the City's preferred option;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff be requested to investigate and report to the Planning and Transportation Committee on any legal requirement that would necessitate a 'bump up' of the GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor Environmental Assessment."

Disposition:

City Council on May 4, 2005, adopted this Motion, subject to adding the following new Operative Paragraphs:

Moved by: Councillor Milczyn

"AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT any additional costs related to the GO Transit Georgetown/Weston Sub-division Corridor be borne by the rail line proponents;

Moved by: Mayor Miller

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, in consultation with appropriate City officials, be requested to report to Council for its meeting on June 14, 2005, through the Planning and Transportation Committee, with detailed information on:

(1)   any complete or partial closing of roadways which are being proposed as a result of the GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor;

(2)   the establishment of a station in Weston and a tunneled alignment through Weston; and

(3)   any legal requirement that would necessitate a bump-up of the GO Georgetown/Weston Sub-Division Corridor Environmental Assessment;

Moved by Mayor Miller

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council adopt this Motion in principle, and that Council's final decision on this matter be made when the reports requested herein are before Council for consideration."