



June 26, 2016

10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
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Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
email: [exc@toronto.ca](mailto:exc@toronto.ca)  
Att: Jennifer Forkes, Executive Committee Secretariat

**RE: EX 16.3 Updated Assessment of Revenue Options under the City of Toronto Act, 2006**

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of the Executive Committee,

We provide this correspondence on behalf of the Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA), an umbrella organization for over 30 resident associations in North Toronto and North York that are concerned about the planning and development of our City. We strongly support the efforts to address the longer term finances of the City, and concur with the increasing consensus that the City does indeed have a serious revenue problem.

We submit that revenue measures under consideration should be assessed not just from a financial perspective, or for their ease of administration, but also for their contribution (negative or positive) to "city building". In other words do they align with Official Plan objectives, such as building a city that reduces the need for travel, that encourages true mixed use development, that is walking and biking friendly, that is green, and more equitable for all its residents?

As such we recommend that the non-residential Parking Levy should be seriously considered by Council. It is apparent that there is a blatant inequity currently with respect to paying for parking spaces that works against Official Plan objectives. Public spaces, such as those on main streets are charged for, yet private spaces such as big box parking lots and shopping malls are free. A parking levy on private spaces would start to rectify the inequity faced by small businesses and BIAs competing with shopping malls and big box stores.

**We strongly recommend that Council direct staff to consider "contribution to city building" in its consideration of revenue tools.**

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments.

Yours truly,

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Cc: Peter Wallace, City Manager  
Jennifer Keesmaat, Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning

**The Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA)** is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of over 30 member organizations. Its members, all residents' associations, include at least 170,000 Toronto residents within their boundaries. The residents' associations that make up FoNTRA believe that Ontario and Toronto can and should achieve better development. Its central issue is not *whether* Toronto will grow, but *how*. FoNTRA believes that sustainable urban regions are characterized by environmental balance, fiscal viability, infrastructure investment and social renewal.