

Robicheau, Vanessa

Subject: RE: King Street Transit Only lane.

From: Graham McNally

Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 10:03 AM

To:

Subject: King Street Transit Only lane.

Dear Council,

I am part of the ownership group for several properties on King St where the Transit Only Lane is currently installed. I urge council to keep the lane while also extending and making the recommended improvements for the following reasons.

1. Equity - good public transit is an important part of a vibrant city. Good transit provides an invaluable service for people without a car and makes getting around our city more equitable for all residents.
2. Building for the future - we can see examples in many cities around the world where transit has been planned or has followed development and growth. We can learn from these examples that building transit in anticipation of future needs (which we can be certain of with Growth Plans and limits being applied to our urban growth boundary), pays off in the future by providing excellent service without requiring disruptive construction. Let's build now so we're ready for the future!
3. Transit options - Good transit (reliable, regular and quick service) makes it more likely that people will choose transit over a vehicle. This will reduce overall traffic on the street which will reduce maintenance costs.
4. Messaging to the province - I believe that the decision council takes on this issue will be interpreted by the province as an indication of the kind of city that we want to be. While some think that the status quo is ok, I believe that the residents of Hamilton deserve better transit and that keeping and improving the TOL will signal to the province that we want to become a vibrant city with great transit - a city worthy of further provincial investment.

I appreciate your careful consideration of this important issue.

Graham