

Yonge Street Transitway

URBAN TRANSPORTATION SHOWCASE PROGRAM

Stage Two Detailed Proposal
May 16, 2003





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THE YONGE STREET TRANSITWAY

York Region is the fastest-growing municipality in Canada. Gridlock is now common along many of the Region's roadways within the urban areas. Less than 8% of all peak-period work trips are made on public transit. Reliance on the private automobile as the primary mode of transportation is increasing greenhouse gas emissions and negatively impacting the environment. Unless immediate action is taken, transportation emissions in York Region in 2020 will exceed 1990 levels by 53%.

The Yonge Street Transitway uses six key components in an integrated approach to deliver an environmentally responsible and energy-efficient rapid transit system. It will encourage more efficient land-use patterns, support economic vitality and improve quality of life.

RAPID TRANSIT NETWORK

Strategic and incremental investment is required to develop a rapid transit network that reduces vehicle emissions by providing an alternative to the private car as a primary mode of transportation.

LOW-COST INFRASTRUCTURE

Bus Rapid Transit replicates higher-order rail transit features with flexible, cost-effective implementation.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Intelligent Transportation Systems improve service levels and passenger information, support fare card technology to speed boarding times, and enable centralized control and operations.



SUSTAINABLE LAND USE

Transit-oriented development supports the Smart Growth goals of strong community, strong economy and healthy environment with a balanced urban mix of commercial, residential and employment land uses.

INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS

The establishment of a distinctive brand, marketing, advertising and partnerships with the business community will make transit more viable and attractive to the public.

INNOVATIVE APPROACH

York Region's unique public-private partnership speeds implementation while guaranteeing cost-competitive delivery of the system in an open and transparent manner.