

September 24, 2013

Construction represented on Ontario transit strategic advisory panel

TORONTO

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne has announced the names appointed to the Transit Investment Strategy Advisory Panel which will review [Metrolinx's](#) Investment strategy and explore new ways to fund public transit across the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area (GTHA).

The panel will meet with stakeholders to discuss Metrolinx's recommendations and report the findings back to the government.

"Our new panel will help us identify the best way forward, so that we can help people in their everyday lives and build a strong foundation for future," said the premier.

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The 13-member panel will be chaired by Dr. Anne Golden as well as Andy Manahan, executive director of the [Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario](#), and Patrick Dillon, business manager of the [Provincial Building and Construction Trades Council](#).

Other panel members include Paul Bedford (University of Toronto), Cherise Burda (Pembina Institute), former Toronto city councillor Gordon Chong, Teresa Di Felice (Canadian Automobile Association), Iain Dobson (Real Estate Search Corporation), citizen member Kulvir Gill, Blake Hutcheson (Oxford Properties), Joseph S. Mancinelli (Labourer's International Union of North America), Leith Moore (Ontario Home Builders' Association) and citizen member Mohan Nadarajah.

The announcement of the panel members has been welcomed by CivicAction and its chair John Tory who recognized four of CivicAction's Regional Transportation Champions, including Dr. Golden who is also chair of the panel.

The group is also urging that both provincial and municipal levels of government "work together to repair a transit decision-making process that is badly broken."

"Members of the public are frustrated and fatigued with posturing, politicking, and polarization around the issue of regional transportation investment," said Tory in a statement.

"Residents have the right to expect collaborative, collective leadership on what should be done in the public interest and how to pay for it. The current process must be addressed in the coming weeks, as the continuation of the status quo is, in our view, unacceptable."

Transport Futures has also come out to back the new panel, encouraged that they will explore road tolls, parking fees and a carbon tax as a possible funding method while dismissing Metrolinx's funding tools.

"The four politically-correct tools selected by Metrolinx will do nothing to cut congestion, increase road safety, or reduce climate change and smog, especially in the short-term," said Transport Future founder Martin Collier.