



**RE:**

EX17.5 Support for Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport Runway End Safety Areas

**TO:**

Mayor Chow  
Deputy Mayor Malik  
Deputy Mayor Colle  
Deputy Mayor McKelvie  
Deputy Mayor Morley  
Councillor Ainslie  
Councillor Carroll  
Councillor Fletcher  
Councillor Matlow  
Councillor Perks

**DATE:**

September 30, 2024



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**Dear Mayor Chow and Members of Executive Committee,**

We are writing in support for the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport's (BBTCA) plans for a "Runway End Safety Area," (RESA) and also for expedited discussions to renew the tri-partite agreement with other levels of government. Our business community has been a strong supporter of the airport, including early support for the addition of U.S. Customs pre-clearance facilities at BBTCA coming next year.

The Waterfront BIA's mandate is to support the development of the waterfront as a premier destination that is well-connected to the rest of the city and vibrant and beautiful year-round. BBTCA has strong support from community businesses and is seen as a major attraction adding value for visitors that can be further built upon as the airport's presence grows. Our interactions with a majority of local residents is also reflective of the significant usage and support for the airport seen in public surveys.

Our organization has advocated for the marine exclusion zone to not change with any extensions of the runways, and we are pleased to see that is followed with all RESA options presented. In further planning, we encourage the City to ensure the height of boats able to use the harbour is not further limited by changes to the runways, and that Port Lands development density in planning is not limited. As a roadway may be opened around the runway, we encourage careful consideration of community impacts with any public access available, including: maintenance of the Toronto Islands as vehicle-free, and that the historic nature of Hanlan's Point Beach as a private and safe space is supported.

We strongly encourage the City of Toronto to focus conversations on the tri-partite renewal process on areas of community benefit that can be built upon:

- *Airport-area events and activation:* Ports and BBTCA have been a major supporter for local events including the Waterfront Festival, Nuit Blanche, and Winter Stations. This can be expanded upon, in particular for the arts and culture hub emerging around the Malting Silos.
- *Cleaning programs:* Work by PortsToronto and the UofT Trash Team to clean the inner harbour have been a tremendous improvement in recent years.

Sincerely,

Tim Kocur, Executive Director,  
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