



EX21.8.3

January 30, 2017

By Email: To the attention of the City Clerk

To the Members of Toronto City Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: City Council meeting on item 2017.EX21.8

Dear Councillors,

The report being tabled today is a project the Yonge-Dundas Square Board of Management has been working on since early 2015. The Board has been attentive and transparent in its approach to ensure due diligence in our procurement process, fairness and equity in our assessment processes, and inclusiveness in our outreach and consultation process.

At the January 26, 2017 meeting of Council's Executive Committee, concerns were raised by deputants regarding both consultation and construction plans. We would like to reiterate to Council that a full and comprehensive consultation process has been conducted, including a design panel meeting for stakeholders, personal outreach to stakeholders who were unable to attend, and a public consultation meeting at City Hall. All concerns raised in these forums were subsequently addressed by the Board of Management.

Concerns about the construction plans that have been raised have also not been supported in any sufficient basis or manner, and no work done to date on this project has indicated otherwise.

The report on item 2017.EX21.8 being considered by Council and recommended by staff outlines extensive benefits for consideration, including service improvements that will have a real and positive impact on the ability of not-for-profit and community groups to meet their goals using Yonge-Dundas Square as a community gathering place and a home for their events. Furthermore, as the stewards of Yonge-Dundas Square on behalf of the City, the Board of Management can be relied upon to put both the City and the community's best interests at the top of our priority list.

The Board of Management looks forward to a bright future for Yonge-Dundas Square. The proposed revitalization efforts will positively impact tourism and the neighbourhood, while providing strong ongoing economic influence in the downtown community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TRATHS', written in a cursive style.

Taylor Rath
General Manager