

March 21, 2024

Attn: Infrastructure and Environment Committee City of Toronto

**Re: Infrastructure and Environment Committee - Meeting 12**

**Meeting Date and time: March 27, 2024 - 9:30 AM**

Agenda Item: Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan

I am writing to express my support of the Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan (PRP), a transformative initiative that establishes shared principles and identifies opportunities that will help to redefine the identity, access and experience of Toronto's Central Waterfront.

I have personally lived and worked in the Central Waterfront for the past 15 years and as Vice President of Sales & Marketing at Pinnacle International, I can emphasize the significance of this initiative to connect the downtown core to the water's edge. Pinnacle International has been deeply involved in developing master-planned communities located south of the Gardiner Expressway from Bay to Yonge Street.

Having followed the evolution of the Under Gardiner PRP, I am inspired by its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and community-centric design. The plan details a comprehensive vision for repurposing the underutilized spaces beneath the Gardiner Expressway into a cohesive, active corridor of dynamic, inclusive, and environmentally responsive public spaces. As Toronto continues to densify, this plan responds to the growing demands of communities along the corridor and ensures that we are collectively creating affordable, liveable, and accessible neighbourhoods across the waterfront.

The PRP's core values, which prioritize safety, ecological preservation, connectivity, active transportation, and cultural enhancement, align closely with Pinnacle International's ongoing projects. Our developments aim not only to strengthen the community but also to introduce a substantial number of residents to the area. The plan is designed to enhance transportation infrastructure, ensuring improved and safer commuting experiences for future residents.

Furthermore, the process of crafting the PRP's has been rooted in stakeholder and community engagement. Through extensive consultations and collaborative partnerships, the process has made room for local voices to inform the plan every step of the way.

As our city and the waterfront continues to evolve, it is imperative that we embrace forward-thinking initiatives like the PRP.

I urge the Infrastructure and Environment Committee to lend their full support to the Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan and champion its implementation. Together, we have an opportunity to create a legacy of enduring impact for generations to come.

Sincerely,



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