

# BU41.1.3

**From:** [Riverside BIA](#)  
**To:** [Budget Committee](#)  
**Cc:** [Councillor Burnside](#); [Councillor Campbell](#); [Councillor Carroll](#); [Councillor Crawford](#); [Councillor Di Ciano](#); [Councillor Mihevc](#); [Councillor Nunziata](#)  
**Subject:** Letter re: Budget Ctte Item BU37.8, Nov 27th  
**Date:** Friday, November 24, 2017 4:10:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [RiversideBIA Ltr BU37.8.pdf](#)

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Please find attached a letter regarding item BU37.8 on the Nov 27th Budget Committee Agenda on behalf of the Riverside BIA.

Best,  
Jennifer

Jennifer Lay  
Executive Director &  
Marketing and Public Programs Director  
Riverside District BIA

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Attn: Budget Committee City of Toronto

From: Riverside BIA, 638 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON M4M 1G3

November 24, 2017

Dear Budget Committee Members,

**Letter Re: Item BU37.8 (Street Event User Fees for Business Improvement Areas) for Consideration at Nov 27, 2017 Meeting**

The Riverside BIA wishes to submit this letter in regard to item **BU37.8 - Street Event User Fees for Business Improvement Areas**.

The Riverside BIA, located along Queen Street East, just across the bridge from the downtown core in Ward 30, has been working with other BIAs and our local Councillor to bring this issue forward since we had learned about the proposed User Fee increases earlier this year. Our concern has always been that the fee schedules, which originally included BIAs, had been increased too much, too quickly. Given the close relationship of BIAs to the City and the way that our work leverages local business and community support for the many events that we run, mostly on a shoe-string budget, we believed BIAs should be considered in a special category.

We are pleased with the result of this review and the staff report, and feel the User Fee increases specified for BIAs are very fair. Further, the phased in approach will allow us to incorporate and plan for the increases within our budget.

A diversity of public programming including street events is a core measure of the success of our business community here in Riverside. We would ask that you support the proposal before you, which we feel enables BIAs to continue to run excellent local events throughout the city, throughout the year which benefits everyone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Lay".

Jennifer Lay

Executive Director, on behalf of the Riverside BIA

Riverside Business Improvement Area | 638 Queen St East (c/o Darkhorse) | 416- 466-8167 | office@Riverside-TO.com

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