

Bryant, Shellie

From: Amy Kirk <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca> on behalf of Amy Kirk <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: April 28, 2019 9:43 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

Submitted on Sunday, April 28, 2019 - 21:43 Submitted by anonymous user: 198.245.114.184 Submitted values are:

Date: Sunday, April 28, 2019

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council First Name: Amy Last Name: Kirk

Email: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] ave F north

City: saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): n/a

Subject: Support for BRT route on Broadway avenue Meeting (if known): April 29 Regular Business – Bus Rapid Transit Route and Configuration for Downtown

Comments:

I am writing to voice my support for dedicated lanes for BRT routes on Broadway avenue, and either 1st or 3rd ave downtown.

As person with an invisible disability, and as a person who works with socially and economically disadvantaged people, many of whom also have disabilities, I see on a daily basis, the impact that lack of access to a personal vehicle can have, within the context of urban life in a city that centers many of it's decisions around motorists. I myself had to purchase a vehicle and stop using city transit a few years ago following an injury and the worsening of my invisible disability. I was lucky to be able to do so, and I know many people don't have that option. I have used public transit in other provinces and countries and had far fewer issues meeting my needs with that form of transportation, but in Saskatoon I was finding it impossible to get to appointments, therapies, and get all my errands done using city transit. I truly believe moving towards more BRT routes and investments in public transportation would allow me and many other people to lead healthier lives, and would also transform the city in positive ways.

This is a human rights issues, and to consult with "business owners" on the proposed BRT routes and to suggest that they have equal say in this matter is also ableist and unjust. To limit or alter routes, in the interest of business owners and motorists, is to place the importance of business and capitalism over the importance of each community member's attempts at upward mobility, health, and connection to community. The impact of proposed BRT route options on business owners and the impact on community members is not symmetrical and should not be treated as such. Safe mobility is a human right. Owning a business is not.

Not only do I think that city council should oppose options 2 and 3 (mixed lanes/no change). You should also take an active and progressive approach toward engaging and calling in opponents, de-polarize the issue using whatever access you have to different media.

Thank you,
Amy

Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/305034>