

March 31, 2011

# Backgrounder:

## New Toronto transit plan

### Sheppard Stats

- Constructing a subway on Sheppard will cost more than four times as much per kilometre as an LRT line.
- A cost-effective subway requires a minimum rush hour ridership of 15,000 commuters, but the Sheppard East line is projected to have only 3000 to 5000 peak riders.

### Finch Facts

- Finch is the busiest bus route and ridership is increasing. An “express bus” will not provide adequate capacity and it will still be in traffic, blocked by traffic and blocking traffic.
- A Finch LRT is the most affordable of all transit lines, yet it has been cut. Compare to other lines in the new plan:
  - 11 kilometres Finch LRT: \$0.9 billion
  - 12 kilometres Sheppard Subway: more than \$4 billion
  - 8 kilometres of *additional* Eglinton underground: at least \$2 billion

### How the deal stacks up to the LRTs of Transit City

	<b>4 LRT Priority Projects (Phase One of Transit City)</b>	<b>Mayor Ford's full plan (including Sheppard subway)</b>
Length (km)	52	37
Cost (\$2010)	\$8.7 billion	\$12.4 billion
<b>Cost/km</b>	<b>\$167 million</b>	<b>\$335 million</b>
Torontonians served *	460,000	339,000
Low income population served	33,000	22,700
GHGs removed annually **	132,000	134,000-160,000
Rapid transit lines	4 Eglinton; Scarborough SRT; Sheppard E; Finch E	3 Eglinton; Scarborough SRT; Sheppard (E and W)
Vehicles out of daily traffic **	80,000-100,000	90,000-130,000

\* Within 500 metres of rapid transit

\*\*Larger ranges for Ford's new proposal reflect likelihood of higher ridership calculated for Eglinton fully underground

Compared to the original four LRT lines (Phase One of Transit City), Mayor Ford's \$12.4 billion plan:

- brings rapid transit to less than half as many Torontonians as the former LRT plan per dollar invested and to 25 per cent fewer Torontonians overall;
- serves 30 per cent fewer low-income residents, despite costing 40 per cent more.

## Mapping it out

### Mayor Ford's transit plan

Cost: \$12.4 billion

Length: 37 km

LRT Lines funded by the province (in blue): 25 km

Unsecured funds for Sheppard Subway (in red): 12 km



### The original 4 LRT Priority Projects (Phase One)

Cost: \$8.7 billion

Length: 52 km

