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Town of Aurora

## Member Motion

Councillor's Office

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**Re:**           **Review of Train Whistle/Horn Cessation at All Level Crossings in the Town of Aurora**

**To:**           Mayor and Members of Council

**From:**       **Councillor Ron Weese**

**Date:**       September 3, 2024

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Whereas the train tracks in Aurora are a disruptive influence on pedestrian and vehicular traffic at all level crossings in Aurora, affecting safe and consistent travel from in Aurora; and

Whereas there are estimated to be over 2,500 homes and residents living within 200 meters of the train tracks along the train corridor that are negatively impacted by the train whistles/horns; and

Whereas double-track construction planned by Metrolinx will bring 15-minute service both ways along the train corridor exacerbating the disruption to residents' quality of life with increased train whistles/horns at all level crossings; and

Whereas train whistle/horns signaling and vehicular and pedestrian safety measures are regulated by external agencies to ensure that safety is maintained at all level crossings; and

Whereas other municipalities affected adversely by train whistles/horns have included requisite safety measures at level crossings in their municipalities to ensure the safety of their residents; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora Strategic Plan states that a Goal is to 'support an exceptional quality of life for all'; and

Whereas Aurora Town Council may pass By-Laws to implement train whistle/horn cessation once safety standards have been implemented at each level crossing; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora Strategic Plan states that the Town should 'work with York Region and Metrolinx to improve transit infrastructure and commuter transportation options'; and

Whereas the Town of Aurora Strategic Plan states that the Town should 'work with residents and stakeholders to manage the significant changes that will impact the Community as a result of planned investment in rapid transit'; and

Whereas Aurora Town Council has not implemented horn/whistle cessation in the past; and

Whereas circumstances warrant a review of the requirements for the assumption of risk that would result in improved quality of life for residents of Aurora;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That staff report back on the processes needed to create a By-law that will result in the cessation of train whistles/horns at all level crossings in Aurora.