14 November, 2017

Members of the Toronto and East York Community Council,

RE: TE28.71 – Bus Loading Zone and One-Way Operation - Trinity Street

I am writing you today on behalf of the board and members of the Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association, representing residents of the Distillery District. We ask that you support the recommendations made to designate Trinity Street, between Front Street and Mill Street, as one-way southbound with space allocated for bus pick-ups and drop-offs.

In February we wrote to Community Council when a new streetscape and parking bylaws were being approved for Mill Street. We identified that with the popularity of the Distillery District as a tourist destination, a large number of buses regularly bring tourists to the area, but without a designated area where they can drop off, this regularly causes congestion and frustration. Since the new design for Mill Street was implemented, we have had ongoing issues with buses, delivery vehicles, taxis and ubers stopping illegally throughout the area, obstructing sidewalks, roadways and intersections.

While designating an actual area for pick-ups and drop-offs is an important first step, which we welcome, we ask that this not be the end of the work towards trying to resolve the traffic issues in the area. More work needs to be done with tour companies to ensure that the spaces are used properly and that accompanying staging and parking locations for the buses to use while they wait are provided and their locations communicated. More work also needs to be done by enforcement to ensure that adequate resources are deployed in the area and that the scofflaws causing the traffic issues are not allowed to continue.

Respectfully,

Michael Brewer
President
Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association (GWNA) Inc.