

January 30, 2012

Subject: Go Transit & Parking Congestion on Trafalgar / Cornwall Roads

Dear MPP Flynn, Regional Chair Carr, Mayor Burton and councillors,

On behalf of the five resident associations of Southeast Oakville; TCRA, OLRA, JCRI, CMGRA, and COCA, we would like to express our serious concern regarding increased traffic congestion at Trafalgar & Cornwall Roads and the surrounding area. It is a well-known fact that this intersection has been a problem since its opening, as its design and implementation was flawed.

Since the closure of the south GO parking lot, traffic at the above mentioned intersection during GO Train arrivals has led to significant delays and congestion. We have concerns about emergency vehicles to transit during these peak times, specifically the Fire Station and EMT facilities in Ward 3.

Currently, in the afternoon, Trafalgar Road northbound traffic is backed up to MacLachlan College, approximately 500m south of the intersection. This doesn't take into account the gridlock extending north past Iroquois Shore Road, approximately 1,200m, for a total distance of almost 2,000 m. The westbound traffic on Cornwall from Trafalgar is backed up in all lanes to Watson Avenue, a distance of over 600m, most of which is also attempting to flow north on Trafalgar Road.

Our premise is that after the new parking facility opens, the traffic situation will only get worse. We are looking for confirmation from the region and the Town that this is not the case or action will be taken to ameliorate the situation, as the Metrolinx traffic reports suggest none or minimal action is required and the traffic impact will be nominal.

We assume that as with the current situation, most of the traffic flows north. Metrolinx confirmed that they believe the majority of transit users live north of the QEW. The new parking facility will be primarily accessible from the southbound lanes of Trafalgar Rd. only. We assume secondary access will be at Old Mill Road, which we understand is a concern of the Old Mill Condominium residents as this is their driveway.

Thus, the traffic pattern we are experiencing now will only get worse in the future, when the GO parking facility opens. We would also point out that the widening to four lanes on Cornwall between Chartwell & Morrison Roads will increase volume along Cornwall Road.

The impact will be further gridlock and congestion. There will be increased traffic through the residential community as commuters look for alternatives from the congestion, and possibly more negative outcomes due to delays of emergency vehicles from Southeast Oakville.

The evidence is clearly visible by spending a few late afternoons in the area and witnessing the current impact of the traffic congestion. The Region and Town must hold Metrolinx accountable and ensure this situation is satisfactorily addressed prior to the opening of the GO parking facility.

We would like to propose a meeting with the Town, Region and Metrolinx to discuss this further and ensure the our community concerns are addressed.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Mark Caskenette, TCRA Chair on behalf of
Trafalgar-Chartwell Residents Association, Oakville Lakeside Residents Association, Joshua
Creek Residents Association, Chartwell Maple Grove Residents Association, Clearview Oakville
Community Alliance