

Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA)
Presentation to Ottawa Police Services Board
Re. the 2018 Budget
(Nov. 27, 2017)

The Federation of Citizens Associations is an umbrella group representing 43 community associations across Ottawa. We are a forum to discuss issues important to our residents which includes, among other things, budgets, taxes, and programs that affect the quality of our lives in our neighbourhoods.

Earlier this year the FCA, through its Transportation Committee, initiated a review of the City's 2013 Transportation Master Plan, a supporting document to the City's Official Plan which indicates how our city is to grow its transportation system over the next 30 years. It identifies 4 modes of transportation - walking, cycling, public transit and automobiles – and sets targets for these modes for 2031, to be accomplished through various strategies, action plans, budgets, operations, and other tools.

In reviewing the City's Transportation Master Plan, we in the FCA conducted a survey of our members on the issues and policies important to them, and held a workshop with FCA members to analyze and prioritize them. Last October the FCA finalized its *Review of the City's Transportation Master Plan* and in November presented it to the City's Transportation Committee, which referred our report to City staff for their review.

Among our 16 recommendations were a number that are relevant to the City's 2018 budget, which is why we are here today. Two of our recommendations relate to public safety on our streets.

It should come as no surprise to the Ottawa Police Services Board that our members are concerned about safety on our streets. We have presented recommendations to the City regarding traffic calming and in support of the City's Complete Streets model, which ensures that all street users – pedestrians, cyclists, cars – are able to co-habit city streets safely.

In particular, we are recommending that the City commit to *Vision Zero*, a program that would seek to eliminate traffic deaths in Ottawa by a target year – e.g. by 2030, the 175th anniversary of Ottawa. Clearly the OPS would be a partner in this, and we would ask that you devote appropriate resources to help Ottawa achieve this goal.

Second, we are conscious of the increased public investment into cycling, in support of the TMP goal to increase the use of cycling in our city. We support this wholeheartedly. We have asked, however, that the City invest in an intensive public education program for car drivers and cyclists on how to share safely our roads. We are asking you – the Ottawa Police Services Board – to devote more resources towards enforcing the safety rules on City streets for both car drivers and cyclists, so that the roads can indeed be shared safely.

These are the two budget recommendations that the FCA is asking of you today. We would urge you to consider them and incorporate them into your budget.