

MORE RAPID TRANSIT

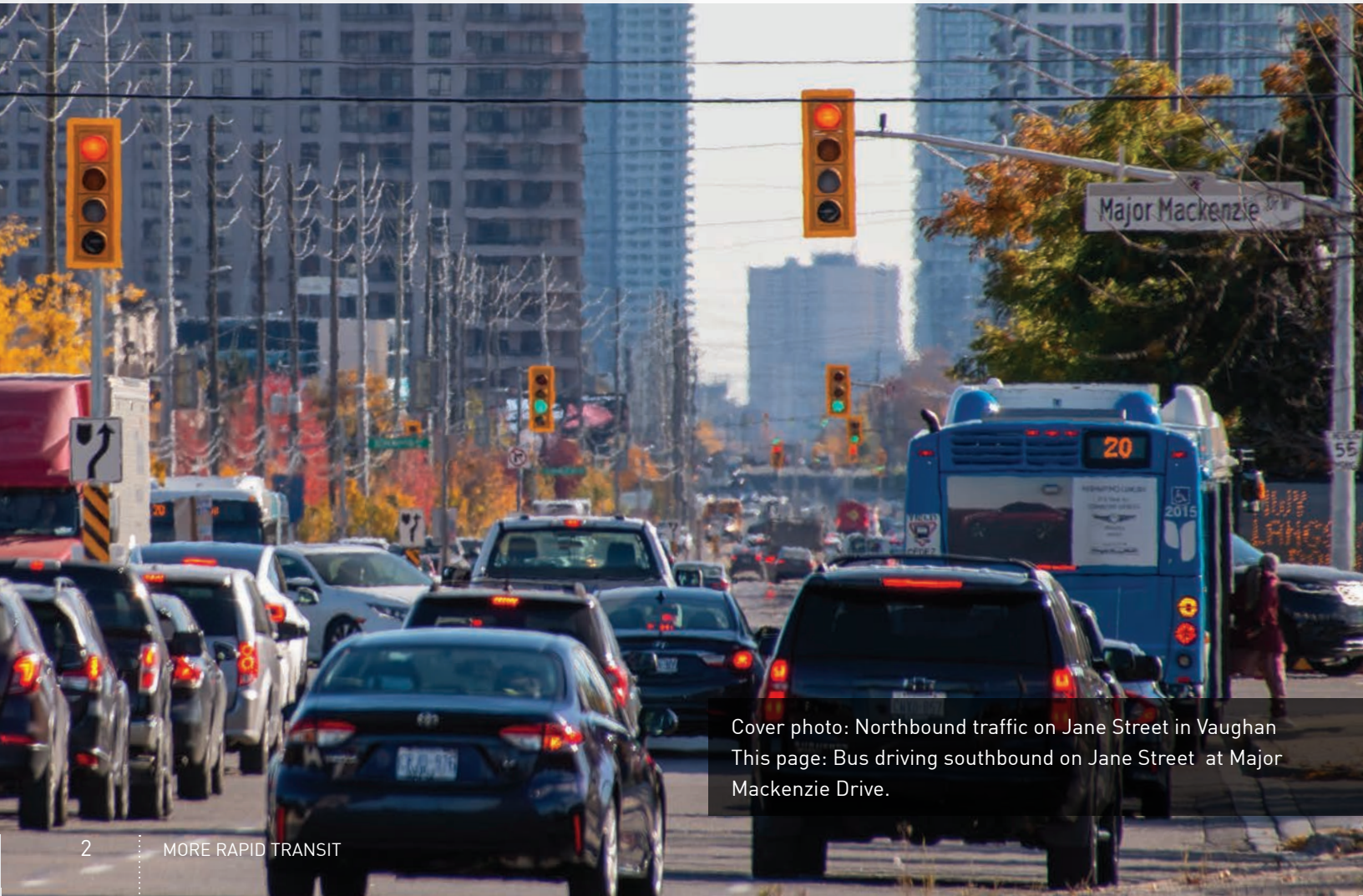
Bus Rapid Transit infrastructure in York Region will accelerate housing supply, create jobs, and reduce gridlock





York Region requires **\$1.7 billion** to build critically needed Bus Rapid Transit

This investment will unlock growth for over 271,000 people and 59,000 jobs along Jane Street in the City of Vaughan and Highway 7 East in the City of Markham



Cover photo: Northbound traffic on Jane Street in Vaughan
This page: Bus driving southbound on Jane Street at Major Mackenzie Drive.



Eric Jolliffe



Frank Scarpitti

Federal and provincial investments are needed for critical Bus Rapid Transit projects in York Region. This will lead to the construction of new homes, more jobs, increased economic prosperity and more connected communities

Message from the York Region Chairman and CEO and the Chair of York Region Rapid Transit Board

We need more rapid transit. Congestion is costing our economy billions of dollars in lost productivity each year. The need for our businesses and residents to have access to an integrated public transit system is essential to ensure the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area’s economy remains resilient.

To support new housing and an increase of over 271,000 people and 59,000 jobs, **\$1.7 billion in federal and provincial investments is needed for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) projects along Jane Street in the City of Vaughan and Highway 7 East in the City of Markham.**

By building more BRT on these corridors, we will complete integral components of the existing region-wide transportation system, allowing us to accelerate housing supply, create more jobs and reduce gridlock. Expanding our Regional transit network is critical to allow York Region to keep pace with the unprecedented growth we are experiencing.

We live in Canada’s fastest-growing large municipality with more than 1.25 million residents and a highly diverse population, larger than five Canadian provinces. York Region has a rapidly growing business centre with over 57,000 businesses employing more than 629,000 people.

Congestion in the GTHA is a fundamental economic and social challenge that impacts business productivity and quality of life. We need the continued support of senior levels of government to keep York Region growing and moving.

Eric Jolliffe
Chairman and CEO
The Regional Municipality of York
Director, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation

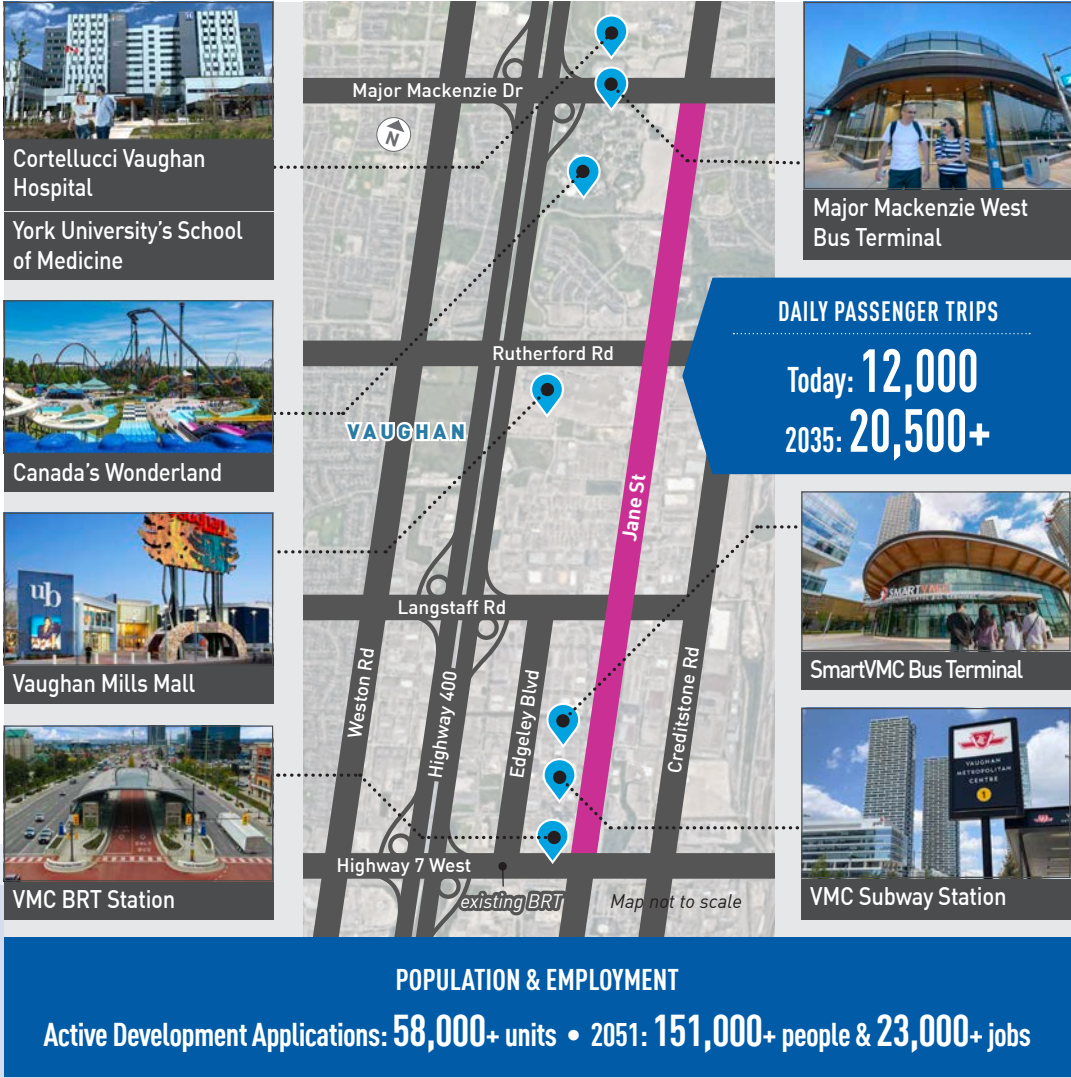
Frank Scarpitti
Mayor, City of Markham
Chair, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation

Jane Street

Highway 7 to Major Mackenzie Drive in the City of Vaughan

The 6.3-kilometre Jane Street corridor between Highway 7 and Major Mackenzie Drive services 12,000 daily passenger trips and is projected to service over 20,500 daily passenger trips by 2035.

With housing growth materializing in this corridor, travellers will be able to connect to TTC's Line 1 subway to Vaughan Metropolitan Centre and major destinations, including the Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, Canada's Wonderland and Vaughan Mills Mall.



Highway 7 East

Kennedy Road to Cornell Bus Terminal and through Markham Centre in the City of Markham

This rapid transit link will enable substantial population, housing and job growth along the corridor. Once complete, the BRT will connect York University's Markham campus, GO Transit, cycling facilities, multi-use paths and Cornell Bus Terminal.

Currently servicing 6,700 daily passenger trips, growing to 10,100 in 2035, the Highway 7 East BRT extension provides connections to critical community services and health care at Markham Stouffville Hospital.



Increasing jobs and housing supply and reducing gridlock for greater economic prosperity in the GTHA



A Viva bus in rapidway lanes on Highway 7 East.

Public transit infrastructure gets people and goods moving. It's critical to Canadian's day to day life, enabling our communities and local businesses to grow and prosper

Bus Rapid Transit gets more homes built faster

Transit investment plays a critical role in enabling residential development. BRT along Jane Street and Highway 7 East will unlock critical housing supply within established urban areas.

The magnitude of residential development applications and construction in the Cities of Vaughan and Markham exceeds secondary plan growth originally contemplated.

The Jane Street and Highway 7 East BRT projects are centred within priority intensification areas that optimize investments in transit infrastructure and enable affordable housing options.

Current active development applications:
Jane Street:
over **58,000** units
Highway 7 East:
over **45,000** units

New housing construction in York Region remains strong

» York Region is one of the largest contributors to GTHA development activity. In 2023 alone, 12,022 residential building permits were issued — up 69% from 2022 and the highest in a decade



Bus Rapid Transit creates thousands of jobs

The Highway 7 East and Jane Street BRT projects are planned within York Region's highest population and employment densities. The economic impact of transit infrastructure investment is significant. These BRT projects will:

- » Create thousands of construction jobs
- » Support over 59,000 new jobs anticipated in these two corridors by 2051

A diverse economy and a skilled workforce contributes to and reinforces York Region's capacity as a top destination for business and innovation in the GTHA.

York Region is Ontario's third largest business centre and one of Canada's largest Information and Communications Technology, Life Sciences and Financial Services business clusters, with:

- » 57,000 businesses
- » Over 629,000 jobs

More transit investment is needed to attract and retain talent.

These next BRT investments will ensure we are connecting people, jobs and destinations across the GTHA from Toronto, Peel, York and Durham Regions.



Construction workers at Bathurst and Highway 7 working on a bus rapid transit project.

“... A robust transportation network is critical to Ontario's competitiveness...”

– ROCCO ROSSI: Former President and CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce



Vaughan is developing a world-class destination for excellence in health care



Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital — Canada's premiere smart hospital.

In an unprecedented initiative, the City of Vaughan is leading a collaboration to transform an 82-acre parcel of land at Jane Street and Major Mackenzie Drive into the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct (VHCP).

Together with partners Mackenzie Health, York University and ventureLAB, the City is developing a world-class destination for health care on the lands surrounding the site of Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital – Canada’s premiere smart hospital.

The VHCP is transforming rapidly, as it will be the future site of the York University School of Medicine, a state-of-the-art long-term care home, a centre for research in aging care and Canada’s first hardware-focused MedTech accelerator.



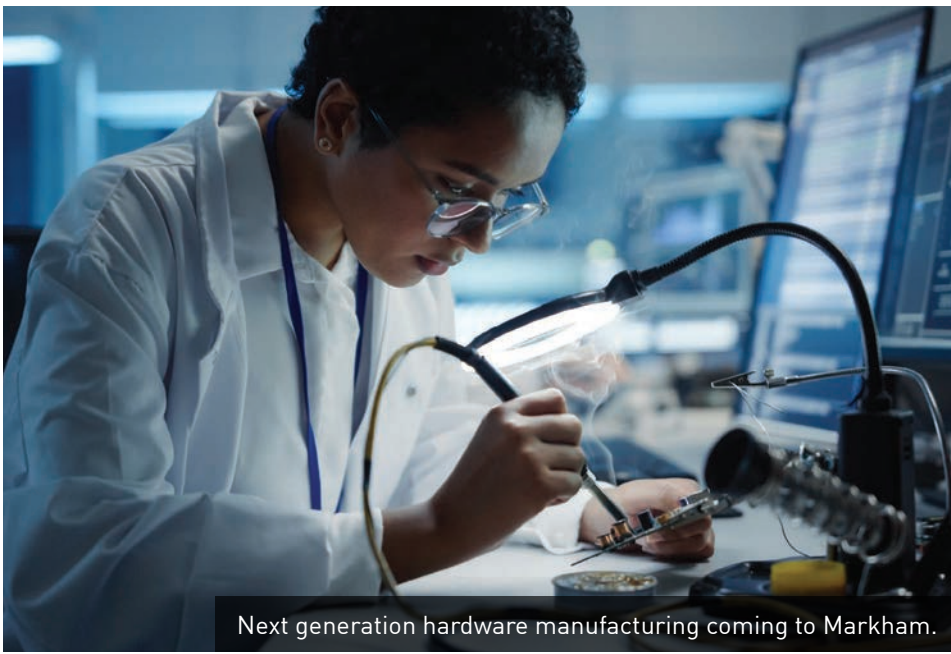
Creating seamless connections to healthcare opportunities:

350+ Life sciences and health-tech companies in York Region

18 world-class hospitals within 50km of the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct

40,000 Metro-area life sciences and health care sciences degrees

As Canada’s high-tech capital, Markham attracts top research, development and manufacturing jobs



Next generation hardware manufacturing coming to Markham.

The intersection of Highway 7 and Highway 404 and Markham Centre contain important economic assets. This includes a number of Canadian corporate head offices, such as Allstate Insurance and Hyundai Canada, and major anchor firms such as IBM and Motorola. The regionally significant ICT industry cluster found here includes anchor firms such as, OnX, AMD and Qualcomm, as well as laboratory facilities and many smaller firms.

Supporting high-tech employment in Markham:

more than 1,500 tech companies

more than 35,400 knowledge sector workers

1,900 acres of employment lands

As home to Canada’s largest semiconductor cluster, this urban downtown recently welcomed York University’s new campus. It offers research, training, and teaching opportunities in AI, FinTech, and Digital Cultures. With plans to create the Markham Innovation Exchange, it includes 1,900 acres of employment lands dedicated to next generation hardware manufacturing. Markham is witnessing major advancements that will continue to transform its communities.

These BRT projects provide vital connections to subways, GO transit, health care and education

Today, regions and municipalities are increasingly interconnected. Billions of dollars are being invested in housing-enabling infrastructure in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), including higher-order transit, hospital

expansion, education and social service improvements.

York Region's rapid transit investment and work is part of Metrolinx's Regional Transit Plan to operate

seamlessly across the GTHA. More efficient movement means greater network capacity, resulting in faster, more seamless trips for residents, businesses and goods.



Ongoing BRT projects in York Region are critically needed as priority investments now

Urgently-needed BRT projects along Jane Street in Vaughan and Highway 7 East in Markham serve to integrate with provincial investments, including: TTC's Line 1 subway extension at Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, GO Transit along the Stouffville and Barrie Lines, Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, Markham Stouffville Hospital, York University Markham Campus, York

University's future School of Medicine, bus terminals and more.

With the Yonge North Subway Extension coming to Highway 7 in the City of Richmond Hill, a key anchor hub will be created, linking GO service and BRT along Highway 7 and Highway 407.

Ontario's One Fare Program is a major milestone for fare integration that

saves people money and connects more communities across the Greater Toronto Area.

These next BRT investments will ensure that we are connecting people, jobs and Regional Destinations across the GTHA from the City of Toronto and Peel, York and Durham Regions.

Saving money by reducing gridlock

Congestion costs billions of dollars in lost productivity each year. In a report commissioned by the Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO) and the Ontario Road Builders' Association (ORBA), researchers found that traffic gridlock in the GTHA negatively impacts the region by \$44.7 billion per year. This is due to lost economic productivity, 88,000 fewer jobs and the reduction of commuter's quality of life due to stress, health issues and

time lost. The study warns that without increased infrastructure investment, congestion could surge up by 59% over the next 20 years.

Congestion consequences are already spreading beyond the GTHA, with Ontario's overall impact rising to \$56.4 billion in 2024.

The cost of congestion to the GTHA and broader Canadian population and economy is significant, and managing

it effectively is essential for the well-being of residents and the success of Canadian businesses.

» In 2024, York Region's transit ridership reached 23.7 million, an 11.9% increase over 2023 ridership

Bus Rapid Transit fosters economic prosperity

Public transit infrastructure is critical for our communities. It is a lifeline for many, providing mobility options, job opportunities and economic prosperity. York Region continues to be one of the fastest growing regions in Canada.

A diverse economy, a skilled workforce and a high quality of life contributes to

and reinforces the Region's capacity as a top destination for business, innovation and talent in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), Ontario and Canada.

BRT is an integral means to connecting people across communities, creating seamless travel from home to work or

other key destinations. Its passenger and developer attractiveness, high performance and quality, and its ability to be built quickly, incrementally, and economically. BRT also provides sufficient transport capacity to meet demands in many corridors, even in the largest metropolitan regions.

The economic benefits of transit are clear

According to the Canadian Urban Transit Association:

- » The transit industry directly employs **59,600** Canadians and transit capital investment creates an additional **65,000** jobs
- » Transit reduces vehicle operating costs for Canadian households by about **\$12.6** billion annually
- » Transit reduces the economic costs of traffic collisions by almost **\$3.2** billion annually
- » Transit reduces annual greenhouse gas emissions by **4.7** million tonnes, valued at **\$207** million
- » Transit saves about **\$137** million in annual health care costs related to respiratory illness
- » The economic benefit of Canada's existing transit systems is at least **\$19** billion annually



York Region is ready to get the next shovels in the ground

York Regional Council is committed to BRT along Jane Street and Highway 7 East

For over three decades, York Regional Council has delivered on its rapid transit vision.

Environmental Assessments and Preliminary Design and Engineering are underway to ensure York Region's BRT projects along Jane Street and Highway 7 East are shovel-ready for construction funding.

York Region is a trusted partner, delivering rapid transit for our communities and connecting to the GTHA

York Region continues to leverage past investments and collaborate with all levels of government to advance rapid transit projects. BRT along Jane Street and Highway 7 East will create seamless connections for travellers from the City of Toronto to Peel and to Durham Regions. It also supports critical and affordable housing needs and economic growth across the GTHA.



Investments in York Region's BRT projects are urgently needed.

We need to keep York Region growing and moving.

York Region Transit (YRT) is the public transit operator in York Region. We are trusted, experienced operators, operating BRT, including dedicated transit ways, for over 20 years.

York Region's priorities have been reaffirmed through provincial announcements and investments, approved business cases and previous Regional Transportation Plans.



Prioritize transit infrastructure funding

All levels of government need to prioritize transit infrastructure investment, and municipalities require reliable funding commitments.

- » Transit funding commitments are critical to municipalities. Such funding must remain in place
- » Funding is needed to close the transit infrastructure gap across Ontario, yet alone Canada
- » New revenue tools need to be identified for transit, that better link municipal resources with national economic and population growth



Viva bus travelling along the dedicated centre lanes on Highway 7 East.

York Region's critical Bus Rapid Transit projects have unanimous support from our nine local cities and towns





York Region requires
\$1.7 billion to build
critically-needed Bus Rapid
Transit along Jane Street in
Vaughan, Highway 7 East in
Markham, unlocking growth
for 271,000+ people and
59,000+ jobs



@rapidtransitYR

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