

# Oshawa GO Train Lakeshore East Extension Letter



OSHAWA  
ONTARIO, CANADA

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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## MAYOR DAN CARTER

May 19, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.  
Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A3

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Re: City of Oshawa - COVID-19 Economic Recovery and GO Train Lakeshore East Extension

This year as you know has been one of unprecedented change across our Country. In a time when the City of Oshawa's economy continues its shift towards knowledge-based sectors, our City, like many others across the country, faces the challenges of a global pandemic.

While these extraordinary times will test our resolve, the resilience and spirit of the Oshawa community, along with an outpouring of support for our healthcare and essential workers has been inspiring. We will get through this together, and emerge even stronger for it. I would like to commend the efforts of Federal and Provincial leaders for the actions taken thus far to help save lives and flatten the curve of COVID-19.

After quickly assembling an Economic Recovery Task Force with community leaders, we have determined that one of the most direct, immediate and impactful economic recovery efforts would be an accelerated implementation of existing commitments to the GO Train Lakeshore East Extension.

Independent studies of the GO Train Lakeshore East Extension have found significant and positive economic benefits. These benefits include creating and protecting jobs for Ontario by enabling local investment, business attraction, thus ensuring the long-term economic health of Durham Region.

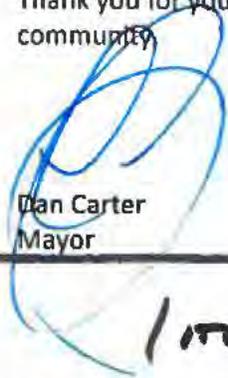
The Provincially approved GO Train extension project has well established and determined local support and satisfies the Province's desire to make life easier for residents of Durham Region and their families, so they can get ahead. This is something our community would benefit from now more than ever, and we implore all levels of government to act as expeditiously as possible to move this project forward ahead of schedule.

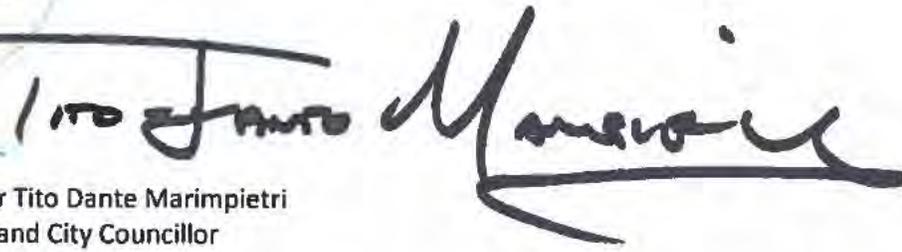
The implementation of the Lakeshore East GO rail extension, north of Highway 401, as proposed and provincially approved addresses challenges which include population growth, disconnected transit, traffic congestion, economic competitiveness, demands/needs of an aging population, urbanization and urban sprawl. In light of the significant economic impact of COVID-19 on our community, moving this project forward as quickly as possible would truly kick start Oshawa's recovery efforts.

An independent economic impact analysis found that the GO Train east expansion would generate \$1.1 billion in transit-oriented, walkable urban development that would enable:

- 21,000 permanent new jobs
- 6,000 person years in construction employment
- 6,000 new homes to be built within walking distance of a GO station;
- \$70 million in annual savings for residents related to time, vehicle costs and improved road safety;
- 50 million kilometres annual reduction in private vehicle use, significantly reducing the amount of CO2 emissions;

Thank you for your time and consideration on this critical transit infrastructure project in our community

  
Dan Carter  
Mayor

  
Councillor Tito Dante Marimpietri  
Regional and City Councillor  
Chair Development Services  
Chair Oshawa Economic Recovery Task Force