

# West Don Lands Committee

Citizens for the Old Town  
Corktown Residents & Business  
Association

January 10, 2021

By fax: [iec@toronto.ca](mailto:iec@toronto.ca)

Distillery Historic District  
Dixon Hall  
Enoch Turner Schoolhouse Foundation  
Friends of Corktown Common  
Goederham & Worts Neighbourhood  
Association

Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
City of Toronto

Little Trinity Anglican Church  
St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood BIA  
St. Lawrence Neighbourhood  
Association  
Bring Back the Don

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

**Re: IE19.11 yongeTOMorrow - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment on  
Yonge Street from Queen Street to College/Carlton Street**

We are writing on behalf of the WDLC in support of the staff recommendations coming out of the yongeTOMorrow - Municipal Class EA.

The upcoming watermain replacement under Yonge street provides an extraordinary opportunity to transform Yonge Street into a 21<sup>st</sup> century urban destination. This is a chance to support critical public health objectives and promote a dramatic revitalization of one of Toronto's most historic and culturally important streets.

The ActiveTO and CafeTO initiatives on streets in Corktown and the St Lawrence neighbourhood have demonstrated how even modest modifications can supercharge street life and enhance active transportation uses of a street.

Anyone who spends time on Yonge Street between College and Queen knows how desperately the urban environment of these blocks falls short of what the City could and should be offering to pedestrians and cyclists who flock to this area. The City must not miss this timely opportunity to create a Great Street that is a vibrant and welcoming destination for residents and tourists. At the same time the direction must ensure that the priorities of key stakeholders including local businesses are considered.

While the WDLC strongly supports the general direction of the staff recommendations, we are concerned that the Downtown Yonge BIA, which initiated and has advocated for this transformation, has raised operational concerns relating to full street closures that need to be addressed through further consultation. It is important that refinement of the preferred design accommodate the priorities set out by the DYBIA.

The West Don Lands Committee is a coalition of community-based neighbourhood, business, service, environmental and heritage organizations. We have been advocating since 1997 for sustainable and

equitable revitalization and have been strong proponents of pedestrian friendly design and expansion of active transportation supports within the waterfront and beyond.

We urge you to support these recommendations.

Yours truly,



Cynthia Wilkey, Co-Chair,

[wilkeycj@gmail.com](mailto:wilkeycj@gmail.com)

416-892-8941



John Wilson, Co-Chair

[johnwilson338@gmail.com](mailto:johnwilson338@gmail.com)

416 432-2544

cc Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam