Deputy Clerk Legal and Council Support Services 905-478-4282 x1240 flamanna@eastgwillimbury.ca

FILE No. -

Region of York

September 13, 2013

Regional Municipality of York 17250 Yonge Street Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Attn: Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk

Dear Mr. Kelly:

For your information and records, at its regular meeting held July 29, 2013, the Municipal Council of the Town of East Gwillimbury adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the memo from the East Gwillimbury Accessible Advisory Committee regarding Metrolinx (Go Train Station) Accessibility Concerns, be received; and

THAT Council grants permission to the Advisory Committee to forward the letter to Metrolinx; and

THAT the Municipal Clerk forward the letter to the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee; and

THAT Council direct Town By-law Officers to patrol the GO Sation during high traffic times.

If you have any further questions feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Fernando Lamanna, BA

Deputy Clerk

Legal and Council Support Services

Encl: East Gwillimbury Accessibility Advisory Committee Memo dated July 29, 2013

cc: T. Gibson, Director of Building Plans & Approvals/CBO

D. Hill, By-law & Licensing Coordinator



Accessibility Advisory Committee

To:

CWC

From:

East Gwillimbury Accessible Advisory Committee

Date:

July 29, 2013

Subject:

Metrolinx (Go Train Station) Accessibility Concerns

Attached is a draft letter from the Accessibility Advisory Committee to Metrolinx, highlighting accessibility concerns at the East Gwillimbury Go Station.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee is requesting Council endorsement of the correspondence prior to forwarding it to Metrolinx.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

June 25, 2013

Attn: Customer Relations
GO Transit, A Division of Metrolinx
20 Bay Street, Suite 600
Toronto, Ontario
M5J 2W3
Canada

The East Gwillimbury Accessibility Advisory Committee has been notified of concerns regarding the GO train station in East Gwillimbury. These concerns reflect difficulties that create problems for passengers using assistive devices for mobility and/or designated parking spaces adjacent to the accessibility platform. The committee is seeking your assistance in resolving the problems so that all members of our community can travel safely on GO trains.

Accessible Parking:

It is common for drivers dropping off able-bodied passengers to pull into accessible spaces to wait for the arrival of trains. This effectively means that such parking spaces are neither accessible nor available. Passengers report that they have raised this problem with Customer Service Agents on board their trains, but no additional enforcement is apparent. We would like to suggest an increase in enforcement as well as signage stating that the spaces are not for "kiss and ride" usage.

Walkway from parking lot to accessible platform:

The interlocking stone walkway to the accessibility platform is a hazard for both able bodied and those travelers with mobility concerns. It is uneven with pavers that have lifted creating significant fall hazards. The grade slopes off at the edge of the walkway and there is no visual indicator of the margin for those with visual impairments.

East Gwillimbury is a community that values accessibility for all members of the public, and we have a record of civic improvements to demonstrate those values. In the case of GO service, we are dependent on Metrolinx to make and maintain the necessary accommodations. We look forward to your attention to these matters as you join us in our work toward accessibility in our community.

Respectfully yours,

Ruthanna Dyer, Chair East Gwillimbury Accessibility Advisory Committee

rdyer@yorku.ca