## **Ottawa Light Rail Commission**

Troy Charter on Wednesday, April 13, 2022



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3	OTTAWA LIGHT RAIL COMMISSION MEETING
4	CITY OF OTTAWA - TROY CHARTER
5	APRIL 13, 2022
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8	Held via Zoom Videoconferencing, with all
9	participants attending remotely, on the 13th day of
10	April, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
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    COMMISSION COUNSEL:
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    Kate McGrann, Co-Lead Counsel Member
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    Carly Peddle, Commission Counsel Member
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    PARTICIPANT:
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    Troy Charter
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    Peter Wardle, Esq. Singleton Urguhart Reynolds
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    Vogel LLP
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14
    ALSO PRESENT:
15
16
    Colleen Rea, Stenographer/Transcriptionist
17
    Laila Butt, Virtual Technician
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1 --Upon commencing at 2:00 p.m 2. TROY CHARTER: SWORN. 3 MS. MCGRANN: Good afternoon, 4 Mr. Charter. My name is Kate McGrann. I'm one of 5 the co-lead counsel for the Ottawa Light Rail 6 Transit Public Inquiry. I'm joined today by 7 another member of our counsel team, Carly Peddle. 8 I'm just going to provide you with some 9 information about the purpose of the interview 10 today and how the evidence that you give will be 11 used, and then we'll get started with the 12 questions. 13 So the purpose of today's interview is 14 to obtain your evidence under oath or solemn 15 declaration for use of the Commission's public 16 hearings. This will be a collaborative interview 17 such that my co-counsel may intervene to ask certain questions. If time permits, your counsel 18 19 may also ask follow-up questions at the end of this 20 interview. 21 This interview is being transcribed, 22 and the Commission intends to enter this transcript 23 into evidence at the Commission's public hearings either at the hearings or by way of procedural 24 25 order before the hearing is commenced.

The transcript will be posted to the Commission's public website along with any corrections made to it after it is entered into evidence.

The transcript, along with any corrections later made to it, will be shared with the Commission's participants and their counsel on a confidential basis before being entered into evidence. You will be given the opportunity to review your transcript and correct any typos or other errors before the transcript is shared with the participants or entered into evidence. Any non-typographical corrections that you make will be appended to the transcript.

Public Inquiries Act 2009, that section provides a witness on an inquiry shall be deemed to have objected to answer any question asked of him or her on the ground that his or her answer may tend to incriminate the witness or may tend to establish his or her liability to civil proceedings at the instance of the Crown or of any person, and no answer given by a witness at an inquiry shall be used or be receivable in evidence against him or her in any trial or other proceedings against him

or her thereafter taking place other than a 1 2 prosecution for perjury giving such evidence. 3 As required by Section 33(7) of the 4 Public Inquiries Act 2009, you are hereby advised 5 that you have the right to object to answer any 6 questions under Section 5 of the Canada Evidence 7 Act. 8 With respect to today's interview, 9 if you need to take a break at any time, just let 10 us know and we will do so. Do you have any 11 questions about any of that? 12 MR. CHARTER: No, I don't. 13 MS. MCGRANN: Then if at any point 14 during this interview you need to take a break, 15 just let us know and we will go off the record and 16 take breaks as needed. 17 Thank you. MR. CHARTER: 18 MS. MCGRANN: Just to get started, we 19 had asked your counsel to provide us with a copy of 20 your resume. I am showing you what we received. 21 So it looks like this is a three-page document --22 this is a four-page document. I've scrolled 23 through it rather quickly once, and I can scroll 24 through it again on your direction, but my question 25 for you is do you recognize this document?

1	MR. CHARTER: I do.
2	MS. MCGRANN: Is this a copy of your
3	resume?
4	MR. CHARTER: Yes, I mean with the
5	caveat that it hasn't been updated in a little bit
6	of time, but yes, that is my current resume that
7	needs to updated, but that is it.
8	MS. MCGRANN: Great. I am having a
9	little bit of trouble hearing your answers from a
10	volume perspective, and also they are a bit choppy.
11	MR. CHARTER: Okay. I hopefully
12	I'll bring it a little closer, and I'll try to make
13	sure I speak directly towards the microphone.
14	I do recognize that that is my resume.
15	You know, it does require a bit of updating over
16	some of the work over the past couple of years, but
17	for the most part, that is an accurate reflection
18	and that is my document.
19	MS. MCGRANN: So we'll have that
20	entered as Exhibit 1.
21	EXHIBIT 1:
22	Resume of Mr. Charter
23	MS. MCGRANN: Should we take anything
24	from the fact that some of the text from this
25	resume is highlighted in red? Anything in

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1
    particular that that is meant to communicate to us?
 2.
                MR. CHARTER:
                               No, it was just -- you
 3
    know, it was just highlighting to myself areas in
 4
    which I wanted to update or add some additional
5
    information when I got around to updating my
 6
    resume.
7
                MS. MCGRANN:
                               I just want to run
8
    through what I understand to be your positions
9
    during the relevant time. Am I right that you
10
    joined Transit Operations support staff as a
11
    program manager in 2011?
12
                              About that, yes.
                MR. CHARTER:
13
                MS. MCGRANN:
                             And in that role, did you
14
    have any involvement in stage one of the Ottawa
15
    Light Rail Transit System as it existed at the
16
    time?
17
                MR. CHARTER: No, I did not.
18
                MS. MCGRANN:
                               And then in 2012, you
19
    become manager of Transit Operations?
2.0
                MR. CHARTER:
                               That's correct.
21
                MS. MCGRANN:
                               And just from the
22
    terminology perspective, we also see reference to
23
    OC Transpo. Are Transit Operations and OC Transpo
24
    the same thing at the City or are they two
25
    different things?
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1
                MR. CHARTER: Transit Operations is
 2
    within OC Transit. It's one and the same.
 3
                MS. MCGRANN:
                               Okav.
                                      And in your role
 4
    as manager of Transit Operations between 2012 and
5
    2014, did you have any involvement in stage one of
 6
    Ottawa's LRT?
7
                MR. CHARTER: No, I did not.
8
                               In 2014 you become
                MS. MCGRANN:
9
    assistant general manager of Transit Operations?
10
                MR. CHARTER: Yeah, the title was
11
    changed to director, but yes.
12
                MS. MCGRANN:
                               I think you become a
13
    director in 2016; is that right?
14
                MR. CHARTER:
                               Yes.
15
                MS. MCGRANN:
                              Okay. And at one point
16
   do you begin to do work that's related to stage one
17
    of Ottawa's LRT?
18
                               It's around that time.
                MR. CHARTER:
19
    It's around that point 2015 time period that I'm
20
    involved planning for the operational stage of the
21
    rail operations. I take on that role we're also
22
    just finishing up an expansion project of line two,
23
    so I was involved in operationalising that line,
24
    and that's when I start to get involved to a
25
    certain degree in the rail side of things for line
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1 one but not from. 2 (TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES) 3 MS. MCGRANN: Can we go off the record 4 for a moment. 5 -- OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION --6 MS. MCGRANN: I think before we took a 7 little break there, you had been talking about when 8 you started doing work related to stage one of 9 Ottawa's Light Rail Transit System. Do you mind 10 just giving us your answer again? 11 MR. CHARTER: Sure. You know, it's 12 when I became the director or associate assistant 13 general manager position that I started to get 14 involved in the rail side of things. My primary 15 focus in the early days was we were just finishing 16 up the extension or the expansion of our Trillium 17 Line, line two. So I took over that responsibility 18 as our rail construction program was finishing up 19 the infrastructure work, and that's when we started 20 to get -- I started to get introduced and involved 21 in the planning and the operationalization of the 22 line one, so the Confederation Line. 23 MS. MCGRANN: And were you taking over 24 a role that had been performed by somebody else

before you stepped in in around 2015 or 2016?

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1
                MR. CHARTER: You know, at the time
    there was -- we had a new general manager
 2
 3
    Mr. John Manconi came in, and he reorganized the
 4
    department. So I did, obviously, take over for
5
    someone who left the City. But, you know, it was a
 6
    new role with a new packaging of duties and
7
    responsibilities.
8
                               Okay. And with respect
                MS. MCGRANN:
9
    to the -- I'm going to try and say the word you
10
    said, with respect to procuring operations; is that
11
    fair?
12
                MR. CHARTER:
                              Yes.
                                     There you go.
13
                MS. MCGRANN:
                              With respect to preparing
14
    for operations, were there already people who were
15
    doing work on that task or set of tasks when you
16
    started working on it?
17
                MR. CHARTER:
                              No, there was not.
18
                MS. MCGRANN:
                              And can you describe to
19
    us what your work in preparing for the operations
20
    looked like? What did it involve?
21
                MR. CHARTER: So, you know, obviously
22
    it was done over several years, but, you know, it
23
    starts off with, you know, creating of job
24
    descriptions, recruitment and selection of the
25
    people for those positions, determining what the
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workforce size would be, what the impacts are in terms of, you know, the bus network to the rail network, then developing all the standard operating procedures, practices, processes that we need to have in place to run the day-to-day operations.

So, you know, simple things as lost and found procedures to something more safety focussed like hours of service and fatigue management principles and practices.

So, you know, you're looking at all those procedures, processes, practices that we need to have in place come day one when the rail line was up and running.

As well, obviously, there was things that we needed to put in place, you know, leading up through the testing commissioning as well as through the trial running period. So it was -- a lot of it was making sure we had the right people in the positions and, you know, we had the right procedures in place to be able to test connections, trial run and then ultimately to operate.

MS. MCGRANN: The standard operating procedures and things like that, are those gathered together somewhere in an overall operations binder or otherwise collected in one place?

1 MR. CHARTER: Yeah. So I mean we do 2 have, obviously, a fairly large organization, so we 3 have standard operating procedures that are 4 specific to bus, conventional bus service to OC 5 Transpo Service, but then we have a whole suite of 6 operating procedures that are specific to rail. 7 And you also have, you know, a number of procedures 8 and practices that, you know, overarch depending on 9 whatever that -- you know, if there was an impact 10 to OC Transpo in general how would we respond 11 versus an impact to rail how would we respond. 12 So there's some operating procedures 13 that overarch the entire organization and then 14 there's some that are specific to rail. 15 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the 16 operating procedures that are specific to rail, 17 were you working with anyone from the RTG side of 18 the project to prepare any of that material? 19 MR. CHARTER: Yes. 20 MS. MCGRANN: Can you tell me what that 21 working relationship looked like? 22 MR. CHARTER: Yes. So there was a 23 variety of working groups that were established 24 throughout the construction period that, you 25 know -- obviously, we needed to get information

1 from the constructor from ORT or RTG to help inform 2 what our operating procedures were going to be. 3 So, you know, we need to know how the 4 computer-based training control system was going to 5 operate and that would determine, you know, the 6 training requirements for our staff. We needed to 7 know how the scada system which basically it's the 8 monitoring of all the devices on the rail line and 9 gives our control centre alerts and notifications, 10 you know, that we need to respond to. So we needed 11 to know how that was going to function. 12 So largely we're collecting information 13 from, you know, through the rail construction 14 program or directly through RLT and through these 15 working groups and ongoing discussions, and that's 16 how we're formulating and creating our standard 17 operating procedures and responses. 18 MS. MCGRANN: Okay. And at the outset 19 of the work that you did, did you or anybody else 20 at OC Transpo put together a schedule for the 21 preparatory work that you have described to us 22 setting out what needed to be done by what time in 23 order for OC Transpo to be ready to accept handover 24 of the system?

MR. CHARTER:

Yes, we did, and I know

1 our rail construction program they had a number of 2 spreadsheets that were tracking towards completion. 3 So yes, there were milestones and, you know, for 4 example, you know, to have staff trained to run the 5 control centre, obviously you needed to know what 6 the functionality was in advance of hiring of the 7 people, and that then in turn informed what the 8 training requirements were. That all had to be 9 done in advance of the testing trial commissioning 10 trial running. 11 With respect to that MS. MCGRANN: 12 schedule, were there any major changes or delays to 13 that schedule? 14 MR. CHARTER: Yeah, there obviously 15 You know, the schedule was challenged 16 several times in that getting information in a 17 timely manner was a challenge for my colleagues. 18 And there were delays in opening up the line. You 19 know, we opened the line a little over a year later 20 than what was originally anticipated. So yeah, 21 there were some considerable delays that affected 22 ultimately the service launch, but it affected the 23 various staff that needed to get towards that point 24 too. 25 You've mentioned a couple MS. MCGRANN:

1 of specific pieces, so I'll ask you about those 2 first. With respect to the CBTC system, I'm 3 describing that properly, any issues getting 4 information or delays to the schedule otherwise 5 that impacted OC Transpo's ability to prepare to 6 receive that aspect of the system? 7 MR. CHARTER: Yeah. I know that, you 8 know, when one of the submissions from RTG 9 indicating that they thought they'd achieve revenue 10 service availability or the go forth for trial 11 running, you know, they hadn't been able to 12 demonstrate all the requirements from the CBT 13 system, so that was one of the impediments to 14 moving forward with service launch. 15 And did that impact on OC MS. MCGRANN: 16 Transpo's ability to accept the system? 17 It impacted our ability MR. CHARTER: 18 to launch the system. It constrained our ability 19 to prepare, but no, I do not believe that it 20 impacted our ability once we were able to start 21 running. 22 You know, we were able to develop --23 obviously, the training had to be initially 24 developed from ORT and RTG but no, it didn't impact 25 our ability to run our system when it became

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|1| available to us.

MS. MCGRANN: For now I want to focus on your ability to prepare to run not run. So you said it did constrain your preparations I think. How did it constrain your preparations?

MR. CHARTER: Well, you know, everything gets condensed down into a shorter period of time. And, you know, the work was able to get done, but, you know, you're reviewing information, you're creating documents, and, you know, you're doing it in a constrained period of time, and obviously there's a lot of information that comes in and a lot of information that needs to be digested and reviewed. But that's why in OC Transpo we brought in additional subject matter experts to help assist us in preparing for that.

So we brought in, you know, subject matter experts that had experience, you know, in Philadelphia, in Dallas, in Boston, the Hudson Bergenline in New Jersey. We brought in all these experts and they helped us to digest that information and put together the right operating procedures and practices and, you know, they assisted with the development of checklists and a whole suite of things.

1 So we augmented our staff with 2 additional subject matter experts to ensure that we 3 made the right decisions and were able to get 4 through the information timely. 5 We knew that a project of this size, 6 you know, time was -- there was going to be a push, 7 there was going to be a time crunch. Every big 8 project there is, and that's why we staffed it 9 accordingly. 10 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the 11 information that you needed from RTG and its 12 subsidiaries, were there any particular topics or 13 areas of information that you didn't receive in a 14 timely fashion that did impact your ability to 15 prepare for operations? 16 Not beyond what I've MR. CHARTER: 17 already described. I mean, you know, I know that 18 there was delays in getting the training material, 19 the training information, but, you know, that was 20 all managed and mitigated and dealt with 21 appropriately. 22 So, you know, I come back to, you know, 23 we know that there was a time crunch and a lot of 24 information in short periods of time, but yeah, you

know, we had the right resources and people to be

1 able to manage that, so I can't think of anything 2 specific. 3 With respect to the MS. MCGRANN: 4 training material and the training information, did 5 the timing of delivery of that material or the 6 material that was delivered when you received it 7 result in any change to the training period or the 8 approach to training that you had planned to take 9 with your members of staff? 10 MR. CHARTER: No, it did not. T know 11 that our training unit took more of a hands-on 12 approach to take the information from RTG and put 13 it into a format that was more accustomed to OC 14 Transpo, but that was really about formatting and 15 best practices and training, but it wasn't changing 16 the content by any means. 17 So no, it didn't change our approach 18 and it didn't change a period of time that we 19 provided training for our staff or anything like 20 that. 21 MS. MCGRANN: Who, if anyone, from RTG 22 was involved in developing the training approach 23 that OC Transpo took to its staff that would be 24 involved in operating the system? 25 You know, the players did MR. CHARTER:

- change on the RTG side while -- you know, during the construction. So, you know, I mentioned Mr. Matthew Slade is the director, you know, but I know he wasn't there from the beginning of the project, so I'm just trying to think of the name of who have might have been more involved at the beginning, but I'll have to defer to Matthew Slade as the overall project director.
  - I know he wasn't the project director at the commencement of the project, so name escapes me at this time.
  - MS. MCGRANN: You referred to subject matter experts and you named a number of different locations. I couldn't tell if those were locations where the subject matter experts resided and came from or if those were locations of projects that they had prior experience on. Can you help me out with that a little bit?
  - MR. CHARTER: Sure. So the subject matter experts we employed, they came from a consulting organization, you know, that were formed for the Capital Transit Partners, but we involved people that had experience in Dallas, you know, with their DART line. We involved an expert who had experience with the Hudson Bergenline as well

as a line in St. Louis. We also had another expert that had worked many, many years, you know, with Boston, the MBTA.

And then, you know, additionally, during the lead up towards launch, myself and members of our staff were able to visit other properties and, you know, learn from what other properties have done. So, for example, we did go to -- we did visit Dallas and we saw how they managed major events. We went to Philadelphia and they have very multi model -- very large multi model control centre SEPTA, and we went and spoke to representatives there.

So we leveraged the time to reach out to the industry experts as well as utilize the consultants that were working with us. And there was a number of times as well where we did, you know, a group of City staff reached out to other properties to get, you know, what's your best practice on certain things like bike usage on trains or simple things like, you know, do you allow food on a train so to speak. We'd reach out to comparative properties, Toronto, Calgary, Boston. We got a lot of feedback from some of our partners in that regard as well.

1 A couple of followup MS. MCGRANN: 2 questions there. You were describing subject 3 matter experts, and we got a bit of an audio 4 I think you said that they all came to you 5 via Capital Transit Partners; is that right? 6 MR. CHARTER: Yes. 7 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the 8 projects that you have reached out to to discuss 9 best practices, had you or anybody at OC Transpo 10 taken a look to determine whether there were 11 services or lines already in operation that would 12 stand as a good example or proxy for what Ottawa is 13 trying to accomplish that you could use as a model 14 for aspects of your approach to operation? 15 Yeah, our departmental MR. CHARTER: 16 leadership team at the time looked at that and 17 that's why we reached out to a cross-function of a 18 property --19 I'm just putting my hand MS. MCGRANN: 20 up because the audio is once again causing us an 21 issue. So let's just go off the record for a 22 second. 23 -- OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION --24 You had been talking MS. MCGRANN: 25 about work that had been done to identify model

1 systems in operation that you could use as 2 reference points for best practices and things. 3 Could you continue with that answer. 4 MR. CHARTER: So we knew -- so our 5 departmental leadership team, you know, we did want 6 to try to learn from other properties as much as 7 possible, you know, but we also knew that our 8 system was not identical to any property that we 9 were aware of. You know, it was a computer-based 10 control system. Low floor vehicles had the ability 11 to go completely driverless if we wanted to but, 12 you know, we decided to have trains on. And, you 13 know, it was going to be a very, very busy line 14 from day one. 15 So, you know, we wanted to -- so what 16 we did was we reached out to a cross-section of 17 organizations both that were experienced in rail 18 operations and then some of them more closely 19 aligned to our type of system. So, you know, 20 Calgary Transit was one of them. Now, you know, 21 they have operators on train, but it's not a fully 22 CT system. 23 You know, Toronto, much larger 24 organization, but, you know, a wealth of 25 information that you can learn from them as well.

1 And then there was, you know, a couple 2 of other properties in the States and Vancouver. 3 You know, Vancouver is completely computer-based 4 train control driverless system. So we knew that 5 there was not going to be one direct comparator, so 6 that's why we reached out to several different 7 properties and we had a diverse skill set and 8 experience set of consultants that were working 9 with us. 10 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to -- I'm 11 going to jump around in the chronology a little bit 12 just as a heads up. 13 With respect to starting up operations, 14 what resources did you have in place to support 15 your employees who were involved in driving the 16 trains and operating the control centre and things 17 like that? 18 MR. CHARTER: Yeah, so we -- you know, 19 once again, the departmental leadership team 20 created a rail activation management program and we 21 also had what we called MMTP, multi model 22 transformation program. So it was a series of --23 you know, it was 20 some odd identified projects 24 that had a specific project charter, reporting 25 mechanism and dedicated resources to that.

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things like opportunities and gaps to trains and systems to contract management. They all had a separate project charter defined scope with resources and, you know, it was all driving towards, you know, day one launch.

So that was -- that's the MMTP multi model transformation program. And then as we got closer to launch, we got into more of a formal reporting structure with the rail construction program, senior management, and OLRT or RTG, in which we met frequently, and we called it RAMP, the rail activation management program. So dedicated resources, dedicated project schedule and tracking, and we identified, I don't know the exact number off the top of my head, but it was 20 some odd specific projects that were all designed towards making sure that we were not only ready to run the rail line but also the rail line was going to be integrated into OC Transpo. Because it was going to be a multi model network, our customers were going to be relying on a combination of bus and The majority of our customers were going to be going on bus and train, so the rail network couldn't be a standalone entity, it had to be engrained into the OC Transpo.

MS. MCGRANN: Okay. This is going to be a rather specific question, but, for example, with respect to the drivers, did you bring in or did you consider bringing in anyone with previous driving experience on a line that was comparable to yours to act as a resource as the drivers get used to driving in active operation?

MR. CHARTER: No, I mean we -- we're a unionised workforce here, and we're committed to our union here that all our hires were going to be internal hires where possible. And we were able to do that. We did -- I know that OLRT through their subcontract Alstom, they had dedicated staff to assist with the training, and the initial training and the initial movement of trains. So they assisted our staff in that regard. But no, our staff were primarily going to be and they ended up all being internal hires from within our ranks.

MS. MCGRANN: I'm talking about slightly different. Knowing that all of your hires were going to be internal hires, I've seen what I've described -- what I'm talking about described as a shadow operator, but it's basically bringing in a resource with operational experience that's available for the first little while while your

1 drivers are getting used to actually driving in 2 real service just to act as a phone-a-friend kind 3 of situation, call somebody who has seen the 4 situation before, how do I respond to this. 5 Anything like that considered? 6 Well, I know that Alstom, MR. CHARTER: 7 they have their technicians and their support 8 staff, and that was the function that they were to 9 provide for us especially in the early days as well 10 as, you know, when we went into service -- revenue 11 service, or service launch. 12 So no, once again, our staff, it was 13 all OC Transpo staff, but we did have the support 14 from Alstom and, you know, their technicians and 15 their support staff. 16 MS. MCGRANN: And in practice, was the 17 support provided by Alstom and their technicians in 18 the early days of operations successful? Was it 19 useful and efficient and things like that? 2.0 MR. CHARTER: There were certain areas 21 that functioned really well and other areas which 22 were challenged, and I know we're jumping around a 23 little bit in timeline, but that's where it became 24 -- it became a challenge in that, you know, the 25 number of issues that they needed to provide

support on exceeded their ability of the staff that they had on site.

MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the operational support that they're providing, just sticking with the drivers and those operating the control centre right now, was it the case that Alstom was not able to respond to all of the requests for support that were coming out of those two areas?

MR. CHARTER: Yeah. You know, that's my view. That's one of the challenges that I saw is that, you know, it was a new startup operation with new trains, and the feedback that they at RTG, OLRT, Alstom, you know -- sorry, I keep saying them all interchangeably -- that's feedback that they continued to hear from us that giving a startup operation they should over resource to start and then when things stabilize, then they can go back to normal staffing levels, but, you know, prepare for the unexpected, prepare for what could happen and resource accordingly.

So, you know, I think that was a challenge in that we started to experience issues and, you know, if you have staff working on one issue, they can't be working on the next one that's

1 coming up. 2. MS. MCGRANN: At any point did you look 3 at bringing in additional resources on the OC 4 Transpo side to support the requests for help that 5 were coming out of your drivers and the control 6 room operators and things like that? 7 MR. CHARTER: Well, as I said, we had 8 the consultants that we were working with. I know 9 at one point, I don't know exactly when that was, 10 but I know that Mr. Manconi also brought in the 11 independent assessment team, and then we --12 throughout the maintenance term, there's been times 13 in which we've enacted increased monitoring and 14 oversight as well as the use of other experts to 15 help get to the root cause of issues and ultimately 16 try to get the resolution guicker for our 17 customers. 18 And I wonder if we're MS. MCGRANN: 19 speaking at cross purposes at this point because I 20 really do want to focus on sort of the learning and 21 ramp up period for your drivers and for others 22 involved directly in the operation of the system. 23 So before we go any further, let me 24 just make sure that I have understood your answers 25 properly. When I was asking you about examining

the possibility of bringing in a shadow operator or people with experience in actually operating the trains and the control system and things like that to act as a resource for your staff while they are learning their jobs on the job, that portion of it, you mentioned that that resource is being provided by Alstom through its technicians; have I got that right?

MR. CHARTER: Yeah, pretty much. We had working with us, and, you know, they worked, you know, pretty much with our front line staff, so for example, one of the consultants was a former driver, not of this specific train or not on this specific system, but had driven trains and worked his way up through the management ranks and was ultimately, you know, the director at the time of the rail line they were operating. So we had people that worked directly with us and part of the front line. They were working with us to create check lists, troubling shooting guides. We have station management playbooks.

So, you know, we had some expertise that were helping my staff directly, not just myself but my staff directly, but if the question is is having someone mentor and sit there with a

1 driver, you know, no. You know, it was a train-the-trainer model for the drivers. You know, 2 3 OLRT, RTG was required to train our staff, our 4 training staff and our training staff then in turn 5 trained our staff and as we got more and more 6 people trained, became more proficient doing things 7 and then, you know, we had sort of our own internal 8 support and mentors supported by Alstom and their 9 particular technicians. 10 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the train 11 the trainers approach taken, how many trainers did 12 you initially start out with being trained by the 13 private partner? 14 MR. CHARTER: I don't know the number 15 to that. You know, I'd say -- I don't know the 16 number. I'd be guessing. 17 MS. MCGRANN: Do you know --18 MR. FLEMMING: If I can just jump in. 19 I noticed Peter Wardle dropped off. I wonder if we 20 can take a brief break. I'm sure he'd want to be 21 present. 22 MS. MCGRANN: Of course. We can go off 23 the record. 24 -- OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION --25 MS. MCGRANN: We were talking about the

1 training provided to drivers on the system, and you 2 had said that it was a train the trainers program. 3 I had asked you a question about the number of 4 trainers who were originally trained. You didn't 5 remember the exact number. That's no problem. 6 My next question is do you know if any 7 of the trainers who received that original training 8 from representatives of the private partner are 9 still in training roles today? 10 MR. CHARTER: Yes, and I just wanted to 11 clarify a little bit hoping that --12 MS. MCGRANN: We're going to have to go 13 off the record again. 14 (TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES) 15 -- OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION --16 MS. MCGRANN: So we had been talking 17 about whether any of the trainers who received the 18 original training from representatives of the 19 City's private partner are still in training roles 20 today? 21 MR. CHARTER: Yes. So I believe there 22 are, and I was mentioning, I just wanted to 23 clarify, so, you know, for the operators, the train 24 drivers, it was a train-the-trainer model. For the 25 rail controllers the training was provided by, you

1 know, a contracted firm from it was OLRT, RTG. 2 They were required to provide that training for our 3 controller. So it wasn't -- they weren't a 4 train-the-trainer model. They contracted with the 5 two individuals to provide that training to all the 6 rail controllers, but for our rail operators it was 7 the train-the-trainer model. 8 Okay. With respect to MS. MCGRANN: 9 the drivers, how was training provided as with 10 respect to retrofits that have been made to the 11 train since they went into operation, software 12 updates, and other changes like that? 13 MR. CHARTER: So, you know, we 14 continued to provide training to our operators. 15 There's a number of things that we do. Obviously, 16 there's operational bulletins and memos that are 17 issued to them when those changes may affect what 18 they do. We have refresher training. All our 19 operators go through I believe it's 16 hours a year 20 of refresher training. 21 You know, and then we have staff that, 22 you know, actively on the line or in the operator's 23 common areas that update on information that they 24 require at the time.

So we continue communication with our

1 staff through a variety of means and, as I said, we 2 have refresher training programs. We do 3 operational debriefs when there's incidents on the 4 line like a disruption. We want to see if there's 5 lessons learned, what worked well, what didn't. 6 And then as well, we also have drills 7 and exercises that we do to keep people up to speed 8 on their -- on things that they need to know 9 whether it's responding to a lost child, a person 10 on the track, someone uses the emergency telephone. 11 So we do that on a regular basis, and that's 12 something that we have ingrained in our safety 13 management system. 14 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to refresher 15 training, who designs what is provided by way of 16 refresher training? 17 That would be our staff, MR. CHARTER: 18 our OC Transpo staff, our training unit. 19 And is the private MS. MCGRANN: 20 partner involved in any of that refresher training 21 design? 22 MR. CHARTER: Well, they're the ones 23 that would be providing us the information. You 24 know, whether it's a change in how the CBTC system 25 works or change in train functionality, they would

1 be providing that information and then we would be 2 incorporating that into our training material or 3 updates. 4 MS. MCGRANN: Do they then review the 5 training material that you've developed based on the information they provided to ensure that 6 7 everything has been captured accurately? 8 It depends on the MR. CHARTER: 9 Potentially, but not all times, no. circumstances. 10 MS. MCGRANN: You mentioned operational 11 debriefs. By "you" I mean for this question I mean 12 OC Transpo, did OC Transpo run debriefs in respect 13 of the two derailments on the line in August and 14 September of 2021? 15 MR. CHARTER: Those ones are a little 16 different. I mean obviously they're very, very 17 detailed investigations into what happened, so 18 we've collected information from our operator, you 19 know, and then obviously Alstom, RTG has collected 20 information, so these are slightly different 21 because those are detailed investigations. 22 The debriefs are more focussed on like 23 we had a defect on the line, and the train was immobilised for an hour. What did we do to get it 24 25 off, what worked, what didn't. Those are where we

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focus most of our debriefs.

The derailments were detailed investigations of what happened, and, you know, what's the root cause to -- what's the root cause, what happened, and what can be done to prevent it in the future and what mitigations need to be put in place as we're investigating the final root cause.

MS. MCGRANN: Okay, so looking at the operational debriefs on non-derailment issues experienced on the system, are there any sort of ongoing measurements that you keep track of that sort of track your staff's response to instances? And I'll give you an example of what I mean. For example, the time it takes to identify that a train needs to be taken off the active line and then the time taken to remove the train, any sort of ongoing monitoring or tracking of reactions like that?

MR. CHARTER: So we don't have a formal metric or formal tracking in that regard. Right now we really are focussed on, you know, what was the response and how did we respond, but, you know, the incidents really do vary, and we want to get to a point with our maintainer which regardless of what occurs, aside from a major issue like a

derailment, regardless of what occurs the train is moved off the line as quickly as possible. That's the goal. But depending on what the circumstance is, you know, getting that train off the line may be, you know, 15 minutes because it was a simple — it was a reset that a technician needed to do or it could have been something more — takes a longer time i.e. a technician needs to get outside the vehicle and release the brakes manually in order to get that train to move.

So we're not at that point where we're standardizing what that response is. We just know that the number of occurrences is still too high, and we're looking to see that, you know, the length of time to recover is reducing.

MS. MCGRANN: And I understand the part of your answer that looks to the maintainer and what they're doing. I would like to understand what step OC Transpo is taking to understand its own staff's reactions to incidents and where there may be room for improvement, where things are going very, very well, where there may be lessons learned.

So how are OC Transpo's operational staff assessed in terms of their responses to

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incidents that occur on the line?

MR. CHARTER: So when we look -- when we do an operational debrief, we look at what was the role of our staff at the time. Recognizing that, you know, our staff on that train and our supervisors that are out on the line have a very limited role in the rectification of the issue, right.

There's a certain number of functions that we've been authorized by RTG and Alstom to be able to perform, some resets of certain systems or, you know, isolating a door. Isolating a door means, you know, there's some reason that a door won't close properly. And isolating it is allowing the operator to close the door, take that door out of service but keep the train in service, right.

So when we look at both, the number of things that our operators can do are very minimal, but we do look at that. So we look at, you know, if it is a door issue, how quickly we were able to respond and react and, you know, there have been occurrences where the operator wasn't able to isolate the door and it turned out to be an operator error. You know, but those are very few and far between.

1 The majority of the incidents we 2 require an Alstom technician or someone to attend 3 to the train similar to a car, plug in their 4 laptop, find out what's wrong, and take the 5 necessary steps. But there's only a small number 6 of situations in which our operators have the 7 technical expertise and authorization to take corrective action to keep the train moving. 8 MS. MCGRANN: And with respect to the 10 areas in which your operators do have the ability 11 to address the issues, are the assessments of their 12 performance of those duties collected in a 13 particular file? How are they organized such that 14 you can assess and learn from --15 MR. CHARTER: So for the operational 16 debriefs, you know, we have -- we have a list of 17 action items that come out of it. You know, 18 whether it's an RTM action item or whether it's an 19 OC Transpo action item, sometimes it's retained for 20 staff, sometimes it could be notification to all 21 staff a reminder, you know, and other times it's, 22 you know, the recommendations, the issues are 23 related to RTG or Alstom. 24 MS. MCGRANN: And the debriefs that you 25 do of these incidents, are they done by OC Transpo

1 only or are they done in collaboration with 2 representatives from the private partner? 3 MR. CHARTER: We organize them and we 4 invite RTM to participate. They do participate, I 5 won't say in every single one, but they do 6 participate in the majority of them, and they are 7 invited to participate because they're a key 8 partner. And if you could describe MS. MCGRANN: 10 the debriefs as a whole since the start of public 11 service through to now in terms of the quality of 12 partnership and the benefits that come from having 13 representatives of the partner at those meetings, 14 has it been good across the board? Have there been 15 changes? Like, how would you describe the ark of 16 that experience? 17 I use the term MR. CHARTER: 18 "refinement". You know, the early days, you know, 19 we weren't focussed so much in doing these 20 operational debriefs. It was what was the issue 21 and what's being done to rectify it. But as we got 22 more into the day-to-day operations and, you know, 23 there's a rhythm to a day-to-day operation, right. 24 But as we got into that rhythm, we were able to 25 implement these operational debriefs and just got

better at documentation, better at, you know, the process more timely, those types of things.

So it starts off with the first step is usually almost always hold the radio transcripts. What was the dialogue? What was said? Who said what? You know, that gives you those radio transcripts give you the timeline of the events and then that gives you the opportunity to say here's the initial information, send it out to the parties. They can read it in advance and then come together for a bit of a discussion, what worked, what didn't.

So we've been able to refine that process, and, you know, it's improved. It definitely has improved. I think all the parties are seeing that there's a legitimate value in doing these debriefs and, you know, I think it's a good example of how, you know, we do have a good partnership in certain aspects with RTM and they've been active participants, and, you know, they take the feedback, and we do in kind as well.

MS. MCGRANN: And the refinement that you've seen in the operational debriefs, have you seen the benefits of that play out in the operation of the system? Like, are the lesson learned

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1 trickling down into the actual operation? Are you 2 seeing benefits there as well? 3 You know, very --MR. CHARTER: Yeah. 4 at a very high level, you know, although we are 5 where we are, and I don't say that tongue in cheek. 6 I don't tend to be loose about it, but, you know, 7 we are seeing improvements in the reliability of 8 the system. We're seeing a reduction in the number 9 of issues that occur. 10 And generally speaking, you know, the 11 frequency, the magnitude, or the length of those 12 issues, you know, are becoming shorter in duration. 13 Unfortunately, they're all overshadowed, and 14 rightfully so, by the two derailments. Those are 15 major issues. 16 So I appreciate that when I say things 17 are getting better from a reliability perspective, 18 not everyone will believe that because of those two 19 derailments, but I think time will show that things 20 are improving. 21 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the 22 derailments, you said that the investigations 23 following those two incidents were different than

the operational debriefs that are conducted

following the incidents that we've already

1 discussed. Can you describe for me what the 2 investigation looked like with respect to the 3 actions and decisions of the drivers of those two 4 trains? 5 Not sure if I follow the MR. CHARTER: 6 question, to be honest, sorry. 7 MS. MCGRANN: Let me break it down. So 8 for the first derailment in August, what steps were 9 taken by OC Transpo or others at the City to 10 understand from the driver's perspective what 11 happened before, during, and after the derailment? 12 I'm just going to pause for a second 13 because -- can we go off the record. 14 -- OFF THE RECORD DISCUSSION --15 MS. MCGRANN: So before we took that 16 little break, I think I had asked you with respect 17 to the first derailment in August, and the investigation that was conducted following that 18 19 derailment, what steps did OC Transpo or the City 20 more generally take to understand the driver's 21 experience and actions before, during, and after 22 the derailments? 23 MR. CHARTER: Whenever we have an 24 occurrence like that we get a driver's -- so we get 25 a written statement from the driver, and we'll have

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1 a verbal conversation with him as well as look at 2 the video transcripts, and we can flag things in 3 our system, so to keep camera footage and to keep 4 audio footage, so we would have done that until we 5 did that review and that became part of the 6 investigation to, you know -- so we know what the 7 driver experienced leading into the station and 8 then what the driver experienced upon exit, you 9 know, and ultimately when the derailment was, and 10 then RTG and RTM, they're pulling information from 11 their technicians that attended to the scene and 12 that sort of thing. So that's all part of the 13 initial, preliminary information gathered, you 14 know, at the derailment site at the time. 15 MS. MCGRANN: And then a similar 16 question for others on City staff who were involved 17 in the actual operations of the train, what steps 18 were taken to understand their experience in that 19 derailment? 2.0 MR. CHARTER: So yeah, we would have 21 been collecting information from, you know, anyone 22 who was on site or anyone who was near or would 23 know anything about that train. So that would

include our rail controllers, our rail operators,

and, you know, if there was a supervisor nearby and

1 what their role, what their action was. So, you 2 know, I know in the August derailment, you know, 3 specifically a few of us went specific to the 4 Myself, the chief safety officer at the 5 time was there, we also had a supervisor, you know. 6 So we're part of that initial preliminary 7 investigation as to what's happening. 8 But we would collect information from 9 any staff who had knowledge or relevant -- or any 10 staff who had any sort of interaction with that 11 train or vehicle or any relevant information. 12 MS. MCGRANN: Any changes made to 13 operating procedures or the way that the City staff 14 would have been doing their jobs as a result of the 15 first derailment? 16 MR. CHARTER: No. 17 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the 18 second derailment and the investigation taken 19 following that incident, what steps were taken to 20 understand the experience and what was observed by 21 and done by the City operational staff following 22 that derailment? 23 The same thing. MR. CHARTER: You 24 know, collected operator statement, look at any 25 sort of video footage, make sure that we earmarked

1 it or flagged it so it doesn't get deleted every --2 the information is only retained for so long unless 3 you flag the information. The radio logs, same 4 process -- would have followed the same process. 5 MS. MCGRANN: And any changes made to 6 operations, any retraining, further training or 7 anything like that implemented following the second derailment? 8 MR. CHARTER:  $N_{\odot}$ 10 MS. MCGRANN: I'm going to bounce back 11 to the beginning of 2019 now. And what I'd like to 12 know is from your perspective, what was the City 13 doing by way of oversight of the preparation of the 14 system for substantial completion and then revenue 15 service availability starting at the beginning of 16 2019? 17 So, you know, I wasn't --MR. CHARTER: 18 I was part of the departmental leadership team that 19 we anticipated -- you know, you heard me reference 20 RAMP meetings earlier. So I participated in those. 21 I wasn't directly involved in the oversight of the 22 discussion, but my colleague Mr. Michael Morgan. 23 I'm just looking over to MS. MCGRANN: 24 our court reporter to check the quality of the 25 audio.

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(ADJOURNMENT)

MS. MCGRANN: Before the last break we took, I was asking you about what the City was doing to oversee RTG's work in early 2019. You had mentioned RAMP and you had mentioned your colleague Mr. Morgan. Did you want to finish the answer you were giving?

MR. CHARTER: Sure, that would be great. So as I said, we did activate what we called RAMP, the rail activation management program, and, you know, literally we commandeered one of our large boardrooms here and we put up on various boards that track the status of completion of the project. It could be the guideway, the track, the vehicles, safety certification, all the major elements that were required in order to launch service. And then there was, you know, we had monthly meetings, and as we got closer to the launch, those meetings became closer and closer to biweekly to weekly to daily.

So, you know, that was my involvement from a departmental leadership team perspective.

But as I mentioned. My colleague Michael Morgan from the rail implementation office construction program or rail construction office, their role was

1 the one that was ultimately -- they were overseeing 2 the construction and all the work towards the 3 completion and provided that -- you know, provided 4 the documentation that supported that they'd 5 achieved substantial completion, which ultimately 6 came from RTG. 7 MS. MCGRANN: Who else was a member of 8 RAMP? MR. CHARTER: So, you know, Mr. John 10 Manconi, the general manager at the time. You 11 know, Jocelyn Begin and then all the directors, so 12 myself, my colleague Pat Scrimgeour, Michael 13 Morgan, Kim McEwan, I believe, the chief safety 14 officer at the time Jim Hopkins. Essentially the 15 OC Transpo departmental leadership team. 16 MS. MCGRANN: So when you say all the 17 directors, are you referring to all the --18 I said OC Transpo. MR. CHARTER: 19 Actually, at the time it was Transportation 20 Services, which included the rail construction 21 office. 22 MS. MCGRANN: Okay. Is the rail 23 construction office the same as the rail 24 implementation office or are those two different 25 organizations?

1 MR. CHARTER: The same. The acronym, 2 the title has changed. 3 MS. MCGRANN: And what were the sources 4 of information provided to RAMP about how RTG was 5 progressing as it worked towards substantial 6 completion and revenue service availability? 7 MR. CHARTER: Well, the RAMP meetings, 8 you know, it was a joint meeting which we had RTG, 9 OLRT participate in those meetings. You know, and 10 the information that was being supplied that 11 informed the status of each one of the major 12 elements was coming from RTG, OLRT to the various 13 groups within the rail implementation office, which 14 then was presented at these sessions. 15 MS. MCGRANN: So it sounds to me like 16 the members of RAMP were getting information about 17 the progress on the RTG side from two sources; one 18 it's coming to I'll call it indirectly through the 19 rail implementation office as reported up and then 20 two, it's being reported to you directly by 21 representatives of RTG and OLRTC who attend the 22 RAMP meetings; is that correct? 23 Yeah, I mean it's -- you MR. CHARTER: 24 know, any information that was being presented 25 directly to the rail implementation office that

1 came to RAMP, it came from RTG. So there was no 2 surprises with regards to the information they were 3 supplying was the information that DLT was speaking 4 to. 5 MS. MCGRANN: Was the City receiving 6 reliability reports directly from Alstom as well? 7 MR. CHARTER: You know, you'd have to 8 ask my colleague Michael Morgan on that. We would 9 have been getting whatever information through OLRT 10 being through OLRT, RTG being the main constructor. 11 MS. MCGRANN: It's OLRTC, am I right? 12 MR. CHARTER: They were the 13 construction side of things. The City's contract 14 is with RTG but OLRT was the constructor. 15 And through the meetings, MS. MCGRANN: 16 let's call them January and February of 2019, the 17 RAMP meetings and otherwise, what information were 18 you receiving about the reliability of the trains 19 and how they were fairing in the work that RTG was 20 doing? 21 MR. CHARTER: I mean there were some 22 reliability challenges with the vehicles as well 23 as, you know, getting all 34 vehicles ready for 24 service was -- I know that was also one of the 25 factors that caused the delay in the launch was the 2.

|1| availability of 34 vehicles for service.

MS. MCGRANN: Let's start with the reliability challenges. What did you understand the reliability challenges to be in January and February of 2019?

MR. CHARTER: You know, I don't know if they're specific to January or February, but I know some of the reliability challenges with regards to the train line communications, the -- you know, and then as well as how the trains interacted with the computer-based training control system. You know, that's my recollection.

I know there was more other sort of other elements to it. I think there was, you know -- because we did see it for a period of time a large number of fault codes on vehicles that prevented them from launching. They needed to be worked on or the codes needed to be cleared prior to them going from the maintenance storage facility out on the main line, but those are some of the main issues where, you know, various fault codes as well as some train line communications and how they interacted with the computer-based training control system.

MS. MCGRANN: The fault codes that you

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1 mentioned, were they only a factor in getting the 2 trains out of the maintenance facility or were they 3 also affecting trains on the line? 4 MR. CHARTER: They affected trains on 5 the line, but what we saw was, you know, the trains 6 would operate and then they'd go back to the 7 maintenance storage facility and then the next day 8 when the trains needed to be launched, these fault 9 codes or failure codes would populate, you know, at 10 that launch period in the morning. 11 So it seemed once you were able to get 12 them cleared, you saw some improved performance out 13 of them, but it could resurface and, you know, it 14 did for a period of time. 15 Did you receive MS. MCGRANN: 16 information from RTG, OLRTC, or anyone working for 17 those entities about the potential causes of the 18 issues that you were seeing in the early part of 19 2019? 20 MR. CHARTER: I know that there was 21 lots of discussion back and forth on that and, you 22 know, there's some formal letters that were issued

from the rail construction program or the rail

implementation office talking about, you know, the

issues that were experienced and, you know, that

1 formed part of our rationale as to why the initial 2 revenue service availability dates weren't going to 3 be met. 4 Those were our concerns that, you know, 5 that RTG, OLRT were adamant that at certain times 6 they had met the requirements for revenue service 7 availability and then I know the City had responded 8 back, and my colleague Michael Morgan responded 9 back with, here's a listing of all the issues that 10 we're experiencing, and this is what is informing 11 the City's opinion as to why it has not been 12 achieved. 13 MR. WARDLE: Just for the record, I 14 think the witness is referring to substantial 15 completion rather than revenue service 16 availability. 17 MR. CHARTER: That's correct. Sorry, 18 Peter. Thank you. 19 Before I move on from the MS. MCGRANN: 20 early months of 2019, so information is being 21 delivered by RIO, you're hearing information 22 directly from RTG and its subsidiary entries at the 23 RAMP meetings. What about the independent advisory 24 team that was comprised of members of CTP? Do you 25 know the group that I'm referring to there?

1 Yes, I do. MR. CHARTER: 2. MS. MCGRANN: What work were they doing 3 at this time with respect to the progress of the 4 system? 5 MR. CHARTER: So the independent 6 advisory team, I believe, and I'm going by a bit of 7 a recollection here, my memory, I believe they were 8 brought on post launch. But they were, you know, 9 largely the same members that we included and were 10 involved in all the activities leading up to 11 So I think that term independent launch. 12 assessment team came up a little later. I'm going 13 by my memory on this one, so I may be off on the 14 dates a little bit, but we involved these experts, 15 the subject matter experts, these industry experts, 16 we involved them, as I mentioned earlier, all the 17 way up to launch, and, you know, they were helping 18 to inform the City of the concerns with regards to 19 things like, you know, the stagger and the catenary 20 system was implemented. You know, the reliability 21 challenges with some of the vehicles. 22 So they were helping the City and 23 assisting the City in making its determination as 24 to whether or not the system was ready to launch. 25 MS. MCGRANN: You said the stagger.

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What is that?

MR. CHARTER: So, you know, our system -- you know, the trains, they get their power from an overhead catenary system. Unlike the system like in Vancouver where they have their power line is beside the train not overhead, so the trains collect power from the power wire and, you know, where the train interacts with the power wire is what we call a pantograph. So that's the -- you know, you probably see that in Toronto or in other places.

You know, there's an arm that comes up from the train that interacts with the wire and if that wire was perfectly straight from end to end, what you'd see is this pantograph, which has got a carbon strip along the length of it would have a groove. And what you want to see is you don't want to see grooves. You want to see even wear across the entire pantograph head, right.

So you want to have a stagger in your overhead power line. You don't want the overhead power line to be straight because then that power line would only be interacting with one part of the pantograph. So if you stagger it, you know, you're getting even wear across the entire carbon strip on

1 this pantograph. 2. MS. MCGRANN: Is that important for a 3 lifecycle of the components? Is it important for 4 reliability of service, both? 5 MR. CHARTER: Both. I mean definitely 6 it results in increased wear and tear on the 7 pantographs, an increased need to change them out 8 and, you know, it can result in other issues, other 9 disruptions. So it is something that you need to 10 be concerned with for sure. You know, it's not 11 just a maintenance perspective. It is -- there's a 12 reliability element to it as well. 13 So that's just an example of one of the 14 things that the feedback we were getting from the 15 experts that we were utilizing. 16 MS. MCGRANN: The experts that you were 17 utilizing, how were they positioned at the City at 18 this point in time? By that I mean were they 19 sitting on a committee on their own and providing 20 advice? Were they embedded within working groups 21 and committees at the City? 22 MR. CHARTER: There were -- it really 23 was a combination. You know, I know Michael Morgan 24 in his office he had a number of consultant and 25 experts that were helping to inform and assess, and

then we had a number of -- some of these people were involved in some of the working groups and the committees. Then as well, they were actively involved in those RAMP meetings that I talked about. You know, and they were providing advice and guidance directly to the general manager as well as to the management team.

I worked with a few of them directly on preparing for the operations. I mentioned earlier, you know, the writing of the SOP's. We created -- I mentioned station management playbooks, how we're going to manage various events at different stations taking into consideration emergency egress routes, volume of passengers anticipated at stations, those types of things. So they were embedded in the organization both within OC Transpo and the rail placement office. They were active participants in some working groups. As well, they were active -- certain members were active at the RAMP meetings.

MS. MCGRANN: Focussing specifically on the activities undertaken to understand the readiness and the reliability of the vehicles for service, which consultants were engaged in that work?

1 MR. CHARTER: So I said -- I know there 2 will be a longer list that Michael will be able to 3 provide, but, you know, from my awareness, there 4 was Brian Dwyer, Joe North, Larry Gall (phonetic) 5 who I worked very, very -- Tom Prendergast is 6 brought in at some point as well, so those are the 7 one's that I was primarily familiar with, but I 8 know Michael has got a much longer list of people 9 that were supporting his day-to-day activities in 10 the construction side of things. 11 MS. MCGRANN: You mentioned stagger 12 specifically when talking about issues that had 13 come up with the trains. Was that presenting a 14 issue or set of issues for the trains in early 15 2019? 16 MR. CHARTER: I don't think it was 17 causing any specific issue, but there was a concern 18 that it, you know, could result in disruptions as 19 well as increased maintenance activity. So it was 20 highlighted as a potential issue. 21 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the 22 actual issues that you were aware of and that the 23 City was aware of, you mentioned train line 24 communications. You mentioned issues or 25 interactions with the CBTC system. You mentioned

1 the fault codes and the failure codes that were 2 coming up on a daily basis. Any other major issues 3 or categories of issues that you were aware of in 4 early 2019? 5 MR. CHARTER: I know that, you know, as 6 well reported that in one of the weather events 7 prior to launch, switches and switch heaters were a 8 concern. You know, we had multiple switches that 9 were going disturbed. You know, and it's a 10 combination of the switch itself as well as the 11 heater that prevents the ice and snow from build up 12 within that switch mechanism. That was a concern, 13 and that continued into service launch as well. 14 You know, I know a lot of it was about 15 train reliability. You know, that was the earlier 16 issue, but the other one that really pops up in my 17 head right now is the switches and switch heaters. 18 MS. MCGRANN: And as you move into the 19 spring and summer of 2019, how was the system and 20 the trains performing as you move through that 21 period of time? 22 MR. CHARTER: So, you know, we do see 23 an improvement in the functionality of the trains. 24 You know, and then we're having that ongoing 25 dialogue with them about the updates they're making

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to, you know, the software for the train control system, the updates for the CBTC system, and we do see improvements in the reliability of both the trains and the system itself.

Obviously, certain things like, you know, switches and switch heaters they're not as challenged as much in the summer as they are in the winter, but we weren't seeing -- we weren't seeing impacts with the infrastructure at that time.

MS. MCGRANN: When you say you weren't seeing impacts with the infrastructure at that time, what do you mean?

MR. CHARTER: So, you know, switches, at either end of our line, you know, trains do need to switch from one track to another, so they're --we're doing 500 trips a day, you know, so those switches are continually being used, and we saw good reliability out of them but, ultimately, the real test comes in the winter months.

They made some modifications to the functionality of those switch heaters, which was thought to -- would result in benefits in the winter months, but during the summer months, we weren't seeing any sort of high level frequency or issues with regards to the performance of the

1 switches, so that's what I meant. 2. MS. MCGRANN: Okav. Before I ask vou 3 some more questions about the system and shape 4 performance in spring and summer 2019, I'm just 5 going to pause there for a second and ask you, what 6 was OC Transpo's role in the rolling stock, 7 commissioning, testing, and integration? 8 We're the operator of the MR. CHARTER: 9 trains, so it's OC Transpo drivers driving the 10 trains during those periods of time. 11 MS. MCGRANN: This is prior to 12 substantial completion and revenue service 13 availability? 14 MR. CHARTER: Correct. It was -- aside 15 from the very early days, very initial moves, most 16 of the train movements out onto the main line, not 17 within the yard, but out on the main line where 18 we're ultimately picking up customers were 19 performed by OC Transpo staff. 2.0 MS. MCGRANN: So OC Transpo's role in 21 the rolling stock, commissioning, testing, and 22 integration is that their drivers are driving the 23 trains? 24 MR. CHARTER: Our drivers are driving 25 the trains, and our controllers are controlling the

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    -- using the CBTC system to control the train
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    movements because it is a computer-based training
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    control system.
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                MS. MCGRANN:
                              And were those people
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    also providing feedback on what they were seeing
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    from their perspective as drivers, controllers, et
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    cetera to RTG or otherwise to assist in the
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    testing, commissioning, and integration?
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                MR. CHARTER:
                              Yeah, I mean -- yes.
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    They would have been actively engaged and involved,
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    you know, ongoing discussions and dialogue,
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    technicians on and off trains when there was a
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            You know, obviously Alstom is reaching out
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    to them and speaking to them as what they
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    experienced, what they heard. You know, you'd be
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    troubleshooting vehicles and trains in which Alstom
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    would go out with our drivers or they would be in
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    our control room speaking to our controller.
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    they were actively engaged throughout.
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                MS. MCGRANN:
                              And how did you
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    understand that joint effort to be going, the
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    cooperation between OC Transpo staff and those on
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    RTG's side with respect to the testing and
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    integration?
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                MR. CHARTER:
                               I think in an operational
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- 1 level there was good cooperation and good 2 information sharing, and the teams work well 3 I think there was -- I don't recall any together. 4 issues in that regard. I think it was good 5 cooperation at that level. MS. MCGRANN: And how was OC Transpo's 6 7 role in that testing and integration, I want to say 8 captured from an agreement perspective? Was their 9 role covered in the project agreement? Was it the 10 subject of a separate memorandum of understanding 11 covering their work within the testing, 12 commissioning, and integration phase? 13 MR. CHARTER: I believe in the project 14 agreement there was a requirement for us to provide 15 the drivers and the controllers, but beyond that, I 16
  - agreement there was a requirement for us to provide the drivers and the controllers, but beyond that, I don't think there was anything specific that identified what our specific role would be. But, you know, they knew and we knew we were going to be a valuable source of information as to how things were progressing and what we were experiencing, but, you know, it's not like we were taking the trains out on our own and driving them alone on the line. We had -- there was always technicians and, you know, whether it be Talus who was responsible for the CBTC system, it was always representatives

1 around that were working with us troubleshooting 2 issues, updating software, observing, you know --3 there's different processes depending on what the 4 system is. So, for example, Talus, the maker of 5 the computer-based training control system, they 6 have very rigid process to ensure safety and, you 7 know, they will -- they have a series of steps they 8 need to pass with their software before putting it 9 into -- onto a vehicle. And they put it onto a 10 vehicle with technicians for a period of time, you 11 know, a defined period of time, say two days, then 12 they take that software back, they analyse it back 13 in Toronto, and once it's gone through all their 14 various tests then they would role it out to the 15 rest of the fleet. 16 So there's always that process back and 17 forth and obviously depending on what system it 18 was, you'd follow different sort of steps. 19 MS. MCGRANN: And could you see was 20 there any compression of the commissioning and 21 testing for the trains from what was originally 22 envisioned to what was actually done? 23 You know, my opinion on MR. CHARTER: 24 it, no. You know, given that there was a delay of, 25 you know, a little over a year, those trains were

going through a testing commissioning process that
was longer than anticipated. So, you know, that's
my opinion on it.

I don't think there was any compression in that regard. I mean, although we didn't have the full 34 vehicles at the earlier days, we did have vehicles and we were able to operate across the line.

But major projects like this, as I mentioned earlier, you do get into time crunches here and there, but I don't recall that being an issue.

MS. MCGRANN: And I know you spoke to the timeline and said that as a result of the delay -- I think I've got this right -- the testing and commissioning period was longer than originally envisioned; is that correct?

MR. CHARTER: Yeah, it was. It was. I mean, just by the nature of the delay. I mean, originally I think it was May 2018, and we didn't launch until September 2019. So just by that nature alone, there was more time driving trains, more time for our staff to become experienced in driving the trains, and more of an opportunity to develop troubleshooting materials and those types

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    of things.
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                MS. MCGRANN: I understand that the
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    trains were being or subject to retrofits
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    throughout the testing and commissioning phase
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    through substantial completion, revenue service
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    availability, and into public service; is that
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    right?
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                MR. CHARTER:
                               That's correct.
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                MS. MCGRANN: Do you know if it was the
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    intention at the outset to have ongoing retrofits
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    of the trains through all of those stages?
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                               I don't know if that was
                MR. CHARTER:
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    the overall intention but I do know in speaking
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    with other properties that, you know, you're always
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   making adjustments to software, or there's always
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    -- might be you uncover an issue that wasn't
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    anticipated in there as a retrofit, so I don't know
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    if it was necessarily outlined in any sort of
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    document, but I think there is always an
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    understanding anticipation that when you're
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    managing any sort of fleet, whether it be bus or
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    train, that there will be a degree of retrofits and
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    updates that need to happen over the life of the
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    vehicle.
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                               So based on the
                MS. MCGRANN:
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1 conversations you had with some reference projects, 2 representatives, you understood that a certain 3 amount of retrofitting would be normal, of course? 4 And you know, based on my MR. CHARTER: 5 experience with our other line when we went with 6 the expanded service for line two or the Trillium 7 Line, there were a number of retrofits we had to do 8 on that vehicle, while it's a smaller fleet and a 9 smaller line, there were a number of retrofits that 10 had to be done there once we got those trains into 11 service. 12 And once again, just speaking with 13 other places, it's not unlike a bus fleet, you get 14 a brand new vehicle and then, you know, there's 15 things that you find out during the lifecycle of 16 the vehicle or there's things that you want to 17 change based upon, you know, its operating 18 performance. 19 MS. MCGRANN: Were you reaching out to 20 these reference partner representatives through the 21 spring and summer of 2019 and saying to them, this 22 is the level of issues we're seeing here, is this 23 normal for this stage of the process we're at? 24 Were you seeking that kind of feedback? 25 Not -- I don't recall in MR. CHARTER:

1 the spring and summer of 2019 reaching out to 2 properties at that time I think most of the work in 3 that regard was done in the lead up to. But once 4 again, you know, we're continuing to work with 5 those consultants and subject matter experts who 6 they, you know, have connections with other 7 properties and have their own, you know, experience 8 from, you know -- they had I think collectively the 9 group that we were working with had over a couple 10 of hundred years worth of experience in the rail 11 industry, so relying on their expertise and 12 knowledge and their connections with other 13 properties as well. 14 MS. MCGRANN: And those subject matter 15 experts are the representatives from Capital 16 Transit Partners? 17 MR. CHARTER: Capital Transit Partners 18 and, you know, as I said, some of the names that I 19 provided like Larry Gall, Brian Dwyer, John North, 20 Tom Prendergast, and as I said, there's a whole 21 probably list of names that Mr. Morgan could 22 provide as well. 23 MS. MCGRANN: Let's look to the summer 24 of 2019, so June, July up to the trial running 25 How were the trains performing from a period.

1 reliability perspective through that phase? 2. MR. CHARTER: Now we're seeing an 3 improved performance in the vehicles for sure. I'm 4 not going to sugarcoat things and say it was 5 perfect, but we were seeing an improved 6 Some of the issues that we performance. 7 experienced earlier, some of the software updates 8 had been done with the train control system and the 9 We were seeing those benefits. 10 Still, you know, we were seeing those 11 -- you heard me reference those fault codes earlier 12 and they were tending to populate at launch, that 13 was still occurring. But we were seeing an 14 improved performance of the vehicles as well as the 15 overall system, so how the trains interact with the 16 track and the computer-based training control. 17 So we were seeing improvements and, you 18 know, we were looking at it very positively that 19 things were trending in the right direction. 2.0 And I definitely don't MS. MCGRANN: 21 want you to sugarcoat it. Tell me about the issues 22 that you were seeing or that were being reported to 23 you in terms of train performance and reliability 24 as you're approaching the trial running period? 25 So we still were dealing MR. CHARTER:

1 with -- I'd have to look at some stats on it to 2 quantify it, but we were still seeing the 3 occurrence from time to time where a train would 4 become immobilised on the line and it took a 5 technician to attend to that train to be able to 6 remove it. We were still seeing those occurrences. 7 It was a variety of issues. But, you 8 know, the frequency of it was decreasing. And, you 9 know, this is where I know some of the 10 conversations that will come up through this 11 inquiry is talk, I've heard the term the bedding in 12 period. So we thought we were getting to that 13 point where the issues that we were going to be 14 experiencing were just normal bedding in of what 15 you'd see in a new system, a new line, you know. 16 And then with a couple more months with 17 the trial running, that, you know, we continue to 18 work through those. RTG would continue to work 19 through those issues and we'd see them reduce 20 further and further. So that's where we thought we 21 were heading at the time. 22 So you've mentioned MS. MCGRANN: 23 ongoing issues with the fault codes. You mentioned 24 trains becoming immobilised on the line and 25 requiring a technician to go and help retrieve the

1 Any other reliability issues that you're train. 2 seeing as you approached what becomes the trial 3 running phase? 4 You know, I'm not MR. CHARTER: 5 touching upon anything to do with stations. I know that there were some, you know, occupancy things 6 7 that had to be dealt with at the end, but that 8 wouldn't have resulted in any issue that I would 9 have experienced. 10 But no, really it was -- train 11 reliability was probably the primary issue, and as 12 I said earlier, we had some infrastructure issues 13 with the functionality of the switches which with 14 the adjustments there being made, coming out of the 15 winter, we thought that those issues had been 16 resolved. 17 MS. MCGRANN: Just while you're talking about the switches, was any testing done to 18 19 ascertain whether the fixes would function in the 20 winter as well as the summer? 21 MR. CHARTER: I'm not aware. You'd 22 have to ask my colleague Mr. Morgan on that. 23 MS. MCGRANN: Coming back to the train 24 performance, you haven't raised this, but I'll ask 25 you specifically so we've covered it. We're

1 talking about reliability issues with the trains. 2 Were there any outstanding safety concerns with 3 respect to the trains or the system as in the 4 summer of 2019? 5 Not leading up to the MR. CHARTER: 6 I know earlier in one of the RTG's initial 7 submissions for substantial completion -- thank you 8 Peter for correcting me on that -- for substantial 9 completion, we raised a number of safety concerns, 10 missing documentation, lack of tests, functionality 11 of the emergency telephones and the fire 12 telephones, those types of things, but when we got 13 the -- when we ultimately approved the substantial 14 completion proceeding to trial running, those 15 issues had all been effectively addressed, so no. 16 I know that we had an independent 17 safety certifier as well review all the 18 documentation, provide their opinion, which was, 19 you know, there was nothing preventing moving 20 forward, and then we went through that safety 21 certification process again before launching of 22 service. 23 So no safety concerns MS. MCGRANN: 24 after you cleared the substantial completion 25 milestone, but ongoing reliability concerns.

- mentioned the vetting in period and a belief that
  maybe you were heading into the vetting in period.

  What is the vetting in period?
  - MR. CHARTER: So, you know, I don't think there's a defined period of time but, you know, whenever you're starting a new operation, especially a new operation of this size, there's an understanding that there will be some early issues that could be attributed to, you know, new vehicles, new track, new systems, and then, you know, issues that you attribute to dealing with a green workforce, a workforce that's more junior and is still learning how to troubleshoot vehicles and systems and those types of things.
  - So we were heading into that period in which, you know, we were going to see some normal types of disruptions that, you know, any rail line or rail operation would experience, you know, upon its initial start up. And then, you know, you would assume that over periods of time that the frequency and the impact of those issues, which should be minor issues, would start to subside.
  - MS. MCGRANN: And what was the basis for the belief that you were heading into the vetting in period and the issues that you were

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seeing were a normal part of that phase?

MR. CHARTER: Well, you know, there

were the issues that we were encountering leading

into the start of trial running or the substantial

completion. You know, the issues with regards to

the vehicles were largely addressed through

software updates and other mitigations. The issues with regards, as I said, the switches and the

switch heaters, there was updates made to those.

| 10 | You know, there was adjustments made to, you know,

various types of infrastructure based upon the

feedback the City had provided and based on the

13 experience.

So, you know, we were seeing an improvement in reliability and the right decisions and the right actions were being taken by the constructor, so that led us to believe that you know what, they've achieved substantial completion, they met those requirements, you know, and then as a result of that, you know, we can move into trial running at that point and assess the system.

MS. MCGRANN: I just don't think that quite answers my question which is, you know, why do you form the belief that the issues that you're seeing are part of a normal vetting in period and

not representative of reliability issues that maybe require more attention and maybe you're not quite at the vetting in period phase yet?

MR. CHARTER: Largely it's as a result of, you know, you're seeing a reduction in the number of issues that were occurring, and, you know, that reduction in issues could be attributed to some of the actions that were taken in terms of the updates to the various systems and software and those types of things.

So you're seeing a reduction in those issues and we're seeing an improved performance of the line. The trains are operating for extended periods of time without issue. The frequency of the issues are reducing, and definitely, you know, to what we talked about just earlier, you know, there was no major safety concerns or any safety issues at all, but recognizing that it was a new system with new vehicles and new teams, that there was going to be, you know, a certain number of issues.

No system is perfect. You can go to any system in the world and you'll find issues, you know, almost on a daily basis, but no system is perfect especially a new system that was being

1 implemented. So I know that largely my opinion at 2 this point, but that's the rationale that, you 3 know, I was applying going into it and I think, you 4 know, I don't want to speak on behalf of the 5 departmental leadership team as well, but I think 6 they'll echo something similar to that. 7 MS. MCGRANN: So the idea that the 8 issues that you're seeing prior to beginning the 9 trial running are representative of the vetting in 10 period; is that a view that you formed on your own? 11 MR. CHARTER: No, you know, as I 12 mentioned we're, you know -- throughout the entire 13 process, we're working with industry experts who 14 are helping inform the City both the one's that are 15 working directly with the rail implementation 16 office in Michael Morgan's shop as well as those 17 that are working directly with myself in supporting 18 the RAMP program. So, you know, that's the 19 information that they were all being presented and 20 provided the same information at the time we were 21 having those discussions, that dialogue. And, you 22 know, ultimately they supported moving forward at 23 the time and, you know, they were very, very 24 adamant in, you know, impressing upon us don't 25 expect perfection. That you need to anticipate

that there will be some issues early on. That's a normal part of the growth curve and just like, you know, engineers will talk to you about, you know, reliability growth curves of any sort of system in a vehicle, you know, you see -- at the early days you can see a higher degree of disruptions or issues and then over time, you see them greatly reduce.

So, you know, it wasn't just my sole opinion. I don't think it was the sole opinion of the departmental leadership team. We were getting information from industry experts that were working with us.

MS. MCGRANN: I don't want to keep using the vetting in period if there's not a determinative phase or didn't form part of the decision making to proceed. Let me come at it this way: Did the City develop on its own or with the assistance of those advising it a permissible level of service events or reliability issues that it thought it could tolerate in order to move forward into the trial running phase? Like, was there a series of tests or requirements that the City needed to see before it was ready to move into trial running?

1 MR. CHARTER: The City -- we did have 2 as part of our RAMP program, we did have 3 essentially a go, no go list. And it may not be 4 exactly what you're describing there, but it was a 5 list -- I think it was -- I'd have to refer to the 6 document, but it was a list of I think 11 or 12 7 items that if it wasn't complete, we weren't going 8 to proceed into trial running and then ultimately 9 into service completion. So the first no 10 outstanding service concerns or issues, that was 11 one of the ones. 34 vehicles delivered and 12 certified safe for service. 13 You know, so we had that go, no go 14 list, you know, but was there a defined number of 15 occurrences that would be permissible? No, I don't 16 believe we had anything specific to that. 17 MS. MCGRANN: The reliability issues 18 that you continued to see as you move into June and 19 July of 2019, did they engage with the go, no go 20 list? Like, would the fault code recurrences have 21 triggered a no go on the go, no go list? 22 MR. CHARTER: If there were major 23 issues that were preventing say like a large number 24 of vehicles not being able to be launched or major 25 safety issues, those types of things, yeah, it

would have fed into it, but, you know, minor issues, issues that could be resolved within the yard before launching of vehicles, you know, that was up to RTM, RTG to maintain.

You know, ultimately at the end of the day, there was a substantial completion portion of it but there's also recognition that RTM is the maintainer of the vehicles, maintainer of the track, and they're the ones that are responsible for getting us those trains available and ready every day. So I don't know -- I don't know if I've answered your question, to be honest.

MS. MCGRANN: Let's take it from here. So what was the City's view on the reliability of the trains, or what did you understand the reliability issues to be with the trains as you entered the trial running period? What are the challenges for reliability that you're aware of?

MR. CHARTER: As I mentioned earlier, we knew that it was still a number of these fault codes that would populate it at the beginning of -- at launch when the vehicles were being brought out to -- there's a handover platform and that's when our driver gets on the train, so within the maintenance and storage facility, you know, RTM

moves the trains and gets them to the maintenance and service bays. They bring them around to a handover platform, our operator would get on the train and then take it out onto the main line to start service. So there would be a number of issues affecting those vehicles, you know, in that launch sequence in the morning that would cause some delays or prevent some trains from entering service.

As I said, we did experience from time to time some immobilised vehicles that on the line required a technician to attend. So, you know, there were some reliability challenges with the vehicles but, you know, at the time there was nothing that anyone foresaw that would be a major impediment to preventing the safe and reliable operation of the service.

MS. MCGRANN: The immobilised vehicles, was it one particular trigger that would cause them to become immobilised or was it more than one?

MR. CHARTER: Well, you know, what we typically see what it calls obstructed motion, and it's something preventing the train from moving, but it could be a number of factors. Largely it's, you know, a communication issue within the train,

1 but, you know, Alstom and RTM would be better able 2 to speak to the numbers of issues that were 3 occurring and what they were related to, so I tend 4 to just roll it up into there was some early 5 reliability challenges, but we saw a great 6 reduction in those as we got closer and closer to 7 substantial completion and trial running. 8 So you both see a MS. MCGRANN: 9 reduction in those issues, and you see a 10 continuation of those issues, right? Like, they 11 continued to occur. And I'm trying to understand 12 what the City knew about the reliability issues 13 that were present and what was causing them. 14 don't expect you to be able to answer for Alstom. 15 I wouldn't ask you to do that. So the fault codes 16 are only an issue at the handover at the 17 maintenance service, at the MSF? 18 MR. CHARTER: As I mentioned earlier, 19 they could happen on the line as well, but it was 20 more of an issue in the maintenance storage 21 facility as it launched in the morning, but they 22 could occur on the line as well. 23 MS. MCGRANN: And were they continuing 24 to occur on the line as you approached the trial 25 running period?

1 MR. CHARTER: You know, at a much 2 reduced frequency. We were seeing good reliable 3 We were able to run extended train service. 4 periods of time incident free. You know, and we're 5 seeing the benefits of the changes they made with 6 regards to the software and those types of updates. 7 You know, we're seeing -- we saw reduction in the 8 number of those issues. MS. MCGRANN: Okay. Just help me 10 understand what happens when a fault code occurs on 11 the train on the line, what's required to overcome 12 that? 13 MR. CHARTER: Well, some minor fault 14 codes that our operators are trained and certified 15 to be able to resolve. It's literally opening up a 16 panel and resetting a breaker or resetting a 17 switch, but there's a very limited number of 18 situations in which we can do that. You know, and 19 that's coming from Alstom and ORT. 2.0 You know, obviously these are complex systems, complex vehicles. You need to have 21 22 specific training and know what you're doing to go 23 beyond just the initial troubleshooting. 24 Other issues that may occur require a 25 technician to come in. And I think I mentioned

1 earlier literally, plug in their laptop, conduct a 2 diagnosis and, you know, determine what the root 3 cause of the issue is, and then depending on what 4 that issue was, what actions they need to take in 5 terms of resetting breakers or, you know, manually 6 turning something off and those types of things. 7 So it really does depend on what the issue is, but 8 those ones that our operators can do are generally 9 fairly quick and easy to recover from. 10 The ones that require a technician, 11 obviously there's a little bit more delay because 12 you need a technician to attend the train. 13 need to diagnosis it and then take the necessary 14 corrective action and then move the train in to a 15 terminus station or off the line. 16 MS. MCGRANN: In the period leading up 17 to the trial running, I understand that you're 18 seeing these fault codes occur less, but are you 19 still seeing fault codes occur with trains on the 20 line that require a technician to attend and 21 potentially remove the train? 22 MR. CHARTER: Yes. From time to time, 23 yes. 24 Like, did the City MS. MCGRANN: 25 believe that these occurrences, these reliability

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    issues were going to continue to decrease as you
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   moved forward?
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                MR. CHARTER:
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                MS. MCGRANN: And what was the basis
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    for that belief?
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                MR. CHARTER:
                             You know, every day the
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    trains are running, people are becoming more
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    familiar with the trains, more familiar with how to
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    troubleshoot them and, you know, their technicians
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    are able to be more proactive in identifying what
    the root causes of those issues are and prevent
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    them from recurring.
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                So, you know, earlier on in the
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    process, there's identification of issues.
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    identify what the root cause of those issues are.
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    They take actions to resolve those through, you
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    know, I mentioned many times the updates, software
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    updates or the train control updates.
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    those updates and then you see a reduction of those
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             So with experience, with time, with
    issues.
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    continual running of the vehicles, you know, we
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    were seeing a reduction and, you know, you
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    anticipate that you would see a continued reduction
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    in those.
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                MS. MCGRANN:
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reaction time and the quality of the reactions, how is that being measured to support the belief that it's going to continue to get better? How did you assess that?

MR. CHARTER: Literally looking at the frequency of occurrences and, you know, I guess it was more of a qualitative discussion decision at that point that, you know, we saw a reduction in the issues and we're seeing the reliability there, you know, improvement, and that led us to believe that, you know, the trains were getting close to ready ultimately led to the decision of substantial completion in starting the trial running.

MS. MCGRANN: And with respect to those software updates, I understand that some were implemented that addressed some issues. Was there a schedule or plan for additional software updates that the City believed would continue to reduce the number of reliability issues?

MR. CHARTER: Yeah, there were a number of updates and planned updates. There was things that were planned that were going to occur leading post substantial completion but prior to revenue service, and we also knew there was going to be updates that were coming post revenue service but

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after substantial completion.

So there was a number of retrofits and updates that we were aware of and we were informed and, you know, we used -- once again, we used the consultants, the rail implementation office used the people they were working with to assess was it appropriate for some of these updates to occur preor post-substantial completion. So yeah, that was -- that is part of it that the work was ongoing with the vehicles and, you know, as I mentioned earlier, these vehicles are with us for 30 years. There's always going to be updates and changes to them, and we continue to see that to this day and, you know, it's not unlike what we do on our bus fleet right now. We're not running line 2 right now because it's going through an expansion project as well, but we did see that in the first couple of years with our new fleet there.

MS. MCGRANN: So I understand that there was work to be done post substantial completion. Was it the case that the City knew that there was also work to be done post revenue service availability and into the future?

MR. CHARTER: I'm trying -- I'm thinking of a document in my head right now, and I

1 know that there was -- it was a fairly extensive document that outlines a whole list of actions that 2 3 were both pre-substantial completion and 4 post-substantial completion and even some 5 post-revenue service, so I'd like to say yes, but I 6 am going a little bit on memory here without seeing 7 a document. 8 Okav. On the eve of MS. MCGRANN: 9 trial running, so right before trial running is to 10 get started, what reliability issues still remained 11 with the trains that the City was aware of? 12 MR. CHARTER: Beyond what I've 13 initially already stated, you know what, I don't 14 recall anything more than that. You know, vehicle 15 -- the vehicle side of things was the primary area 16 which we needed to focus on, and we continued to 17 see some improvement, and things were running very 18 well up until the start of trial running. 19 So the issues that you've MS. MCGRANN: 20 identified, the fault codes, the immobilizations of 21 the train on the line, those are still issues on 22 the eve of trial running but there aren't any other 23 reliability issues that you're facing? 24 To my recollection, I MR. CHARTER: 25 mean, I think that's fair. The reliability of the

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1 trains was -- had greatly improved but I wouldn't say it was perfect. And we know that there was 3 additional updates to come and ultimately they had 4 to pass trial running as well too. 5 And the trial running period and then 6 there was -- we knew there was going to be a period 7 of time before passenger service, so, you know, 8 there were a few other gates that needed to be 9 passed as well. 10 If you don't mind me just MS. PEDDLE: 11 jumping in here. I'm just wondering, you spoke 12 about looking at the frequency of occurrences in 13 terms of deciding whether they were going to 14 continue to decrease. Was there any reports or 15 trend documents, any kind of forecasting about 16 those occurrences? 17 MR. CHARTER: Not that I recall. 18 MS. MCGRANN: When I asked you about 19 the changes that you were seeing, at one point you 20 said you would have to look at the stats, what

MR. CHARTER: So our control centre, we track how service performed on any given day, and I know that there's various reports and information that Mr. Michael Morgan has as well from the rail

stats were you referring to?

1 construction program, so, you know, I'm just -just appreciate that it's been almost three years 3 since we've been in service and we have been 4 dealing with -- you know, we're obviously at a 5 public inquiry stage, so service hasn't been -- has 6 been less than desirable, although we've had some 7 real strong stretches of good reliable service, 8 there's been a number of instances that have been 9 -- the derailments specifically, so some of the 10 challenges, some of the issues tend to blend in for 11 me and sometimes I have a tough time discerning 12 what happened leading up to launch, what happened 13 just after launch. So that's why I just refer to 14 -- you know, I'd like to refer to some information 15 if I could, but I'm going by the best of my memory 16 as to what those issues were leading into trial 17 running and revenue service. 18 MS. MCGRANN: The issues with 19 reliability that exist on the eve of trial service, 20 you're aware of them. Am I right that others at 21 the City are also aware of them? Mr. Manconi and 22 everyone on RAMP was aware of these issues? 23 MR. CHARTER: Correct. 24 MS. MCGRANN: As you're standing on the 25 eve of trial readiness, and let me know if I've got

1 the order of things wrong here, but was there room 2 to move the revenue service availability further 3 into the future if required? 4 MR. CHARTER: Yes. 5 MS. MCGRANN: Would there have been 6 room to move the date of full public service, 7 opening the system up to the public into the future 8 if required? MR CHARTER: Yes. 10 MS. MCGRANN: At any point was it 11 articulated by anyone at the City what the 12 threshold would be or -- yeah, what the threshold 13 would be to require that kind of a change in the 14 anticipated schedule? 15 MR. CHARTER: I know I mentioned 16 earlier if there was any major safety concerns or 17 issues, you know, that was immediate sort of a red 18 stop. Moving no forward. Major -- I think any 19 sort of major disruption, like anything that 20 occurred such as a derailment or a catenary pull 21 down or any sort of those major issues that we 22 experienced upon start of service, those would have 23 been red flags to stop at that time. Or, you know, 24 I'd say even continued reliability issues on a 25 daily frequent basis. So, you know, we had that

to public service?

1 go, no go list that I mentioned earlier. But, you 2 know, I'm not sure if there's -- you know, if there 3 was any sort of specific metrics that say if this 4 threshold was met it would be automatically 5 stopped. We know that they did have to pass the 6 7 trial running process, and there was the 8 independent certifier that needed to sign off as 9 well as the safety certifier that needed to sign 10 off prior to going into revenue service. So there 11 were a few other checks and balances that were put 12 in place as well. 13 MS. MCGRANN: You mentioned with 14 respect to reliability if there were daily 15 reliability issues. Do you know if any specificity 16 was placed on from a reliability perspective up to 17 what point the City could live with it and beyond 18 which the City would say, no, we've got to look at 19 pushing the deadlines out? 20 MR. CHARTER: Not that I recall. 21 MS. MCGRANN: Who or which group of 22 people would be the ones to make a decision about 23 extending the time either to revenue service 24 availability on behalf of the City or the opening

1 MR. CHARTER: So ultimately, you know, 2 it would be I'd say a recommendation from the 3 departmental leadership team working with the 4 general manager and the general manager then in 5 turn speaking with the City manager about next 6 But, you know, sort of an effective 7 recommendation, I believe, from the departmental 8 leadership team to senior management, and then the 9 decision would be made there. 10 MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the trial 11 running, did you have any involvement in 12 determining the conditions that had to be met or 13 passed in order for the system to successfully 14 complete trial running? 15 Yes, I was a member of MR. CHARTER: 16 the trial running review team as well I was -- that 17 trial running review team were the ones that came 18 up with the initial criteria for successful 19 completion of trial running. 2.0 When was the trial MS. MCGRANN: 21 running review team struck, approximately? 22 MR. CHARTER: Months prior to 23 commencement of trial running, and they came up 24 with the trial running review procedures, and there 25 was a document that was produced as a result of it.

1 So months and months, maybe, you know, upwards of a 2 year in advance, but many months in advance of 3 trial running. 4 MS. MCGRANN: Who else was a member of 5 that team? 6 MR. CHARTER: We had the independent 7 certifiers as part of it. I was supported by Larry 8 Gall, a consultant from Capital Transit Partners; 9 Richard Holder from the rail implementation office, 10 and then there was Matthew Slade the project 11 director for OLRT. I think the general manager for 12 RTM at the time Mr. Claude Jacob was part of that. 13 I know he was hired at some point during -- prior 14 to trial running but during the testing commission 15 -- he was hired. We went through the whole 16 construction program, so I'm not sure exactly when 17 he came in, but he was part of it. And there -- I 18 believe there was one other person. I can't recall 19 his name that was part of OLRT working with 20 Mr. Matthew Slade. 21 Were all of those MS. MCGRANN: 22 individuals involved in setting the requirements to 23 pass trial running? 24 We all worked on MR. CHARTER: Yes. 25 the document action. There was one other name I

1 missed. We did work with a gentleman that we 2 brought in from Calgary Transit for a period of 3 time to assist us with the testing and 4 commissioning that transition over, Mr. Russell 5 Davies, so he helped develop the initial 6 documentation. Wasn't part of the trial running 7 review team but helped assist with the initial 8 drafting of the initial documents based on his 9 experience, so I missed that other person there 10 too. 11 The document or documents MS. MCGRANN: 12 that set out the requirements, did that set of 13 information have a name? 14 MR. CHARTER: Trial running TRRT --15 trial running review --16 MR. WARDLE: I can probably help with 17 this. I think there's a document called the trial 18 There's also some running test procedure. 19 documents created in 2017 called a request for 20 information. There's a whole series of documents 21 around trial running, but I think the one you're 22 speaking of is called the trial running test 23 procedure, and it went through, I think, two or 24 three drafts. 25 MR. CHARTER: Yes, iterations, that's

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direction.

1 correct. 2. MS. MCGRANN: Other than creating and 3 revising the trial running test procedure, what 4 other responsibilities did the trial running review 5 team have? 6 MR. CHARTER: So once we went into 7 trial running was to basically assess and review 8 the previous day's performance and assign past, 9 fail, restart, pause criteria. 10 MS. MCGRANN: So we've got pass, fail, 11 pause, and restart. Can you just explain to me 12 what each of those options is and how it played 13 into how the trial running worked? 14 MR. CHARTER: Yes, so obviously pass is 15 it met the conditions for that specific factor. So 16 we had things like end to end travel time, number 17 of trips that were -- number of trains that passed 18 a specific location. Those were designed to make 19 sure that we were getting the throughput to be able 20 to move upwards of 11,000 passengers per hour per

There was information with regards to maintenance practices. As well we got into some details on functionality of certain things like CCTV cameras, the tunnel ventilation system,

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station availability, those types of things.

So there's criteria for pass, and then obviously if it wasn't a pass, it could have been a fail. And then there was other criteria that if you had so many failures, you could be a restart or, you know, there was also a recognition that at some point if there was something identified, you could do a pause and restart of the trial running period over again.

MS. MCGRANN: Okay, just to understand this sort of ladder of decision-making, if it's a pass, it's pass. I get that, onwards. If there's a fail, are you then looking at whether you proceed to a pause or a restart?

MR. CHARTER: Potentially, yes. Now, I know that we had this procedure in place. And I think everyone was well intentioned, and it was --we'd been very public. I know Mr. Manconi spoke to this. At the end of the day, as we're in that trial running period, you know, there's that RFIO document request for information Peter was mentioning that outlined what was agreed to previously in terms of the requirements for trial running, and we ultimately ended up following that document, that criteria, as opposed to what the

1 trial running review team came up with and that it 2 was well intentioned by all parties to follow that, 3 but we ended up following the 2017 document that 4 outlined here's the criteria for pass, fail through 5 trial running. 6 I will come to that in a MS. MCGRANN: 7 I just want to make sure I understand how 8 the trial running test procedure was intended to 9 work. 10 MR. CHARTER: Yeah. 11 MS. MCGRANN: Just so we've got that 12 covered off. If you hit a fail, I think the two 13 options that are available are pause and restart; 14 is that right? 15 MR. CHARTER: Correct. 16 MS. MCGRANN: And does restart mean you 17 restarting at the beginning of the 12-day trial 18 running period? 19 MR. CHARTER: Yes. 2.0 And if you restart at the MS. MCGRANN: 21 beginning of the 12-day trial running period is it 22 a blank slate restart or is it only a restart with 23 respect to elements that triggered a fail? 24 Blank slate restart. MR. CHARTER: 25 How do you get to MS. MCGRANN: Okay.

1 the pause option following a fail? 2. MR. CHARTER: I'd have to -- my 3 I'd have to look at the document apologies. 4 because I know there was different -- depending on 5 the element, there was different criteria and, you 6 know, this was part of the issue in that some of 7 the criteria wasn't well defined when that 8 procedure was put in place. But I'd have to look 9 I know there was certain things from a 10 safety perspective if there was a major safety 11 issue that was identified, we could pause and 12 reassess as to whether or not we should proceed or 13 not, but it depended on what the criteria that was 14 in question. So I'd have to look at the document, 15 but I know that that was one of the concerns and 16 that was one of the issues was that there were 17 certain things that weren't as defined as they 18 should have been. 19 Just continuing to try to MS. MCGRANN: 20 understand how pause worked, and I understand that 21 you can't explain to me what would maybe get you 22 there, but once you get to a pause, what 23 potentially happened? Like, what happens then? 24 Are you paused in considering -- like, what are the 25 options to move from a pause?

1 MR. CHARTER: That's what we're looking 2 at is it a simple, you know, we're paused that day, 3 this day doesn't count as part of the overall 4 calculations to see if the pass trial running or do 5 we need to do a restart. Is this just -- I don't 6 want to -- it's not a defined term, but is it a 7 reset and say, okay no, we've been able to make 8 some adjustments, let's start back up and this is 9 one of the 9 of the 12 days or, you know, is this a 10 restart, or is it just a we need to assess that day 11 and move on. 12 When you say 9 of the 12 MS. MCGRANN: 13 days, what are you referring to? 14 MR. CHARTER: That's where I'm getting 15 into the 2017 document that talked about the 16 requirements to achieve revenue service 17 availability, and that was defined 9 out of 12 18 days. Our document talked about 12 days of trial 19 running and I can't believe I can't remember it 20 right now, but it was 12 days of trial running and 21 I don't know if we needed to achieve 12 days with 22 all criteria or not, so that's where I'd have to 23 review that document a bit more. My apologies. 24 That's okay. The RFIO, MS. MCGRANN: 25 and it's a request for information, do you know

1 what the O stands for? 2. MR. CHARTER: No. 3 MS. MCGRANN: Peter, do you know what 4 the O stands for? 5 I don't think there's an MR. WARDLE: 6 It's a request for information. 7 MR. CHARTER: It's always been referred 8 to an RFIO I thought. 9 And I'm just looking for MR. WARDLE: 10 it. I can find it for you. But it's dated in 11 2017. 12 Okay. So maybe MS. MCGRANN: 13 Mr. Charter, we can ask you to after this interview 14 go away and see if you can figure out what the 15 acronym stands for and then let us know and we can 16 use that as an undertaking. 17 U/T MR. CHARTER: Sure. 18 MS. MCGRANN: Did the trial running 19 review team have reference to the RFIO when it was 20 putting together the trial running test procedure? 21 MR. CHARTER: Obviously the information 22 was available to the City, but when we were 23 creating the document, no, we didn't consider that. 24 It wasn't reviewed. 25 MS. MCGRANN: At what point in the 12

1 days of trial running was the decision made to switch from using the trial running test procedure 3 to the RFIO as the document that governs whether 4 trial running has been accomplished. 5 MR. CHARTER: I believe it's right in 6 basically around the middle of August though not 7 sure the exact date, but around that 14th, 15th 8 date because I think we started using the new 9 criteria the 16th, the Friday. 10 MS. MCGRANN: So part of the way 11 through trial running a decision is made? 12 MR. CHARTER: Right. 13 MS. MCGRANN: When did discussions 14 about switching from the trial running test 15 procedure to the RFIO begin? 16 MR. CHARTER: Right around that time. 17 I mean it happened fairly quick. There was a 18 discussion on it. I know we discussed it at the 19 departmental leadership team and then I know 20 Mr. Manconi discussed it with his counterparts as 21 to the next steps, but, you know, at the time the 22 discussion was, you know, well intentioned to have 23 a real aggressive trial running review procedure, there really was a lack of information in the 24 25 project agreement that defined what trial running

1 was intended to do, and there was an agreed upon 2 RFI previously. So those were factors that led 3 into the decision and I know up to that point we 4 were able to assess -- we had some several good 5 days of service. We were running 15 trains. 6 were able to accomplish -- you know, we were able 7 to show on multiple days that we were able to meet 8 peak capacity. So that's ultimately why the trial 9 running review team supported and recommended 10 switch to the other criteria. 11 Okay. You said that the MS. MCGRANN: 12 purpose of the trial running period was not well 13 defined in the project agreement; is that right? 14 MR. CHARTER: Yes. That's my 15 understanding, yes. 16 MS. MCGRANN: Did the trial running 17 review team define a purpose for the trial running 18 period as part of the work that it did in preparing 19 the trial running test procedure? 2.0 I'd like to say yeah, but MR. CHARTER: 21 I'm not sure if I understand the question. 22 wanted to -- very well intentioned to come up with 23 a real aggressive and look at, you know, a series 24 of elements of various systems and various 25 functionality. So we wanted to be very aggressive

1 and show it that, you know, all systems were 2 functioning as intended. But at the end of the 3 day, it was already a previously agreed upon 4 document that talked about that process. 5 ultimately it assessed the same thing just the 6 level of granularity and the level of detail was 7 more aggressive in what we came up with than what 8 the -- than what was agreed to previously in 2017. 9 MS. MCGRANN: What started the 10 discussion about potentially switching from the 11 trial running test procedure to the RFIO? 12 My recollection is that MR. CHARTER: 13 RTG, Mr. Lauch at the time raised the issue that 14 there was this outstanding document and that's when 15 it started to be assessed at that time. 16 MS. MCGRANN: Do you know what 17 triggered him to raise that document? 18 MR. CHARTER: I do not. 19 MS. MCGRANN: Do you know who he raised 20 it to? 21 MR. CHARTER: I know that the trial 22 running review team did speak about it and, you 23 know, I don't want to make assumptions, but I would 24 assume that Mr. Lauch reached out to Mr. Manconi as 25 well, but that would be up for John or Mr. Lauch to

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 $1 \mid \text{testify to.}$ 

MS. MCGRANN: How did you first learn that a switch from the trial running test procedure to the RFIO was being contemplated?

MR. CHARTER: Through our discussions with the departmental leadership team which may or may not have occurred at the RAMP meeting, but we would have talked about it as a group.

MS. MCGRANN: And what kind of assessment did the trial running review team make? Let me ask you this, did the trial running review team make any assessment of the implications of switching from the trial running test procedure to the RFIO?

MR. CHARTER: Ultimately, we did look at it. And, you know, as I mentioned, the independent certifier was part of that process as well, and the whole group felt that we could move to that and still meet the objectives of assessing the functionality of the system and the trains and make a good determination as to whether or not the revenue service availability was met.

MR. WARDLE: If I could just add something here. So the document the witness is speak about is actually RFI-O-266. And the issue

1 is one specific part of the trial running 2 measurements. So it's called the average daily 3 So that's what the change was about. 4 mean I don't want to interfere, but just so you 5 know that that's the context in which he's giving 6 his answers. 7 MS. MCGRANN: Okay. What role did the 8 IC play in the discussions about switching from the 9 trial running test procedure to the RFIO? 10 MR. CHARTER: They were looking at it 11 as the independent certifier as to whether or not 12 they were providing their independent opinion as to 13 whether or not substantial completion was met. And 14 it came down to, you know, would they have 15 sufficient information to make that determination. 16 MS. MCGRANN: Okay, so their role was 17 looking at the RFIO, the RFI -- call it the RFIO 18 for the purposes of this transcript because I think 19 we all know what we're talking about at this 20 point -- they took a look at the RFIO and 21 determined whether the criteria set out in that 22 document would provide them with sufficient 23 information to determine whether substantial 24 completion was met? 25 Well, ultimately MR. CHARTER: Yeah.

1 at the end of the day, the independent certifier 2 had to say whether or not -- provide their opinion 3 as to whether or not they felt that the conditions 4 for a readiness service availability were met. So 5 that's their context in this in that, you know, if 6 there was any -- if there was insufficient 7 information for them to make that determination, I 8 would have assumed they would have raised that 9 concern at the time. 10 So that was going to be MS. MCGRANN: 11 my next question. The focus is on the question of 12 whether revenue service availability was met 13 following trial running, am I right? 14 MR. CHARTER: Correct. 15 Do you know if anybody MS. MCGRANN: 16 explicitly told the independent certifier that that 17 was the role that they were playing in this? Like, 18 was it explicitly stated that the independent 19 certifier in looking at the RFIO and determining 20 whether that information would be sufficient for 21 them to determine revenue service availability? 22 I can only assume. MR. CHARTER: 23 can't say definitively. I just don't have that specific conversation with them but the terms of 24 25 why they were hired and what they were hired to do

1 would have been pretty clear. I can't assume. 2. MR. WARDLE: We provided to you the 3 report of the independent certifier. I have our 4 production number for it, but it refers directly to 5 the trial running team conclusion, and the trial 6 running criteria is stated in RFI0266. 7 It's part of why I'm MS. MCGRANN: 8 wondering whether the independent certifier could 9 be part of the decision-making team or the team 10 making the decision about whether the switch should 11 be made. 12 Again, I don't want to MR. WARDLE: 13 correct the witness, but I think from my 14 understanding, this is talking -- it's not about 15 the entire trial running criteria, it's simply 16 about one part of trial running and it's that 17 average AVEKR is what it's referred to in the 18 documents. 19 Did anybody raise any MS. MCGRANN: 20 concerns to your knowledge, Mr. Charter, about 21 switching from the trial running test procedure to 22 the RFIO for this component? 23 MR. CHARTER: Nothing specific but 24 obviously, you know, when you start a test, an 25 assessment, you don't want to be changing the

1 criteria midway through. So that was a concern, 2 and we knew that -- something is just popping up on 3 What's the question again? my screen. 4 The question was did MS. MCGRANN: 5 anybody raise any concerns about switching from the 6 trial running test procedure to the RFIO? 7 MR. CHARTER: No, nothing specific. 8 Nothing specific other than, you know, we knew that 9 this was something that we were going to have to 10 explain and discuss and inform counsel and the 11 Transit Commission on, and I believe Mr. Manconi 12 did that very publicly, but, you know, other than 13 that, no, we were still assessing whether or not we 14 felt that the system was ready for passenger 15 service, and we still felt confident at the time 16 that we had -- the criteria that was there would 17 still allow us to do that. 18 MS. MCGRANN: I mean just looking at 19 the change of 12 days of consecutive issues for 20 service, which is what I think was originally 21 envisioned by what was put together by the trial 22 running review team; is that right? 23 Yeah. Like I said, I MR. CHARTER: 24 wasn't sure if it was 12 consecutives days or 10 of 25 12, but that sounds accurate, yes.

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                MS. MCGRANN:
                              Moving from that to 9 of
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    12 days -- sorry, Peter, I didn't hear what you
 3
    said there.
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                             So I think the 9 of 12
                MR. WARDLE:
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    days was established in the 2017 document. Again,
 6
    I'm not trying to -- all the project agreement
7
    talks about is 12 days. The 2017 document speaks
8
    of 9 out of 12 days.
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                MS. MCGRANN:
                             Right. What I was
10
    referring to was the test that was in place or the
11
    requirements that were in place at the start of
12
    trial running, which I think the witness said
13
    required 12 days.
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                MR. WARDLE: I don't think that's, in
15
    fact, what the document says. So, again, I'm --
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                MR. CHARTER: I'd like to -- I'd like
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    to pull up the trial running review, you know, our
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    document that we had. I just want to refresh my
19
    memory on that, but I know that the RFIO document
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    was 9 of 12 days with AA or AVKR of 90 percent.
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                MS. MCGRANN:
                             So maybe we'll come back
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    to these questions when we pick up this interview
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    to make up for the time lost at the front end with
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    the assistance of documents in hand.
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                MR. CHARTER: Thank you.
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1 MS. MCGRANN: It's not a memory test. 2 But I do want to understand how this all unfolded. 3 So you said that Mr. Lauch suggested using the 4 RFIO, that's what you understand happened? 5 Yes, going by memory on MR. CHARTER: 6 it, but I believe it would have been Mr. Lauch who 7 would have raised that, there's this outstanding 8 document in which we previously agreed to certain 9 Whether or not that was raised by criteria. 10 Mr. Lauch or Mr. Slade, it was brought forward and 11 that's when the discussion ensued. 12 MS. MCGRANN: Was it brought forward as 13 a result of anything? Like, did something cause 14 this conversation to start? 15 MR. CHARTER: No -- no, I can't think 16 of -- it came forward during trial running. 17 I think it's well documented that there were some 18 ups and downs in trial running in the early days. 19 And that was anticipated that -- we didn't 20 anticipate that trial running was going to be 21 perfect from day one. The first couple of days, 22 you know, was I'll say trial running. And we went 23 into that with a bit of that mindset that, you 24 know, we need to start the process, we need to look 25 And the only way you can really sort of at it.

1 assess it is to make a decision and move forward. 2 So that's what we did, but there was an 3 understanding that it wasn't going to be perfect 4 from the first day and maybe even the first day 5 wasn't going to be a pass, and it wasn't. 6 The first day was not a MS. MCGRANN: 7 pass? 8 MR. CHARTER: No. 9 MS. MCGRANN: At the end of the first 10 day were you in a position where you're restarting 11 day one on the next day? 12 MR. CHARTER: I believe so. Once 13 again, for our next session I'll make sure I'm more 14 familiar with each one of the days, but I believe 15 the first day or two wasn't a pass day, so it 16 wouldn't have been counted as part of those 12 17 days. 18 MS. MCGRANN: Okay. How was the 19 performance during the trial running being 20 monitored. 21 MR. CHARTER: So we had -- there was 22 various people that were compiling various pieces 23 of information that were used. And then on a daily 24 basis the trial running review team would meet and 25 convene and review the previous day's information

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and performance.

So as I mentioned, we had staff, or I mentioned that one of the criteria was number of trains passing a specific location. You know, that would help determine were we achieving the headway, so the train frequency. So that information was supplied to us.

We looked at -- you know, we pulled information from the control systems, I'll just say, that, you know, to confirm whether or not the stations were opened on time and closed on time.

What was the functionality of all the CCTV cameras.

Was the TVS operational the entire time?

So there was various -- information was coming from various areas, you know, and, you know, another piece of it was we got the travel time information which helps support the train frequency information. So every day the trial running review team would meet and review the previous day's information and, you know, assess sort of the criteria that had been outlined as to was it a pass, was it fail, and trying to apply a bit of logic and rationale to it to a few of the findings.

MS. MCGRANN: When you said that you tried to apply a bit of logic and rationale to a

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few of the findings, what does that mean?

MR. CHARTER: This is where being part

of the decision to look at that trial running

4 review procedure was, I'll use an example of the

5 CCTV cameras. Again, we wanted to show full

6 functionality and we wanted some very robust and

<sup>7</sup> very aggressive targets for reliability were set, I

8 | believe was set at 99.5 percent. Reliability of

9 the cameras. Now what we found out as we got into

it was if we had one non-functioning camera that

wasn't rectified within the three to four hours

that it needed to be rectified, one non-functioning

camera in which there was redundant camera feeds

14 could result in a failure of that specific

component, and, you know, that wasn't the intent

| 16 | and that wasn't what was contemplated.

There wasn't this level of detail in the project agreement, and that certainly wasn't the intent of the trial running review team was to fail the day or to fail the criteria based upon one non-functioning camera that had no safety or security concerns because it was redundant camera angles. So those are -- that's where I said we tried to apply some logic and rationale to some things.

If there was no service impact, if
there was no security impact, no security impact,
you know, and you're looking -- you're talking
about one camera, you know, that wasn't sufficient
to fail the day. So trying to be reasonable in
that regard because that's why you have multiple
cameras and redundant feeds and those types of
things is to deal with those situations, because,
you know we had -- we had some -- we had some minor
issues where we had some cameras that, you know -spider webs were causing issues and we had this one
spider on this one camera that, you know, kept
popping up and we couldn't -- yeah, we couldn't see
through the camera.

We would submit a work order for it to be rectified and if they didn't get to spiderweb within, you know, the two hours or whatever the criteria was, that would be a failure. Well, that wasn't the intent.

So if it was something like the tunnel ventilation system wasn't functioning for a period of time, no, that's safety critical equipment.

That's a no brainer. That's an automatic fail. So that's what I mean by trying to apply some logic and reasonableness and rationale to things.

1 MS. MCGRANN: The deliberations of the 2 trial running review team, maybe that's not quite 3 the right word, but the work you did to review and 4 assess and determine the performance from the 5 previous day, what records were kept of that work, 6 the conversations, and the decisions made? 7 MR. CHARTER: So each day we recorded 8 on a scorecard -- we had it up on a board but then 9 it was ultimately recorded on a piece of paper and 10 everyone signed off on it what the metric was, what 11 was achieved, was it a pass, fail, and then 12 everyone signed off on it at the end of the day and 13 that included the independent certifier. 14 And as well throughout that process I 15 was supported by one of the industry experts that 16 we've been working with. 17 MS. MCGRANN: And who was that? 18 MR. CHARTER: That was Mr. Larry Gall. 19 MS. MCGRANN: You mentioned the camera 20 and the spider issue. What were the other issues 21 that you saw from the trial running period prior to 22 the decision to use the RFIO as part of the 23 criteria? 24 There was, you know -- we MR. CHARTER: 25 definitely experienced a disruption or two.

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1 have to look at the dates, but we definitely 2 experienced a disruption or two with the vehicles, 3 so the reliability of the vehicle did come into 4 question. As well, one of the things that we tried 5 to do a bit of a qualitative assessment on was the 6 use of -- I think it's determined on the document 7 was maintenance practices, so we wanted to assess 8 their use of their work order management system and 9 what we found was, you know, the work order 10 management system was utilized. It was tracking 11 defects, and it was tracking -- the issue was 12 reported. It was assigned to the person. The 13 person went and rectified it. 14 But, you know, there was issues with 15 regards to the timeliness of closing off on those 16 documents as well as the completeness of -- you

regards to the timeliness of closing off on those documents as well as the completeness of -- you know, we wanted to see closing comments. You know, here's exactly what I did to rectify the issue and close it off. This issue is now closed, right. So we wanted to see some very specifics. So they didn't fair well in those maintenance practices. But that was a bit more of a qualitative assessment in which we were randomly selecting five work orders.

You know, the system was functioning.

1 The system was being used. You could see it being 2. You could track issues from issue used. 3 identification submission to rectification, but 4 attributed to sort of a green workforce from the 5 RTM perspective, it wasn't being utilized as 6 effectively or as the way we wanted to see it. So 7 they didn't fair well on the maintenance practice 8 piece, but as I said, that was more of a 9 qualitative assessment, but that's something that 10 we saw was an ongoing issue. 11 CCTV cameras, while being minor was 12 something that we did experience, but, you know. 13 So of the main reasons for some of the pause and 14 the -- you know, as I'm talking, I'm remembering it 15 was repeat days, repeat criteria as well in there, 16 was related to vehicle reliability. 17 MS. MCGRANN: And what specifically 18 were the vehicle reliability issues, if you 19 remember? 2.0 MR. CHARTER: You know, going back 21 to -- you know, it would be a vehicle becoming 22 immobilised on a line or late launches, and the 23 late launches would have been attributed to those 24 fault codes that I talked about earlier that are 25 populating up prior to launch of vehicles.

1 But we did have -- there were a few 2 occurrences of a vehicle becoming immobilised that 3 resulted in what we call the diversion. So we can 4 still maintain service by going around a train, but 5 there's only certain locations in which you can go 6 around a train, so it's a reduced service at a 7 reduced frequency. So those were the types of 8 issues that came up during trial running. 9 And did those issues come MS. MCGRANN: 10 up also after the decision to change the criteria, 11 as we've already discussed? 12 Possibly. There might MR. CHARTER: 13 have been one or two, yeah. But the RFIO and even 14 the trial running review team, the criteria 15 contemplated that, you know, you could have these 16 issues and still provide a reliable service and, 17 you know, the issue is about, you know, timely 18 rectification and not repeat occurrences. 19 So that was always contemplated in the 20 trial running is that we weren't expecting 21 perfection. Things can happen and do happen on 22 rail lines, but we were expecting a certain level 23 of reliability and a certain degree of performance 24 during that period.

MS. MCGRANN:

I'm just thinking about

```
1
    how best to use the seven minutes that we have left
 2
    here knowing that we're going to have to come back.
 3
                Let's see if we can cover this.
                                                   At any
 4
    point during your time working on OLRT stage one up
5
    until the September 14th, 2019, opening to public
 6
    service, are you aware of any discussions of the
7
    public service opening being less than full public
8
              So starting with something less than that
    service?
9
    and ramping up to full public service over a period
10
    of time?
11
                               Yeah.
                                      There were some --
                MR. CHARTER:
12
    I think there's some very early discussions that I
13
    wouldn't say I was directly involved in that I'm
14
    aware of, and then there was some discussions as we
15
    got closer to launch of the term soft launch.
16
    There were discussions of that nature, yes.
17
                MS. MCGRANN:
                               Starting with the early
18
    discussions, approximately when did those take
19
    place?
20
                MR. CHARTER: I wouldn't want to fathom
21
              I know it was early on in the process,
    a quess.
22
    and I don't know.
23
                               What do you remember
                MS. MCGRANN:
24
    about those early discussions?
25
                               So what I'm aware of with
                MR. CHARTER:
```

regards to the earlier discussions, and I appreciate some of this is probably hearsay, but there was some discussion about, you know, would the City consider launching the system, you know, not at full capacity with a reduced number of trains, with potentially a -- so a reduced frequency, with some station limitations and possibly some system limitations.

So my understanding of what the conversation was was more about, you know, I know it was characterized as a soft launch, but from our perspective, and at least what I was told, it was more of a partial opening as opposed to a soft opening. And that's why -- not contemplated in the prong agreement but certainly, you know, not something that the City could support given that the nature of the line that we were building was literally, it's -- we've said it many times publicly, we replaced the spine of our bus network with a rail network.

It was going to be busy and all parties knew it was going to be busy from day one no matter what we did, and a partial opening just didn't work for the City, so we wanted to go with a full opening and, you know, I know later there was

discussions about a soft opening and, you know, my perspective on that is that that's exactly what we did was a soft opening.

MS. MCGRANN: Before we talk about the soft opening and those discussions, I just want to stick with the early discussion for a second. If you don't know the answer, just tell me, but I want to understand the reasons why this wasn't an option for the City. Is it the practical implications of needing to run a bus service alongside a partial light rail system? Like, what was about it that wouldn't work, to your knowledge?

MR. CHARTER: So I can speak to definitely I mean, if you're talking about partial station opening and, you know, certain doors and certain stairwells being opened, some stations opened, some stations not, it just becomes a logistical nightmare for customers. And we need to keep in mind that, you know, our customers have gone through years of disruption. You know, our bus routes were all put on detours. People were experiencing longer commute times, increased travel time, increased congestion, and then factor in the customer experience more delays in terms of running the system, and there was this excitement about

2.

2.0

1 having this rail line.

So it becomes a real communication and logistical nightmare to try to, you know -- here's where you can go, here's where can't. Here's what functionality you have, here's what functionality you don't. Oh, by the way, train frequency is only this. It becomes really hard to message that the system is ready to go.

You know, why would you open the system if you had limited functionality and you didn't have all the -- I don't want to over simplify it and say bells and whistles, but if you don't have the systems, you don't have the trains, you don't have all the stations, why would you do a partial opening? It's not ready.

And I know there's obviously more to it than that, but that's from my perspective and from some initial conversations that I've had with our leadership team.

MS. MCGRANN: With respect to the soft opening that was suggested or considered, when was that?

MR. CHARTER: Again, I wouldn't want to put a specific date to it. I know that it was in the lead up to revenue service and probably most

likely surfaced a few times, but ultimately, I think, you know, what was a soft opening, that's the difference of opinion right now because the City did take numerous steps to reduce the pressure for the full scale opening.

You know, the steps that we took, you know, we agreed to 13 trains as opposed to 15, peak period service that matches our ridership because when 15 train morning peak period requirement was defined in the project agreement, we were at very, very high ridership levels, and our ridership had reduced over the subsequent years, so reduced training frequency.

We introduced as well, you know, post achievement of revenue service. It was going to be a period of time in which OC Transpo was going to have an additional two weeks of, you know, drills and exercises and staff familiarisation. So there was that two-week period built in prior to, you know, actually starting to pick up customers.

Then, you know, in speaking once again with the consultants that we worked with, you know, when should we do the opening? Should it be a weekend? Should it be a weekday? You know, if you do a weekend, you get all the families coming out.

If you do a weekday, you know, you're right into
your Monday to Friday day-to-day grind. Do you do
hey, everyone come and open up. We're opening up
at 10 o'clock.

So we made some operational decisions that time. We decided to do a weekend opening. We did not offer free service. That was one of the things that we heard loud and clear from other places is don't do free service because you will get people coming in droves and they will overtax the system on day one. Don't do that.

And, you know, when we did open up, it was the system will open up, we'll gradually open up around 2 o'clock, so people could slowly filter in. So, you know, but was it -- and then on top of that, we had the parallel bus service for the first three weeks of service.

So I think the City took a lot of progressive steps to soften the opening but recognizing that all the parties knew from the beginning that this was a very busy line from day one and it was always planned to be that. This was not -- you might have heard the term Greenfield verus -- you know it's not a Greenfield operation. It's not a build the rail line and then all the

1 ridership will come as development goes up around 2 We put a line right throughout the downtown it. 3 core to alleviate congestion and the issues with 4 busses and all that sort of stuff, so it was known 5 from the beginning this was going to be a busy line 6 and it needed to have the reliability from day one. 7 Well, I have some more MS. MCGRANN: 8 questions for you, so we might as well leave it 9 there for now. 10 Thank you very much for your time today 11 and for all the efforts that you took to make the 12 virtual interview work. We can end the interview 13 here for today. 14 -- Whereupon the examination concluded 15 at 5:00 p.m. 16 17 18 19 2.0 21 22 23 24 25

1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	I, COLLEEN REA, CSR, Certified
4	Shorthand Reporter, certify;
5	That the foregoing proceedings were
6	taken before me at the time and place therein set
7	forth, at which time the witness was put under oath
8	by me;
9	That the testimony of the witness
10	and all objections made at the time of the
11	examination were recorded stenographically by me
12	and were thereafter transcribed;
13	That the foregoing is a true and
14	correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.
15	
16	Dated this 13th day of April, 2022.
17	CRoa
18	Cha
19	
20	NEESON COURT REPORTING INC.
21	PER: COLLEEN REA, CSR
22	
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24	
25	

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