May 30, 2017

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam  
Chair, Toronto and East York Community Council  
100 Queen Street W.

**A Safer Walk to Morse Street Public School: The Plan**

Dear Chair and members of the Toronto and East York Community Council

I first want to thank the members of the Morse Street School Community for their continued involvement, interest, and engagement. Particularly the school council who invited me to one of their meetings to hear directly from parents and teachers about the challenges that they face every day dropping their kids off at school.

What I wrote in a letter to the Director of Transportation Services for Toronto and East York when I invited him to attend the meeting with me remains relevant:

"As we approach the end of the school year it is natural that we look back and evaluate what has happened this year and what we can do better. While the students of Morse Street Public School have made many strides and a wonderful new playground is scheduled for installation, there is one area that has taken a serious step back. The safety of students and parents walking to and from Morse Street School scores a 'Needs Improvement.'"

I am asking for your support for the following recommendations to improve traffic safety around Morse Street School.

It is recommended that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council direct Transportation Services to investigate the feasibility of prohibiting eastbound and southbound 'Right Turns on Red' at Queen Street East and Carlaw Avenue that would operate during school hours 8am-9am and 3pm-4pm, Monday to Friday and report back to the October 17th Community Council meeting.
2. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit stopping at all times on the north side of Eastern Avenue, between Morse Street and a point 20 metres east.

3. Toronto and East York Community Council request Transportation Services to investigate painting "School Zone" on the road to improve safety and report back to the October 17th Community Council meeting
   a. Request Transportation Services to investigate and report on the use of different coloured road paint in school zones on collector or arterial roads. Report back to the October 17th Community Council meeting

4. Toronto and East York Community Council request Transportation Services to investigate installing bollards on the southeast and southwest corners of Queen Street East and Carlaw Avenue to deter truck traffic from mounting the sidewalk and report back to the October 17th Community Council meeting

5. Toronto and East York Community Council request Transportation Services to refresh pavement markings at Queen Street East and Carlaw Avenue and at the pedestrian crossovers at Queen Street East and Morse Street and at Morse Street and Eastern Avenue and to advise the ward councillor when completed.

6. Toronto and East York Community Council direct Transportation Services to report to the November 14th 2017 meeting on TE18.5, recommendation 7:
   b. City Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services to review and report to the Toronto and East York Community Council in the first quarter of 2017 on the potential to explore changes to the use and design of the Morse-McGee laneway (which extends east from Empire Avenue to Carlaw Avenue), adjacent to the subject site, to potentially formalize safe pedestrian movement on the laneway.

Sincerely,

City Councillor
Ward 30, Toronto Danforth