

**Ottawa East
Community
Association**



Old Town Hall

January 6, 2015

Émilie Girard-Ruel, MBA
Senior Officer, Public Consultations
National Capital Commission

Dear Ms Girard-Ruel:

Support for the Clegg-Colonel By Drive Bus Route during Main Street Reconstruction

After discussion at a recent board meeting of the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA), review of the comments made at the City's public open house on Main Street renewal (November 20, 2014) and consultation with a number of community members, it is the position of the OOECA that of the three options for northbound OC Transpo routes during Main Street Renewal construction, the best one would be Clegg-Colonel By Drive. Please note that southbound buses will be able to continue using a Main Street lane during construction

The option of running buses #5 and 16 along Riverside would deprive community members of any useful service. The option of running buses along Clegg-Glenora-Hazel-Echo would be dangerous on the narrow streets with tight corners. Also, Echo Drive functions as a "woonerf," where many pedestrians and cyclists use the roadway, so that a bus on this would not be welcomed.

Consequently, the OOECA would welcome the National Capital Commission's willingness to allow OC Transpo to operate northbound buses #5 and 16 on Colonel By between Clegg and Hawthorne during the reconstruction of Main Street. We realize that the NCC needs to preserve the special character of the parkways but we'd suggest that occasionally exceptions are warranted and this temporary bus routing is such an exception.

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NCC Board members may not be aware that Main Street, Old Ottawa East's north-south thoroughfare, will be utterly disrupted by construction in 2015 and 2016. And they may not know that Old Ottawa East has a peculiar street structure so that there is no parallel route to Main that could serve an obvious alternative route for buses. The consequence is the request to use Colonel By Drive for OC Transpo buses. It's also worth noting that these buses do not run frequently so they will not put undue pressure on Colonel By.

The Commission's willingness to allow Lansdowne "large-event" shuttle buses to use limited portions of Queen Elizabeth Driveway was appreciated by residents of the Glebe and, similarly, your approval of temporary usage of OC Transpo buses on a short portion of Colonel By Drive would be welcomed by Old Ottawa East residents.

We look forward to hearing the NCC Board's decision on this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Dance". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

John Dance
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c.c.: Josée Vallée, City of Ottawa
Councillor David Chernushenko