

January 9, 2024

Joel Harden MPP, Ottawa Centre 109 Catherine Street Ottawa, ON K2P 0P4

Dear Mr. Harden:

MTO Must Consult on Plans for 417 Rideau Canal Bridge Replacement

The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario should immediately freeze its planning of the replacement of the 417 bridge over the Rideau Canal and should properly consult with affected communities and residents before going further. The current proposal requires detours of up to 90 weeks for both motorized and active users of the two Rideau Canal parkways and multi-use pathways.

It has been more than a year since MTO tabled its proposal that would require these very lengthy detours. The last proposal that we had discussed with MTO had required building demolitions but no such detours. That alternative would be preferable to the one on the table; however, the public advisory committee has never had the opportunity to comment on the detour proposal.

Please request that MTO re-initiate the consultation process. What is now on the table is not acceptable to the communities affected and MTO needs to talk to them before any final decision is taken.

Bob Gordon President Old Ottawa East Community Association 61 Main Street OTTAWA ON, K1S 1B3

Via email:

c.c.: Councillor Shawn Menard

Yasir Naqvi, MP, Ottawa Centre