



Mayor Ed Holder
City of London
300 Dufferin Ave.
P.O. Box 5035
London, ON
N6A 4L9

Re: Regional Transportation Conceptual Framework – Report to Civic Works Committee

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the South Central Ontario Region Economic Development Corporation (SCOR EDC), I am writing to you to communicate our support for the conceptual framework developed by the City of London.

Over the past months, we have been working in partnership with London Civic Administration to identify and assess opportunities to strengthen the intercommunity transit connections across Southwestern Ontario. As the largest city in the region, London serves as a hub for commerce, entertainment, and important services such as healthcare and education for the 2.5 million people calling Southwestern Ontario home. At the same time, the South Central Ontario Region's competitiveness is rooted in the strong economic, social, and environmental interconnectedness of its rural and urban communities.

Building a strong recovery and renewal for Ontario will require enhancing regional transportation options and accessibility across the entire region. South Central Ontario Region and the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area form the single largest domestic economic partnership in Canada – with more than \$20 billion worth of goods and services moving by road, rail and air each year. Finding opportunities to strengthen regional transportation connections will continue to be critical for our shared future.

SCOR EDC is a not for profit economic development corporation owned by the Counties of Brant, Elgin, Middlesex, Norfolk and Oxford. This region includes five Counties, 28 municipalities and lies in the heart of Southwestern Ontario. SCOR EDC has been working with Ministry partners and other regional and provincial stakeholders to address transportation related gaps across our service area and beyond. The formation of Southwest Community Transit (SCT) was a critical piece of that coordination that SCOR EDC has completed. We see connections to larger urban neighbors such as London as a critical component for a synchronized transportation system across the region. As an organization that has committed resources to this development we find value in collaborating with the City of London on the exploration of a conceptual framework.

SCOR EDC is supportive of the recommended action to take the prepared conceptual framework for regional transportation forward to federal and provincial governments to inform continued discussions and identify tangible opportunities to invest in a stronger Southwest Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Chambers'.

Robert Chambers
Chair, SCOR EDC