From:
To: Clerk

Cc: Toronto East York Community Council

Subject: Ossington Community Association comments for 2017.TE23.5 on April 26, 2017 City Council

Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 6:01:37 PM

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of City Council,

I write on behalf of the Vice-President of the Ossington Community Association to request that you support Councillor Layton's initiative to turn the publicly owned lands at 28 Bathurst St. into a park.

As you know, there has been a huge increase in population in the Fort York, CityPlace, King-Spadina, and Niagara neighbourhoods, to the south and east of our catchment area, and park space in the vicinity has not kept up. Existing parks (e.g., Trinity-Bellwoods) are increasingly 'standing room only', and in any case are too few and far between.

Of special importance is the need for more playgrounds and other spaces for the many children growing up in these dense districts. More generally, if we are going to grow our cities, we also need to grow the park space and other resources that allow people of all ages to flourish.

Given the enormous cost of land in this downtown area (30-60 million/acre), it's an incredibly smart use of existing resources to convert this 2.3 acre site, already owned by the city, to Parks land.

Please help us grow our desperately needed park space, and vote in favour of motion TE23.5.

Sincerely yours, Jessica Wilson

Vice-President, Ossington Community Association

Toronto, ON