November 30, 2017

Mayor John Tory and City Councillors:

RE: HL22.3 and PE23.7 - Reducing Health Risks from Traffic-Related Air Pollution (TRAP) in Toronto

We write in support of the above and urge Council to adopt its’ recommendations.

L.I.S.T. - Lung Issues Support Toronto - is a patient-founded and directed monthly support group hosted by the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Clinic at Toronto Western Hospital, University Health Network. Last August, we were pleased to have Toronto Public Health’s Environmental Health Specialist Ms. Barbara Lachapelle, speak to our L.I.S.T. group regarding Air Pollution and Health. In addition to explaining the current situation and education on the many causes of air pollution, Ms. Lachapelle also provided a host of information portals to make our lives easier and told us of the forthcoming release of the Report which is before you now and the subject of this letter.

As lung patients, we are personally aware of the very serious implications for human health and quality of life due to TRAP. Toronto Health estimates that air pollution still contributes to 1,300 premature deaths and 3,550 hospitalizations in Toronto each year. We hope that the recommendations in this report will go to lessening those statistics.

Thank you in advance for your support in making Toronto a safer place for us all to live and breath.

Sincerely,

Linda McCarthy
Secretary