



The voice
of our
community

Deer Park Residents Group

November 29, 2017

Members of the Licensing and Standards and the Public Works and Infrastructure
Committees
Toronto City Hall

Re: *JC1.1 Harmonized By-Laws and Fees for Sidewalk Cafes, Parklets and Marketing
Displays*

The Deer Park Residents Group (DPRG), a member of *Sidewalks for All*, recognises that our rapidly changing City, with intensification significantly increasing our population and more people walking and taking transit, needs effective management of our public realm.

The DPRG supports *Sidewalks for All* comments regarding the proposed 2.1 metre sidewalk clearway for most arterial streets. We note that the 2.1 clearway minimum is already approved in the City's Vibrant Streets Guidelines, except that 2.5m is the minimum for certain Downtown streets that are wider than 5m. We also agree with the additional recommendations made by *Sidewalks for All*: measuring width from an existing "edge zone," rather than the curb; making clearway shifts cane-detectable; increasing enforcement; and early phasing in of the new By-Law. In addition, we support wider sidewalk clearway widths than recommended by the City's report in areas with high pedestrian traffic, including streets outside the downtown core.

On many streets with high pedestrian traffic, both in the Downtown and in other parts of the City, such as most sections of Yonge Street, particularly at the Yonge and Eglinton, North York Centre, and Yonge and St. Clair, the proposed clearway widths are inadequate. Additional clearway regulations must be developed for these situations. Toronto's Municipal Code already requires an even more substantial clearway for busy sections of specific streets, such as Spadina, 3.05 metres and the Danforth Avenue 3.0.

Further, additional regulations are required for high pedestrian traffic areas where the setback requirements have been approved for projects to effectively expand the "public realm", not to be filled with cafes. For example, a recently approved project on Yonge St. south of St. Clair complies with the 6m setback required by the Yonge St. Clair Secondary Plan for use as badly-needed sidewalk space. The expanded sidewalk must not be reduced to a 2.1 m clearway.

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