



CITY COUNCIL
HAMILTON, CANADA

TOM JACKSON
COUNCILLOR, WARD SIX

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April 26th, 2017

Dear Mr. Mayor, Councillor Colleagues, Members of the Public and Media,

Let me be perfectly clear... I support City building, public transit, new investment and new infrastructure, however I also have grave concerns of the unknowns with this mega project, in that there could be tax impacts and future community impacts. The remaining challenge for me is to get to a point in the process where we can reliably understand these financial and community impacts.

So, after careful consideration of all the data and facts provided to date around this mega project, and as it relates specifically to the Environmental Assessment (EA) phase of this project, I believe at this point I can vote in favour of filing the EA, but I want to make clear my reasoning for supporting the EA AT THIS TIME.

This is a very complex project, requiring many incremental reports and approvals along the long project continuum, those previously presented reports and the subsequent required approvals, up to this point in time, that are necessary for such complex projects and now, this EA approval, is another step in this mega projects continuum in order to stay on the proposed project schedule.

The supporting and approval of the EA AT THIS TIME, is just another component and part of the normal process of any project, and by supporting the EA AT THIS TIME, it will allow the planning phase of the project to proceed and the EA to be posted on the Ministry of Environment (MOE) registry to meet the Provincially legislated requirement for a 30 day public comment period.

In NO WAY is my support and approval of the EA to be considered giving my FULL support to the LRT project implementation and until the crucial reporting phase on the operating and maintenance cost and capital costs impacts are known fully, and WHO is responsible for ANY capital cost overruns, I want to be clear that my FINAL decision will not be made until these cost and responsibilities for these costs are known, as this is incumbent upon me as a Councillor and for the constituents of my ward, that these crucial fiscal issues and responsibilities be fully understood, before agreeing to proceed with approval of FULL project implementation.

As well, I will require a level of certainty that the project bid will include a buy Canadian provision, to the extent legally possibly, as it relates to the materials and equipment required to build and operate the system.

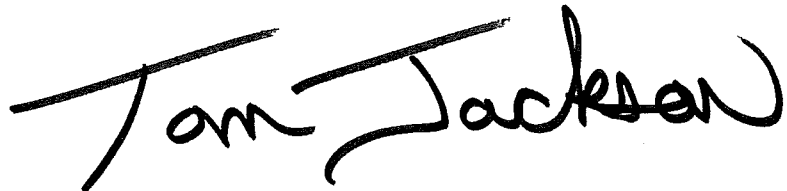
Also, that the City of Hamilton's Fair Wage policy and the hiring of local trades are incorporated as components of the bidder's package.

Also, that the local ATU is given consideration in potentially operating the system, AND/OR their rights to organize the employees who operate the system as allowed under current government laws.

Lastly, that a group from the city, appointed by Council, meet with our Provincial counterparts to discuss extending the route to Eastgate Square, fully funded by the Province.

In conclusion, given the many, many, many times I have previously publicly asked at what critical point of the project continuum I could make my final decision on project implementation, I therefore "reserve the right" to withdraw my future support!

Thank you and sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The first name "Tom" is written with a large, sweeping 'T' that extends to the left. The last name "Jackson" is written with a large, sweeping 'J' that extends to the right.

Councillor Tom Jackson
Ward 6