

**HARBORD VILLAGE
RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

Box 68522, 360A Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1X1



To Mayor Tory and Members of Council:
Re: Item CC1.1

Nov. 30, 2018.

Harbord Village Residents' Association, in company with the Annex Residents Association, welcome many elements of the Staff recommendations on changes to City Council's governance system.

First, it is clear Staff recognizes the change will be significant and recommends a full public process before any permanent structural change is adopted. We trust the Special Committee on Governance will embark on a full, City-wide and transparent process to ensure residents will be consulted. Time taken now will save trouble later.

Second, we note Staff explicitly acknowledges that the core problem of the reduction from 47 to 25 Councillors is how to lessen the load on Council members without damaging governance. We appreciate Staff's description of changes to Council Committee Structure as transitional, since, over time, adjustments are almost certain to be needed.

Third, we support the Community Council boundaries outlined in the report.

Fourth, the replacement of Councillors by residents on Boards, Agencies and Commissions is necessary but is sufficiently significant, it should be subject to review.

We are, however, deeply troubled by the recommendations on the selection process for members of the public to serve in place of Councillors. The report does not explain how the new Civic Appointments and Mayors Corporations Nominating Panels are to be chosen.

We see no compelling rationale for operating outside the normal screening of public appointments by the Clerk's department (as is recommended for the Tribunals Panel). The peril in assigning the population of the two new screening committees to the Mayor—or any group of Councillors—is that it leaves the entire process open to the perception of cronyism or bias and can lead to the appointment of just plain pals. The ultimate decision by Council is not an adequate corrective. This task should be given to the Clerk.

Overall, we believe this Staff report represents a responsible beginning, with much work remaining. We would welcome the opportunity to assist.

We will comment separately on the staffing allocation for Councillor's offices as there is now a joint position by an additional 7 residents' and community associations—bringing us to a total of 62 from across the City.

Respectfully,

Gail Misra, Chair
Sue Dexter, Board
Harbord Village Residents' Association

David Harrison, Chair
Henry Wiercinski, Vice-Chair
Annex Residents' Association

To: the Mayor and City Councillors
Re: CC 1.1
Staffing for Councillor's offices.

Dec. 2, 2018.

Friday, Nov. 30, 2018, Harbord Village and Annex Residents' Associations submitted a joint letter from Residents and Community Associations. Since then, an additional three associations from across the City have requested they be added to the list, bringing our total to 65.

The complete list follows our original letter below.

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

November 22, 2018

Re: Staffing decisions for Councillor's offices

The new reality of a 25-councillor world presents an unprecedented governance challenge. Each Councillor will still have to attend to meetings and engage on City-wide issues, but now must represent the needs of many more constituents, averaging 110,000 residents per ward.

How Councillors can effectively shoulder this increased constituency load alone is unclear. What is clear is that without the allocation of additional resources, they will be unable to maintain the level of representation they currently provide, and which constituents have quite rightly come to expect. This will serve only to impair the effective operation of the City. Such a result is neither an acceptable nor necessary outcome.

One way to mitigate this imbalance between the legitimate expectations of constituents as to the level of service they receive and the ability of Councillors to deliver that service is to ensure adequate capacity in their offices. Councillors' staff are often the first point of contact with constituents. They effectively handle the calls and concerns directed to the Councillor, thus improving the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Councillors' work.

With wards doubled in size, at a minimum staff levels should be doubled. This would simply maintain a level playing field by continuing unchanged the prior budget appropriation for Councillor staff.

In addition, where wards have exceptional levels of planning and development, we further urge you to allow for additional staffing in recognition of the importance of those files and the work demand they represent.

It is imperative that the result of the change to the City's governance model not result in an erosion of representation or a deterioration in the overall effectiveness in the governance of the City.

We trust that you will act accordingly. See below the list of 65 Resident Association signators.

Yours truly,

David Harrison, chair
Henry Wiercinski
Annex Residents' Association

Gail Misra, chair
Sue Dexter
Harbord Village Residents' Association

On behalf of the following signators:

1. Annex Residents' Association, David Harrison
2. Harbord Village Residents' Association, Gail Misra
3. Garment District Neighbourhood Association, Valerie Eggertson
4. CityPlace Residents' Association, Gary Pieters
5. Parkdale Residents Association, Ric Amis
6. Ossington Community Association, Jessica Wilson
7. Liberty Village Residents' Association, Todd Hofley
8. Roncesvalles Macdonell Residents' Association, Norman Kolasky
9. FONTRA, Cathie Macdonald and Geoff Kettel, including
10. Avenue Road & Eglinton Community Association,
11. Bayview Village RA,
12. Bedford Park/Wanless Residents' Association,
13. Deer Park Residents' Group,
14. Davenport Triangle Residents Association,
15. Don Mills Residents Inc.,
16. Edwards Gardens Neighbourhood Association,
17. Eglinton Park Residents' Association (EPRA), Thomas Cohen,
18. Forest Hill Homeowners' Association,
19. Governor's Bridge Ratepayers Association,
20. Glenorchy Residents' Association,
21. Greater Yorkville Residents Association (GYRA),
22. Lawrence Park Ratepayers' Association,
23. Greater Beach Residents' Association,
24. Leaside Property Owners' Association,
25. Lytton Park Residents' Organization Inc.,
26. Moore Park Residents' Association,
27. North Rosedale Ratepayers' Association,
28. Old Orchard Grove Residents Assn.,
29. Oriole Park Association,
30. Rathnelly Residents Association, Pym Buitenhuis
31. St. Andrew's Ratepayers Association,
32. Sherwood Park Residents' Association,
33. South Armour Heights Residents' Association,
34. South Eglinton Ratepayers' and Residents' Association,
35. South Hill District Home Owners' Association,
36. South Rosedale Residents Association, Don J. Hogarth,
37. Stanley Knowles Housing Co-op,
38. Summerhill Residents' Association,
39. Uptown Yonge Neighbourhood Alliance,
40. West Keewatin Neighbours,
41. West Lansing Homeowners Association,
42. York Mills Gardens Community Association,
43. York Mills Leslie Ratepayers' Association,
44. York Mills Valley Association,

45. Yonge Ridge Homeowners Association,
46. Grange Community Association, Ralph Daley and Ceta Ramkhalawansingh,
47. Huron Sussex Residents' Organization, Danae Engle,
48. York Quay Neighbourhood Association, Angelo Bertolas, Carolyn Johnson,
49. Lakeview Avenue Residents Association, Jeff Hoedeman,
50. Palmerston Area Residents Association, Paul Maclean,
51. Seaton Village Residents Association, Jennifer Hunter,
52. Bay Cloverhill Community Association, Kathryn Holden,
53. Fort York Neighbourhood Association, Ryan Myhal,
54. ABC Residents' Association, John Caliendo and Ian Carmichael,
55. Cottingham Square Community Association (CSCA), Neil C. Blair,
56. Long Branch Neighbourhood Association, Judy Gibson and Christine Mercado,
57. Toronto Island Community Association (TICA), Tony Farebrother,
58. Regent Park Neighbourhood Association, Megann Willson,
59. Brimley Forest Community Association, Tom Chang,
60. Rosewood Taxpayers' Association, Alura Moores,
61. Agincourt Village Community Association, Rhoda Potter,
62. Wellington Place Neighbourhood Association, Scott James and Martin Gravel,
63. Pocket Community Association, Susan McMurray,
64. St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association, Sharon McMillan,
65. Toronto Entertainment District Residents Association, Robin Lobb.
