

Pilon, Janet

Subject: LRT Bay Street Stop

From: Mike M

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To: Office of the Mayor; Johnson, Aidan; Farr, Jason; Green, Matthew; Merulla, Sam; Collins, Chad; Jackson, Tom; Skelly, Donna; Whitehead, Terry; Conley, Doug; Pearson, Maria; Johnson, Brenda; Ferguson, Lloyd; VanderBeek, Arlene; Pasuta, Robert; Partridge, Judi

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Hello all.

I won't pretend to understand everything about LRT, but the proposed Bay Street stop seemed to make a lot of sense from everything I've read and heardeven from the cost perspective and the 1 billion dollar situation. But when I heard on the radio this morning that council voted this proposal down I was surprised and disappointed. The fact that it was so well supported by a good number of respected leaders in the city and yet their opinions and suggestions were seemingly ignored, and with very little to no backup justifying the no vote.

I know that not everyone is in favour of LRT for Hamilton even though it's been made clear that this project brings a ton of potential for great economic uplift if we choose to make the most of it. For that reason alone I would think that council would do whatever they could to capitalize on LRT. Instead it's seriously looking like a number of Councillors have decided to NOT make this the best it can be for this city. I don't understand why anyone who is going to have their name associated with this legacy wouldn't want to do all that they can to get the best possible outcome.

And as for Councillor Ferguson's comment about scope creep..... I understand where he's coming from. However, I thought these public meetings were for exactly these considerations to be brought forward with public feedback and input to be considered for possible changes. I can understand saying no to something like moving it to Main Street at this point, but adding/removing stops where it make sense was on the table as far as I understood at this phase.

It's when decisions like this are made that I really wish these projects would be left to the experts. Or at that very least listen to them, understand the pros and cons from them and then respond appropriately.

I really do appreciate all that Councillors do. I do just wish though that they would not play politics with projects such as this that are going to have such a long lasting effect on our community.

mike majcher
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