



Federation of
South Toronto
**RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATIONS**

July 11, 2022

Executive Committee, City Council
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
exc@toronto.ca

Re: EX34.4 Priority Downtown Parks and Public Realm Opportunities

Dear Mayor Tory and Executive Committee Members,

We write in support of adoption of this item; downtown Toronto is currently lacking access to new Parkland and Public Realm facilities.

FoSTRA is a federation that currently represents 25 residents' associations in the five downtown Wards 4, 9, 10, 11 and 13. Our Parks Action Committee was formed earlier this year as a result of members concerns regarding the ongoing and rapid decline of available parkland, especially in our Wards which are experiencing high growth and demand from residential development.

Our committee's key goals include advocating to create new green spaces. We therefore appreciate and support the report recommendations by the City staff, to begin developing a master plan for parks and public spaces that will significantly increase access to new areas in the downtown core.

Expanding Toronto's existing parkland network is critical in supporting healthy, equitable, and livable neighbourhoods, in addition to improving overall environmental outcomes. With the ongoing expansion in residential development, the City's intensification strategy and projected downtown population growth estimated to double by 2041 (versus 2016), we also recommend that;

- i. this initiative, for three large parks needs to be urgently prioritized and;
- ii. the City explores an acceleration of the overall project timelines.

Sincerely yours,

Kay Dermatis
FoSTRA Vice-Chair & Co-Chair, Parks Action Committee

Tony Farebrother
Co-Chair, Parks Action Committee

cc: Councillor Joe Mihevc, Ward 10 Spadina-Fort York
Councillor Mike Layton, Ward 11 University-Rosedale