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Aronec of LRT by Alexander Aronec

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NO COMMENT



I was very pleased to see that two of my fellow candidates in the October 25, 2010 election have proposed that the **LRT be implemented out to the current boundaries of the city**. I do, however disagree with both candidates that the Tunnel be eliminated (unless the promised funding doesn't appear). The key to any transportation system being successful is getting riders to where they want to go on a convenient basis. Having to make multiple transfers is the biggest way to turn riders off.

What Ottawa needs is an end to end LRT system which makes each LRT station a hub in a hub and spoke type of network. The spokes would be either bus or potentially even a LRT [light] solution similar to the one used at Pearson Airport. In order to be effective, the stops should be at or near locations where people live, work or play. It seems like a common sense statement but as of late, I find that is something lacking at city hall. Any future expansion of the city would have to ensure that an easement was left for the LRT Routeway.

If you look at the Metro in Washington DC, they have multiple routes running over the same set of rails for a portion of the time. Ottawa could have 3 routes, for example East, West and South, each of which also could potentially have a short turn function to increase frequencies when needed.

What would my vision of the ideal system be? A city wide high capacity LRT based system which eliminates the need for OC Transpo buses in the core. A system which, potentially in conjunction with a **vehicle congestion fee type of system**, makes use of transit cost effective and environmentally friendly. A system which, once on the correct route [and you only would have to choose from 3] gets you to any LRT station without transferring. Buses would be utilized to carry riders from the LRT stations out to 'local' destinations. Large, potentially free or low cost parking lots would be located at the LRT stations on outer boundaries of the city to cater to those who commute by car from outside of the city limits. Make the suburban stations "Kiss and Ride" able. Yes, there are a lot more requirements, but I hope you see a glimmer of my vision.

A full length version of this entry is [on my website](#).

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