9 May 2013

Francine Adamo
North York Civic Centre
Main floor, 5100 Yonge St.
Toronto, ON M2N 5V7

RE: NY 24.11 Request for Leaside Area-Wide Traffic Study (Ward 26)

Dear Councillor Augimeri and Council Members:

This is to update you on the LPOA/Leaside Unite transportation study and its relationship to the above proposed study.

At your April meeting, we informed you that LPOA/Leaside Unite had reached a settlement with SmartCentres, and had withdrawn their opposition to the proposal.

A key part of the settlement is $50,000 to be used toward a neighbourhood-sponsored and led traffic study, aimed at addressing through-flow traffic issues, which have increased markedly in recent years. The intent is to identify and deal with problems, both in the residential area closest to the Laird retail strip and across North and South Leaside. We emphasize that our study, with its extensive citizen participation, will concentrate on Leaside’s residential community, seeking local solutions for local streets.

The idea that this be a neighbourhood-led study, with maximum resident involvement, is important to us, and to many Leasiders. Our terms of reference are similar to those that have been successfully applied in previous LPOA-led studies over the years. They are:

- to reduce through-traffic using the residential area (both North and South Leaside);
- to protect all residential streets, and avoid directly transferring through-traffic to adjacent streets;
- to enhance the environment for residents making neighbourhood trips;
- to give priority to public transit and protect public transit routes and
- to promote, encourage and facilitate active transportation.

Our Survey Team will be in touch with City Staff, to keep all informed as we move forward, so that we can work cooperatively toward these goals.

The Staff report on the May 14 agenda is in response to Councillor Parker’s request for information regarding what would be involved in a wider-reference study affecting a larger geographic area over to Leslie Street and Overlea Boulevard (Thorncliffe Park).

We will be glad to play a positive role in that study as well, should you and City Council proceed with it.

Thank you for the opportunity to connect on these matters

Yours faithfully

Carol Burtin Fripp