

Bryant, Shellie

From: Kristina Clouthier <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: April 29, 2019 8:43 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

Submitted on Monday, April 29, 2019 - 08:43
Submitted by anonymous user: 207.47.245.114
Submitted values are:

Date: Monday, April 29, 2019
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Kristina
Last Name: Clouthier
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):
Subject: Bus Rapid Transit Route and Configuration for Nutana
Meeting (if known): City Council Regular Business Meeting
Comments:

I have been a resident of Saskatoon for over ten years and for the past four years I have had the pleasure of residing in Nutana. I moved to Saskatoon in order to attend the university and ever since have been reliant on the transit system to take me from the many different areas I have previously lived in to the university campus. Like many university students, I've had my fair share of difficulties with the quality of our transit system with regards to the limited bus schedule. I am thrilled to learn about the possibility of introducing Bus Rapid Transit for this reason. Today, I would like to extend my support for the implementation of dedicated bus lanes on Broadway avenue. First I would like to point out the challenges that the Broadway area faces with vehicle congestion and parking issues. Most parking is only available in residential areas making it problematic for local residents to find parking on their own streets. The parking found directly on Broadway is also minimal, allowing for only a couple of parking spots allotted per business. Therefore, I believe that making transit more accessible via BRT and dedicated bus lanes will encourage more people to visit the Broadway area by public transit considering it will remove the worry about finding parking while also resolving the issue of having to wait for the next bus to return home. Second, introducing the dedicated bus lanes to Broadway ave specifically is necessary in that people will be more likely to take the bus if they can arrive as close as possible to the places of business they wish to visit. Which brings me to my final point. I felt personally victimized by many of comments I heard from local business owners on Broadway. The opposition toward BRT appears to be stemming from a place of privilege and prejudice. Many of us are unable to afford vehicles, but would still love to be able to visit Broadway for ethically sourced hand made goods from underdeveloped regions or to enjoy the aromas of fresh roasted coffee beans. To assume that the only people who are supporting local businesses are those who are driving in from the suburbs is flawed. Many low income earners, university students or and people who want to safely enjoy a few drinks on Broadway with a guaranteed safe ride home are also supporting those businesses. Finally, I would like to encourage you to consider those who this decision is going to affect the most. It is those who are reliant on the transit system for accessibility within our city. Those who have vehicles are already at an advantage. Today, I ask you to vote in favour of dedicated bus lanes on Broadway avenue to ease the struggle for those who are at a disadvantage in our city.

Thank you for your time.
Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/305093>