

City Clerk
10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

Attention: Ulli S. Watkiss

By email: clerk@toronto.ca

June 26, 2018

Dear Mr. Watkiss

Re: Item MM43.19 – Authorization to Release Section 37 Funds from various developmnets to fund the Yonge TOMorrow project, as submitted to City Council on June 26, 2018.

Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area (DYBIA) is one of the City of Toronto's larger Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) with a membership of some 1,800 businesses and 200 property owners whose properties are valued in total at close to \$6 billion.

We are writing today to show our support for the Motion to authorize the release of Section 37 Funds to fund the Yonge TOMorrow Project.

As you may know, DYBIA has done extensive work to deeply understand the needs and wants of Yonge Street stakeholders, through data collection, community consultations and ongoing engagement. Some of these initiatives include:

2011 Yonge Street Planning Framework
2012 *Celebrate Yonge*, including Traffic Review and Post-Event Staff Report
2013 Urban Mobility Study in Downtown Yonge
2014 Downtown Toronto Geo-Demographic Study
2015 *Music Strategy*
2015 *Yonge Love* and *Yonge Love 5-Point Action Plan*
2016 Global Main Streets Study
2017 *Living Yonge* Strategic Plan
2017 *Safe & Inclusive Streets Strategy*

Based on this body of research, we strongly believe that the Yonge Street Environmental Assessment (EA) currently underway is a pivotal next step in the revitalization of Yonge Street. This is especially true when one takes into account the significant residential growth, densification and expansion of employment clusters underway along Yonge Street.

Ensuring that related projects are included on the Capital Budget & Plan for Transportation Services is likewise critical to ensure the Yonge Street EA can continue to move forward.

As always, DYBIA stands ready and willing to play our role in making Downtown Yonge, and the downtown at large, a safer and more inclusive place to be, for all who live, work, play, learn, shop or invest here.

Sincerely,



Mark Garner
Chief Operating Officer & Executive Director
Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area

CC: Mayor John Tory
Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, Ward 27
Lou Di Gironimo, Interim Deputy City Manager