

From: kevlahanmcmaster@gmail.com [mailto:kevlahanmcmaster@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Nicholas Kevlahan
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 10:38 AM
To: Caterini, Rose; Gallagher, Mary; Bratina, Bob; McHattie, Brian; Farr, Jason; Morelli, Bernie; Merulla, Sam; Collins, Chad; Jackson, Tom; Duvall, Scott; Whitehead, Terry; Clark, Brad; Pearson, Maria; Johnson, Brenda; Ferguson, Lloyd; Powers, Russ; Pasuta, Robert; Partridge, Judi
Cc: Ryan McGreal; Catherine Cox
Subject: Please emphasize once and for all that Hamilton wants B-Line LRT as a top priority

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am dismayed and extremely worried by the way Mayor Bratina is still taking every opportunity to undermine Hamilton's longstanding goal of pursuing a B-line LRT with full Provincial Funding. He has done so for years, both in the media and when speaking to government ministers, the premier and representatives Metrolinx.

However, it is most disappointing is that the Mayor has continued to oppose the B-line LRT project even after council voted on 26 February to pursue the B-line LRT as a top priority. Mr Bratina now claims the vote was simply to improve bus service, in preparation for a possible future B-line LRT!

The provincial government, led by the Premier, is now considering new revenue tools that would provide Metrolinx and the City with the means to finance a B-line LRT.

Our competitor municipalities are aggressively pursuing LRT (notably Kitchener-Waterloo, Mississauga, Brampton and Toronto) and if Hamilton does not act now, in a unified and consistent way, Hamilton taxpayers could well end up subsidizing dramatic improvements to these competitor municipalities, and we would lose out on the huge economic impact LRT will give the City.

I urge you to publicly re-affirm, in a completely unambiguous way, that Hamilton is pursuing the B-line LRT under an appropriate funding arrangement. Council then must put together a winning strategy to land the necessary funding for the B-line LRT.

Remember, the Province and other GTA/H municipalities will be only too happy to take advantage of this opportunity, and we are in direct competition with them.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Kevlahan

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