

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Keep all of LRT public now**From:** J. C. Weresch**Sent:** April 20, 2024 11:06 AM**To:** Office of the Mayor <Officeofthe.Mayor@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>**Cc:** clerk@hamilton.ca**Subject:** Keep all of LRT public now

Dear Mayor Horwath, Councillor Danko, and all councillors:

I write as a resident in Ward 8, a life-long resident here in Hamilton on Between the Lakes Purchase Treaty No. 3 lands. I ask that this letter be placed on Council's agenda.

Despite being opposed to LRT due to growing, unknown costs and lack of vehicular manoeuvring around accidents, favouring instead Bus Rapid Transit and the continued expansion of unionized public transit in this city as excellently operated by the HSR, I ask that Council vote not to approve the 17 April 2024 General Issues Committee's meeting's recommendation to Metrolinx.

While I am grateful to see that the LRT will be publicly-owned, I ask, moreover, that Council send clear direction to Metrolinx that the entirety of the Light-Rail Transit be publicly operated, too – endorsing, in effect, Operational Model 4 from staff's presentation to the Committee.

As customers' experience, according to staff's presentation, is most important, then I would like to write as a public-transit user since 2011 and state that my customer experience with unionized HSR drivers has been excellent, and their care and support particularly of seniors and those with mobility devices and issues has been, in my experience, unparalleled.

I trust Council will continue to support excellent, unionized, living-wage jobs in this city and vote not to approve the GIC's recommendation.

Council must no longer support precarious, low-wage, non-union jobs which is what will be offered if a third-party, private operator operates the LRT.

Thank you for your time and attention in these regards.

Respectfully,

Joshua Weresch