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## **RE: Submission to the City of Hamilton’s LRT Subcommittee – The Operation and Maintenance of the Upcoming Hamilton Light Rail Transit (LRT)**

In 2017, City Council endorsed the direction to keep the operation and maintenance of the Hamilton LRT public.

We know that there are proven benefits to keeping local transit systems and infrastructure public, resulting in a strong inclusive local economy. Keeping the Hamilton LRT public will contribute to long-term, sustainable, good wage job opportunities, as well as healthy life outcomes for local residents.

Currently across the province, there is a push to privatize public transit systems. Privatizing public infrastructure has a devastating impact on local residents, particularly those who are most vulnerable, such as low-income and racialized individuals. For this reason, our organization, CP Planning, supports the **Keep Transit Public** campaign in Hamilton.

**Who we are:** CP Planning is a federally incorporated nonprofit urban planning organization with expertise in strategy, capacity development, and network weaving through a human rights-based planning lens. We achieve this through partnerships at the municipal and neighbourhood levels including ongoing collaboration with the Hamilton Community Benefits Network and other local agencies.

**Our ask:** That the Hamilton LRT Sub-Steering Committee give full consideration to our recommendation below:

**The Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the upcoming Hamilton Light Rail Transit (LRT) be kept public and operated and maintained by Hamilton Street Railway (HSR) and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 107.**

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Daniella Balasal, at [daniella.balasal@cpplanning.ca](mailto:daniella.balasal@cpplanning.ca).

Respectfully,

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