

May 11, 2015

Members of the Toronto Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

We thank the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee for the opportunity to voice our concerns on the subject of matters relating to the future of the Gardiner expressway. As lease holders of properties on the Ship Channel, our operations and service commitments are reliant on access to dependable transportation routes from the Port Lands area.

Reports have indicated that reducing capacity on the Gardiner Expressway will result in eight (8) available traffic lanes in lieu of the currently existing fourteen (14) lanes. This adjustment in traffic patterns will steer commuters and trucks onto Lake Shore, Queen's Quay and other area streets, with the imminent potential to create significant traffic congestion on the major truck routes from the Port Land properties. Access to reliable transportation routes from the Port Lands is an absolute requirement to meet our customer service commitments to Cities, Municipalities, Towns, and snow & ice contractors and a delay of even 20 minutes per truck on shipments to our customers can cause a disruption to the supply chain and risk complications to our customer operations.

It is imperative that a dependable transportation infrastructure be identified and significantly in place prior to any changes or removal of one of the city's more important traffic corridors. We respectfully request consideration be given by the Committee to oppose the removal of the Gardiner Expressway at this time and expand the breadth of the Gardner study to consider the volume of traffic and effect on both passenger commutes and the broader impact on the movement of goods.

Respectfully,



Leena M. Kaleva
Manager of Stockpiles,
Central Region

