TORONTO FINANCIAL DISTRICT BIA

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May 12, 2014

Councillor Minnan-Wong Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Toronto City Hall, Suite C55 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Minnan-Wong:

## RE: PW31.7 RICHMOND – ADELAIDE CYCLE TRACK PLANNING AND DESIGN STUDY – PILOT PROJECT

The Toronto Financial District BIA would like to acknowledge city staff for the exceptional work they have done to address concerns raised by our BIA and stakeholders through the Richmond-Adelaide Cycle Track Environmental Assessment. It has been a highly collaborative process.

We support and recognize the importance of investing in multi-modal transit to improve access into and through the downtown. As such, the staff-recommended pilot project is a preferable option as it allows for a period of evaluation and revisions before introducing cycle tracks through the Financial District.

Throughout the Richmond-Adelaide Cycle Track Environmental Assessment, the Toronto Financial District BIA has expressed serious concerns about the impact of introducing cycle tracks on Adelaide Street in the Financial District. Adelaide Street is highly operational between York Street and Yonge Street, with properties managing thousands of in-and-out deliveries on a bi-weekly basis. Many of these properties accept deliveries via a truck elevator accessed from the street. The system can only accommodate one vehicle a time, resulting in queuing on Adelaide Street. As such, introducing a cycle track on the south side of Adelaide Street could negatively impact building operations and introduce new safety risks where high volumes cyclists and trucks would interface. Any cycle track that is proposed must be able to address this unique Financial District context.

Prior to implementation, the pilot project must outline a rigorous process evaluating the impact of all east-west corridors in the broader study area, including Richmond Street, Adelaide Street, Queen Street, King Street and Wellington Street. To address concerns outlined by stakeholders, we request City staff to ensure a rigorous evaluation process which includes, but is not limited to:

- Impact to operations
- New safety risks and conflicts
- · Changes in cycling volumes and patterns
- Seasonal use
- Impacts to adjacent infrastructure

We look forward to continuing our collaborative work with City staff throughout the pilot project and Environmental Assessment. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact our policy and advocacy manager, Evan Weinberg, at (416) 849-3856 or <a href="mailto:eweinberg@torontofinancialdistrict.com">eweinberg@torontofinancialdistrict.com</a>.

Sincerely.

Grant Humes
Executive Director



Councillor Berardinetti cc:

Councillor Davis

**Councillor Grimes** 

Councillor Layton

Councillor Parker

Councillor McConnell

Councillor Vaughan Councillor Wong-Tam

Candy Davidovits, Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Secretariat Stephen Buckley, Transportation Services
John Mende, Transportation Infrastructure Management
Lukasz Pawlowski, Cycling Infrastructure & Programs