

From: [User](#)
To: [council](#); [CouncilAgenda](#)
Cc: [Alison Scheel](#)
Subject: Downtown Transit Terminal
Date: Monday, October 19, 2020 11:55:32 AM

Dear Mayor Brown and Members of Council,

Having owned and operated a business for 30 years in the downtown core (Moguls In Mocean) and owning property (The Jackson Block) at the corner of Mill and Broadway, I am requesting council reconsider the proposed location of the Transit Transfer Station.

As a business and property owner, I was not approached directly regarding the Transit Transfer Station. I cannot speak for other business and property owners in the BIA as to whether or not they were approached. We are all stake holders in this and require respect (our independent and direct input) and consideration in matters of this nature directly affecting us collectively. If there is a committee or task force, my suggestion is all businesses and property owners are surveyed and contacted directly in advance of any decisions being passed at the council level.

The current proposal will create **safety** issues as people will have to walk to catch their bus, the sidewalks will be congested creating problems for businesses in the immediate area, people utilizing the current services of Canada Post and Monument business will be unable to park nearby. Many of these people are seniors. Without proper shelter and washrooms facilities being built, we are opening up the downtown properties and businesses to a whole other level of problems in health and safety.

For many of my 30 years in business, downtown **parking** has been a “discussion” at a variety of levels and throughout numerous councils. Removing 11 spots or so will create another strain on our parking situation and private parking areas. Owning a private parking lot, I can attest to the strain which we experience on a daily basis and people will be forced to move further east to locate available parking. We are trying to increase customer traffic in the longterm not deter people from the downtown who are frustrated because they already have difficulty parking.

With the current global health situation, we are witnessing first hand the closure of a number of retail locations in our downtown core. It is important these decisions get made together including committees, stakeholders and council. Major ones like this could have been postponed respecting business owners during the initial stages of the pandemic.

I understand at one point the Edelbrock Centre was proposed as a location to create a Transit Transfer Station. A location and property of this nature will allow for growth in the longer term. It could provide a facility for shelter and washrooms for local transit riders including the addition of Metrolinks and other systems that currently provide transportation services for commuters to and from Orangeville. A transit terminal with these accommodations could be achieved all on this one property.

I respectfully request Council consider the Edelbrock design proposal and in the future seek input from individual business and property owners of the BIA.

Sincerely
Evangeline Merkley

Moguls In Mocean
The Jackson Block