



# Age~Friendly Orillia Advisory Committee

September 30, 2025

Mayor and Members of Council  
City of Orillia ([councilservices@orillia.ca](mailto:councilservices@orillia.ca))  
City of Barrie ([CityClerks@barrie.ca](mailto:CityClerks@barrie.ca))

Warden and Council  
County of Simcoe ([clerks@simcoe.ca](mailto:clerks@simcoe.ca))  
([transit@simcoe.ca](mailto:transit@simcoe.ca))

**Subject:** Request for Improved Public Transit Connection to Barrie GO Station

The GO Train is a vital public transit option for residents of Simcoe County, providing access to Toronto for medical appointments, business, education, recreation, and onward travel across the province.

However, at present, there is no direct or convenient public transit connection from many Simcoe County communities to the Barrie GO Station. While Simcoe County's LINX bus system offers excellent service to major destinations such as Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre and Georgian College, travelers must then transfer to Barrie Transit to reach the GO station.

For many residents—particularly older adults—this extra transfer poses a significant barrier. Carrying luggage, assisting a partner, managing mobility aids, or navigating multiple transfers can make the trip difficult and discourage use of public transportation altogether. In Orillia, it would be helpful to create a central pick up location or commuter parking lot.

We understand that transit planning involves complexities, including jurisdictional boundaries, contractual obligations, and route logistics. However, we respectfully request that the County of Simcoe and the Cities of Orillia and Barrie explore the possibility of creating—or at least piloting—a more direct transit link from outlying communities to the Barrie GO Station.

Even a limited or trial service could provide valuable data on demand and usage, while enhancing regional connectivity and improving quality of life for many residents. A strengthened link between LINX and GO Transit would benefit not only older adults, but also students, commuters, and families throughout Simcoe County.

This request is supported by the Age-Friendly Orillia Advisory Committee, and we believe it aligns with broader municipal and regional goals related to accessibility, sustainability, and age-friendly communities.

Thank you for considering this proposal. We would welcome an opportunity to further discuss possible options or participate in a future consultation.

Sincerely,

Valerie Powell, Co-Chair

Louise Cohen, Co-Chair