November 28, 2018

Mayor John Tory and Members of Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of Council:

RE: Item CC1.1 Recalibrating City Council’s Governance for 26 Members - Council Staffing

We write to introduce ourselves as a newly formed residents group of approximately 550 households, the East Annex Condominiums Association. The association's directors are drawn from four condominiums located in the general vicinity of Bloor Street West, Avenue Road, Davenport Road and Spadina Avenue. At present, our members include: 55 Prince Arthur, Museum House (206 Bloor W), Exhibit (200 Bloor W), and One Bedford at Bloor.

The purpose of this letter is to urge Council to ensure adequate staffing to support Councillors in their expanded wards. This is particularly critical in the city core where the bulk of development is taking place.

By way of illustration, our small area has six high-rise projects starting approvals along Bloor Street in the space of several blocks. There are also a handful of new developments proposed along our small stretch of Davenport Road. The East Annex is a fraction of the total area for which our Councillor Mike Layton is responsible. Although low-rise wards have doubled in size, the downtown Councillors’ burden is a significant order of magnitude greater because these are high-rise intensification districts. Their staff complement needs to reflect this heavier workload.

To support this quantum and pace of growth, our Councillors need adequate experienced support staff in their offices and communities. And likewise, Council needs to provide sufficient City Planning, Transportation and Community Services professionals to shape and to process the technical and social requirements in growth areas. Adequate staffing is a critical management issue for Council to sustain the health and prosperity of our city over the short and the long term.

Yours sincerely,

[Signatures]

David Forgione, President TSCC 2339
One Bedford at Bloor

Ron Schmidt, President TSCC 2598
Exhibit (200 Bloor West)