

November 16, 2025

Region of Waterloo Council  
150 Frederick St.  
Kitchener, ON

Dear Members of Council,

I am writing to express my full support for the motion to fully extend the LRT to Downtown Cambridge. I would like to share some reflections from my personal experience to explain why I support full LRT extension.

I own and live in a unit in a high-rise condo building that is one block away from an Ion station. The planning for my building started around 2016, which I assume places it among the earliest buildings to be built with the LRT in mind. My home exists because of the LRT's role in fostering development of tall, dense buildings near train stations.

Because of the proximity of the Ion, I do not need to own a car or a parking space in the building, which reduced the purchase price of my unit to the point that it was within my price range. Transit supports an affordable housing strategy by keeping transportation costs low, making Ion stations ideal locations for affordable housing.

Living in Uptown Waterloo, before the LRT I rarely visited the other cities in the Region. The fact that the LRT does not have to compete with traffic makes it reliable, fast, and easy — Downtown Kitchener is now part of my "15-minute city." I've become a regular at several Kitchener businesses and event venues that, before the LRT, were "outside my bubble." The ease of travel has strengthened my social connections and enabled new friendships with Kitchener residents.

I would love to visit Cambridge more frequently, but the current transit situation presents a barrier to frequent visits. It takes more than an hour for me to get to Galt, and the bus between Fairview and Ainslie is frequently packed. (I can only imagine what this must be like for daily commuters!) I look forward to the role that the next stage of the LRT will play in strengthening social cohesion across the Region.

Best regards,

Craig Sloss  
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