

March 8, 2011

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

On behalf of the 31,000 Members of the Toronto Real Estate Board (TREB), I am writing to request that provincial plans to extend Highway 407 east be implemented in one continuous phase to Highway 35/115.

As you know, TREB is an association of REALTORS® working in the residential, industrial and commercial real estate markets across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Every day, REALTORS® help families and individuals to achieve the dream of home ownership and businesses to succeed. With this experience, we know that there are many things that contribute to the livability and success of our region, not the least of which is efficient infrastructure.

In this regard, we believe that the Province should extend Highway 407 to Highway 35/115 in one continuous phase, rather than the current phased plan with the first phase terminating on Simcoe Street in the City of Oshawa. As you know, the GTA has serious challenges, with regard to traffic and congestion, which threaten our region's economic competitiveness. The Highway 407 East extension is an important initiative in helping to address this issue but we believe that its full benefits will not be realized with the current phased approach.

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We urge the provincial government to reconsider its decision to phase the construction of the Highway 407 East extension, and to proceed with the extension in one continuous phase.

I hope you find our views helpful.

Sincerely,

Bill Johnston, M.A., LL. B.
President

c.c. The Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation
Mayor John Henry, City of Oshawa
Mr. Tim Hudak, MPP, Leader, P.C. Party of Ontario
Ms. Andrea Horwath, MPP, Leader, NDP of Ontario
Mr. Gilles Bisson, MPP, Timmins-James Bay, Transportation Critic
Mr. Frank Klees, MPP, Newmarket-Aurora, Transportation Critic
Mr. Wayne Arthurs, MPP, Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge
Ms. Christine Elliot, MPP, Whitby-Ajax
Mr. John O'Toole, MPP, Durham
Mr. Jerry Ouellette, MPP, Oshawa
Ms. Dierdre Mullen, President, Durham Region Association of REALTORS®
Mr. Richard Hawkins, Pres., Pet. and Kawarthas Assoc. of REALTORS®
Ms. Dorothy Mason, President, Ontario Real Estate Association