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**PUBLIC PROPOSAL SUMMARY**

# ONTARIO CONNECTED



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**FOUNDER**

# ONTARIO CONNECTED

**T**oronto's subways and highways are gridlocked, housing is out of reach, and our infrastructure is aging. Ontario Transit Vision offers a bold alternative: expand transit, unlock affordable housing, protect green space, and build a resilient future for all Ontarians.



## INTRODUCTION

Ontario's population is growing rapidly, but our transit and housing systems are falling behind. Ontario Transit Vision is a bold, long-term plan to expand transit, create underground hubs, and address housing shortages — all while protecting Ontario's natural environment and communities.



## IMMEDIATE RELIEF PARALLEL TTC TUNNELS

Ontario Connected's vision begins in Toronto with a practical first step: digging multi-layer subway tunnels directly beneath existing TTC lines. These alignments are already proven safe for tunnelling, as the existing infrastructure has cleared sewers, utilities, and foundations. By tunneling deeper, Ontario can expand capacity without disrupting what is already in place.

## THE VISION

A province-wide grid of high-capacity north-south and east-west transit corridors. •  
Underground 'Parallel Cities' with commercial, cultural, and recreational hubs. •  
Affordable underground housing pods for students, newcomers, and families. • Building below ground preserves farmland, forests, and conservation lands.

## WHY THIS MATTERS

- *Congestion Relief* — Move millions by subway, not highway.
- *Climate Action* — Cut emissions by shifting commuters off cars.
- *Housing Support* — Fast transit enables affordable living across the region.
- *Economic Growth* — Jobs today; mobility for generations.

# THE STATS

<b>50%</b>	GTA population increase expected by 2051
<b>3X</b>	Transit demand growth since 1990, no new core subway tunnels
<b>1.5M</b>	Housing units Ontario must build by 2031
<b>70%</b>	GTA commuters still rely on cars daily
<b>\$11B</b>	Annual cost of gridlock to Ontario’s economy

# GLOBAL LESSONS:

## UNDERGROUND SUCCESS STORIES

### TOKYO, JAPAN PROBLEM (1960S–70S):

Subway trains dangerously overcrowded; staff pushed passengers inside. Solution (1974–2008): Built new lines like Hanzomon (1978) and Fukutoshin (2008) with parallel tunnels. Result (Today): Carries 8M+ riders daily with efficiency and resilience.

### HELSINKI, FINLAND PROBLEM (1960S):

Limited land and harsh winters restricted expansion. Solution (1982–2010s): Adopted an Underground Master Plan (1982) and built shopping, sports halls, and utilities underground. Result (Today): Preserves green space; residents use climate-resilient underground hubs.

### BEIJING, CHINA PROBLEM (1990S):

Exploding population, smog, gridlock. Solution (2001–2020): Expanded from 2 lines in 2001 to 27+ lines by 2020. Result (Today): Carries 10M+ daily riders, reducing car reliance and pollution.

## PARIS, FRANCE PROBLEM (1960S–70S):

Suburban commuters faced hours-long trips. Solution (1977–1990s): Built RER express tunnels; expanding with Grand Paris Express (2016–2035). Result (Today): Commute times cut by up to 50%; suburbs better connected, boosting housing and jobs.

## INDIGENOUS PARTNERSHIPS

Ontario Connected begins with Indigenous consultation and partnership. The project will respect treaty rights, integrate Indigenous leadership in planning, ensure economic opportunities, and celebrate Indigenous culture in station and hub design.

## FUNDING & ECONOMICS

Ontario Connected is not funded by taxpayers alone. Instead, it is supported by five pillars:

1. *Public investment* from provincial and federal governments.
2. *Private partnerships* with retail, developers, and universities.
3. *International investors* including pension funds and sovereign wealth funds.
4. *Revenue capture tools* such as land value increases, tax increment financing, fares, and advertising.
5. *A phased approach* — building in stages rather than all at once.

## CONSULTATION ROADMAP

Ontario Connected will follow a structured roadmap:

- Step 1: Indigenous communities. •
- Step 2: Municipal and regional governments. •
- Step 3: Provincial and federal agencies. •
- Step 4: Unions, advocacy groups, and developers. •
- Step 5: Citizens via town halls, surveys, online engagement.

## FOUNDER'S NOTE

As a TTC subway operator, I have seen first-hand the challenges facing Ontario's transit system. Ontario Connected is my proposal to build something bigger — not just for Toronto, but for all Ontarians. Together, we can create a sustainable future where transit, housing, and nature work in harmony.

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