

Civic Hospital

Neighbourhood Association

Dear Mayor Watson,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association (CHNA) to express our concerns regarding the proposed closure of the 417 E-E ramp (Westgate).

The CHNA believes that the Ministry of Transportation has significantly underestimated the anticipated amount of redistributed traffic through our neighbourhood. Notwithstanding the proposed redesign of the Carling/Kirkwood ‘loop’, it is far more likely that drivers from all catchment areas studied, will take the most direct route to 417 East. Additionally, until all phases of the Westgate development and more advanced planning of the Civic Campus are fully contemplated, the proposal to close the 417 E-E ramp should be viewed as premature.

As was reiterated at the neighbourhood meeting held on February 6, 2017, the Civic Hospital Neighbourhood is already under significant stress due to the amount of traffic generated by the Civic Campus, the University of Ottawa Heart Institute, and nearby development such as the Westgate property.  Consequently the community has requested that an Area Traffic Management study be conducted.  However, we have been advised that it could take several years before such a study would be completed.  Any interim scenario which produces an additional traffic burden on the community places residents at risk and should not be acceptable. We therefore request your support in opposing the closure of the 417 E-E ramp.

Your understanding and support for the community’s position is much appreciated.

Regards,

*Luanne*

Luanne Calcutt

Chair, Transportation Committee

Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association

c.c. Councillor Jeff Leiper

Yasir Naqvi, MPP Ottawa Centre