

## Bryant, Shellie

---

**From:** Linda Epstein <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca> on behalf of Linda Epstein <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** April 29, 2019 12:47 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council

Submitted on Monday, April 29, 2019 - 00:46  
Submitted by anonymous user: 71.17.147.27  
Submitted values are:

Date: Monday, April 29, 2019  
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council  
First Name: Linda  
Last Name: Epstein  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED] 10th St. E.  
City: Saskatoon  
Province: Saskatchewan  
Postal Code: [REDACTED]  
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):  
Subject: BRT  
Meeting (if known): Council on BRT - April 29, 2019  
Comments:

Obviously, Council has not been listening to the area businesses and/or the citizens of Saskatoon regarding the BRT route. They are also misleading those who have not been following as closely as many of us have, the travesty that is BRT on Broadway.

To be clear, I am not against the BRT. In fact, I do feel it would help in the future as we grow, to have a well-placed system. Having it on Broadway, however, will actually “bypass” the businesses as riders make their way back from work to their suburban homes. There is no need to remove regular bus traffic on Broadway (why would you?), so access is still available to the business district. You will not be “bypassing” Broadway as you misleadingly suggest.

Having read the options and noting that there are two options that have not had proper public engagement – both of which seem to indicate that Council and its administration really have no idea of best outcomes – I would suggest a deferred decision-making process until the two options are properly and publicly explained and discussed.

I also see by your update that Council has not addressed “business, culture or the environment – all vital to the preservation of this historic area”. The BRT is not an underground system and will create a dangerous mess in an area where there are two school zones as well as Nutana School (not to mention an increasing elderly population who have remained in the area precisely because it is a nice place to walk with all of the amenities). Placing BRT on Broadway (whether with dedicated lanes, or not) will also have a dampening effect on this pedestrian traffic and will result in special events moving away from Broadway, not to Broadway.

This is not a small decision as the Broadway route would still destroy the walkability and culture of the area. I also question the numbers against vs the numbers for a Broadway selection (“an engagement event” is not ALL engagement events and does not include the recent poll in which more than 75% of respondents voted against a Broadway option).

Currently, I see a council with no vision or concern for what really works for culture, community and tourism destinations and that makes a mockery of the concept of “collaboration”. The misinformation and disinformation, much of it perpetrated by Council itself (e.g., the suggestion that, if Broadway is “bypassed”, the downtown entertainment area of the future will take over...hogwash), does not help at all. It is an excuse to cover up poor decisions.

As you can see, I feel passionately about these changes precisely because, having lived in this area for 42 years, I have seen what a seemingly small change can do. I believe BRT on Broadway will change the area from charming to outright dangerous...or, at the very least a local business wasteland. It will lose its unique historic character that is so much a part of the history of Saskatoon itself.

I am saddened by this irresponsible decision-making process, and hope that Saskatoon’s City Council will give this misstep more thought.

Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:  
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/305061>