

Glebe Community Association
Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Motion 4: Highway 417 Bronson Avenue Interchange and Operational Improvements, Detail Design

Motion Approved

WHEREAS the GCA has engaged with the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) concerning the Highway 417 Bronson Avenue Interchange and Operational Improvements, Detail Design project since 2013, and in recent months has passed related motions reiterating the neighbourhood's desire to beautify the Chamberlain corridor between Bronson and Bank Streets with well-designed green and walking spaces where construction opportunities avail themselves; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) last month issued its notice of the Design and Construction Report (DCR) submission for the Highway 417 Bronson Avenue Interchange and Operational Improvements, Detail Design project for public review up to November 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS the plan, as currently configured, involves a local, 70 metre (north) realignment of Chamberlain Avenue adjacent to the existing Glebe Memorial Park but does not specify how the existing roadway and sidewalk next to Glebe Memorial Park and a potentially expanded pedestrian pathway will be incorporated; and

WHEREAS an opportunity exists to do so in a way that could increase the amount of park and other green space in that section of the corridor, including a possible expansion of Glebe Memorial Park and a greening of the existing paved space that is the current Chamberlain Avenue; and

WHEREAS the plan goes so far as to acknowledge that one key recommendation of the City of Ottawa Chamberlain Avenue, Catherine Street, and Isabella Street Functional Design Study -- the addition of a multi-use pathway (MUP) on the south side of Chamberlain Avenue -- has not been incorporated as part of the current plan but that the plan does not preclude the addition of the MUP should the City decide to pursue this in the future; and

WHEREAS the DCR also specifies that a landscaping plan has been prepared for this project that includes "expanded green space north of Glebe Memorial Park" but does not appear to incorporate this into the existing design itself;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GCA calls upon the MTO and the City of Ottawa for a commitment that they actively and transparently consult each other and the affected communities (Glebe and Glebe Annex) on these aspects of the plan; and

THAT next steps, including clarity, communication and consultation with the community, address the goals of the northern expansion of Memorial Park, removal and grassing/treeing of the existing sidewalk and the redundant portion of Chamberlain Ave, development of a MUP immediately south of the realigned Chamberlain Ave, and development of a parkette in the large triangle created between Bronson and the new Chamberlain; and

THAT, for example, the Landscape plan Figure 3-6 should show all the landscape works, including those on the south side of Chamberlain as described in the Landscape Plan 3.2.15 and including the planting of street trees on the south side of Chamberlain in accordance with the objectives to reinforce the residential nature of the street as a traffic calming measure; and

THAT these goals take advantage of planned construction to minimize cost and be incorporated into the current design plan while planned construction is underway.