



November 9th, 2020

Chair and Members of Toronto and East York Community Council
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Re: Comprehensive Neighbourhood Streets Plan – Wallace Emerson Area (Ward 9)

Dear Chair and Members:

I am writing to seek your support on this request for a comprehensive plan for neighbourhood streets in the Wallace Emerson Area - bounded by Dufferin Avenue, Dupont Street, Lansdowne Avenue and Croatia Street.

Last year a group of residents formed the Wallace Emerson Traffic Management Committee, and along with my office and the support of the City's Traffic Operations staff, the Committee prepared and presented a traffic plan for their neighbourhood including the introduction of traffic calming measures. Following a review of a variety of proposals, they presented changes they would like to see such as staggered parking, installation of planters, speed bumps, speed humps, painted stop bars, pedestrian crossing lines, and changes in road direction. The resulting Traffic Management Plan for the Wallace-Emerson Area was endorsed in principle by Toronto and East York Community Council on March 12, 2020 ([2020.TE14.46](#))

Since that Community Council decision, several factors have added new complexity to the area:

- With the implementation of the Bloor Bike Lanes, further restrictions were imposed on Bloor Street West, prohibiting motorists from making turns, causing traffic to re-direct to residential streets.
- The Wallace Emerson Traffic Management Committee has indicated they would like to implement a No Left Turn prohibition on Dufferin Street at Wallace Avenue, and a No-Through Traffic Sign on Wallace Avenue at Lansdowne Avenue, both to be in effect during peak hours. These changes have encountered some concerns, especially from residents on Lappin Avenue, which would likely assume traffic volumes if these restrictions are implemented.
- Adding to the situations described above, there are two schools at Wallace Avenue – St. Sebastian Elementary School and Pauline Jr Public School, which brings children, school buses and families to an already highly congested area.
- It has been brought to my attention that motorists take a long time to access Dufferin Street from Wallace Avenue travelling northbound, creating a long traffic line on a residential street and making this intersection more unsafe.



- Finally, the work currently under way to study the priority bus-only lanes on Dufferin St. and the two new major developments in the area (Bloor-Dufferin/Galleria Mall) must be considered.
- My office has also been receiving a myriad of requests to add contra flow bike lanes in the Wallace Emerson area

Each of these factors contributes to the need for a comprehensive plan for the streets in the Wallace-Emerson neighbourhood to be led by the City's Transportation Services division.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Toronto and East York Community Council direct the General Manager of Transportation Services to establish a comprehensive neighbourhood streets plan for the Wallace-Emerson neighbourhood, bounded by Dufferin Avenue, Dupont Avenue, Lansdowne Avenue and Croatia Street, including a review and analysis of the recommendations made by the local Wallace Emerson Traffic Management Committee and consideration of any other appropriate measures to address the issues raised by the community or identified by City staff.

Sincerely,

Ana Bailao
Councillor, Ward 9 - Davenport