

SUBMISSION – IAN KING

ITEM 2 OF THE REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS DATED JUNE 11, 2024, REGARDING PRELIMINARY DESIGN STUDY – ROUTE 90 IMPROVEMENTS – TAYLOR AVENUE TO NESS AVENUE

Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2024 11:55:20 AM

Personal information

Full name: Ian King

Email address:

Phone:

Job title:

Organization:

Address:

City: Winnipeg

Province or territory: Manitoba

Postal code:

Delegation information

Committee: Council

Committee - council: Opposed to the recommendations

Committee - other: N/A

Agenda item (number and title): 2. Preliminary Design Study - Route 90 Improvements - Taylor Avenue to Ness Avenue

Service inquiry: Submit Comments in writing

Participation preference: N/A

Comments in writing: I'm writing to comment on the proposed expansion of Route 90. The short version: Yes to repair, no to expansion.

Repairing and rehabilitating the route and associated infrastructure is necessary and should not be controversial. Expanding the number of lanes for a very small reduction in travel time and assuming a greater maintenance commitment in the future is not. The most optimistic readings of the cost-benefit analysis show a very modest payback and one bad cost overrun will turn that into a loss. The marginal benefit in travel times (measured in seconds, not minutes!) is too small to turn into practical gains for individuals and many businesses.

Rather than embarking on expansion, the City should aim for a well-maintained Route 90 that offers more choice in travel through this corridor. Improved active transportation options and increased bus service as work along the corridor completes will allow for more movement of people without increasing the number of motor vehicles. Not everyone will choose to get out of their car, and that's fine: the goal should be to make it a viable option for more people so that some of them will, leaving road space for those who can't or won't.

The City has a number of capital-intensive transport infrastructure needs that also need to be met such as the Arlington and Louise bridges, and continued improvement in rapid transit, and those projects have a better chance of being advanced in a timely manner if the City takes a more cost-effective approach to Route 90 than the recommended expansion.

File:

Public engagement preference: Yes