



REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION BY CITY COUNCIL

Planning and Revitalizing Yonge Street

Date:	May 13, 2013
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	City Council
Wards:	Ward 27, 28

City Council Decision

City Council on May 7, 8, 9 and 10, 2013, referred Motion MM33.13 to the Toronto and East York Community Council.

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Pam McConnell, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, the General Manager, Transportation Services and the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture to develop, in consultation with the Waterfront BIA, the St. Lawrence BIA, the Financial District BIA, the Downtown Yonge BIA, the Bloor Yorkville BIA, the Garden District Residents Association, the McGill-Granby Residents Association, the Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association, the Bay Cloverhill Community Association, the Greater Yorkville Residents Association, the Bloor East Neighbourhood Association, the Collier-Asquith Residents Association, the Avenue Bay Cottingham Residents Association, the York Quay Neighbourhood Association, the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association and the local Ward Councillors, a strategy to improve the streetscape and retail conditions of Yonge Street between the lakefront and Davenport Road and report the outcomes to the Toronto East York Community Council for its meeting on October 17, 2013.

Summary

Yonge Street is an important cultural corridor that serves as “Canada’s Main Street”. The stretch of Yonge from the waterfront to Davenport Road borders on five Business Improvement Areas and ten Resident Associations. With landmark institutions such as the Hockey Hall of Fame, the Eaton's Centre, Yonge-Dundas Square, Ryerson University, the

Yorkville shopping district and the iconic intersection of Yonge and Bloor, it serves as the Toronto's downtown core for arts, culture and shopping for residents and tourists alike.

The Five Year Capital Works Plan calls for major utility and road resurfacing work on Yonge Street to take place in 2016. This provides an opportunity to explore commercial improvements that might be made in conjunction with the scheduled construction work to increase the commercial vibrancy of the street and retail experience.

With many different stakeholders in the area, coordinating utility and public realm improvement work will reduce costs and serve to ensure a more streamlined and efficient construction process.

Enhancing the competitiveness and social experience of the downtown core is an essential component of maintaining and improving the economic health of the City. Investments in the public realm drive economic growth and will ensure Yonge Street remains Toronto's premier shopping, dining and cultural destination for the entire region.

(Submitted to City Council on May 7 and 8, 2013 as MM33.13)