

Our Future Hamilton - needs a new approach to city-management by Paul Slater, Hamilton, ON. Dated: 2017-04-02

Mayor Eisenberger and Council,

Dear Mayor Fred, thank you for the response to my correspondence regarding an LRT review by the Auditor General of Ontario dated 2017-03-20, although, I was very disappointed to receive the standard 'against LRT' template letter.

I write to correct your understanding of my position. I am not against LRT. However, I cannot currently support the \$3-billion 3/4 LRT B-Line due to early decision-making, which has resulted in this 'as-is' program now being unaffordable.

Smart Communities 1.0

If you read the first of my previous seven Our Future Hamilton submissions; Our Future Hamilton - is a Smart Sustainable City dated 2015-08-25 [A], you will learn of my past attempts to bring Smart Sustainable City strategy to Hamilton 17 years ago. It's my renewed goal to make Hamilton the top Smart Sustainable City in Canada, but that challenge will be difficult if the current Council and Administration leads us down the path of possible bankruptcy with the present lack of life-cycle thinking and 'out-dated' practices on LRT.

People and Culture

The people you are relying on to give Council the information to make good decisions do not work to Asset Management-Sustainment Practice. Noteworthy, the public sector and universities do not teach these advanced whole life-cycle AM-SP skills. Important point here - it's not the engineers, analysts or managers fault. Staff's current infrastructure Asset Management (AM) efforts are admirable but, are only a good start at innovation. The City of Hamilton is just scratching the surface of the kind of AM practices that are needed to propel Hamilton, Ontario, to top ***Intelligent Community*** status.

Smart Cities or Communities 2.0

Although I have struggled to get the ear of this City and the Province to date, I do have the ear of the Federal Finance Minister and the Advisory Council on Economic Growth (see Appx A). I have a couple of very exciting big ideas for the ***Smart Cities Challenge*** in process which will help propel this city towards prosperity. I look forward to sharing them with staff and Council in the near future.

Yours sincerely,
Paul Slater

Appendix A

Letter from Minister of Finance, the Honourable Bill Morneau, to Paul Slater dated 2016-09-07.

Reference and Website:

[A] Our Future Hamilton: Communities in Conversation
www.hamilton.ca/ourfuturehamilton

Minister of Finance



Ministre des Finances

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G5

SEP 07 2016

Appx. A

2016FIN440500

Mr. Paul Slater
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Slater:

Thank you for your correspondence of July 1, 2016 regarding the Advisory Council on Economic Growth and Canada's Economic Growth Strategy.

The Council has been created to help inform the Government's growth strategy by providing advice on concrete policy actions that will help create the conditions for strong and sustainable long-term economic growth that is shared equally with the middle class and those working hard to join it. The Council recognizes the potential role of robots and artificial intelligence in Canada's economy, and values your recommendations on this topic and on Canada's Economic Growth Strategy.

I appreciate your interest in the Advisory Council on Economic Growth and Canada's Economic Growth Strategy.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Bill Morneau, P.C., M.P.