

## Queen's Park

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Phil Verster President and CEO of Metrolinx 97 Front Street West Toronto, ON M5J 1E6

Dear Mr. Verster,

I am writing to follow up about the status of the Antler-Lappin connection, which I regard as a very important part of the public realm component of the Davenport Diamond project.

I wrote to you in December of last year along with Deputy Mayor Bailão, to express our frustration with the lack of progress on this connection, and our disappointment in the fact that the Antler Lappin connection was dropped from presentation boards without notice. I stand by the view that Metrolinx's materials presented the Antler-Lappin connection as something Metrolinx would proactively work to build as part of the public realm component of the project, and I believe that most of the engaged members of the community share this view. I do not want to let this issue fall by the wayside and I am actively canvassing the neighbourhood and talking to residents about it.

What I have heard from you is that your commitment was only ever to opening up discussions with the property owners on Lappin. I simply don't see any evidence that you have done that. The only conversation that I am aware of to date was the site visit and conversation with the owners initiated by Deputy Mayor Bailão, and as far as I know there have been no follow-up meetings since then. If I am mistaken, please let me know what you have done to facilitate these discussions, the dates they took place and who was present so we can follow up.

It is my understanding that for the property owner, the primary obstacle is the liability of having people walk through their property. Surely if your position is that your intent was to facilitate this connection rather than build it, helping the property owners solve this issue seems like a concrete contribution that Metrolinx could make to furthering the creation of this connection.

Another option for creating this connection could be for Metrolinx to engage with the property management companies and condo boards at 812 and 816 Lansdowne to see if it is possible to create a public connection there. Given that this connection would be a major benefit to the residents of the condos, improving their access to Campbell Park, there should be significant interest.

I urgently want to see progress on this connection, and it will not be difficult to mobilize the community if that progress is not forthcoming. This is what I would like to see in the short term:

- 1. Reaffirm your commitment to build the Antler Lappin connection, as initially promised.
- 2. Provide me with an update on the steps you have taken in the past twelve months to realize the Antler Lappin connection.
- 3. Set up a follow up meeting with the property owners *within the next two weeks*. Prepare information on how to solve the liability issues posed to them by opening up their property to the Antler Lappin pedestrian connection.
- 4. Set up a meeting with the property management and condo boards at 812 and 816 Lansdowne within the next two weeks. Begin work on planning how a pedestrian connection could be created there.

We ask that you take steps on all of these points by Friday, August 19th.

Sincerely,

Marit Stiles

Marit Stiles

Member of Provincial Parliament for Davenport