



April 3, 2019

Mayor Brown and Members of Council  
Corporation of the City of Brampton  
2 Wellington Street  
Brampton, ON L6Y 4R2

**Re: Action required on a collaborative, affordable and pro-active approach to improve Brampton's competitiveness re: Hurontario-Main Street LRT Extension Study (File IA.A (16-3130-101))**

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

We have reviewed staff recommendations in this report and encourage Council not to approve Recommendation 2. Instead, we encourage Council to leverage the existing Environmental Assessment that continues to remain valid, and to act forthwith to advocate that the Hurontario Light Rail extension align as closely as possible with the current Metrolinx HuLRT procurement process.

Bold leadership and timing is crucial. It is our understanding that the deadline for the Metrolinx RFP for the Hurontario Light Rail Transit project occurs this month. As such, there may be a window following the financial close to discuss the extension further into Brampton with the selected project company.

Competition among municipalities for transit funding is fierce. Waiting for further study is not a winning strategy when other cities are actively advocating for shovel-ready projects. The Brampton Board of Trade encourages Brampton City Council to capture this window of opportunity for the citizens of Brampton. By taking a collaborative, pro-active and pragmatic approach to extension of the HuLRT further into Brampton, City Council will also enhance the probability of attracting federal and provincial financial support for the project. With a federal election scheduled this year, timing is optimal.

The alternative, approval of staff's recommendation for further study of expensive tunneling and loops, and then initiating a brand-new procurement process, will take years to complete, waste money already spent on still-valid environmental assessments, cost taxpayers even more and delay the job-creation and livability enhancements the citizens of Brampton expect and deserve.

As the City's economic development marketing efforts proudly declare, "Brampton is Now". Acting now on extending the HuLRT to Brampton GO station will also add certainty to the Queen BRT and leverage Metrolinx's efforts on two-way, all-day GO train service to Brampton. This certainty provides confidence that allows the business community to make decisions on investments today that accelerate Brampton's prosperity for all, for generations to come.

The Brampton Board of Trade encourages City Council to demonstrate bold leadership. The time is now to avoid costly delays, save money and boost Brampton's livability, competitiveness and job-creation. By aligning with the current procurement process and securing funding for the only route with an approved Environmental Assessment, Council will enable the Hurontario Light Rail extension project to open as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Todd Letts, MBA, CCE  
Chief Executive Officer



Manpreet Mann  
2019 Chair