From: <u>LegislativeServices</u>

To: <u>DL-Councillors; Gous, Leon A.</u>; <u>Halliwell, Juli; Kozak, Ed; Dioszeghy, Jozsef</u>

Cc: Best, Nikki

Subject: FW: Regarding the October 16th Council Meeting Motion on BRT

Date: Monday, October 16, 2023 11:41:58 AM

From: John Ivison

Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2023 2:02 PM

To: LegislativeServices < LegislativeServices@burnaby.ca >

Subject: Regarding the October 16th Council Meeting Motion on BRT

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I have just seen a Daily Hive article regarding the implementation of BRT between Park Royal and Metrotown. I am extremely excited to see Burnaby endorse higher order transit between Burnaby and the North Shore as it is long overdue. However, I also noticed that staff are recommending to change the routing to skip Hastings, and instead travel on Halifax, 1st, and Boundary roads. When looking for justification in city staff's recommendation for such a decision, I found nothing other than (paraphrasing) "it would require reallocation of road space". However staff provided no reason for why that's not possible. Considering this routing change would mean significantly worse transit service to the Heights, I strongly feel this routing change should be reconsidered, or at the very least some explanation be provided.

As a transit rider, I feel dismissed and insulted that the City of Burnaby would brush off the needs of transit riders so readily, without even providing justification for doing so. Routing the BRT on Hastings between Willingdon and Boundary would provide transit riders and residents alike with a high quality, fast, and reliable bus connection to the Heights. As an East Vancouver resident living near the border, I frequently visit Burnaby, including businesses along Hastings. Since I do not have a driver's license and can't afford to drive, I depend on transit like the proposed BRT to get me around the city.

I strongly urge council and staff to reconsider this alignment modification, and provide Burnaby residents and visitors with a high quality transit connection to one of Burnaby's best and most vibrant neighbourhoods!

