October 21, 2015

Ulli Watkiss
City Clerk
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Bylaw Enforcement for Uber and UberX

Dear Ms Watkiss,

I am submitting this Administrative Inquiry under Municipal Code S27-61, to obtain information regarding the enforcement and prosecution of bylaw infractions related to the continued operation of Uber and UberX.

On October 2, 2015, City Council approved amendments to Chapter 545, Article VIII, of the Municipal Code to ensure that Uber, and other similar companies, are covered by the bylaw and considered taxi-brokers. These provisions require taxi-brokers to use licensed taxis only.

The City issued a notice to Uber informing the company that it must submit an application and become a licensed taxi-broker in order to bring their operations into compliance with the by-law. To date, Uber has refused to do so. UberX continues to operate using privately-owned, unlicensed vehicles with inadequate insurance and untrained drivers. Uber and UberX continue to flout the law and operate illegally in the City of Toronto.

I believe that Council must be assured that our by-laws are being upheld, and that active enforcement is underway. I am therefore requesting the following information as a public and/or confidential document:

1. When was Uber provided notice to comply with the by-law?
2. What response has the City received from Uber?
3. What enforcement actions are being undertaken?
4. How many charges have been laid against UberX drivers?
5. How many charges have been prosecuted to date? Are we using alternative dispute resolution mechanisms?
6. What has been communicated to the general public and the industry about the by-law and enforcement?
7. What is our legal strategy for addressing continuing non-compliance?

I look forward to receiving this information in the November agenda as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Councillor Janet Davis, Ward 31, Beaches-East York