



Motion Memorandum

SUBJECT: Opposing Ontario's Bill 212: Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act 2024

TO: Mayor and Members of Council

FROM: Councillor Rory Nisan, Ward 3

Date to Committee: select date

Date to Council: November 19, 2024

Motion for Council to Consider:

Whereas Ontario's *Bill 212: Reducing Gridlock, Saving You Time Act 2024* has a stated aim of streamlining transportation projects and reducing gridlock across the province, primarily through measures that may alter local government authority in approving or managing transportation infrastructure; and

Whereas local governments play a critical role in planning, managing, and maintaining transportation systems that directly impact residents' quality of life, community safety, and access to public spaces; and

Whereas effective transportation planning requires balanced decision-making that considers local traffic conditions, community input, environmental impacts, and long-term urban development goals; and

Whereas *Bill 212* is expected to impose requirements or restrictions that hinder municipalities from exercising their right to represent community interests, engage in public consultation, and implement transportation measures best suited for their regions;

Whereas *Bill 212* may undermine municipal authority and limit the ability of local councils to address transportation and gridlock issues in ways that best serve their communities;

Therefore, be it resolved that Burlington City Council strongly opposes *Bill 212: Reducing Gridlock Saving Time Act 2024* in its current form; and

Council urges the Province of Ontario to engage in comprehensive consultations with municipalities, transportation experts, and community stakeholders to ensure that provincial legislation supports, not supersedes, local government initiatives aimed at reducing gridlock and enhancing transportation efficiency; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transportation, the Ontario Big City Mayors caucus, and the Burlington Member of Provincial Parliament for consideration and action.

Reason:

Burlington is best positioned to make decisions about transportation in a way that reflects the needs of the community and does not require the Ministry of Transportation to direct how mobility is managed within the city. Rather, the province should shift its focus to collaborating with local municipalities to enhance access to safe, efficient, affordable, and sustainable options for walking, cycling and public transit for all Ontarians, and to managing the clogged highways and under-supported GO system.

Outcome Sought:

Change in Bill 212 to ensure local municipalities remain independent in addressing transportation needs.

Vision to Focus Alignment:

(check those that apply)

- Designing and delivering complete communities
- Providing the best services and experiences
- Protecting and improving the natural environment and taking action on climate change
- Driving organizational performance

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Approved as per form by the City Clerk.