



April 30, 2020

Re: Financial support for transit employees

Dear Councillor Nunziata,

Thank you for reaching out to our office regarding the COVID-19 crisis, and its impacts on the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113. I wholeheartedly agree that the Federal and Provincial Governments have a greater role to play in supporting municipalities across the province, especially as it pertains to the funding of public transit.

The members of ATU 113 are providing a crucial service to this city in a very trying time. We represent a community that relies heavily on the support of transit employees. Without their contributions, the countless frontline healthcare workers who make York South — Weston their home cannot go to work to aid and support the individuals impacted by this pandemic.

We recognized the difficult position that these ATU 113 employees have been presented with. They have been asked to serve on the frontline, but have not been provided with the necessary protections to ensure their safety, or the safety of their loved ones. To layer that with the economic insecurity of layoffs is a hardship they should not be asked to endure.

After consultation with transit agencies, workers and riders, our party's transit critic, Jessica Bell, raised this issue with the Minister of Transportation on April 1st. We have asked the Provincial Government to cover up to 100% of lost farebox revenue during the pandemic. This would provide transit agencies with the financial stability they need to maintain this important service.

As you know, our party has a long history of standing up in support of workers, and I can assure you we will continue to advocate for measures that will benefit Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113, including expanded funding to municipalities. We look forward to working with you on this issue and will continue to do our part in support of workers everywhere, but especially transit workers who are so vital to our city, and our community.

Community Office

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Faisal Hassan

MPP for York South—Weston



Thank you,

Faisal Hassan
Member of Provincial Parliament
York South—Weston

CC: Carlos Santos, President, ATU Local 113

CC: Hon. Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development

CC: Jessica Bell, MPP for University—Rosedale, Transit Critic

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