

January 26, 2021

Mayor John Tory, Chair
Executive Committee
City of Toronto

VIA EMAIL

Dear Mayor Tory and Members of the Executive Committee:

RE: EX20.6 - CAFETO AND CURBTO – PANDEMIC RESPONSE PROGRAMS

The recommended return of the CafeTO program is welcome news to our neighbourhood and our food service members. CafeTO gave our restaurants and bars an opportunity to safely offset some of the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions, and in turn, created a thriving atmosphere on our streets during the warm weather months.

The new CafeTO program includes a number of improvements including the allowance of decking structures in the curb lanes, additional planter furniture for curb lane closures, and an earlier start date to the program. We're excited to see these improvements come forward and believe it will lead to an even more successful CafeTO program in 2021 and hopefully beyond.

We strongly support the return of CafeTO, suggest it become a recurring annual program, and encourage the CafeTO and Economic Development & Culture teams to continue developing creative supports for our small businesses during this challenging time.

Kind regards,



Mackenzie Keast
Executive Director
Yonge + St. Clair BIA

cc. *Councillor Josh Matlow, Ward 12 - Toronto-St. Paul's*
Councillor Mike Layton, Ward 11 – University-Rosedale
Barbara Gray, General Manager, Transportation Services
Mike Williams, General Manager, Economic Development & Culture
John Kiru, Executive Director, tabia