



02 May, 2018

Derek Nawrot
Coordinator, Project Planning
Halifax Transit
PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Delivered via email

Dear Mr. Nawrot

RE: Bus Rapid Transit on Spring Garden Road

I am writing on behalf of the over 320 members of the Spring Garden Area Business Association (SGABA) regarding the potential for Bus Rapid Transit on Spring Garden Road as identified as "Route 1" of the Draft Bus Rapid Transit Feasibility Study report dated February 12, 2018. The Association **does not** support Bus Rapid Transit along Spring Garden Road for the following reasons:

1. The street is already being slated for a streetscaping project in 2020 to enhance and widen the pedestrian realm (sidewalks). The addition of bus-only lanes would either reduce the space dedicated to pedestrians and serve to negatively impact the pedestrian experience, or it would eliminate the right-of-way for vehicles. The latter would severely impact all businesses in the area, particularly small businesses.
2. The Association does not believe that the project team has properly recognized the character of Spring Garden Road as a place not a link to somewhere else. Additionally, creating bus-only lanes along Spring Garden Road would eliminate any possibility of hosting important open street events held on the street, like SWITCH Halifax, that add to the identity of Spring Garden Road.
3. The safety of our members and of visitors to the area is our utmost concern. We feel that additional buses along Spring Garden Road would have a negative impact on pedestrian safety. Thousands of pedestrians cross the road at both signaled and un-signalized intersections daily and the ability to do so confidently, and safely, should be a priority for the future of Spring Garden Road. We feel that additional buses on the street do not this goal.

We hope you take this feedback into consideration when developing your final recommendations. As an alternative, we encourage you to explore rerouting bus traffic along Brunswick Street and then along Sackville Street, both strong links to downtown and Spring Garden Road. This objective better aligns with the identity of Spring Garden Road as a destination and pedestrian oriented street, in addition to the goals of the Integrated Mobility Plan.

We would be happy to discuss our concerns and recommendations in further detail going forward.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juanita Spencer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Juanita Spencer
Executive Director
Spring Garden Area Business Association