

# bloor-yorkville

June 17, 2013

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

**Sent Via Email: pwic@toronto.ca**

Toronto Public Works and Infrastructure Committee  
City Hall - 100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Members:

**RE: Item PW24.7 – Extending the Bay Street Bicycle Lanes**

Please accept this letter as the Bloor-Yorkville BIA's complete objection to Section 2 of the above proposed item, which recommends the elimination of northbound and southbound left turns at the Bay and Bloor intersection. This recommendation is being made to you without community consultation and without any valid traffic studies being conducted on the negative impacts that this change will make to our residential areas and side streets to include Yorkville, Cumberland, Scollard, Berryman, Charles and St. Mary. When drivers are no longer able turn left onto Bloor Street, they will look for other options and create gridlock on streets that are not designed for a large capacity of vehicles.

Our BIA, local residents groups, cycling and pedestrian groups have all been part of the public consultation process and worked together on the rebuilding of Bay Street this summer between Bloor Street and Davenport, which will include enhanced sidewalks, a new traffic light at Cumberland, new road surface and bike lanes. To be clear, the bike lanes are supported, but the elimination of the left turn lanes at Bay and Bloor was never discussed and is not supported by this community from the commercial or residential side.

Bloor at Yonge, as well as Bloor at Bay are both scramble intersections, creating 2 scramble intersections in a row. We have asked City Staff for a review of this situation, as this creates traffic congestion and gridlock, but we have yet to see any results. Eliminating the left turns at this scramble intersection is absolutely unnecessary, as it already offers pedestrians and cyclists the option to cross more easily and frequently than standard intersections. If anything, to increase traffic flow, the intersection needs to offer advanced right and left turns to drivers.

In summary, Section 2 of this recommendation needs to be rejected and the Bay/Bloor and Yonge/Bloor intersections need a comprehensive traffic management review and should be included in your recommended Traffic Congestion Management and Traffic Signal Coordination Study, which Council endorsed on June 11, 2013.

Thank you.

Yours truly,



Dr. David Homer  
Traffic Committee Chair

cc: Councillor Wong-Tam, Ward 27 Toronto Centre-Rosedale