



The Hamilton Transit Alliance (HTA) is a coalition of local organisations within the City of Hamilton who all agree on the importance of reliable and accessible public transit, and push for improvements and expansion of public transit within the city to achieve the social, economic and environmental benefits it brings to Hamilton.

JUNE 15th 2021

In the interest of ensuring that the proposed B-Line Light Rail Transit project is successful, the undersigned members of the Hamilton Transit Alliance are endorsing the call from HTA member, Amalgamated Transit Union 107, that the LRT be operated and maintained by the Hamilton Street Railway (HSR).

The B-Line LRT proposal that has emerged as a result of historic investment from both the provincial and federal governments has the potential to be fully integrated into the HSR network. That network, in turn, is soon to undergo a major reconfiguration via the HSR's (Re)envision initiative. The outcome of all of these changes will benefit the City and riders alike. Making the B-Line LRT part of the HSR would also ensure that the requirement that the HSR is to operate any new fixed transit lines in Hamilton, as set out in the collective agreement between ATU 107 and the city of Hamilton, is fulfilled.

HSR operation and maintenance of the LRT would ensure that any profits generated in the future by the LRT can be directly invested back into the system. It is also the easiest way to ensure that public transit customers have a consistent service network-wide - something that cannot be said for riders who rely on public transit in other cities that have multiple local transit operators. Leading up to the pandemic, the HSR was making positive strides with increased ridership and improved service, and maintained a vital transportation service for essential workers during the pandemic. Let's put the "rail" back in Hamilton Street Railway.

The HTA members that are signatories to this statement are: ACORN Hamilton, ATU 107, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion, Hamilton District Labour Council, Environment Hamilton, Hamilton Transit Riders Union

The Hamilton Transit Alliance full membership includes: ATU 107, Hamilton ACORN, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, Hamilton District Labour Council, Disability Justice Network of Ontario, Environment Hamilton, Hamilton Transit Riders Union, YWCA Hamilton, McMaster Students Union, and Immigrants Working Centre.