



New Edinburgh Community Alliance
Alliance communautaire de New Edinburgh
(NECA)

www.newedinburgh.ca

December 24, 2016

Mayor Jim Watson
City Hall,
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Mayor Watson,

On the recommendation of a community-based CSST Task Force, the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) Executive Board at its meeting on December 20, 2016, passed a motion affirming its position to challenge the CSST East-West Tunnel project in its current form, under the basic principle that the public good does not justify excessive, unnecessary and disproportionate private harm.

The NECA Board publicly affirms its resolve to pursue the following remedial actions on behalf of the residents of New Edinburgh:

1. That the City relocate the primary staging site for the East-West Tunnel out of Stanley Park and New Edinburgh.
2. That the City immediately conduct a thorough study/impact assessment of all possible trucking routes. Such a study to include an assessment of health, safety and vibration impacts of each potential route and the results disseminated to the public in a timely fashion before the project start.
3. That the City commit to begin working immediately with all residents directly impacted by the project (specifically Queen Victoria Street, Stanley Avenue and any areas along the trucking route) to assess potential impacts (taking into account the age, health, and abilities of residents) and develop mitigation options that will be monitored on an ongoing basis.
4. That the City provide adequate funding and options for residents for financial losses or costs arising from the project's impact (such as, but not limited to temporary relocation; protection of property while vacant; protection of household assets vulnerable to vibration from construction; business losses, including loss of rental income caused by construction activity; financial losses for sale of property at reduced value due to construction, health expenses related to harm caused by construction activity.)
5. That the City commit to independent, ongoing and verifiable monitoring and enforcement of all City bylaws and exemptions approved for this project and that all infractions be reported publically and acted on within 24 hours.

255 MacKay Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1M 2B6

- 6. a) That the City of Ottawa arrange for a demonstration/simulation of the noise that will be generated by the CSST construction, including at the maximum dbl approved by the City for this project. This simulation will be conducted simultaneously at each CSST construction site in New Edinburgh and also include other construction activities (trucking, generators, etc.). This will serve to inform residents as to their safety, allowing them to determine if they will be able to stay in their homes.
 - b) That all residents be provided at least 14 days written notice of intentions to exceed safe limits (50 to 65 dbl, as per existing bylaw) and that any resident within the radius of such noise be provided with any necessary assistance to evacuate the area, if they do not have the means to do so themselves on that date.
 - c) That due to proximity of homes to the construction site, construction activities at site 5 (c) Queen Victoria/River Lane be limited to weekdays (Monday-Friday) for no more than 8 hours between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.
7. That the City immediately conduct a thorough, independent study of any proposed environmental and human health mitigation plans;
8. That the City specifically address the impact of the project on the health, safety and quality of life of the vulnerable elderly residents of Governor’s Walk Retirement Residence at 150 Stanley Avenue, bearing mind a) the proximity of the residence to both the main drilling sites and the trucking route through the community; and b) the inability of many of these residents to relocate out of the residence should the noise levels and/or scale of construction disruption exceed tolerable limits.

The New Edinburgh community is calling on you, as Mayor, to revisit this project and ensure the health and safety of residents is given proper consideration by moving the staging site for the CSST to a non-residential area and by committing to implementing adequate mitigation measures for the remaining construction work that cannot be moved to minimize the overall impact to our community. These are not responsibilities that the City can offload through poorly-defined contracting processes.

Sincerely,

Tim Plumptre, President
 New Edinburgh Community Alliance

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