

November 20, 2013

City of Toronto Planning & Growth Management Committee

Chair: Peter Milczyn

**Members: Councillors Josh Colle; John Fillion; Frances Nunziata; Karen Stintz;
Adam Vaughan**

Toronto City Clerk, P& GM Secretariat

Attn.: Nancy Martins, Administrator, Planning & Growth Management Committee

Email: pgmc@toronto.ca

This letter is to advise you of the interest of our membership in your deliberations of policies pertaining to ongoing economic health of Employment Areas as part of the Proposed Official Plan Amendment, which is to be reviewed at the November 21, 2013 P&GM Committee Hearing.

Emery Village Business Improvement Area was formed in 2003, is Canada's largest BIA with over 2,500 commercial, industrial and retail establishments employing approximately 25,000 people. Part of our mandate is to advocate and promote the vitality and economic well-being of the business environment. Geographically, we are contained in Ward 7, and encompass Maps 3 and part of Map 12 as shown in the City Planning Division Official Plan Urban Structure, Appendix 2 (*page 27, Staff Report. Planning for a Strong Economy, Aug. 20, 2013*).

In conjunction with others that are appearing and deputing, we strongly support the City's work and policy direction to plan for, protect and preserve the designation of lands for employment, and to preserve core areas of the Employment Areas for industrial uses.

We further reiterate the position put forth by the **Canadian Fuels Association** in their letter to you dated November 16, 2013 highlights the importance of the Finch Avenue corridor as *"a vital transportation spine for two major Employment Districts identified in the Official Plan (Emery Village and Dufferin-Finch)"*.

We share the concerns that the Finch Avenue West corridor between Islington Avenue and Dufferin Street, not be adversely effected in its role and capacity for industrial and commercial truck movement in the proposal for a dedicated LRT right of way along Finch West.

The committee would do well to further apply the principal behind the statement in the Official Plan Amendment that *"the flow of goods and the movement of trucks are of*

paramount importance to businesses” to identify and protect the vital transportation corridors linking Employment Areas. In order to sustain industry in our Core Employment Areas, the Official Plan should recognize the appropriate means to achieve these objectives.

For your consideration,

Al Ruggero
Project Manager,
Emery Village Business Improvement Area

Cc.: Sandra Farina, Executive Director, Emery Village BIA