

bloor-yorkville

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

March 14, 2014

City Clerk
Licensing and Standards Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Members of the Licensing and Standards Committee:

RE: LS27.1- New Opportunities for Toronto's Street Food Vendors - March 18, 2014

We would like to take this opportunity to express our support and commend the Municipal Licensing and Standards staff for a well-researched and thorough report, which offers recommendations, which are not only fair and reasonable, but give consideration to all parties involved. The report addresses the need to have a balanced approach to mobile food operations and existing licensed restaurants.

Under the new bylaw, food truck operators will be provided with upwards of 350 locations to operate, which includes many areas of Toronto that previously did not allow any type of mobile food vending. The annual fee of \$5,066 is extremely reasonable when compared to rent and commercial property tax.

Our BIA fully supports:

- the continued moratorium in Wards 27, 28 & 29 on boulevard vending;
- the restriction, whereby truck food vendors cannot be located within 50 metres of operating licensed food establishment, which is on par with other cities such as Chicago;
- that the Executive Director will notify businesses within 25 metres of the outermost perimeter of the Mobile Vending Zone, the Board of Management of the local BIA and the local Councillor, indicating they have fourteen (14) days to object in writing.

While expanding mobile food opportunities, it is important to protect the existing 'bricks & mortar' food operators. Our BIA alone is home to over 165 members, who operate food establishments, ranging from fast food to fine dining. Many of these are independent, family/owner operated businesses, which solely rely on one location, where they pay rent, taxes, operating costs, license fees, employer taxes etc. They are small business operators, who provide employment and work with tight margins.

We encourage the committee members to give full regard and support to the efforts, research and recommendations that Municipal Licensing and Standards staff have presented in this report.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Ron Palmer, BES, MCIP, RPP
PPUD Committee Chair
Bloor-Yorkville BIA

cc: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

