

From: Merlin Chatwin
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 2:03 PM
To: SPPC <sppc@london.ca>; Shift <Shift@london.ca>
Subject: Support for BRT

Hi,

I'd like to express my views at the PPM this evening, but I am unable to attend and thus I am sending along this brief message. I recently moved to London, Ontario and have been impressed with the progressive nature of the council. I was not aware of London, Ontario until I was researching universities to attend for my PhD. London's reputation as a city, or lack thereof, isn't what brought me here. I moved to London because of UWO. The reason I will stay in London once my time at UWO is finished is because of the progressive measures that the council is pursuing.

BRT is the foundation for London's progress and as a new resident I am strongly supporting it moving forward. I am an urban geographer that studies place-branding and urban growth. My professional opinion aligns with my personal opinion, BRT is necessary for London's continued economic growth. I am not a transportation design specialist, but I have read the opinions for and against and am strongly convinced that the current plan for the BRT is the best plan. I am concerned with the amount of disinformation that is being presented by the downshift people and the amount of funding that is being invested to maintain status quo for people of privilege.

I want to be able to walk, bike and ride transit all over my city. I want to be able to have diverse neighbours that feel included in their communities and in the City as a whole. I want a vibrant downtown and interesting neighbourhoods (ie. Wortley, OEV) that are accessible via transit.

Please express my support for BRT and my appreciation for the council members that are in favor of it.

Congratulations on the historic approval of ranked ballot voting!

Merlin Chatwin