

From: L Shelby
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 5:40 PM
To: SPPC <sppc@london.ca>; Shift <Shift@london.ca>
Subject: BRT: I support, but NO TUNNEL

Hello

While I do support BRT I think the current plan isn't entirely successful; especially the tunnel.

I previously lived in the city of Bristol, UK where they have dedicated bus lanes (that cyclists, motorcyclists, and taxis can use) that are monitored by CCTV. The lanes are "bus only" during peak hours and if cars are caught using the lane their license plates are captured and a fine is sent to them by post, generating revenue for the transit of the city. Areas of the city are avoided by cars during peak hours because residents know that e.g. "(x) section of Gloucester Rd. is bus only until 6pm". If you are seeking alternative ideas for our BRT please research the transit system (including cycling infrastructure) of this city. It is of a similar size to ours with just as many (possibly more) congestion issues.

I believe the Richmond tunnel is an unnecessary engineering project, and a potential hotspot for crime. Even though the intention is to close it to pedestrians; the truth is that this area is flooded with drunk youth during hours when the buses are no longer running. We would be naive to not also acknowledge the homeless (and/or) mentally ill population in this general area who may also inhabit the tunnel (whether after hours, or in harsh weather, creating a dangerous hazard for traffic using the tunnel). I truly believe that 900m of darkness is something that the citizens of our city who frequent the core in the evening hours cannot be trusted with. As a responsible adult, as well as a patron and resident of the core, **the idea of a tunnel makes me feel unsafe.** This is all before even bringing into account the expense and uncertainty surrounding construction, just to avoid the handful of trains that pass across Richmond daily. I really find this to be an extreme measure to save a few minutes for passengers.

If an underpass is the only solution, I would much rather see something similar to other underpasses in the core that are accessible to all traffic (including cyclists and pedestrians).

We need to **put more focus on protected/off road bicycle infrastructure and dedicated bus lanes** (during peak hours), not obsess over the train crossing on Richmond. I live in and drive through the core (including Richmond) daily and I am never held up by the train. I am, however, held up every day on Oxford St, Wharncliffe, and Wonderland Rd.

Thank you for your time,

L. Shelby