

June 18, 2014

Chair and Members of the Planning and Growth Management Committee City Hall, City of Toronto 100 Queen Street West Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

RE: PG34.14 Protecting and Increasing Access to Privately Owned Publicly-Accessible Spaces

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning and Growth Management Committee,

The Building Industry and Land Development Association, is in receipt of the Staff Report for *Protecting and Increasing Access to Privately Owned Publicly-Accessible Spaces* and the *Draft Urban Design Guidelines for Privately Owned Publicly-Accessible Spaces (POPS)* and we kindly submit the following comments in advance of the June 19<sup>th</sup> Planning and Growth Management Committee meeting where these reports will be heard.

As written in past correspondence to city staff, as a matter of public good, BILD believes there is inherent value in creating positive synergies between the private and public realm. To aid in the objective, we acknowledge that the City has prepared these guidelines for POPS – a specific type of open space whereby the public is invited to use, but remains privately owned.

As interested and affected stakeholders, we would like to take this opportunity to thank City staff for contacting and consulting with the BILD Toronto Chapter during the review of the guidelines. Through our meaningful dialogue with staff, our members were able to voice their questions on the guidelines, which resulted in minor refinements to the text while maintaining the overall objectives.

As experts in execution, our members recognize the value in creating well designed open spaces and are committed to this form of design excellence for the public good.

Again, thank you to staff for their commitment to this project and if you have any questions please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Danielle Chin MCIP RPP

Senior Planner, Policy & Government Relations

CC: Jennifer Keesmaat, Chief Planner & Executive Director, City Planning Division Harold Madi, Director, Urban Design James Parakh, Program Manager Gary Switzer, BILD Toronto Chapter Chair Paula Tenuta, Vice President, Policy & Government Relations, BILD