

TE21.58.5



February 19, 2013

Councillor Wong-Tam
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West, Suite A5
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Sent via email: Councillor_Wongtam@Toronto.ca

RE: TE 21.58 – Road Alteration - Bay Street

Dear Councillor Wong-Tam:

We agree that Pusateri's is an important part of the neighbourhood and appreciate the opportunity to find a way to continue their valet service operation. However, the use of the turnabout off of Genoa Lane is not a viable solution as it has no visibility from the street which we understand is an essential element of its operation. More specifically, customers rely on it to park and run directly in and out of the store. This is specifically the reason why the lay-by was proposed and approved by Council. Minto and Pusateris relied on this certainty provided by Council when making a decision to invest in this neighbourhood. We believe that a decision by Council to remove the lay-by (that has operated without pedestrian or vehicular incident for almost a decade) is without merit, especially given the concerns of a long standing business in the community.

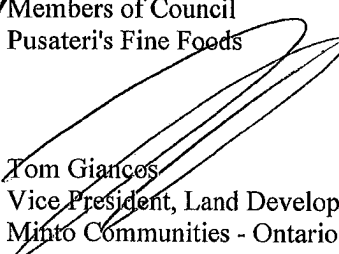
We understand that City staff have communicated that the lay-by is working as a traffic management solution and has not resulted in any accidents in this section of Bay Street. This should also be a determining factor when considering the feasibility of any replacement of the lay-by, be that by an on-road valet service or other alternative. Such alternative solutions may create conflicts within the remaining bike lane. They may also cause increased congestion and/or accidents within the road allowance.

It is important to note that when the Minto-Yorkville project was approved by Council a major factor in the approval was that the lay-by issue had already been reviewed by transportation staff along with the community and the lay-by was approved by Council in July 2003. The lay-by, which was paid for directly by Pusateri's, was designed to accommodate both Pusateri's business model within the overall development as well as to alleviate traffic incidents along Bay Street. We also wish to note that Council more recently granted the Four Seasons Hotel a lay-by on Yorkville Ave which we understand will not be impacted by the proposed roadworks.

Minto requests that City Council delete consideration of the removal of the western lay-by from the scope of work.

As a major effected stakeholder, we would like to be engaged in any future dialogue in this regard. Please contact me directly if you wish to discuss this matter further.

cc: City Clerk
✓ Members of Council
Pusateri's Fine Foods


Tom Giancos
Vice President, Land Development
Minto Communities - Ontario

beinspired