

Pilon, Janet

Subject: an apology from a No Hamilton LRT campaigner (I'm sorry)

From: Theodore Sares

Sent: November-24-16 7:30 AM

To: Office of the Mayor; Johnson, Aidan; Farr, Jason; Green, Matthew; Merulla, Sam; Collins, Chad; Jackson, Tom; Skelly, Donna; Whitehead, Terry; Conley, Doug; Pearson, Maria; Johnson, Brenda; Ferguson, Lloyd; VanderBeek, Arlene; Pasuta, Robert; Partridge, Judi

Subject: an apology from a No Hamilton LRT campaigner (I'm sorry)

Dear Mr Mayor, City Councillors,

I have been part of the No Hamilton LRT movement since around the time it started and I run our [Twitter account](#) and have also contacted you in the past to voice my opposition to the LRT project.

I still believe that there are MANY unanswered questions with regards to this project and that there are going to be impacts to businesses along King St that should be managed or helped, but at this time I wanted to write a short apology for allowing myself to become part of something that has gotten ugly, and for the harsh and unfair things that have been said about many of you on social media and at meetings and so on.

Our strategy has been to stir up as much fear and doubt about this project as possible, to always talk about "cost" and taxes and damage to the downtown. I posted some things on Twitter like this and some of it made people really upset, which I regret now. There is a lot of "scheming" to try and disrupt the project and create controversy. Donna Skelly works closely with the No Hamilton LRT people and especially Carol Lazich to do stuff like that abolish the LRT subcommittee motion (by the way she uses a gmail account when she works with Carol (donna.skelly1111@gmail.com) instead of her city councillor email, maybe those are tracked???)

Anyway here is the point of my email. I have gone along with this stuff and also I admit encouraged it but when Trump was elected in the USA I fell silent. Our tactics were always along the "Trump lines" and I never really thought they would be successful but now I see that you can spread fear and doubt and "fake news" and it will work, but the consequences can be very ugly and people are divided.

So I have to apologize, and say sorry for all of that.

Where I disagree with many on the No Hamilton LRT side now is that I think the issue could be settled, it is just transit, maybe some good will come of it. A lot of the people in my building use the HSR. What should happen now is that plans should be made to help the businesses on King St. Instead of fighting and creating a mess like Trump in the USA we should figure out how to make this work for EVERYBODY.

I have voiced this opinion to some of the No Hamilton LRT people and some of them have been very nasty about it, that has been a real turnoff for me. Especially one who made comments about my disability. The whole thing is upsetting and I think I am done with all of this

Thank you for reading and have a nice day,

Theodore Sares

[No Hamilton LRT](#) / [@nohamiltonlrt](#)