

Submitted on Mon, 06/01/2020 - 18:46

Application ID: 15866

Submitted values are:

Bill or item of business: **Bill 171, Building Transit Faster Act, 2020**

Choose a topic

Do you know the bill title or business (e.g., pre-budget consultations) you'd like to speak or submit material about?

Yes

Choose an application

Which application would you like to submit?

Request to appear as a committee witness (with the option of submitting material)

Add your information

Are you applying to appear as an individual or on behalf of an organization?

I am an individual applying to appear

Name

John Scully

Do you want to include an electronic written brief alongside your application to appear (optional)?

Yes

Paste submission

As a long time resident of the Riverdale neighbourhood, I know the the importance of improving the transit in this part of the city. I am in favour of expanding the subway so that increased capacity for transit users is possibility. It is long overdue.

However, this expansion can only happen with appropriate due diligence and environmental assessment. To proceed otherwise is negligent and our children and grandchildren will be reaping the negative impacts financially, socially and environmentally that will invariable arrive with hasty decisions. As my father always said "measure twice and cut once". To move forward quickly without appropriate community and environmental consideration is undemocratic and frankly dangerous for residents and future commuters.

Another deep concern of mine is the change in expropriation rules. As I understand it, residents will not be able to raise challenges to planned expropriations. Since my residence is quite likely in the expropriation zone, this will have severe consequences for my family. It is only fair that I would have a voice in the discussion and a chance to raise objections if plans are being made to expropriate my home.

I'm also quite concerned about the powers that Metrolinx will have to close down roads, sewage and water without consultation of municipalities or residents. I know that traffic will be messy

once construction begins but to remove standard checks and balances from municipal input is once again undemocratic.