

EX4.2.3

April 5, 2019

RE: Executive Committee Agenda Item EX4.2: The Future of King Street - Results of the Transit Pilot

Dear City Council and the Clerk,

I'm pleased to express Toronto Environmental Alliance's support for the King Street Pilot and the staff recommendation to permanently make transit a priority on this busy corridor.

Good transit is an essential part of TEA's vision of a *greener city for all* because it is a solution to climate change and local air pollution.

Transportation is the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Toronto and the leading cause of air pollution-related hospitalizations and premature death. Expanding and improving transit not only reduces the number of cars on the road, it reduces congestion, fights climate change and improves local air quality.

We need to improve and expand public transit service across our city to make sure people have affordable, reliable and fast transportation options that don't contribute to climate change or illness. King Street is one of the busiest surface routes in North America. Keeping King Street as a transit priority corridor is part of the prescription for a mobile and sustainable city.

This year-long pilot has improved travel on King Street for transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians, who make up over 80% of the road's users. It has also boosted transit ridership by over 10,000 passengers because of the significant service improvements experienced by riders.

The King Street Pilot has been a major success and we support the City staff's recommendations to make it permanent and even better.

Sincerely,



Emmay Mah
Executive Director
Toronto Environmental Alliance