

May 16, 2016

City Hall
71 Main Street West
Hamilton Ontario

Attention: Mayor and City Councillors

I understand that you are looking for input into the decision of whether or not the citizens of Hamilton are for or against the proposed LRT transit system.

I would like to go on record as being totally opposed to LRT. There are far more pressing issues where the money could be spent and this city does not need the disruption to homes and businesses that the installation of the LRT would create. In addition, ending the line at the Queenston Traffic Circle is a ludicrous idea and will result in passengers having to take the HSR buses to connect to that depot.

Whether we like to think it is or not, this is not a world class city. The cost of building the LRT would far surpass the money that the province is contributing and passenger numbers would not cover the deficit. The money would be far better spent on the social housing issues, road repairs and an improvement to the HSR system.

I recommend a referendum on this issue and I think you will find that many other citizens of this city are against the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Anne van Dyk

From: lakewoodbeachcc

To: stephanie.paparella@hamilton.ca

CC: mayor@hamilton.ca; aidan.johnson@hamilton.ca; jason.farr@hamilton.ca;
matthew.green@hamilton.ca; sam.merulla@hamilton.ca; chad.collins@hamilton.ca;
tom.jackson@hamilton.ca; donna.skelly@hamilton.ca; terry.whitehead@hamilton.ca;
doug.conley@hamilton.ca; maria.pearson@hamilton.ca; brenda.johnson@hamilton.ca;
lloyd.ferguson@hamilton.ca; arlene.vanderbeek@hamilton.ca; robert.pasuta@hamilton.ca;
judi.partridge@hamilton.ca

Subject: LRT

Date: Mon, 16 May 2016 09:31:39 -0400

Stephanie, please add this to the GIC agenda. Thank you.

It has been difficult to judge how much support is behind LRT as previous lobbying efforts were concentrated however we have spoken to a few businesses along Queenston Road, and residents who live, work or play in Wards 4, 5, 9, 10 and 11. (East Hamilton)

Up to this point in time, LRT was seen as a central city issue and because transit needs have never really been addressed in any meaningful way, people for the most part have given up on the thought that improvements will be made. (hence the 4 vehicle dwellers)

Having said that however, we thought we would share with you that we are finding that momentum is building and people are starting to come out strongly for LRT here in Stoney Creek. People who are current transit users want the LRT to Eastgate. People who are not current transit users, are starting to recognize that with the future growth in people, we need to curb the number of vehicles that come with those people, in order to address health/safety concerns as well as cost concerns.

B-Line LRT is now being viewed as our best viable first step towards an enhanced city-wide public transit system.

In our opinion, it will address our PAST (mistakes), our PRESENT (jobs) and our FUTURE (growth) while being the least 'taxing' option going forward city-wide.

Respectfully,

Lakewood Beach Community Council

From: Gregory Macdonald
Sent: May-14-16 7:53 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: LRT vs. another lane

Just a comment to the city of Hamilton but my husband and son both drive from Brantford to work in Hamilton. I am not so sure the LRT would be used so much as another lane down the Hamilton mountain on the 403. It is horrendous during peak traffic times and causes a back up on the Linc as well. This is an area with accidents just waiting to happen. Maybe some thought should go into that instead of jumping on the LRT band wagon. Comments my husband has heard at work is that the bus system is underused so why bother putting in something else that will probably also be underused but I am sure all those people struggling to get down the mountain in the morning to their jobs which is their livelihood would sure appreciate another lane there. Just saying. Thanks for listening.-Annette MacDonald

May 16, 2016

City Hall
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario

Dear Mayor and City Councillors:

This letter is in support of the LRT vote on May 18, 2016.

We are long-term residents of Hamilton. We live in Ward 1, and we have an interest in seeing the city improved. LRT is the way to go. LRT is progressive, it embraces the latest in technology, and can only help to make Hamilton improve and return to its former vibrancy. We are fully prepared to put up with inconveniences during LRT construction. It is after all work towards positive improvement, and should not be considered an argument against LRT development.

We need no more LRT studies, and decidedly no LRT referendum. The LRT debate is over, the benefits of LRT are clear. The money is there. Get on with it.

Mr. Mayor and City councillors, please take charge, and provide leadership on building the LRT.

Many thanks.

John and Tordis Coakley



May 16, 2016

Mayor and Councillors
City of Hamilton

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Item 5.1 Part (b)

The Durand Neighbourhood Association continues to support implementation of Light Rail Transit on the B line corridor in Hamilton.

Recent council activity, including undermining comments by councillors, and the deferral of a vote to accept the funds offered by the province for LRT are perceived with a sense of alarm by residents of Hamilton, including the Durand NA. Our city has invested eight years in planning and engagement to bring the project to this point. We finally have the funding and a plan to move forward. It is time to move ahead without negativity – there will be challenges during the next few years, but we can deal with the issues as they arise, and invest in the future of Hamilton for future generations.

Other cities are currently constructing LRT – Kitchener-Waterloo will have an operational system before Hamilton's construction begins. The potential economic uplift, and continued prosperity of Hamilton, depends on higher-order transit. The current system is expensive and does not adequately serve the needs of transit users.

Thank you for your consideration, and please vote for the future of Hamilton.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frances Murray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "F".

Frances Murray

President, Durand Neighbourhood Association

Dear Honourable Mayor and Council:

Re: **Support Light Rail Transit (LRT) in Hamilton**

The Kirkendall Neighbourhood Association (KNA) is writing today to re-affirm its support and request your support for the Hamilton Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project. Kirkendall is located west of Queen Street to the 403 and south of Main Street to the escarpment.

LRT is an opportunity that as a city, we cannot afford to lose. We do not feel it is necessary to restate the LRT's many benefits and its ability to be a catalyst for renewed investment and economic development; these are already well documented. Instead, the intent of this letter is to explore concerns that continue to be raised about the project and provide our comments on them as key stakeholders and as future users of the service.

Construction Disruption: We acknowledge that construction is going to be hard on everyone. It's going to be loud, dirty and cause vibrations all along the proposed line. Residents may see increased traffic on neighbourhood streets as cars seek to avoid the LRT construction. This could mean longer travel times and some increased traffic on side streets, but this will be temporary. We are so excited about the benefit of this project that we as a neighbourhood are willing to endure all the headaches and congestion that come with the construction. It's worth it and we look forward to working with you on this.

Effects on Business: As stated above, construction is going to hurt. Nobody will feel this more than the many businesses that are located along the LRT Route. This deserves a great deal of attention and sensitivity. Both residents, the City of Hamilton and Metrolinx need to work together to improve construction impacts to these businesses. We hope that the construction can be scheduled and undertaken in a way that minimizes the amount of disruption and we are ready to do what we can as a neighbourhood association to shop at and encourage others to shop at businesses along the LRT route during construction. This too will be temporary and together we can get through this.

Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) Improvements: Some Councillors have expressed support for prioritizing city wide transit improvements such as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) over committing to the LRT project. We also support city wide transit improvements; however Hamilton has been allocated \$1 Billion dollars by the Province of Ontario to build the proposed LRT Line. The way this money is funded means it cannot be allocated to other projects. Furthermore, as Councillor Merulla pointed out, if the city moves forward with LRT, the money that was previously allocated for infrastructure improvements along the LRT route will now be freed up for other projects. The KNA believes that it is in the City's best financial interest to support the LRT project and look for other opportunities to fund other transit across the city.

Corridor Location: Some Councillors have suggested that a north/south line may be a better fit for our city than the currently proposed east/west Line. The data does not support this so we are unsure what evidence these Councillors have to support this position. Based on the HSR's own data, ridership on the Main/King corridor is the highest in the City, much higher than any other corridor. On top of that, the demand for real estate in the Downtown area has hit record highs (intensification is happening) which has created interest among developers for higher density builds along the east/west corridor. Two developments happening in Kirkendall alone (220 Dundurn and 101 Locke Street) will be increasing density along the proposed route by adding hundreds of units. All of this intensification will result in higher tax revenues to pay for services and infrastructure. An east/west line makes more sense on many levels.

In conclusion, we know there are going to be problems and people who do not agree with the even the basics of the project but the main concerns can be mitigated. As a neighbourhood, our support for the LRT Project is so high that we are willing to suffer the challenges associated with getting it. We believe the juice will be worth the squeeze. **We kindly request your support for LRT as well.**

Thanking you in advance, warm regards,

Kirkendall Neighbourhood Association

-----Original Message-----

From: Nadia Coakley

Sent: May-16-16 4:22 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: LRT

I would be in support of more express buses. I would not ride the LRT. I would have to walk 15-20 min or take a bus to get to the LRT stop. It take me 20 to drive to work and 60 if I take the bus. The LRT would now mean 3 transfers and I can't see it shaving that much time off my bus commute. The traffic on Main West usually moves quickly anyways

The LRT does nothing to address the people who have to drive from Dundas or Ancaster into Hamilton. It would be great to do something to reduce the traffic coming from those two areas. So many people drive from those two communities. I am in favour of express buses because they are more versatile.

An express bus that goes from the general to the new GO station, the other Go station, up by St. Joe's and then to the Juraviski hospital/cancer centre and on to Limeridge would be great. It could help people get to the hospitals and not have to pay so much for parking.

I think the LRT would be okay, but it just seems like too many obstacles in the way and the route is too short. You should find out which way people are coming from and optimize it. Maybe we just need an LRT in a different location in the city instead of East to West.

Nadia

May 16, 2016

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71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario

Dear Mayor and City Councillors,

This letter is in support of the LRT vote on May 18, 2016.

We are long-term residents of Hamilton. We live in Ward 1, and we have an interest in seeing the city improved. LRT is the way to go. LRT is progressive:

- It embraces the latest technology
- It takes cars and buses off the road and enables efficient transportation
- It takes traffic out of the one-way "express ways" (King and Main) enabling a move toward more people-friendly environments
- It improves air quality by reducing combustion engines
- It enables McMaster students, staff and faculty to live downtown, contributing to inner city quality
- It can only help Hamilton return to its former vibrancy

We are fully prepared to put up with inconveniences during the LRT construction. It is after all work towards positive city improvement and environmental responsibility, and should not be considered an argument against the LRT.

We need no more studies, and decidedly no referendum. The LRT debate is over, the benefits of the LRT are clear. The provincial money is there. Let's get on with it.

Mr. Mayor and City Councillors, please take charge, and provide leadership on building the LRT.

Many thanks,

Daniel and Wendy Coleman