

Pilon, Janet

Subject: NO LRT IN HAMILTON?

Importance: High

From: Jim Peters

Sent: January-27-17 4:37 PM

To: Office of the Mayor

Cc: Pearson, Maria

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To: Mayor Fred Eisenberger

I am copying you in on the email I have just sent to my friends and associates.

If you can provide any additional information to the questions below it would be appreciated.

It also became evident that the councillors that attended last night's LRT event feel that they have no additional avenues to stop this project because of the failed vote in council.

My question to you what avenues exist to obtain clearer answers before this project proceeds.

Thank You,

Jim Peters

From: Jim Peters

Sent: January 27, 2017 4:16 PM

To: Jim Peters

Subject: NO LRT IN HAMILTON?

Importance: High

Hi,

Lynne & I attended the local meeting last night explaining the proposed LRT (light rail transit) for Hamilton.

I would urge you all to familiarize yourself with the project and get involved in stopping this travesty. I do not use this word lightly;

"Perversion of, distortion of, misrepresentation of, a false absurd or distorted representation of"

to describe the proposed LRT HAMILTON project. Why?

We the tax payers are being asked to;

- Spend 1 Billion dollars for only 11km of light rail trains
- It is done on the pretext that this will help to prepare Hamilton for future growth
- Totally disrupt vehicle traffic from McMaster University to the Queenston traffic circle
- Totally disrupt commercial businesses in the downtown core during construction

- Construct an overhead hydro wires for power to the trains
- These disruptions will not only be during construction but forever because the roadway will be changed permanently
 - A concrete barrier will be built in the centre of the road on both sides of the two sets of LRT track only broken at certain intersections
 - With two sets of tracks plus a concrete wall on both sides it will mean that no street parking will be available
 - The majority of money will be spent on “moving the current infrastructure so it does not lie under the LRT tracks” i.e. sewers, water, water hydrants, hydro, any communication lines, all being paid for with tax payer money
 - However some infrastructure will be still be under the tracks because of any north south intersections

In my opinion this is a distortion of the true reason for this build.

- If the only reason for this project is to prepare Hamilton’s public transit for future growth there are better ways to meet that need
 - Battery Electric Busses that exist today that can be purchased at far less than the billion dollars
 - Future upgrade to driverless vehicles to reduce operation costs
 - Does not require concrete barriers or overhead hydro wires (i.e. expensive hydro operating costs will be reduced)
 - Existing bus stops can be maintained to accommodate all existing bus stops to accommodate senior mobility
 - Under the LRT the number of stops will be reduced causing longer walking to and from bus stops
 - They are full mobile and not tied to a track therefore can be used anywhere in the city not tied to a track
 - The buses come in various sizes and can be assigned by actual ridership to minimize capital costs
 - Does not cause any issues for emergency vehicles
 - Does not require specialized snow removal equipment to remove from tracks and then from roadway
- Electric buses do not leave itself open to possible large cost overruns that are likely because of the complexity of the build LRT build

So what is the true purpose of LRT proposal?

- Is it really to provide moneys to rebuild the downtown infrastructure?
- Is it to transfer accountability from the public domain to the private sector and into private ownership

- The current proposal states “At this point the expectation is that the procurement of the Hamilton LRT project will see the successful private-sector bidder operating and maintaining the LRT”

So because the answers are not clear cut but hold significant impact for Hamilton I would suggest the following

- Send this email to as many of your friends as possible to make them aware
- Sign the petition at <http://nolrthamilton.com/>
- Contact your councillor: 905-546-2489
- Contact the mayor mayor@hamilton.ca
- Contact Kathleen Wynne
<https://correspondence.premier.gov.on.ca/EN/feedback/default.aspx>
- Request the truth, we don't want political spin, we want a full understanding of how and why our money is being spent

Jim Peters