## PW27.1.313

My name is Tom Worrall and I am a board member representing Lytton Park Residents <u>Organization</u>, the largest and most active Residents Association located in the heart of Ward 16 and borders on Yonge Street just south of the 401. We have approximately 3,000 residents in our area who are committed to active transportation, sound environmental practices and traffic safety.

We are in full and enthusiastic support of the Transform Yonge option as proposed by Councillor Fillion, studied and consulted in depth (twice) with businesses and residents by the city planning staff and endorsed by several Environmental and Street Safety Advocates.

Our community is very similar to that of the Transform Yonge area of North York *and it works.* 

We have a vibrant offering of shops and businesses along Yonge Street, we are under tremendous residential condominium intensification and commercial tower construction. The vast majority of people who shop and transact business are from the local area. Our stretch of Yonge Street also has four-lanes that very adequately handle traffic from the north/south flow, same as the proposed Transform Yonge option.

We would gladly welcome the opportunity that is before the people of North York to Transform Yonge in our area as well.

In addition to my board position at LPRO, I am a passionate active transportation advocate and retired COO and Co-founder of Ticketmaster Canada. My successful career of 43 years has taught me the importance of the relationship between businesses and communities and the making prudent and informed decisions. These values are very germane to Transform Yonge discussion;

- <u>Listening</u> You must Listen to the experts. Your planning department has given you the tools to formulate the vision and now you can provide the leadership.
- <u>Vision</u> is critical for identifying future opportunities. Great cities around the world are taking bold steps in transforming their streets at a rapid pace from primarily an automobile thoroughfare to people friendly

corridors and destinations. *Toronto is also a great city* and I have no doubt anyone on the PWIC committee would disagree. We need to embrace this Vision for our future.

 <u>Leadership</u> is having the courage to carry out what you believe in and not being unduly influenced by the naysayers who offer watered down solutions or a preference for keeping the eternal status quo.

There is a global movement that is paying dividends to it's citizens by way of better health, reduced stress, increased safety, reduced Green House Gas emissions, better commerce and embracing the future of transportation. How people are moving about is changing dramatically and this change will accelerate in the coming years. The Transform Yonge Option embraces this change and will set a new standard to be strived for.

Our plea to you, our elected officials, is do not fail the people of North York and Toronto. Now is not the time to cater to NIMBY ism, negativity and short sightedness. *Do not fail us in this important issue.* 

How you vote today will have lasting consequences for us all, we implore you to Listen to the experts, have Vision for the future, and practice Leadership in this critical decision - vote Transform Yonge.