His Worship Mayor Fred Eisenberger & Members of Council
Hamilton City Centre
77 James Street North, Suite 230
Hamilton, ON  L8R 2K3

May 14, 2008

Dear Mayor Fred:

On behalf of the REALTORS® Association of Hamilton-Burlington (RAHB) and our 2400 members we are writing to express our full support for the development of light rail transit (LTR) in Hamilton.

We understand that some in our community have voiced concern over the potential costs of light rail over bus rapid transit (BRT). However, we are part of a larger group of citizens who believe that Hamilton has the potential to become a great city.

In order to achieve this goal we need to be forward thinking in our plans for the future, and we believe that light rail is one of the best ways to achieve many of the goals of the city. These include, but are not limited to: revitalization of the downtown core, intensification along main corridors, increased economic development and broadening of the tax base.

As an association, RAHB has adopted a number of guiding principles to demonstrate the commitment of the real estate profession to improve quality of life by supporting policies that encourage economic vitality, provide housing opportunities, preserve the environment, protect property owners and build community. Light rail transit will help achieve many of these principles.

We urge you to move forward with the decision to develop light rail transit (LTR) in Hamilton as the best option for the future of this city.

We are looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,
REALTORS® Association of Hamilton-Burlington

Ann Cosens
2008 President

John Vail
2008 Government Relations Chair

CC: Jillian Stephen, Manager Strategic Planning – Capital Planning and Implementation Division
Lisa Zinkewich, Senior Project Manager for Rapid Transit