



East York Foundation

BN: 119230746RR0001

October 1, 2017

City of Toronto
12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Attention: Marilyn Toft

email: clerk@toronto.ca

RE: PG22.5 Inclusion on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register - Midtown in Focus - Phase 01:
Main Street Properties (Wards 16, 22, 25, 26)

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of City Council,

This is to express our strong support for the recommended listing of the 258 properties with potential cultural heritage value or interest located on main streets (Yonge, Mount Pleasant, Bayview, and Eglinton) on the City of Toronto Heritage Register. The proposed listings include several properties on the east side of Bayview, in Leaside, part of the former Borough of East York.

Residents across Toronto have been very concerned by “as of right” demolition of commercial properties having clear cultural heritage value and interest, such as occurred with the BMO Building at 2444 Yonge Street in January, 2017.

Listing would ensure that properties such as this would undergo prior assessment as to whether or not they deserve to be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act, and their heritage attributes retained and conserved. This change does not affect the legal rights of the property owner or affect their ability to renovate or maintain their property.

The “main street” commercial areas are under enormous pressure for re-development. These same areas have significant character and charm which is eroding, and at risk of loss. Batch listing to allow prior assessment in case of demolition permit application would be an appropriate way of ensuring this.

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond J. White

Raymond J. White, Chair

cc. Councillor Jon Burnside