

Pilon, Janet

Subject: I am against LRT

From: Office of the Mayor
Sent: November-21-16 9:55 AM
To: 'brad germain'
Subject: RE: I am against LRT

Hi Brad,

Thanks for reaching out to me. My staff and I have ensured that every email, call and letter has been responded to on this file. The questions you are asking are important ones, however until the contract is tendered and awarded, it would be difficult to say with certainty with the level of detail you are seeking. Those details for any project would need to be worked out with the contractor, Metrolinx and the City to coordinate the trades once it's awarded. To give answers to people when the information is not yet known would be disingenuous, and potentially very frustrating later if anything changes.

What I can share is that we are committed to mitigating the impact to businesses, and communicating with them – much like during the Concession Street construction last year – the timelines and what is happening when. There is also a soon to be announced resident initiative that aims to promote the businesses during the construction phase, and also communicate real-time construction data via social media and online. We do know that the whole route will be done in sections, and staff, groups and residents have brought forward the concerns and we have heard you.

Construction is always a headache, however both King and Main both need to be reconstructed anyway as the infrastructure below has reached the end of its life. That would be included in the cost of Phase One of the LRT project. That is \$6million per km that the City will not have to pay for the same construction window.

The project will need to come in on budget and on time – that is the agreement that the City signed with Metrolinx. The concerning aspects that have held up other projects (Bombardier vehicles, city-portion of funding) do not exist in our project, so we are confident that this will happen.

For your reference, to date my office has received 3277 (90%) communications for building the LRT and only 348 against, which includes calls, emails and letters. There were 2 petitions circulated – one for and one against. The “No” petition was submitted to Council with 414 signatures. The “Yes” petition had nearly 1400. There is widespread support across the City, and I want to hear from people like you who are concerned so that we can understand those concerns, address them, and offer the facts and information about the project.

I hope I've done that, and anytime you would like to talk about this, please let me know.

Cheers,
 Fred

Fred Eisenberger
 Mayor
 City of Hamilton
 905-546-4200
 @FredEisenberger

From: brad germain
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2016 1:39 PM
To: Office of the Mayor
Subject: I am against LRT

Hello, my name is Brad Germain. I just wanted to tell you that I am against the LRT plan in Hamilton. I'm 37 years old and manage Cheapies Records on King St. I don't know if you have time to read individual emails, so I will be brief. The LRT will force Cheapies to close, as we can't sustain a 30-70% loss in sales for a undetermined time during construction. The fact that the metrolinx staff still can't answer simple questions about how long the construction will take in each section, and how long the sections will be, is very concerning to me. How many blocks will be ripped up at a time? Will the sidewalk be ripped up? Will we have any front door access? How do we still not know this? Can you really ensure this project will come in on budget, and on time? I feel bad for all my co workers who will have to find new jobs, due to no fault of their own. I've already spoken to reps from Metrolinx, so no need to forward this to them. I just want you to know that almost all of my friends are against this project. If there is huge public support for this, I haven't heard it in any of my social circles. It's sad to me to think of downtown not having this cultural landmark.

Brad Germain

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