

March 31, 2016

Ellen Devlin, Clerk
Toronto East York Community Council
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

Subject: Harbord Village Green Plan

Dear Chair and Members,

As Toronto's downtown core continues to develop, we must ensure that we are building neighbourhoods, rather than just adding density. A critical aspect of building liveability is ensuring that we have enough green spaces to support a healthy and vibrant community. In many of our downtown communities, A good plan for green spaces includes park improvements, but also includes consideration for laneway greening, parkettes, and streetscaping.

To that end, over the last year I have been working with the Harbord Village Residents' Association on a plan to green the neighbourhood and maximize the available space – this is the Harbord Village Green Plan.

The Green Plan identifies specific areas in the Harbord Village neighbourhood to target for greening corners and flankages, laneways, parks developments, and tree planting and maintenance, among other projects.

My preliminary discussions with City Staff regarding implementation of the Green Plan have been extremely positive and I look forward to continuing to work with them to realize the goals of this plan.

I believe that this will also serve as an important blueprint for initiatives of this nature in other communities across Toronto.

I am requesting that Transportation Services work in consultation with my office and the Harbord Village Residents' Association to implement the Harbord Village Green Plan.

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Recommendations:

Request the General Manager, Transportation Services to work with the Harbord Village Residents' Association, community partners, and the Ward Councillor to prepare a plan to implement, in principle, the Harbord Village Green Plan and related improvements to public green space and amenities within Harbord Village, in a manner that reinforces the sense of place, addresses environmental and climate concerns, and green space deficiency in the neighbourhood, and would contribute to creating a model for greening neighbourhoods throughout the city.

Sincerely,



Joe Cressy
City Councillor
Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina