

Summerhill Residents Association

123 Summerhill Avenue, Toronto Ontario, M4T 1B1
T: 416-967-7166, E: debbiejb@outlook.com

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VIA E-MAIL: pgmc@toronto.ca

Chairman David Shiner and Members,
Planning and Growth Management Committee
City of Toronto

Re: PG 30.4: Midtown in Focus: Final Report

Dear Councillor Shiner and Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association to express our support for the positions expressed in the letter submitted to your committee by the Federation of North Toronto Residents Associations (FoNTRA). Our association is a member of FoNTRA and has participated in its review of the proposed Yonge-Eglinton secondary plan.

We support the provisions of the proposed secondary plan. Indeed, we see many of them as applicable to the Yonge/St Clair area, where a review of planning policies for the mixed-use areas is now in progress. We applaud the plan's emphasis on expanding the public realm both in improving sidewalk space for pedestrians and in providing more parks. We are not opposed to growth—we recognize the importance of accommodating it—but that just makes it all the more important to create public infrastructure that will enhance the quality of life in the increasingly dense growth centre.

We also strongly support FoNTRA's request for a staff reassessment of the implications of the growth in ridership on the Yonge Street subway. Already it is common to have to wait in the morning rush hour for several trains to pass before finding a door on a train that is not blocked by the crush of riders on the train. The developments along the Yonge corridor already approved or under review will more than offset the increase in subway capacity that will result from the signal system improvements now in process. We badly need Council to deal with the impending crisis on the Yonge subway. We need improvements in public transit that can be done now or in the middle term. And we need Council to review the mismatch between infrastructure and development approvals and to put some form of hold on development until the necessary investments in transit and other infrastructure are made.

Yours sincerely,

Summerhill Residents Association



Debbie Briggs
President

cc: Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam
Councillor Josh Matlow