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June 25, 2024

City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

clerk@toronto.ca

Attention: City Clerk

**RE: TE14.38 and TE14.38a Avenue Road Study – Interim Update and Proposed Site-Specific Safety Improvements**

Dear Mayor Olivia Chow and Members, Toronto City Council

The Deer Park Residents Group (DPRG) represents residents in the area between Avenue Road to the west and Mt. Pleasant Cemetery and the Vale of Avoca to the east, the Beltline to the north and Farnham and Woodlawn Avenue West and Jackes Avenue to the south.

The Deer Park Residents Group is a member of the Avenue Road Safety Coalition and supports the widening the narrow sidewalks and other improvements to pedestrian safety on Avenue Road.

In our letter to the Community Council, we stated that;

1. “We are concerned that the report does not give holistic consideration of how to move people and vehicles through congested streets while addressing pedestrian safety. We were not consulted in the development of the detailed proposals in this report and are particularly concerned about the impacts of the proposed median between Roxborough and Dupont. Other options to managing pedestrian and vehicular traffic at this intersection have not been considered. Further analysis and consideration are required.
  2. “The proposed median will eliminate the important Roxborough Dupont east west link between Avenue Road and Yonge. The closest major east west streets are St. Clair and Belmont/Davenport. Ramsden Park and the Cottingham area limit possible east west traffic routes to a few narrow local residential streets: Balmoral, Woodlawn and Farnham in Deer Park, Marlborough and Macpherson just south of the CPR tracks which are narrow and one way east. To the west of Avenue Road other streets may be affected - the one way north narrow Poplar Plains, as well as other local streets in South Hill, the Rathnelly area and Pears and Chicora.”
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3. “One option to consider is a “traffic light intersection” on Avenue Road between Dupont and Roxborough to safely manage the various pedestrian and vehicle movements.”

The Supplementary report recommends that if the median is not approved that there be “a raised crosswalk to increase pedestrian safety at Roxborough and Avenue Road.” This could help, but there no mention of our proposal re the use of traffic lights to manage traffic in the intersection between Dupont and Davenport.

The Supplementary report provided further information regarding the proposed “streamlined process for minor adjustments”. However, it did not specify any process for reporting the changes made but we understand that the normal process is that Ward Councillor will be notified of these changes.

We are therefore continue to recommend that the median proposal not be approved , and that there be further study of options to better manage traffic on Avenue Road between Roxborough and Dupont, including the analysis of their impacts on infiltration of traffic in adjacent neighbourhoods and undertaken with consultation with affected the neighbourhoods.

Yours sincerely,

Cathie Macdonald  
President, Deer Park Residents Group

CC Councillor Matlow