



Re: EX4.2 | The Future of King Street: Results of the Transit Pilot | April 9, 2019

To the Chair and Members of the Executive Committee:

The Garment District Neighbourhood Association (GDNA) represents residents who live within an area bounded by Spadina Avenue, Bathurst Street, Queen Street West and King Street West. As such we are well aware of the improvements resulting from the King Street Pilot: shorter streetcar wait times, faster travel times and increased transit ridership. It is gratifying to note that cyclists and pedestrians are also taking advantage of a safer street demonstrating less traffic activity, noise and pollution. A finding that businesses might be hurting, but not necessarily because of the Pilot, is also encouraging.

Consequently *The Future of King Street: Results of the Transit Pilot* report is something the GDNA can support unconditionally. We applaud the amount of public consultation, data collection and analysis that went into it.

Residents from our membership wish to express some comments, most of which are acknowledged in the report but deserve to be included here:

1. Traffic congestion on late-night weekends in our King West area existed before the Pilot and continues to cause havoc on neighbouring streets (Portland, Brant, Adelaide and Wellington). An analysis of traffic flows during these hours into and out of King at these affected areas might help to generate a solution.
2. Issues related to additional traffic on adjacent streets, both parallel and perpendicular to King, might be improved by implementing timing studies and/or reviewing parking permissions.
3. There is a need for enforcement related to vehicles proceeding through intersections instead of turning right. Improved signage will certainly help the few that really don't know better. Enforcement is imperative for those who know better but simply don't care. There has to be some repercussions also for pedestrians who ignore their walk signals.
4. Should the City consider in the future to expand the Pilot west or east, to extend exemption hours or participation, to consider a similar pilot on Queen Street (or elsewhere), the GDNA would appreciate being involved in those planning discussions.

The bottom line: the GDNA feels the King Street Pilot has been an amazing success and supports the recommendation to change its status from "pilot" to "permanent".

Valerie Eggertson

Secretary, Garment District Neighbourhood Association