



## Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

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February 20, 2015

To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

### **Re: Improving Public Space and Pedestrian Experience at Bay and Bloor Street Intersection**

In 2010, a pedestrian priority phase signal was implemented at the intersection of Bay and Bloor Street. The use of pedestrian priority phase signals has the potential to reduce pedestrian wait times, sidewalk crowding, and to improve the overall safety and walkability for pedestrians. Priority phase signals can work very well when implemented in appropriate locations, as demonstrated by their use at the Dundas and Yonge Street and Bloor and Yonge Street intersections. We should explore other locations where a pedestrian priority phase signal could work well, and explore alternate measures to improve the pedestrian and user experience where the signal does not work well.

I firmly believe there is an opportunity to improve the pedestrian experience at the Bay and Bloor Street intersection. Although the pedestrian priority phase signal may not be the appropriate tool here, there are other design features that could be leveraged to improve the walkability, traffic flow, and safety of the Bay and Bloor Street intersection.

#### **Recommendations:**

1. That City Council direct the General Manager of Transportation Services to consult with the Chief Planner, the local Councillor and community stakeholders, including the BIA, to identify operational and design options to enhance the pedestrian experience at the Bay and Bloor Street intersection, and report back on options to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee by the first quarter of 2016.
2. That City Council direct the Director of Public Realm to collect data on pedestrian counts in order to determine other locations across the City of Toronto where a pedestrian priority phase signal may be used to improve the pedestrian experience, and report back to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee by the first quarter of 2016.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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