Delegation by Gary Scobie to Planning & Development Comm.

- Addendum

Re: Downtown Mobility Hub & Proposed Official Plan

Date: April 24, 2018.

I recently reviewed the Metrolinx 2041 Regional Transportation Plan for the GTHA, approved very recently on March 8, 2018. It projects (mandates) a 41% increase in the population of the GTHA between 2016 and 2041. It is assigning a 77% growth number to Halton Region. How much we will get of this in Burlington will be up for discussion with the Region.

I was very disappointed to see that Burlington did not offer a report to Metrolinx on this new extended plan to 2041, while Oakville, Milton and the Region of Halton did, along with 24 other cities, towns and regions. I would not have known that Metrolinx was reviewing their plan unless I looked into it myself. I doubt other Burlington citizens were aware of this review.

In the 197 pages of the report there were only two direct references to Burlington. One was for the projected Priority Bus Transit on Brant Street that is supposed to provide some sort of more frequent and quicker transit up Brant Street to Dundas Street. I assume this will be the answer somehow to better transit from downtown to the GO Station, though it remains a mystery to citizens at this point.

The second reference to Burlington was the new app to track bus schedules and bus location for cell phones released in 2016. That was it for Burlington progress since the last report was done years ago for 2031 planning.

I also noted that Metrolinx mandates that all municipalities have a multimodal Transportation Master Plan in place. I was disappointed to see that while Oakville has recently updated theirs in July 2017 and Milton completed theirs March 19, 2018, Burlington is currently "working on" ours, with no projected date to complete. I assume this will make up part of our Transportation and Transit Plans to be incorporated in our future Official Plan.

So it seems that Burlington is clearly behind the curve in progressing as other municipalities in our region have in getting a proper up to date Transportation Master Plan in place.