

From: brian.graff
To: [Executive Committee](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: EX18.2 - Ward Boundaries - Petition in Opposition to 44 Ward Option
Date: Monday, October 24, 2016 7:12:29 AM
Attachments: [ward boundary petition3.pdf](#)
[Ward Boundaries - Opposition to 44 Ward option.pdf](#)
[Beach metro artice - tvo best main street.pdf](#)

(Please post this email and the attachment on TMMIS and do not hide my email and contact information)

To the Executive Committee and to Toronto City Council:

On October 20th 2016, I dropped off a 639 name petition at City Hall with John Eldridge of the Clerk's Department. This petition was done to comply with the City of Toronto Act's section on petitions for Ward Boundaries, which would allow for an appeal to the OMB.

I have attached a typical page, but it reads:

We ELECTORS of Toronto hereby PETITION Toronto City Council to pass a BY-LAW within 90 days to revise the Ward Boundaries,
in accordance with Section 129 of the City of Toronto Act 2006. We intend to file an appeal with the OMB if an acceptable By-Law is not passed.

We oppose "Option 2" with 44 wards, which would split The Beach neighbourhood into 2 Wards, with one extending into Scarborough

We support the passage of "Option 1" with 47 wards, which would maintain the existing boundaries of Ward 32 Beaches-East York.

Many people in the Beach were outraged at the 44 Ward option would arbitrarily split up our community. I had no trouble getting signatures – because Queen is so busy with pedestrians and our community is so cohesive and people stay well informed. I can easily get more names –about 25 per hour if there are not enough valid names so far.

While the consultants recommended the option with 47 Wards, which would keep the current Ward 32 roughly intact, the 44 Ward option would create an artificial division of The Beach neighbourhood. For over 100 years, the eastern boundary has been Victoria Park.

Unfortunately, some in the media have made it sound like Beachers hate Scarborough. Scarborough does have the unfortunate nickname of “Scarberia” because of its sprawling character and major streets lined with parking lots, strip retail plazas and “Big Box” stores.

Scarborough also has nice post-war residential areas, the Bluffs and the Rouge River and the new Rouge park. But Beachers have an identity and image of our community as being quite distinct from the image and identity of Scarborough.

The Beach has a traditional mainstreets on Queen and Kingston Rd. and Beachers have a historic tie to the Downtown because our neighbourhood was a “streetcar suburb” running

as far north as the Danforth when the previous Town of East Toronto was annexed in 1908. Some of the people east of Victoria Park consider themselves Beachers, but The Beach has more in common with other pre-WW2 neighbourhoods such as Ossington or Roncesvalles than we do with suburbs out near the wonderful Toronto Zoo, or even with Eglinton and Birchmount which would be the north east corner of the proposed Ward 235.

Councillors and others have said that The Beach needs more density and condos because The Beach is “Downtown”!

The main issue is that of having our community spilt into 2 wards with Option2, but not with any of the other options. It makes no sense, and many people said this to me as they agreed to sign the petition. The heart of our community, at Queen and Lee would have 3 corners of the intersection in one ward, and the other corner in another ward extending deep into Scarborough.

You might recall that Queen Street won the “Best Mainstreet in Ontario” from TVO’s Studio 2 program. Queen Street has zoning, Urban Design Guidelines and an Area Specific Official Plan amendment that run on both sides of Queen from Coxwell to Victoria Park, yet Queen on the north side from Lee to Victoria Park would be in a different ward.

There would be a thin finger of residential from Ward 24 extending south of Queen – this is where I live. If there are any problems relating to Queen Street, or if there is a condo on the north side, then the Councillor would be from a different ward. The split along the centre of Queen would impact urban planning decisions, but also the BIA, and the boundary might also be used to the election of School Board Trustees.

It seems that the over-riding reason why the consultants kept this zig-zagging boundary despite many comments was because they have placed an undue emphasis on using railroad tracks as the primary features to separate Wards in the 44 and 47 ward options.

There is more than one way to split the city into 44 Wards, but there might not be time for Council and the OMB to redraw the lines in time for the Fall 2018 election.

Please see the attached PowerPoint PDF file for maps and other information.

Therefore we petition City Council to pass a bylaw using the 47 Ward option, and under no circumstances should Council proceed with Option 2 with 44 Wards, particularly if the current Ward 234 and 235 boundaries would split the Beach for up to 4 elections.

Regards

Brian Graff
97 Scarborough beach Blvd
Toronto, ON
M4E 2W9
416-510-8141

PETITION ON WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW - CITY OF TORONTO,

beach community association

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	Print Name	Address	Email	Phone	Signature
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

If you have any questions, please contact Brian Graff BTGRAFF@GMAIL.COM and please return completed petitions through him.

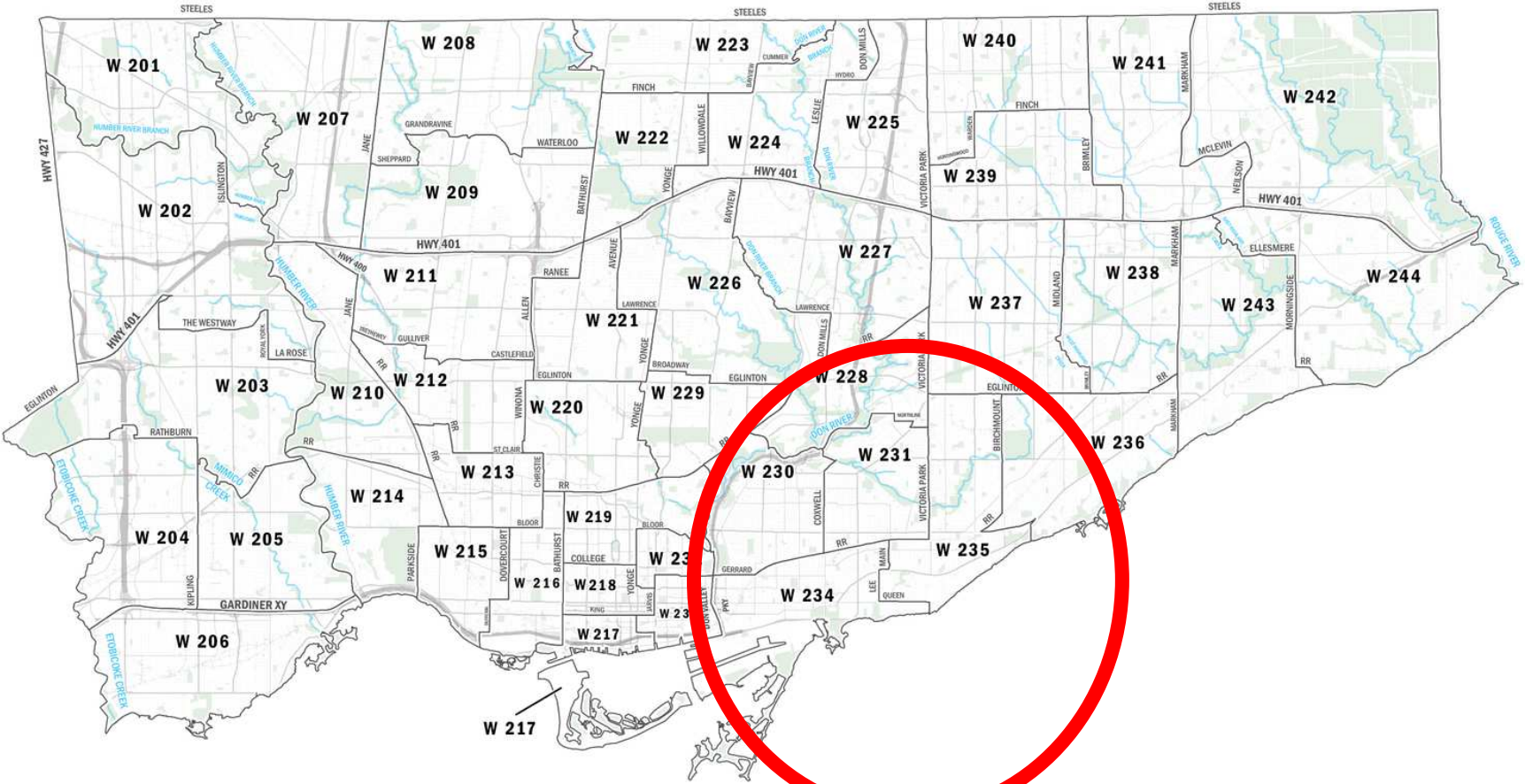
Opposition to the
47 Ward Option
The Beach/ Queen Street East

Presentation to City of Toronto
Executive Committee

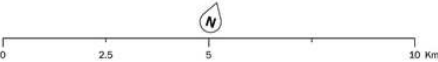
Brian Graff

October 2016

47 Ward Option



- RIVER AND STREAMS
- GREENSPACE
- RAILWAY (RR)
- WARD BOUNDARY
- ROADS

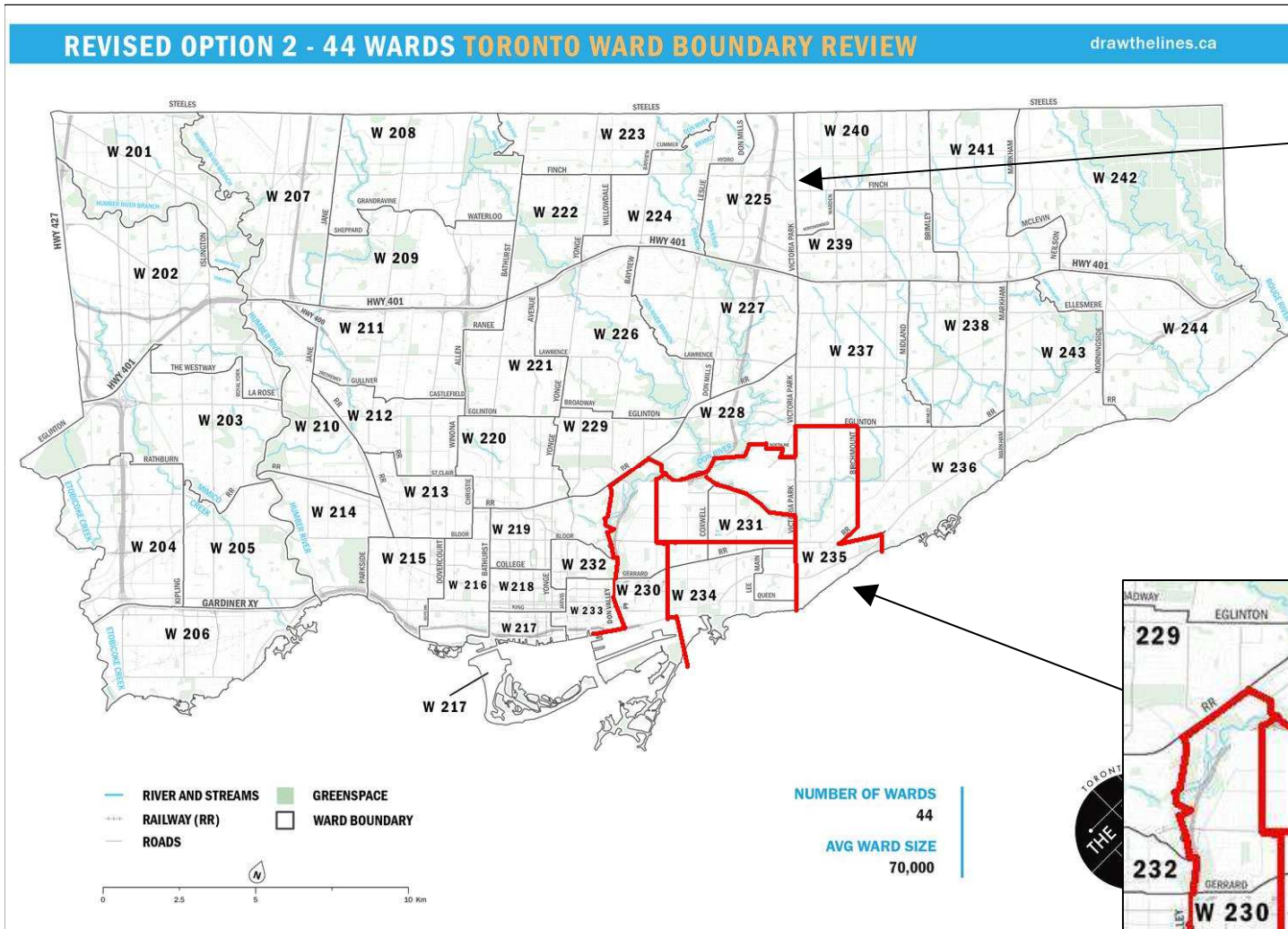


NUMBER OF WARDS
44

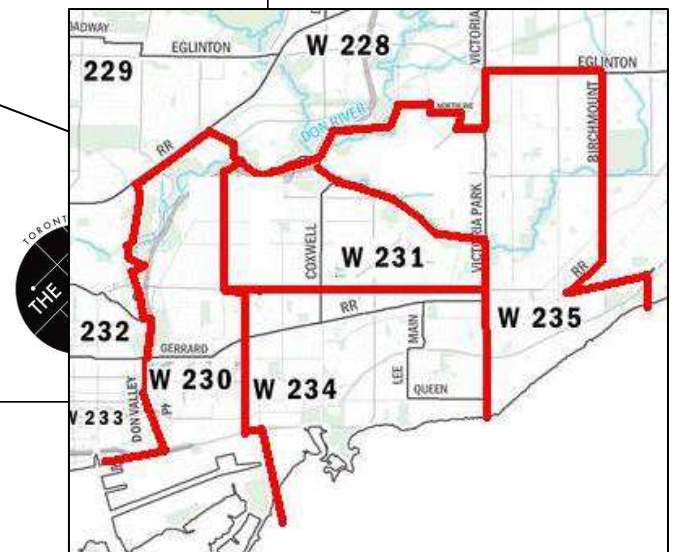
AVG WARD SIZE
70,000



Why Not Another Way?



Or why not take the area East of the 404 and use it to deal with the need to include some people west of Victoria Park



The consultants heard complaints on Wards 234/235

Supplementary Report — To x TWBR, SupplementaryReport x

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/53bc0914e4b0eb57996e4dee/t/5807a5ef20099ecb24249b07/1476896247228/TWBR_SupplementaryReport.161014

TWBR.SupplementaryReport.161014.pdf 68 / 76 beach 1 of 15

**TORONTO WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW NEW WARDS FOR TORONTO | SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT
OCTOBER 2016**

WARD	SUGGESTED REFINEMENT	ACTION/COMMENT
W234/W235	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This boundary divides and splits the Beach (a very community-oriented neighbourhood) in half (27) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not incorporated; shifting boundaries is the result of larger wards in this Option; current Ward 32 has been redistributed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lee/Main boundary breaks up the Beach (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not incorporated; would make re-aligned W236 too small
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disrupts the border with Scarborough & the old City of Toronto which is not ideal (8) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victoria Park should be respected as a historic boundary (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood between Lee and Victoria Park, and Kingston and Queen have much more in common with W234 than W235 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New configuration may actually bring communities together 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The west border of W234 should be Coxwell or Woodbine, separate from Leslieville, to allow the Beaches to thrive and grow together 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not incorporated; would make W234 far too small
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North border of Gerrard seems reasonable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment
W235	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detach the west end of the proposed W234 and attach it to the east end of the proposed W233 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not incorporated; DVP is a strong physical boundary
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very different communities north to south; current ward should stay the same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated
W236	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RR track is a big divider and should be a boundary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly incorporated; W235 and 236 re-aligned
W237	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundaries are ok; 401 is a good boundary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment
W238	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundaries are ok; 401 is a good boundary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add triangle from W236 (Markham/Eglinton/RR tracks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not incorporated; would make reconfigured W236 too small
W239/W240	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridlewood community is split north and south of Huntingwood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not incorporated; would make W239 too small
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corinthian community split also 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not incorporated; would make W239 too small

LEARN MORE ABOUT **DRAW THE LINES** www.drawthelines.ca 65.

TWBR, Supplementary...pdf Show all downloads...

Why Cut The Beach in Half?

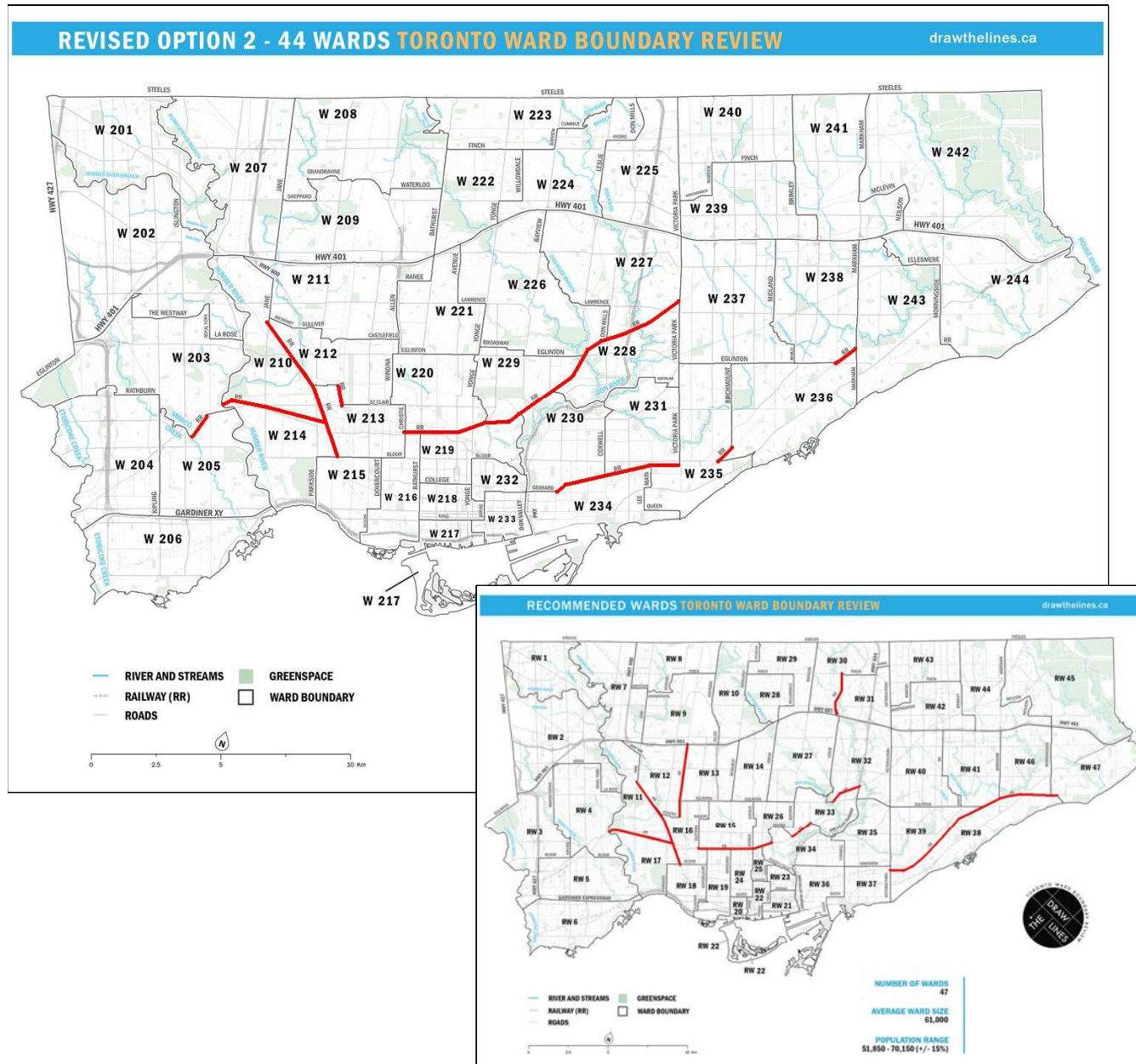


Victoria Park has been the boundary since East Toronto was annexed in 1908, if not earlier.

If there is a need for a Scarborough Ward to overlap west of Victoria Park, this is the worst place to do it.

The streetcar lines on both Kingston Rd & Queen St. end at Victoria Park!

Why Divide the Beach in Half?



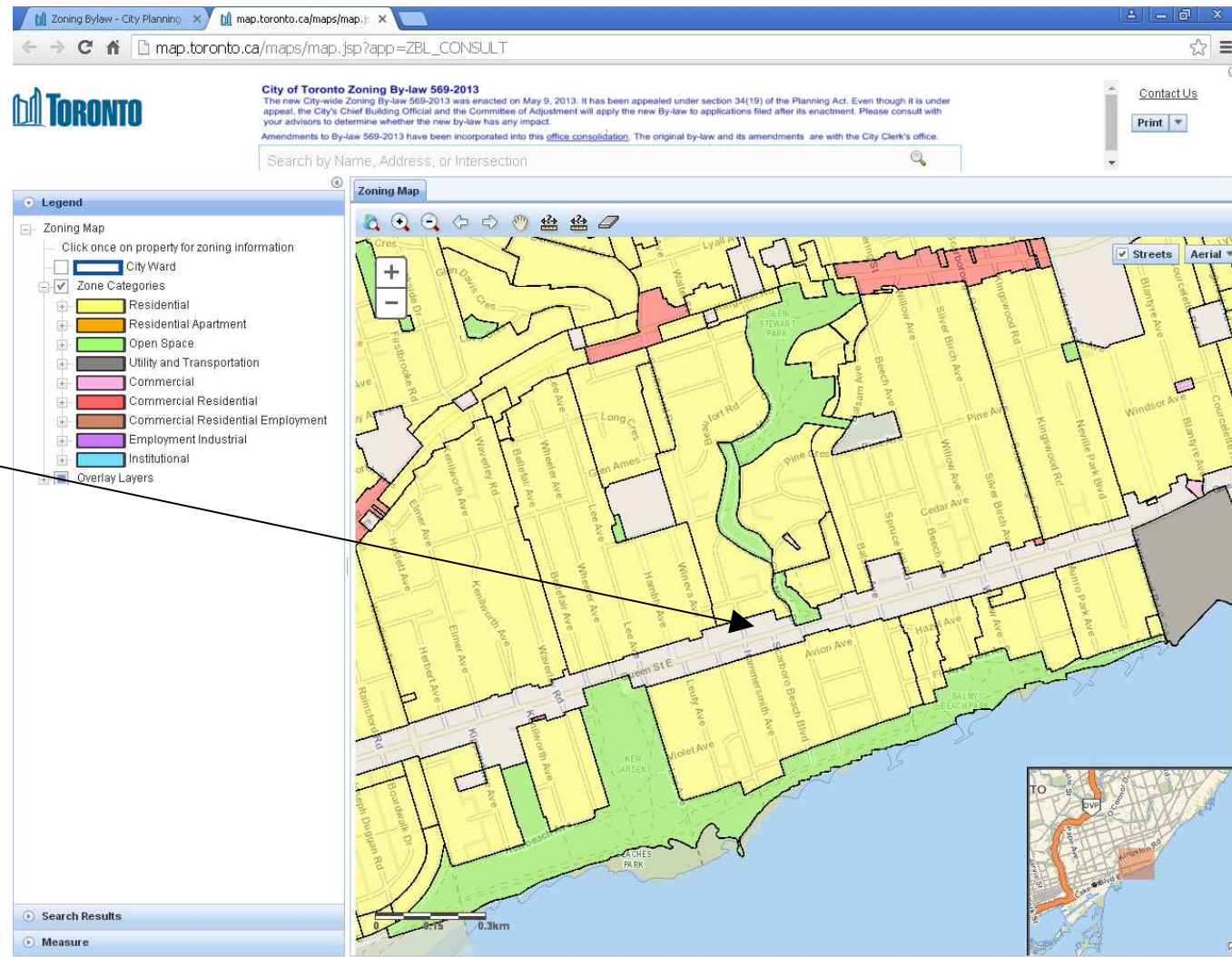
The problem seems to be that the consultants have given priority to using railway lines (in RED) as the main factor in determining the boundaries in the Midtown and East End of the old City of Toronto, instead of using rivers, creeks, expressways or other features. This is also true with some of the problems in the 47 Ward option, and not only in the 44 Ward option.

Other Issues to Consider

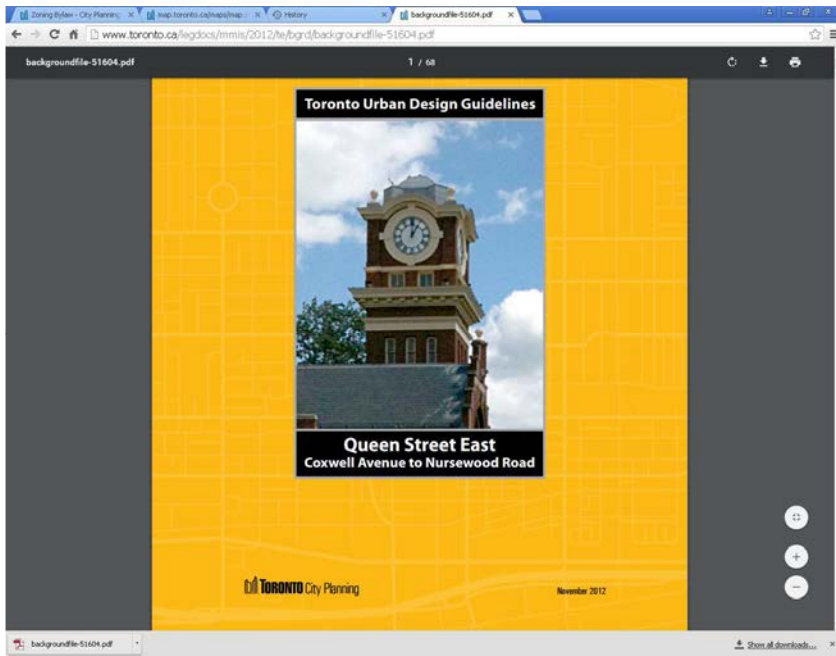
- Likely there will be 4 Community Councils, and this would mean The Beach would be split with one Councillor on TEYCC and the other at Scarborough Community Council.
- Councillors and citizens cannot be in both Community Councils at the same time because the councils meet the same day each month.
- Committee of Adjustment matters also split between Downtown and Scarborough
- Ward Councillor sits on local boards – BIA, Centre 55, etc.
- Also, School Trustee Wards likely split The Beach into halves.
- Impacts are on Kingston Rd and not just Queen St. E.

Zoning and Official Plan

Queen from Coxwell to Victoria Park has a recent Official Plan amendment which keeps the old 1986 City of Toronto Zoning Bylaw 438-86 (in grey). Queen St. E. would be split between TEYCC and Scarborough, but Scarborough Planning has no other places is the 1986 Toronto zoning.



Urban Design Guidelines & BIA on Queen St. All go to Victoria Park



QUEEN STREET EAST: COXWELL AVENUE TO NURSEWOOD ROAD

1.2 SUB AREAS OF QUEEN STREET EAST

Queen Street East in the Beach is an important commercial and residential spine. From west to east as one walks along the corridor one notices differences in the built form and character from one area to another. These sub areas are identified on the street signs of the cross streets that intersect with Queen Street East.

These sub areas are:

1. Woodbine Beach Precinct
2. Kew Beach Precinct
3. Balmy Beach Precinct

These guidelines are presented in two parts. The first section identifies the general guidelines which apply to the entire Queen Street East study area in the Beach. The second section outlines the guidelines specific to each of the sub areas listed above.

Woodbine Beach Precinct Kew Beach Precinct Balmy Beach Precinct

Coxwell Avenue Woodbine Avenue Glen Manor Drive Nursewood Road

The consultants agree that it splits many communities

The consultants say this of Option 2 with 47 Wards:

Some participants like this option and some have concerns. The most frequently mentioned reason for supporting this revised option is that it “retains the current size of City Council” and keeps certain communities intact (for example: Regent Park; Church-Wellesley Village; West Toronto Junction).

Those with concerns mention the “large amount of change to existing ward boundaries”; “reduced ‘capacity to represent’”; and the division of certain communities (for example: Lawrence Heights; Flemingdon Park; Leaside; The Beach).

From Page 4 of Supplemental Report

A possible appeal to the OMB

When considering if a ward boundary by-law will result in effective and fair representation or not, the OMB will consider the following criteria (“Carter Criteria”):

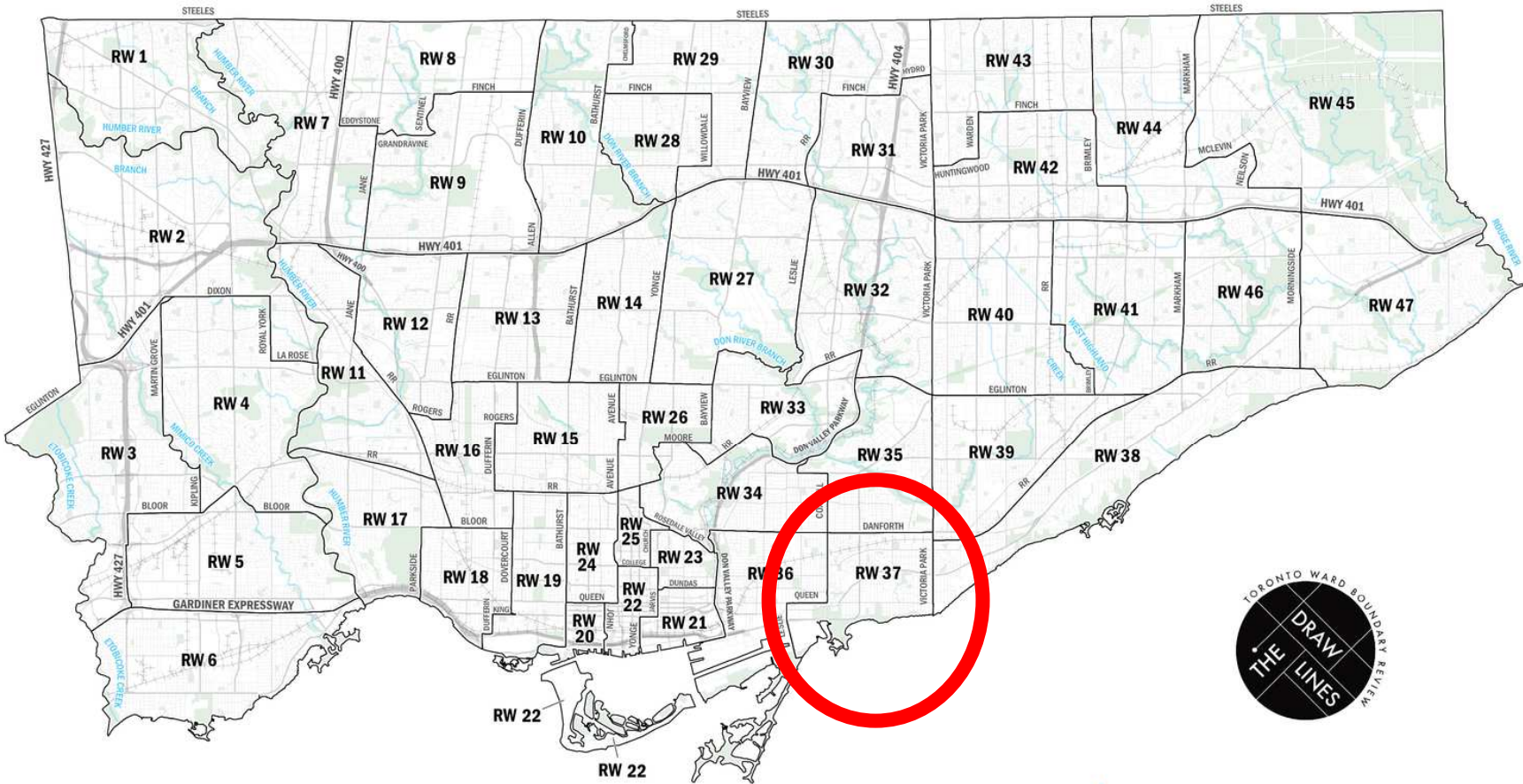
1. Does it equitably distribute the population and the electors?

2. Does it respect identifiable communities of interest?

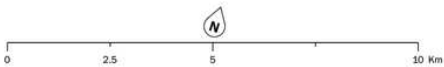
3. Does it utilize natural, physical boundaries that are locally recognized?

4. Does it serve the larger public interest of all electors of the municipality in contrast to the interest of a small group?

Recommended – 47 Wards



- RIVER AND STREAMS
- GREENSPACE
- +++ RAILWAY (RR)
- WARD BOUNDARY
- ROADS



NUMBER OF WARDS
47

AVERAGE WARD SIZE
61,000

POPULATION RANGE
51,850 - 70,150 (+/- 15%)

Queen is best main street in Ontario

TVO judges think Queen Street has small town feel



Photo: Jon Muldoon

On June 4 at 8 p.m., during TVO's Studio 2, the winner of the 'Best Main Street in Ontario' competition will be announced. And, to the surprise of many – including some local residents, the best main street in Ontario is Queen Street East in the Beach.

The winners were chosen by a panel of three judges who reviewed more than 50 submissions from across the province. The judges were historian and author Ron Brown (Ghost Towns of Ontario), retail consultant Stuart Smith, and urban planner George Dark (Urban Strategies Group).

"The Beach is an all-round winner. A fantastic inner-city neighbourhood with a great retail market, a great place to visit, and a fabulous festival," said Dark. "Toronto's Queen East feels like a Main Street in a small town, and I think that's why people go there," added Brown.

Other reasons cited by the judges is Queen's accessibility and walkability, the diversity of the businesses and the architecture, the beauty of the boardwalk and the successful summer festivals.

Ian Sutton, from the Beach Business and Professional Association, said that

he was somewhat amazed at the choice. "I guess that the association has been focusing on things we want to improve about Queen Street."

By Carole Stimmell

And he is right. We all love to complain about the parking, traffic and noise. But how many of us would give up the opportunity to watch the changing faces of the lake from the boardwalk daily, or run into our neighbour at the greengrocer's or watch the passing parade of strollers and dogs from a comfortable coffee shop window?

Bob Murdoch, executive director of Community Centre 55, who was interviewed for the program, had a different take on why Queen Street was special. He told TVO that Queen is just like any other street – pavement, tar and dust. "It is the people that made this area the best."

Studio 2 will be airing documentary profiles on the three winners (Port Hope was recognized as the Best Preserved Main Street and Goderich as the Best Traditional/Rural Main Street). Expect some coverage to be given to some of Queen Street's warts as well, such as the congestion and the controversy over the use of Kew Gardens for summer festivals.