



March 21, 2005

Letter to the Residents and Businesses of the Village of Weston

Subject: Georgetown Corridor Rail Expansion Environmental Assessment (EA)

GO Transit apologizes for having to close the Public Information Centre (PIC) on the evening of March 9 at the Bethel Apostolic Church. The PIC was to introduce the public to the study being undertaken to assess the various impacts and options associated with the potential increase of rail service through the community of Weston. We underestimated the public response to this PIC, and the Church could not support the number of people who showed up for the meeting.

Contrary to rumours, GO does not plan on “closing all streets in Weston”, and is not intent upon “dividing the community”. The EA study is currently assessing various options to accommodate increased train traffic (GO, VIA, CN and Air Rail Link trains) in the CN corridor. The intent of the first PIC was to introduce the public to the project elements, and present various options of accommodating additional train traffic in a safe, efficient manner. Some options being assessed include closing one or more local (minor) streets, with road overpasses and/or underpasses at other streets. This would still maintain (or could increase) the number of pedestrian access points between the residential community to the east of the tracks and the commercial area along Weston Road. Other options being considered include the lowering of the rail corridor and maintaining all road access.

The public response to the initial Public Information Centre (PIC) was unprecedented. Through preliminary discussions with some of the residents and businesses who did attend, the importance of “connectivity” between the residents and the commercial area was doubly reinforced. Therefore, rather than rushing to reschedule a PIC, we are going to look at further alternatives, and will report back to the community in a responsive manner.

We have rescheduled the next public information meeting for **Thursday, April 28, 6:30 to 9:30 pm at the Faith Sanctuary at 1901 Jane Street**. Notification of the meeting will be advertised in the local newspapers and through a postal delivery to the Weston community.

We look forward to receiving your comments and listening/responding to your concerns on the proposed GO Transit and Air Rail Link plans in the rail corridor.

Gary McNeil
Managing Director & CEO