



# GOODERHAM & WORTS

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

**November 7, 2023**

**City Council  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Via email to: [councilmeeting@toronto.ca](mailto:councilmeeting@toronto.ca)**

**To the Members of City Council:**

**Subject: Support for 2023.MM.12.1 on November 8, 2023 City Council**

**Re: Automated Traffic Enforcement on King Street**

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of Toronto City Council,

I am writing today on behalf of the Gooderham & Worts Neighborhood Association (GWNA) to express strong support Councillor Moise's motion recommending study of the feasibility of implementing automated traffic enforcement on the King Street Transit Priority Corridor.

GWNA is a unified voice that serves the interests and enhances the quality of life for residents of the Historic Distillery District.

The 504A King streetcar route runs from the loop on Cherry Street at the east end of the Distillery District and provided quick, reliable transit to the central business core, and connections to the line 1 subway, for local residents when the King Street Transit Priority Corridor was introduced. Over time private vehicles have returned in large numbers to clog King Street in blatant violation of the ample Transit Priority Corridor signage, effectively eliminating the benefits of transit priority.

During morning and afternoon rush hour I have abandoned using the 504 streetcar because the travel times are too slow and unreliable, with streetcars getting caught in traffic jams of private vehicles on King Street; I can now walk the 2-3 km from the Distillery District to King and Bay or University more predictably, passing streetcars caught in traffic. Many others are not as fortunate as I to have the option to walk. The pictures below, taken around 6 pm on October 30, 2023 on the King Street Transit Priority Corridor between Bay and University, are typical, with streetcars carrying hundreds of people stuck waiting for private cars carrying only a handful of drivers.

More than 4,000 new homes have been added to The Distillery District and West Don Lands over the past decade, and thousands more are under construction. These rental apartments and condos were marketed with the appealing promise of quick transit access to the downtown core and subway line via the King streetcar. By design, many of the newer buildings have limited car parking.



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Events at the Distillery District such as the Distillery Winter Village work hard to promote public transit use to the many thousands of visitors including tourists and residents of other parts of the city. However, these efforts are seriously undermined when transit quality and reliability are severely compromised by lack of enforcement of the King Street Transit Priority Corridor.

We have come to understand that enforcement by police officers is not a viable option. We would very much like to see the King Street Transit Priority Corridor restored by leveraging automated traffic enforcement to deter abuse by private vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration and support for reliable public transit.

Sincerely,

Neil Betteridge  
Vice President and Chair of Development Committee  
Gooderham & Worts Neighborhood Association  
[vicepresident@gwna.ca](mailto:vicepresident@gwna.ca)

