

**From:** Sean Hurley

**Sent:** April-04-17 10:57 PM

**To:** Office of the Mayor

**Cc:** Johnson, Aidan; Farr, Jason; Green, Matthew; Merulla, Sam; Collins, Chad; Jackson, Tom; Whitehead, Terry; Conley, Doug; Pearson, Maria; Johnson, Brenda; Ferguson, Lloyd; VanderBeek, Arlene; Pasuta, Robert; Partridge, Judi; clerk@hamilton.ca

**Subject:** re: LRT EA

Dear Mayor Eisenberger

My wife, Beverley Wagar, and I moved into the Crown Point neighborhood in Hamilton's Ward 3 in 2012. As with our previous moves we had no idea what we were getting ourselves into. We took a leap with both feet. It was easier for me as I was looking forward to city living after several years in the country. It was more difficult for Beverley who gave up an acre in the country which she had lovingly transformed into her personal work of living art.

Despite the change, we adapted and we invested in our home and our community. Hamilton is a unique place. I came here with every intention of staying uninvolved in civic and community engagement—but failed. Hamiltonians have a way of pulling you in. Today, I edit our community newspaper and I am co-chair of our planning team. Beverley, who had a far more difficult time than I in adjusting to our new home, now sings with the Bach-Elgar Choir, volunteers at the Royal Botanical Garden, tends to several community gardens, initiated the Crown Point Garden Club and partnered with others to launch the Monarch Awards that go city wide this year.

I am relating this to you because I need you to understand I am not speaking only for myself when I tell you that the LRT debate, especially the failure to advance the EA, is leaving us dispirited and demoralised. I am forced to ask myself, as I know others are doing the same, why I am investing my time, energy and money into Hamilton when too many of those who are elected to lead appear paralysed by the fear of change? When I speak to my friends and neighbours they question whether Hamilton's elected officials share their optimism for the future and their belief in Hamilton. They question whether Hamilton is the best place to

raise a child and age gracefully. They question whether Hamilton is the city to set down and maintain roots.

Mr. Mayor, I greatly appreciate the leadership of yourself and our Crown Point councillors, Matthew Green and Sam Merulla, on the LRT and the grand opportunity this investment represents. We are all watching and we are counting on all of city council coming together to support this transformative project.

The late U.S. president John F. Kennedy said, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future."

Let's not miss the future, Mr. Mayor.

Sincerely,  
Sean Hurley,