



Old Ottawa South
Community
Association

July 4th, 2013

Josée Vallee
Project Manager
Main Street Renewal
City of Ottawa

Main Street Renewal: OSCA Support of Preferred Design Alternative 5

Dear Ms. Vallee,

At our recent Board Meeting (held on Tuesday, June 18th), the Old Ottawa South Community Association (OSCA) confirmed its support for the preferred design (Alternative 5) for the renewal of Main Street.

We support the concept of a "complete street" for Main Street for many reasons. First, and foremost, City Council has endorsed the "complete street" concept as per the proposed revisions to the Official Plan and Transportation Master Plan and Council's increased emphasis on active transportation. We agree with our colleagues at the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) that the renewal of Main Street will allow Main Street to function as a "Traditional Main Street". The recommended design will allow for traffic flow but will also allow for safer and easier access for pedestrians and cyclists. Ultimately that will be of benefit to residents and businesses. We believe that this will ultimately contribute to a more liveable Ottawa.

As per OOECA's letter of support dated July 2nd, Mr. Dance has already indicated that the opponents to this plan are concerned about the impacts of the proposed reduction of traffic lanes on a portion of Main Street. As Mr. Dance points out, this concern may be exaggerated and may be solely focused on Main Street's function as an arterial road. We, too, agree that we need to look at Main Street's function from a number of perspectives. If traffic is an issue in the short term, we agree with Mr. Dance's comment that the new LRT line would more than compensate for this traffic issue – and, as he indicated, the challenge will be connecting the residents of the south with that system.

The proposed configuration of the Main and Riverdale intersection may have the most impact on our community. As the comments received in open houses about this intersection seem to be inconclusive, we will give that some additional thought. We'll also give some thought to the issue of the adequacy and design of bike lanes on McIlraith Bridge.

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In summary, we are confident that our OOECA colleagues and, in fact, some of our own, have been a part of shaping the design of Main Street. The "complete street" design makes total sense and is also consistent with City council's endorsement of this concept. As some of Main Street's deteriorating infrastructure requires rebuilding, the timing is perfect for also rebuilding Ottawa's "traditional Main Street".

Sincerely,



Linda M. Hancock
President
Old Ottawa South Community Association

Cc: Mayor Jim Watson
David Chernushenko, Councillor Capital Ward
John Dance, President, OOECA
Keith Egli, Chair, Transportation Committee
Chris Osler, Sandy Hill Community Health Centre
Christine McAllister, President, GCA
Ron Clarke, Delcan