

*For governance and priorities Committee
Oct 15. Traffic Agenda # 7.1.2*

September 22, 2018

*I would like to speak
at this meeting,*

Mayor Charlie Clarke & City Councillors
City of Saskatoon
222 Third Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

4110-2
x7300-1

His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council:

Re: BRT and Proposed Routing through Broadway Avenue

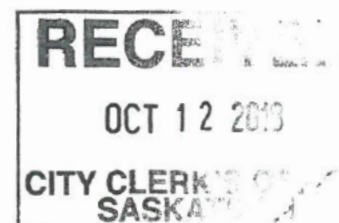
I recently heard of the questionable idea of running a BRT along Broadway Avenue and am appalled at the concept that once again Saskatoon is out to destroy its history. Remember the Capitol Theatre? Remember the Arena move? And now you're out to destroy Broadway.

I have spent some time in Montreal and one sees there buildings three and four hundred years old still being used, and in doing so an ambience is created that makes Montrealers aware of and proud of their history. Can you imagine the equivalent of a BRT running through Old Montreal? And the same can be said of Toronto and its Yorkville area which has become a vital and vibrant area of Toronto. No BRT there! There are other areas of the city which lend itself much more sensibly to the concept and would also allow us to retain our sense of the past and honour the founding fathers and mothers who planned so well with an eye to both the future and the past.

Broadway has already been torn up twice and now you want to tear it up again and for what? We don't need a BRT running along Broadway. We need to retain its unique atmosphere and history and there are other areas of the city who would far better benefit from a BRT. Something for First Avenue and Midtown Plaza would be far more beneficial than destroying Broadway Avenue. And Eighth Street is ideal.


Please do not destroy more of what little history we have left.

Mary M. Melnychuk
Mary M. Melnychuk
[redacted] 10th. Street East
Saskatoon, SK S7H [redacted]



For Governance and Priorities Committee
Oct 15 Traffic Agenda # 7.1.2 4110-2
October 10, 2018 X7300-1

Mayor Charlie Clark & City Councillors
City of Saskatoon
222 Third Avenue North
Saskatoon, Sk. S7K 0J5

*I would please
like to speak at
this meeting
please.* 

His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council:

Re: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) & Proposed Routing North-South Route

Thank you for your hard work serving Saskatoon and its residents. The BRT is a huge and costly undertaking for our community and it presents a certain risk especially as our city is looking towards 500,000 but is still about one half that population. Despite the risks and challenges, a BRT is a courageous step to improve public transport which is much needed in our community.

When looking at the North/South line and the two proposed possible routes: 1) Broadway Bridge/ Third Avenue or 2) Sid Buckwold Bridge/ First Avenue, both meet the necessary criteria on a BRT level. I would challenge His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council to consider the Community Level. In other words "Does one of these routes favour our desire as a Community to be more inclusive more than the other?" On a map of Saskatoon we can see that the Sid Buckwold/ First Avenue Route meets this criteria where the other cannot.

Firstly, when we speak of inclusion as a community, we need to think of the East/West side division we have in Saskatoon. The Sid Buckwold/ First Avenue route is clearly well positioned to better bring the East and the West together, linking Riversdale, West Downtown and East Downtown with the Midtown Plaza at the center. As the city grows, the downtown will expand to the West and it will be essential for the BRT's success to be at a central location. At the same time it offers an important opportunity for inclusion that would otherwise be lost with the other option.

Secondly, when we speak of inclusion as a community, we need to think of serving as many areas of the city as possible. The Broadway Bridge/Third Avenue Route leaves out Buena Vista with Lorne Avenue and the entire Exhibition Area. Many residents are dependent on bus transit to get to and from work in these areas. Therefore; from an inclusive community standpoint the Sid Buckwold/First Avenue Route includes these neighbourhoods and connects them directly to the centre of downtown when the other option cannot do this.

Thirdly, when we speak of inclusion as a community, we need to think of the everyday

Saskatoonian whether they are workers, elderly, families or youth. We face challenges to promote public transport and encourage our residents to leave their cars in the heated garage and to take the bus. Third Avenue is not a destination. The Midtown Plaza has the qualities of a formidable destination for the BRT. The Midtown Plaza is warm in the winter and cool in the summer which in my experience as a Saskatoon born person, is very important to our residents. The Midtown Plaza with TCU Place and the YMCA offer many advertising options for comfortable and alluring non parking options. At the centre of downtown, the Midtown Plaza has much to offer within its walls and its surrounding area, which is everything from Spadina Crescent to Avenue C and beyond. Midtown Plaza is a destination with great potential to market and to entice Saskatonians to leave their cars at home and to take the BRT. Our community is weather dependent and if we consider a successful BRT we need to consider destination very seriously. The other option cannot offer this to Saskatonians.

Finally, on a personal note, I am excited about the BRT in Saskatoon and hope that His Worship and the City Councillors consider Sid Buckwold/First Avenue route as a way to include all constituents and to promote Saskatoon as an inclusive city. Strong cohesive community is the groundwork for a successful BRT.

Sincerely,

E. Baldo
Elisabeth Baldo

██████ Tenth Str. E
Saskatoon, SK
S7H ████████



Oct 10/18

City of STONN.



Re BRT on Broadway.

I would like to speak at
the meeting of Oct 15/18.

Bo Rosdane

[REDACTED] 12 ST B.

STONN S7N 4H3

306 [REDACTED]

Edwin [REDACTED]

BROADWAY Property Owner

[REDACTED] BROADWAY.

RECEIVED
OCT 11 2018
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SASKATOON

4/10-2
X 7300-1

Oct 11/18

I Debbie Taylor wish to speak on
Mon Oct 15/18. at the governance
and priorities committee on the
BRT.

Thankyou,
Taylor.

██████████ Broadway Ave
Saskatoon, St.

S7N ██████████

For governance and priority committee
Oct 15/2018 Agenda # 7.1.2 (Traffic) } 4110-2
x 7300-1

T Mayor Charlie Clark and City Councillors of the city of Saskatoon

My name is Debbie Taylor and I am the owner of Hat & That at 636 Broadway Ave. I am opposed to the Bus Rapid Transit Plan for Broadway Ave. I feel that it will have a negative impact on businesses and residents. The ambiance of the street play a crucial in the history of our district. To take out the medians and trees would change the heritage of this area. I am in favour of improving transit in Saskatoon but not at the expense of our business district. I think running it down 1st Ave. up the Sid Buckwold Bridge and down 8th makes more sense. This would also include Riversdale and not exclude that district. I don't think we can go through any more construction. Broadway is also a school zone and I fear for pedestrian safety. Right now there are 12 buses per hour running at peak times and it is projected with BRT it would increase to 30 per hour. I cannot see the need for that many. I hope council will reconsider

I would please like to speak at this meeting.

Sincerely
Debbie Taylor
Owner of Hats & That

██████████ Broadway Ave
Saskatoon, SK.
S7N ██████████

RECEIVED
OCT 12 2018
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
SASKATOON

September 24th, 2018

For governance and priority committee
for Agenda # 7.1.2
Traffic
Oct 15/2018

Mayor Charlie Clark & City Councillors
City of Saskatoon
222 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon SK S7K 0J5

His Worship the Mayor and City Council

We the undersigned **Owners/Merchants** on Broadway Avenue are AGAINST the current proposed Bus Rapid Transit Plan for Broadway Avenue. We are in favour of Bus Rapid Transit down First Avenue as the North South Route with entry via the Sid Buckwold Bridge.

Name of Signer & Business Name	Address & Postal Code	Signature & Title of Signer
John Doe Acme Hardware	221 Broadway Ave. Saskatoon SK S7K 0B1	John Doe Owner/Merchant
Sept 25/18 1. Juanita Schindel the Sandbox in the City	[REDACTED]	J. Schindel owner the Sandbox
Sept 28/18 2. Megan Schindel the Sandbox in the City		Megan owner Sandbox
Sept 28/18 3. Curtis Tait the Sandbox in the City		owner Tait
Sept 28/18 4. Salagchit Awally Nutana Bakery		owner
Sept 28/18 5. Nicole Scott Nica's Clothing		Owner N Scott
Sept 28/18 6. Caren Scott Nica's Clothing		Owner C Scott
Oct 2/18 7. BO ROSDAHL PROP owner 702-704 Broadway		BRosdahl
Oct 8/18 8. Debbie Taylor Hats that		DTaylor owner.
9. Debbie Taylor Hats that		
Oct 10/18 10. John Kenney Millennium III Properties		JKenney Property owner

Proposed Bus Rapid Transit on Broadway Ave. Saskatoon

Oct 15 / 2018

We, the undersigned concerned business owners, Broadway area residents and B.I.D. protest the proposed Bus Rapid Transit Corridor being routed down Broadway Avenue and propose a viable alternative route be considered. A route down 1st Ave. across the Sid Buckwold bridge to 8th St. would be rapid and there could be a stop on 8th and Broadway Ave.

We **very strongly** feel it will negatively impact the heritage ambiance, walkability and pedestrian safety cultivated in the neighbourhood. We feel it will also increase noise pollution, reduce street parking for our customers and impact the safety of the children of the several schools in the immediate area.

Name	Address	Phone #	Signature
John Doe	24 Hill Crest Road, Saskatoon	(306) 839-4444	John Doe
1. Joanne Davidson	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
2. BARB CURRIE			[Signature]
3. STAN BUDGE			[Signature]
4. Brooke Kincart			[Signature]
5. Korie Kincart			[Signature]
6. B. Moore			[Signature]
7. Emma Wakis			[Signature]
8. Angèle Brisvert			[Signature]
9. Ricardo Arz			[Signature]
10. Brennan Fobel			[Signature]
11. Jessica Howard			[Signature]
12. Braden Bell			[Signature]
13. Val Perret			[Signature]
14. KATHRYN BAWK			[Signature]
15. Heather Dean			[Signature]
16. Matt Poncelet			[Signature]
17. Jani Gobyn			[Signature]
18. [Signature]			[Signature]
19. Zanna McCrea			[Signature]
20. Larent Carr			[Signature]

Sept. 18 2018

From: City Council
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2018 11:57 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council



Submitted on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 - 11:57
Submitted by anonymous user: 71.17.177.57
Submitted values are:

Date: Tuesday, October 09, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: John
Last Name: Perret
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED] Lansdowne Ave.
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7N [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Property owner and Home based business
Subject: Proposed Rapid Transit Route
Meeting (if known): Address the Governance and Priorities Committee Oct 15th
Comments: I would like to address the committee on choosing one of the proposed Broadway route.
Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/261086>

For Governance and Priority Committee

Oct 15 - Agenda # 7.1.2

I would like to speak.

4110-2
Oct. 12, 2018
300-1

Letter to Mayor Charlie Clark and councilors of Saskatoon regarding the rapid transit proposal and the effect on the Broadway area and downtown Saskatoon.

I have reviewed the proposal for rapid transit on Broadway and have the following concerns.

1: I must be living with my head in the sand because my wife and I live two blocks off Broadway and just in the last two weeks we have heard from a neighbour about a large-scale rapid transit proposal for Broadway Ave. Our city councilor and the city officials have not done due diligence in getting the information to people who will be affected, the businesses and the people living in the Broadway district and residential area. My understanding is that there has been consultation with the Broadway BID. They do not represent all the people in the Nutana and Broadway area that will be affected by the BRT proposal. The Nutana area population should have had a greater input as to the effects of this proposal.

2: The Broadway area has been building its success as well as drawing on the ambiance and easy going style of one of the oldest areas in Saskatoon. There are many architectural and unique businesses that draw people to this area. The residential areas surrounding Broadway are the homes that have been there since the formation of Saskatoon. It is clear with this proposal that Broadway will change the dynamics of the neighbourhood dramatically. Our unique easygoing atmosphere and historic architecture will be under siege.

3: The Broadway area hosts numerous events during the year that make Broadway the centre of attention. As a resident I shudder to think where the buses will be redirected during the closure of Broadway Ave. My wife and I live on Lansdowne and 10th Street and have experienced the redirection of buses and traffic past our home. What will happen when a hundred buses a day are redirected down our residential streets? During this use of our streets, no parking signs on either side of the streets will appear. It makes it disruptive for residents as well as difficult parking for business, residents and patrons to access the area. A restricted flow of traffic will result in traffic looking for alternate routes and that will put pressure on our residential streets.

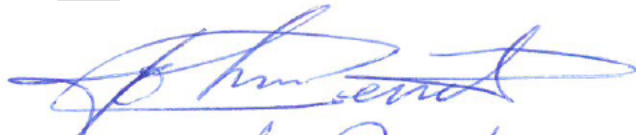
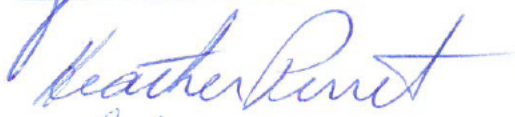
4: How will you accommodate Park and Ride Patrons? I am familiar with Calgary's LRT system in the residential areas. The parking is horrendous. People commute from miles around and if off street parking is not available to residents at their home it is a constant battle to find a parking space blocks away. You say you are going to provide park and ride in BRT areas. Where will that be around Broadway? Will you take over residential area or city parks to provide that space? Living in this area I am scratching my head as to where that will be. We already have people who park and ride. They park their cars in Nutana, unload their bikes and head for downtown to work.

5: It is my understanding that there will be only one lane of traffic available for vehicles on Broadway. That is not enough to accommodate the traffic flow. Broadway is a main artery flowing on to access 8th street and provides access all the way south. There are hundreds of people who live off Broadway who want access to the residential areas going south. It is not due diligence to restrict a main artery to one lane of traffic in any area of the city. In earlier meeting of Nutana with the City it was decided to drop the speed limit on Broadway to 30kph from 12th to 8th street. It was also a recommendation to put walk lights where pedestrians were crossing to accommodate commerce as well as the two schools along the route. Two years later you are now telling us with no meetings or consultation that you are directing a full-scale launch of Rapid Transit Buses on to Broadway. Where did the change in planning come from to go against the wishes of the area? Where was the attempt to involve the residents if a lot of the residents are hearing about it now?

My suggestion to you is to go with the 1st Ave. and Sid Buckwold bridge route. This will allow for a more user-friendly drop off point downtown on 1st Ave. and certainly a more speedy path over the river to 8th street and Nutana area.

Thank You for Your Time and commitment to this city

John and Heather Perret
[REDACTED] Lansdowne Ave.



Oct 12/18



From: City Council
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2018 12:11 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council



Submitted on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 - 12:11
Submitted by anonymous user: 174.2.21.120
Submitted values are:

Date: Tuesday, October 02, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Deborah
Last Name: Perry
Email: optikaeclecticeyeware@gmail.com
Address: 702 B Broadway Avenue
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7N 1B4
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Optika Eclectic Eyeware
Subject: rapid transit route along Broadway
Meeting (if known): October 15th at 1:00
Comments: I would very much like to voice my concerns over the potential route along Broadway, especially as it seems that the B.B.I.D is not representing the majority of the merchants in this matter.
Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/259794>

For governance and priority committee 4110-2
Oct 15 / 2018 Agenda # 7.1.2 (Traffic) X7300-1

Attention Mayor Charlie Clark and City Councillors of the City of Saskatoon

My name is Deborah Perry and my husband, Chris and I own Optika Eclectic Eyewear Ltd, located at 702 B Broadway Avenue.

*I would like
to speak at
this meeting.*

We feel that the rapid transit plans for Broadway Avenue are a bad idea and with negatively impact the Broadway Merchants as well as the residents. Contrary to the Broadway BID's stand, the majority of the merchants are not in favour of this and the BBID is not representing us properly in this matter.

First and foremost, this plan for the bus lanes makes a huge waste of the previous investment a couple of years ago when the medians were all rebuilt after the road closure to replace the water system. That closure for the entire summer, though needed, caused a great strain for many of the merchants at that time and saw numerous closures of businesses. To rip all of that work out for bus lanes creates a massive waste of taxpayers money.

Secondly, before going to such expense to create the bus lanes, could you not run a pilot project with smaller buses to see if it's necessary, we have watched buses during the day and the vast majority of them are very nearly empty, it does not make sense to go to great expense, not only financially, but environmentally, to run buses that are mainly empty every ten minutes. There may be a need during peak times, but certainly not all day.

Thirdly, how rapid is it really when there are at least eleven traffic lights as well as two school zones between downtown and Eighth Street that buses must continually stop at, or slow down for, separate bus lanes will not resolve the laws they must obey. Sending the bus along the freeway or Victoria Avenue would certainly be quicker and fewer traffic lights to concern them with.

Finally, to lose so many parking spaces to allow for the separate bus lanes is unacceptable, Broadway already lacks parking, the residents need to be able to park their vehicles, the merchants, their employees and the clientele of the area need to be able to park vehicles, especially in the winter since we live in a winter province. The side streets also can not take up the over flow of parking. Losing so many parking spaces means that merchants could see a ten per cent drop in business which could mean more closings. Is not the point of Broadway to be a shopping district as well? We have already seen numerous businesses shut their doors because of the roadwork that was needed. What will happen when this drives more business away from Broadway and leaves more merchants struggling? We will lose a vibrant part of the city and a part that brought many tourists here to shop.

I am not against the bus system being overhauled, but I do believe there is a better means of doing this, smaller buses along quieter routes, the bigger buses more frequently along the super busy routes, such as to the University and Saskatchewan Polytechnic Institute. It needs to be

more affordable for those who use it, and it needs to be reliable, but you can't force people in a winter city to take the bus when they have vehicles. We need to remember, what might work for other centers can be of great inspiration to the growth of Saskatoon, but we do need to make sure that all of our initiatives are created with Saskatoon's growth in mind. Short term planning is not helpful for long term goals, it merely wastes tax payer money.

In short, I really hope you will reconsider the rapid transit down Broadway.

Sincerely,

Deborah Perry L.O.

owner, Optika Eclectic Eyewear Ltd.

[REDACTED] Broadway Ave
Saskatoon Sk.
S7N [REDACTED]



From: City Council
Sent: Friday, October 12, 2018 3:41 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council



Submitted on Friday, October 12, 2018 - 15:41
Submitted by anonymous user: 71.17.4.144
Submitted values are:

Date: Friday, October 12, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: DeeAnn
Last Name: Mercier
Email: deeanmercier@broadwayxe.com
Address: 733 Broadway Ave
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7N1B5
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Broadway Business Improvement District
Subject: Request to Speak GPC
Meeting (if known): GPC Oct 15th
Comments:
Hello,

I would like to put in a request to speak to the Governance and Priorities Committee for Item 7.1.2.

Thank you,
DeeAnn Mercier
Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/261947>

4110-2

From: City Council
Sent: Saturday, October 13, 2018 6:50 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council
Attachments: brt_letter_090418.pdf



Submitted on Saturday, October 13, 2018 - 18:49
Submitted by anonymous user: 24.4.221.235
Submitted values are:

Date: Saturday, October 13, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Judith
Last Name: Hutton
Email: cwhutton@shaw.ca
Address: [REDACTED] 8th Avenue North
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7K [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Indian Head Building Corp.
Subject: BRT - support 1st Avenue routing over Sid Buckwold Bridge to 8th Street
Meeting (if known): Governance and Priorities Committee - October 15, 2018
Comments:
Request to speak.
Referencing letter received on Sept 7, 2018 by
Debby Sackmann on behalf of Joanne Sproule, City Clerk.
Letter reattached for ease of reference.
Attachments:
brt_letter_090418.pdf: https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/webform/brt_letter_090418.pdf

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/262055>

Indian Head Building Corp.

Janis Hutton
[REDACTED]

September 4, 2018

Lois Adams
[REDACTED]

Attention: Mayor Charlie Clark & City Councilors
City of Saskatoon
222 – 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Judith Hutton
[REDACTED]

His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council:

On behalf of the partners of Indian Head Building Corp., who own and operate the historic McLean Block on Third Avenue - home to Ayden Kitchen & Bar, *theheritageHUB*, and CFCR Community Radio Station - we would like to express our support for the BRT on First Avenue, as opposed to Third Avenue.

First Avenue makes the most sense for expanded transit services given its natural 'book ends' from the Bessborough to the Midtown, including but not limited to its structural linkage to Idylwyld Drive and the Riversdale district. 21st Street East that runs between these 'book ends' is a vital downtown corridor, both from a tourism and local business perspective. Having the BRT break up this natural corridor would alter much of the downtown charm and street dynamic.

Furthermore, not only would the proposed routing down Third Avenue destroy one of our most visually appealing downtown pedestrian corridors (21st Street East), Third Avenue maintains significant historic buildings,

many dating back over 100 years and would be negatively impacted by this decision.

Extending this bad decision to Broadway Avenue is beyond comprehension. Broadway is an established walking and festival centric area. BRT through Third Avenue enroute to Broadway would completely compromise the heart of not one, but both of these historic streets that have been painstakingly over the years revitalized by progressive business owners and operators.

As a relatively young city, province, and country for that matter, there is immense value in preserving our founding heritage buildings, streets and districts. These are physical reminders of our roots that bear witness to the aesthetic and cultural history of an area. Every city needs heritage components to maintain a sense of permanency. Third Avenue and Broadway are worthy of protection as valuable heritage resources - symbols of our collective history and prairie identity, and for those reasons alone are not the right place for the BRT.

More importantly, the partners of Indian Head Building Corp. are frustrated with what seems to be a lack of respect for the considerable infrastructure expenditures of public funds already utilized to improve both Third Avenue and Broadway, but also a lack of understanding for the merchants who operate there. Both streets have already undergone significant street-scaping and beautification, along with all of the inconveniences such improvement construction periods impose. First Avenue on the other hand, has not had any streetscaping, trees or medians in recent years and would therefore be a better choice for such improvements to be coordinated with the BRT roll out.

We understand that the Midtown supports the project on First Avenue and they are wise to do so. BRT anchored by the Midtown is a win-win – for transit users and the business districts. The Midtown acts as a transition space from East to West, providing equal access to businesses both inside and outside the mall.

While the days of talk of building a bubble over downtown are long past, we must not ignore the fact that Saskatoon is a city blanketed in cold for half of the year. I remember how much I appreciated having malls to walk through during the long winters when I was a student shopper and transit user in Winnipeg.

We trust that it is not too late in the planning process for this disaster to be averted. **We strongly support First Avenue as the north-south running route for BRT Downtown with entry via the Sid Buckwold Bridge.**

Regards,



Janis Hutton, property manager, McLean Block

cc: Judith Hutton, Indian Head Building Corp.
Lois Adams, Indian Head Building Corp.
Dale MacKay & Christopher Cho, Ayden Kitchen & Bar
Neil Bergan, CFCR
Catherine Kambeitz, City Heritage and Design Coordinator

Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

Chris Beavis, Chair, Downtown Saskatoon Board of Directors

Brent Penner, Executive Director Downtown Saskatoon

Randy Pshebylo, Executive Director, Riversdale BID

DeeAnn Mercier, Executive Director, Broadway BID

Todd Brandt, President & CEO Tourism Saskatoon

4110-2

From: City Council
Sent: Sunday, October 14, 2018 10:34 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council
Attachments: response_to_brt_report_18_10_15.doc



Submitted on Sunday, October 14, 2018 - 22:34
Submitted by anonymous user: 207.195.58.254
Submitted values are:

Date: Sunday, October 14, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Peggy
Last Name: Sarjeant
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED] University Drive
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7N [REDACTED]

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Saskatoon Heritage Society
Subject: Report on issues arising out of Transit Plan Summit
Meeting (if known): Governance and Priorities

Comments:
Please find attached a letter commenting on the Transit Plan report.
I or another representative from the Saskatoon Heritage Society request permission to address the above committee at its meeting on October 15th.

Sincerely, Peggy Sarjeant

Attachments:
response_to_brt_report_18_10_15.doc:
https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/webform/response_to_brt_report_18_10_15.doc

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/262191>

October 15 2018

Chair and Members of the Governance and Priorities Committee,

Re Response from Administration to issues arising from the Transit Plan Summit

On behalf of the Saskatoon Heritage Society, I would like to comment on the above report addressing issues arising from the Transit Plan summit.

Since the Society is deeply concerned about the impact of the proposed Broadway BRT line on this unique heritage district, I shall be limiting my comments to those issues that directly affect Broadway.

Engagement Plan – decision -making process

The proposed Engagement Plan focuses on property owners and local merchants. Local residents are not identified as stakeholders. Transit –users and the general public are relegated to a mere mention – almost as an afterthought - and will be granted the opportunity to engage in the process through pop-up stalls!

Local residents and transit users are key to the success of public transit and deserve to be treated as stakeholders and accorded the same degree of respect as property owners and merchants. For over 20 years, the Heritage Society has been involved in supporting Broadway's heritage through walking tours and research and would also welcome the opportunity to be more involved in the process.

BRT and Broadway 360

The report's response to questions about how a proposed Broadway BRT would support (or not) the goals of the Broadway 360 Development Plan seems particularly one –sided. The focus of the report is on Pillar 1 of the Plan with much attention being paid to increased density as a catalyst for investment. Yet Broadway 360 is all about "enhancing and reinforcing the atmosphere and character of Broadway". Pillar 3's key objective is "character and atmosphere retention", stating that the success of the area "hinges on continuing to leverage these identity-defining assets". Pillar 5 refers to the importance of keeping the needs of pedestrians front and centre – the 'Pedestrians First' mantra.

The report, however, devotes one single sentence to the need to ensure the distinct character of Broadway is maintained. There is no mention of retaining the "atmosphere" or ambience of the street.

The negative impact of a BRT route on these less tangible aspects of Broadway's assets needs to be acknowledged and explored further. One can only imagine the impact that 30 buses an hour at peak traffic time would have on street ambience and pedestrian safety, especially if there is no dedicated bus lane.

The case for the 8th Street/Sid Buckwold Bridge option

The 8th Street/Sid Buckwold Bridge route should be seriously considered as it has many advantages. They are as follows:

- It eliminates the risk of destroying the unique ambience of Broadway
- No loss of parking
- All medians on Broadway retained
- No detour for Broadway's street festivals
- Opportunity for increased density development at the south end of Broadway would benefit both Broadway and the BRT down 8th Street
- With an additional BRT stop further west on 8th Street, there would be increased access to downtown for residents in west Nutana and Buena Vista, areas which are currently poorly served.

It is true that, under this proposal, the walkshed shows that residents as far north as 5 Corners would be reluctant to use the BRT. In our experience, however, many residents in that area actually walk downtown and don't use the bus at all.

Broadway as a special street

In 2011, Broadway Avenue gained third place in the Canada –wide Great Street contest organized by the Canadian Institute of Planners. In the words of the CIP, “people visit a great street to enjoy its ambience, to shop, dine and gather”. With the introduction of a BRT line down Broadway with its multiple buses, we believe the very things we like about Broadway, notably its pedestrian-friendly environment and its unique ambience, are put in jeopardy. We do not believe that the potential benefits outweigh the risks. Please consider an alternative route.

Sincerely,
Peggy Sarjeant
President,
Saskatoon Heritage Society

4110-2

From: City Council
Sent: Sunday, October 14, 2018 6:19 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council
Attachments: brt_broadway_route.docx



Submitted on Sunday, October 14, 2018 - 18:19
Submitted by anonymous user: 71.17.147.27
Submitted values are:

Date: Sunday, October 14, 2018
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: S7N [REDACTED]
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Self
Subject: BRT
Meeting (if known): Not known - have asked Council for date.
Comments: Sent a letter over a week ago. Do I need to send again? If possible, I would like to present it or be present at the meeting at which it is presented. Please advise. → called Ms. Epstein.
Attachments:
brt_broadway_route.docx: https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/webform/brt_broadway_route.docx

yes, she will speak.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/262170>

Dear Councillor Cynthia Block,

As you already know, I am a resident of the Broadway area, living one block from Broadway for the past 41 years. You also know that I am strongly against having the designated route for the BRT going down 3rd Avenue to Broadway, and down Broadway Avenue to 8th St. I believe that the appropriate route is down 1st Avenue, along the Sid Buckwold Freeway to 8th St. with a main stop at 8th St. and Broadway.

Please note that I am not against the BRT. I am only against the 3rd Avenue/Broadway route, which would be more expensive and more disruptive for businesses and residents on or near those routes.

I have several reasons for these opinions:

1. Merchants on both 3rd Avenue and Broadway have objected to the route as it will impede their businesses and reduce access due to parking loss. I was told that the parking would be accommodated along side streets, and that the City would engage those impacted in the decision-making. I live one block away and have not been contacted. Nor have the neighbours with which I have spoken.
2. Merchants on 1st Avenue – a street with a very different relationship to its customers and to street traffic – have said that they would prefer the route along their street with a stop at Midtown Plaza, the anchor of downtown.
3. On Broadway, in particular, an express or rapid transit route will change the entire environment of this heritage community. Broadway is a street where shoppers stroll, meeting one another for coffee, lunch or drinks, and patronizing the local and unique businesses (more about this later). A poll taken by one of these local businesses showed that most arrived by walking, biking or by car. Only four people said they had used the bus. An informal poll by me has revealed that most people not already using the bus would not use the bus more if it came down Broadway.
4. To accommodate the BRT on Broadway would necessitate removal of the boulevards – an expensive endeavour on a street that has just been renewed, further interrupting businesses that are just beginning to catch up on the previous construction. The 1st Avenue/freeway/8th Street route does not cause that kind of upheaval because those streets are already set up with little need for changes.
5. There are two schools along Broadway, with slower speeds to accommodate the students. There are also many older people who live in the area and need to cross Broadway. The 1st Avenue route does not have this issue.
6. Every year, there are a number of festivals and events that occur on Broadway, many of them closing off the street to all vehicular traffic.
7. The 3rd Avenue/Broadway route is counter to the study done by Broadway 360 accepted by Council when it was done.
8. The route down Broadway would, I believe, destroy a major (arguably, **the major**) cultural heritage hub in Saskatoon.

As I said, I have lived one block from Broadway for 41 years. This has allowed me to see many changes: When I first moved here in 1977, the Broadway Theatre was showing pornographic movies and there were gangs that gathered on the church steps across from me. The only thing that saved it from being dangerous was that there were only a few bars. When the Broadway Theatre became an alternate theatre, later to become citizen-owned, it changed the tenor of the area into a community. Locally-owned businesses began to open. The gangs disappeared. And, yes, the number of bars and pubs increased. Broadway became the hub and, along with a few blocks on 20th Street, recently restored and revitalized, the only areas of Saskatoon, to my knowledge, that have such a concentration of locally-owned businesses.

The 3rd Avenue/Broadway route would, I believe, destroy the community atmosphere in an important heritage district, and return it to the early, more dangerous period of its history – only now with more bars. It would make it a less desirable area for walking and patronizing these smaller businesses.

If the City Council votes to create the BRT along Broadway, I am seriously thinking of moving out of the area to a safer area, even though I have made changes to my home so that I can age-in-place. I recognize that I am only one person, but almost everyone with whom I have spoken agrees with me that this is not good for the Broadway area and not good for Saskatoon. The 1st Avenue/freeway/8th Street route makes much more sense.

Please reconsider the 3rd Avenue/Broadway route and vote against it.

Thank you,
Linda Epstein
█-10th St. E.
Saskatoon, SK

Phone: █

Email: █

4110-2

From: City Council
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 6:25 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Write a Letter to Council



Submitted on Monday, October 15, 2018 - 06:25
Submitted by anonymous user: 71.17.219.142
Submitted values are:

Date: Monday, October 15, 2018
To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council
First Name: Brent
Last Name: Penner
Email: brent.penner@dtnyxe.ca
Address: 242 3 Av S
City: Saskatoon
Province: Saskatchewan
Postal Code: S7K 4M4
Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Downtown Saskatoon
Subject: BRT / AAA Cycling Network
Meeting (if known): GPC
Comments:
Good morning,

Please add me to the speakers list for the meeting this afternoon.

Thank you,

Brent Penner
Executive Director
Downtown Saskatoon
Attachments:

The results of this submission may be viewed at:
<https://www.saskatoon.ca/node/398/submission/262206>