

Correspondence from Hunter Lawson regarding Integrated mobility plan – travel demand model funding (TS-11-20)

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From: Lawson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 4:57 PM
To: Edgcumbe, Kaylan <Kaylan.Edgcumbe@burlington.ca>
Subject: re: TS-11-20 delegation

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Ms. Edgcumbe,

After re-reading my delegation to the Council committee, and listening to the audio transcript of the meeting, I wish to apologize if I gave you, or Council, the impression that the RFP process was in any way not done in a professional, correct manner or that anything untoward was conducted.

As you can imagine, emails in general and this new way of delegating can lead to mixed messages, or worse. We in the public have a tiny window of opportunity to respond to agenda items. No one has time to constantly visit the City's website to see what is posted and when. It would appear that my email was done in, to use my own word - haste, trying to meet the deadline of noon on Friday.

My concern stems from the frustration of many that Council has not yet ratified the Climate Action Plan, a plan that has enormous consequences and one that Council approved spending of one tenth of your proposal.

Though Mobility is a major component of Climate Mitigation, the timing of your request for approval of the tender and the amount of money requested seemed, to me, disproportionate.

Of course, I'm no expert and was limited to whatever I could glean from your report, the original 68 page RFP (which was extremely difficult to find given the limitations put on by the City's IT department with COVID notices appearing on many pages), and the Addendums.

I merely wished Council to pause for a moment to reflect on the importance of all components that feed into the Climate Action Plan, especially given the craziness of our uncertain times.

But, at the end of the day, Council trusted your expertise and judgement, and that of your colleagues, without question. And that is how it should be.

Sincerely,
Lawson Hunter