



July 10, 2020

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam

Ward 13 - Toronto Centre
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West, Suite A5
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Barbara Gray

General Manager
Transportation Services – City of Toronto
Toronto City Hall
24th Floor – East
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Re: Layby Request for The Sumach by Chartwell Retirement Residence 146 Sumach Street

Dear Councillor Wong-Tam and Ms Gray,

We are writing to you about the request for a layby at The Sumach by Chartwell Retirement Residence at 146 Sumach Street.

The Sumach by Chartwell opened in April 2019. When the retirement residence was proceeding through city site plan approval, we had originally proposed a layby, along Sumach Street, to enable a flush curb area to make for easy pick up and drop off of residents going into or out of vehicles. We were informed that a layby would not be permitted. Therefore we eliminated the layby from our design in order to press on with approvals in order to move on to construction.

In July of 2019 we approached the City's Transportation Services, Traffic Operations Unit, reviving the idea of a layby, proposing an area about 3 car lengths, close to the front entrance of the building, be assigned as very short term parking for pick ups and drop-offs and that this area have a flush curb up to the sidewalk.

In October 2019 the residents of The Sumach submitted a petition to Councillor Wong-Tam, seeking a graduated curb and pick up / drop off lane in front of the residence.

The current arrangement is a challenge for accessing family cars, taxis, Wheel-Trans vehicles and ambulances. Many of the residents of The Sumach by Chartwell use walkers, canes, wheelchairs and electric scooters. If they are being dropped off near the front door to the building, they need to find a gap between parked cars and then traverse a full curb.

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The City of Toronto's Seniors Strategy 2.0 includes a recommendation to improve the walkability, mobility and accessibility of city streets. The inclusion of a layby in front of The Sumach would be in keeping with this recommendation.

Please accept this letter as Chartwell's interest in seeing a layby with a flush curb, be built within the Sumach Street road allowance, adjacent to the pedestrian entrance to The Sumach by Chartwell.

Sincerely,

Christian Fisker, PhD, MCIP
Vice President, Planning and Development
Chartwell Retirement Residences

cc. Margaret Tays
General Manager, The Sumach by Chartwell

Andrea Austen, Manager, Senior Services, City of Toronto