CHADWIN AND COMPANY

LIMITED

10 Vanessa Road Unionville, Ontario L3R 4W2

July 2, 2013

DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

His Worship Mayor Robert Ford and Members of the Executive Committee of Council The Corporation of the City of Toronto 10th Floor, West Tower 100 Queen Street West Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2

RE Proposed New Development Charges Bylaw and Development Charges, City of Toronto Proposed Condominium Apartment Development Part of Lot 4 Concession 1 from the Bay City of Toronto 580, 590 and 592 Kingston Road 0.172 Hectares "The Subject Lands" Kingston Road Development Corporation Our File 80-08-1000

Dear Mayor Ford and Members of the Executive Committee of City Council:

We are the Land Use Planning Consultants for Kingston Road Development Corporation ("Kingston Road Developments"), the Owner of the Subject Lands and are writing to you on behalf of Kingston Road Developments to offer our comments as input to Council and to outline our request to Council with respect to this matter.

This letter is provided as input to the July, 3, 2013 Public Meeting with respect to a proposed new development charges bylaw for the City of Toronto.

By way of background, Kingston Road Developments is in the process of finalizing development approvals including, *inter alia*, the issuance of building permits for its residential development located on the Subject Lands.

This development is a forty seven (47) unit, six storey residential apartment building to be developed and owned in condominium ownership tenure.

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This project has been subject to a lengthy approval process and Kingston Road Developments has expended considerable financial resources and effort to reach its current approval status.

As Committee and Council are aware the City of Toronto boasts among the lowest Development Charges in the Greater Toronto Area.

In our view, the current City of Toronto Development Charges represent a considerable competitive advantage to the City of Toronto in attracting real estate development to the City with its inherent benefits that *inter alia* include the revitalization of neighborhoods and municipal services, the provision of new housing stock and the resulting economic activity and vibrancy that results from new construction and development in a city.

However, it should be noted that the City of Toronto also implements certain taxation initiatives, notably its own land transfer tax program, that, in our view and experience, can have the effect of offsetting the benefits and advantages stemming from the City's current Development Charges.

In addition, it should also be recognized that the real estate development approvals process can be lengthy, with the acquisition of land and the economics associated with a project sometimes occurring years in advance of final development approval.

Under this situation and scenario dramatic increases in municipal fees and charges, including in particular development charges, can have a significant impact upon the viability of certain projects.

In this regard, we have serious concerns with respect to the quantum and basis of the development charges being proposed by City Staff in its Report dated June 18, 2013 and their implications with respect to the competitive advantage enjoyed by the City of Toronto and the economic and city building benefits that flow from a healthy and active real estate development industry.

Accordingly, we would urge Executive Committee and City Council to instruct City staff to modify the current Draft Development Charge Bylaw to *inter alia* provide for the following modifications:

- 1. Eliminate or, to the greatest extent possible, reduce increases in development charges beyond those that currently exist.
- 2. As proposed by staff, should new higher development charges be imposed they should be implemented on a "phase in" basis over an extended period of time or, more preferably, be subject to a one year delayed implementation period.

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3. Include a transitional provision that recognizes projects well advanced in the approval process and provides for "grand parenting" and/or "pre-payment" of the current Development Charges at first permit issuance such as foundation or shoring permits or the payment of the current Development Charges as long as building permits are issued within a specified period from the enactment of a new development charge bylaw that contains higher development charges.

We wish to thank Committee and Council for its kind consideration of our input to this process.

By copy of this letter to the Clerk's department we are requesting notice of future meetings with respect to this matter and the enactment of any new development charges bylaw.

Yours, very truly,

CHADWIN AND COMPANY LIMITED

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c.c. Mr. James Greig, Kingston Road Development Corporation City Clerk, Attention Kelly McCarthy, Committee Administrator