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May 12, 2015

Dela Ting
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Re: PW4.1 Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard East Reconfiguration EA and Urban Design Study.

The St Lawrence Neighbourhood Association, founded in 1982, represents approximately 30,000 residents in the area bounded by Yonge Street, Parliament Street, Queen Street East and the railway tracks. We have an experienced Development Committee, which monitors new developments in our area, and we regularly work with City staff, residents, developers and property owners to ensure that new developments and City regulations fit into and enhance our neighbourhood. We have representation on various committees, which have reviewed the Gardiner EA and urban study.

The majority of residents in our area do not use or own a car, last tracked at 70%. It is time to implement solutions regarding transportation that do not revolve around the car. As the city experiences unprecedented growth we need to give priority GO and TTC and implement other alternative travel choices. To continue to maintain the Gardiner makes no economic sense.

The SLNA is of the opinion that to explore the hybrid option would be looking backward; it makes no economic sense and only serves a small portion of the population. This decision can demonstrate that Toronto is a leader and can join other cities such as New York and San Francisco that have removed their elevated expressways.

The Board of Directors and delegates supports REMOVE on the basis of greater emphasis on the EA urban design, environment and economics study lenses.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Kavanagh, President
SLNA

cc.

Councillor Pam McConnell
SLNA Board of Directors