

To Mayor and Council,

I am writing in support of the investments that Burlington is making into the future of the city through its 2022 budget, notably the items in the capital budget. The capital budget works to address the issues that Burlington currently faces regarding transportation among other things.

The budget supports Burlington Transit's 2020-2024 business plan by funding the ordering of new conventional transit vehicles and installation of transit signal priority devices onto buses. These purchases will enable improved frequencies and reliability on transit routes, moving us closer to the 10-15 minute transit grid.

The funding for the Plains Road renewal is included in the 2022 budget. It includes the city's first protected on-road cycling facilities, and the first piece of a key cycling route that will span from Hamilton in the west, to the Appleby GO Station in the east.

As Burlington grows, it is clear that a multimodal approach (an approach in which bicycles, walking, and transit are factored) is required for people to move safely and efficiently. This budget takes steps towards addressing this need, and starts the momentum for future investments in our city.

Watching the CSSRA committee meeting there were comments that resonated strongly with me:

- We can't approve plans at council without providing the adequate funding
- We cannot continue to underfund the city's needs

In summer 2020, I chose Burlington as my home after looking at the Transit Business Plan, Cycling Master Plan, and the work being done regarding land-use planning. It is of great importance that these plans are carried forward and funded accordingly.

Coming out of the second year of the pandemic, it is great to see positive change coming down the pipeline. There is still more work to be done (e.g. improvements to road/street design, winter maintenance, path lighting, etc.) but this gives me hope for the city's future, and has me proudly share the great things that our city is doing. This budget points Burlington in the right direction: towards creating a great city for all to live, work, and play.

Sincerely,

Nick Morrison

Ward 5 Resident