

PRESS RELEASE

The Largest Infrastructure Project in Saskatchewan's History Why Tower Road?

Virtually 100% of taxpayers in Saskatchewan, when informed about the provincial governments' plan to construct an east end connection of the Regina Bypass within City limits near Tower Road, regard the project as dysfunctional, unsafe, and too costly.

Even casual observers recognize that Tower Rd is another example of a short-sighted government decision. You don't have to look far to see other examples of people not agreeing with the investment government wants to make with our money, but them not listening to public opinion. Have you talked to *anyone* who thought putting the stadium, without a roof, on Elphinstone St. is the best we could do? Or how about the City Square fiasco that costs 3 times the budget? Or what about closing the Plains Hospital? Will Tower Rd be yet another example of a regrettable choice?

If the government is so sure of their decision, why would they not release the functional study in its entirety, THAT WAS PAID FOR BY TAXPAYERS, to the public? They are being condescending in their attitude and frivolous with our funds, and if the Premier were sincere in his stated desire to listen to constituents, we would not see people paying for advertising in the paper to get his attention.

Why won't the Premier respond to the open letter? The only transparency his government has is the apparent contempt they have for anyone who expects valid questions to be answered. The Premier has said he is committed to listening to concerns, but our letters, our visits to his constituency office, and our public pleas for meetings have all fallen on the deaf ears of an inaccessible government.

The government was quick to poll in regards to liquor store privatization, however is less eager to hear how people feel about spending 1.2 billion dollars on the largest infrastructure project in our history: ask 100 people if they think Tower Rd is a good location for the east Regina bypass terminal location, and at least 99 of them would say it is clearly too close to current developments.

It is time for the elected politicians to listen to the people paying the bills, and replace their hollow words with sincere actions. Let Regina get the safe BYPASS it deserves to serve us for the next 50 years, not simply another Ring Rd that will do nothing to alleviate the traffic problems in East Regina.

We expect the Government to use common sense when spending our tax dollars. Once constructed, it will be too late to reconsider this decision like they did the Smart Meters, or the Saskatoon Children's Hospital, or closing the Plains Health Centre, or.....

For more information, please contact: The Regina Committee for an Alternate Bypass Solution.

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Email: WhyTowerRd@gmail.com