From: Margot Hornseth
To: CouncilAgenda
Cc: Alison Scheel

Subject: Downtown Proposed Bus Terminal

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2020 4:10:36 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Dear Mayor Brown and Members of Council,

Your decision to locate the Transit Transfer Station in right in the very middle of downtown Orangeville a mistake. That decision which affects all of the downtown area was made without any public engagement or consultation with downtown businesses or residents.

I cannot imagine what the core of Orangeville will look like for the events which are planned by the BIA to promote downtown Orangeville. Think about the Jazz and Blues festival as an example. Parking is tough enough at the best of times. To remove 11 parking spaces is not a good solution for a transit station. I can only think of the havoc that the Brampton Transit creates by having a major hub on George Street, just west of Main Street.

The current flow of traffic in the town down area of Orangeville can be terrible at times. I have noticed more traffic delays in that area, just because of our growth. What will the congestion look like if the transit hub is constructed basically at a major intersection of downtown Orangeville.

The original Edelbrock Centre design with a roadway from Dawson to Centre Street is a much better long-term solution because:

- It would not negatively impact downtown businesses by reduced parking and increased traffic congestion, which has to be one of the primary concerns for council;
- At the same time it would provide more space for additional Orangeville Transit
  buses as more routes are added and hopefully would be an incentive for buses from
  other public transit services to come to Orangeville for tours or town events;
- It would provide better facilities and safer transfers for transit passengers;
- It is a only a few hundred metres to the services offered at the Edelbrock Centre
  and/or the Westdale Mall, and I would think that people who attend those facilities
  are more likely to be transit users, given my experiences in my family law practice
  which I have had on First Avenue for decades;
- An Edelbrock transit hub would be a very a short walk or a quick bus ride to Downtown Orangeville, if in fact that is where the rider wants to go.

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, but I wonder at the congestion in the centre of town while it is being constructed.

I appreciate the Community Gardens and Orchard will have to be located elsewhere, but a different location could be found in town along a transit route to make them easily accessible to all.

For these reasons I do not support Council's decision to locate the transit station downtown and respectfully request that Council reconsider the Edelbrock design and location as a the location where the hub should be built.

Kind Regards,





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We want to thank you for your understanding and support.

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