May 22, 2019

Dear Chair and Members of Toronto and East York Community Council,

Re: Strengthening Stormwater requirements for parking pads and driveways to enhance resilience

The importance of Stormwater management in the age of climate change cannot be overstated. Severe storms, flooding, heat island and contamination of runoff are major issues facing our neighbourhoods and city.

Encouraging infiltration of Stormwater is a major contributor to the resilience of our neighbourhoods and cities. Driveways and parking pads contribute to 14% of the impervious surfaced in Toronto but issues of Stormwater draining has not been adequately considered to address their impact during major storm events.

In light of advancements in green infrastructure technologies and research, I would request the Toronto and East York Community Council:

Request the General Manager of Transportation Services, in Consultation with the General Manager of Toronto Water and Municipal Licensing and Standards, report back to the Toronto and East York Community Council on the feasibility of improving the permeability of new and existing parking pads and driveways, within the Toronto and East York Community Council boundaries, with a goal of all Stormwater to be treated on site, including, but not limited to:

a) the long term impacts of compaction and dirt accumulation on surface permeability of parking pads and driveways
b) the gradual phase in of mandatory upgrading to all non-permeable existing parking pads and driveways
c) the contamination resulting from runoff from traditional asphalt and permeable pavement options

Thank you,

Mike Layton
City Councillor
Ward 11, University-Rosedale