From:
To:
CouncilAgenda

Subject: FW: Transit Station Relocation Request **Date:** Monday, October 19, 2020 9:47:51 AM

Please see the email sent to council below.

From: Nancy Claridge

Sent: October 19, 2020 9:46 AM

To: 'council@orangeville.ca' <council@orangeville.ca> **Cc:** 'Alison Scheel' <info@downtownorangeville.ca>

Subject: Transit Station Relocation Request

Dear Mayor Brown and Members of Council,

I am the solicitor for Regent Mercantile Bancorp Inc., the owners of the properties municipally known as 63 Broadway, 61 Broadway, 59 Broadway and 2 Third Street, commonly recognized as the Greystones building. I am writing to you today to express my client's opposition to the proposed relocation of the Transit Transfer Station to Broadway between First Street and John Street.

As you are aware, my clients have made and are continuing to make a significant investment to beautify and enhance Orangeville's downtown core. This has included extensive renovations and expansion of an historic building, as well as purchasing additional lands to address the dearth of parking downtown. Removing significant downtown parking and locating a transit station on Broadway certainly detracts from everything my clients have been attempting to do.

Serious site-specific safety concerns have already been raised with regard to the proposed transit terminal by other land owners. My client is also concerned about the domino effect of the increased bus traffic near their property, especially given the limited safe opportunities to cross Broadway at the hill.

The decision to locate the Transit Transfer Station in downtown Orangeville was made without any public engagement or consultation with downtown businesses or residents. The downtown location is not suitable for the transit station for the reasons outlined by the BIA. The original Edelbrock Centre design with a roadway from Dawson to Centre Street is a much better long-term solution by providing space for additional Orangeville Transit buses as more routes are added, would better accommodate buses from other public transit services, would provide better facilities and safer transfers for transit passengers, is a only a few hundred metres to the services offered at the Edelbrock Centre and/or the Westdale Mall, and is a short walk or very quick bus ride to Downtown. Grants from the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada will cover the cost of construction of the new terminal, so there will be little or no financial impact to Orangeville taxpayers. I am confident that the Town of Orangeville will find an alternate location for the Community Gardens and Orchard somewhere along a transit route to make them easily accessible for all.

For these reasons my client does not support Council's decision to locate the transit station downtown and we respectfully request that Council consider the Edelbrock design and location as an alternative location.

Sincerely,

Nancy

NANCY E. CLARIDGE, B.A. (HONS.), M.A., LL.B.*

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