

January 27, 2021

Mayor Tory and Executive Committee

Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

RE: EX20.6 - CaféTO and CurbTO - Pandemic Response Programs (Ward All)

Dear Mayor Tory and Executive Committee:

The Toronto Entertainment District BIA would like to thank the City for the time and continued efforts on the CaféTO program. CaféTO has been successful in supporting local businesses by allowing the expansion of outdoor space through curb lane and curbside areas throughout Toronto. The program has provided the opportunity for modest financial relief amongst restaurant and bar owners while adding a level of vibrancy to otherwise barren streets. We appreciate that the City has plans to start early in 2021 to make the program even better and we ask that the following is taken under consideration.

**Identify CaféTO Spaces That May Be Applicable For Year-Round Usage
(With One Annual Renewable Permit)**

CaféTO Key Considerations:

- Expand the program to include additional City departments such as Parks and Forestry to help identify new opportunities: parks, parklets, curbside and curb lane for potential year-round usage
- Non-adjacent spaces, parks, parklets, laneways, parking lots and kitty corner areas where applicable (with support of both the City and Province, AGCO)
- Create flexible options for how spaces are used:
 - Seasonal dining areas
 - Winter activations, holiday décor
 - Members business food trucks and other pop-up activations
- Create PPP investment opportunities to enhance identified locations

With the unexpected and long-term effects of COVID-19 on our businesses, an expanded CaféTO program to include opportunities for new spaces and year-round usage (where applicable) will help to provide some financial relief for local businesses while bringing life and vibrancy back to our neighbourhoods.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janice Solomon

Executive Director
Toronto Entertainment District BIA
jsolomon@torontoed.com
416-561-0889