

TORONTO FINANCIAL DISTRICT BIA
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January 5, 2015

Councillor Jaye Robinson
Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
100 Queen Street West, Suite A12
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor Robinson:

RE: PW1.3 MANAGING TRAFFIC DISRUPTION ON CITY-LED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The Toronto Financial District Business Improvement Area commends and supports the implementation of an extended construction work hours schedule for City-led construction projects. There is currently a lack of confidence in the ability for the City to complete and communicate capital projects in an effective and timely fashion, and these important changes will help to address this.

The Toronto Financial District BIA represents Toronto's most dense employment centre, which includes 15% of all jobs in the City. An additional 6,000,000 sq. ft. of office space is under construction within a 10-minute walk of Union Station – more than three-quarters of all office construction across the city.

Continued investments to upgrade and harden aging infrastructure are extremely important to supporting our Financial District's economic competitiveness and resiliency as a center for business. **However, the impact of lengthy multi-year capital programs inhibits the ability for businesses to operate and negatively impacts the movement of people, goods and services in the City.** This has been the experience for businesses in the Financial District, where delayed projects and lengthened disruptions have occurred due to the North West PATH expansion, York Street improvements, watermain and TTC track replacement on Richmond Street, and King Street TTC accessibility improvements. **Efforts in the future to reduce delays and expedite projects in the downtown core would minimize interference with daily operations of the area.**

The Financial District BIA looks forward to working with the City to support efforts to minimize impacts of construction in the central business district.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at ghumes@torontofinancialdistrict.com.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GHUMES".

Grant Humes
Executive Director

cc: Councillor Stephen Holyday
Councillor Chin Lee
Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon
Councillor Ron Moeser
Councillor Anthony Perruzza
Michael D'Andrea
Stephen Buckley