
Please reconsider piling work during holiday season along Queen St.

Malcolm MacKay

Mon, Dec 2, 2024 at 5:16 PM

Jennifer,

As discussed by phone today, we have had very positive discussions with Dufferin and are reporting the start of the piling/caisson work will be deferred until Jan 2nd, while still achieving the necessary production from site to meet our project schedule.

Equipment will mobilize as scheduled or in January to be confirmed later this week.

Thank you, Malcolm

Malcolm MacKay, P.Eng., PMP

Program Sponsor – Ontario Line

2 Queen Street East, 11th Floor | Toronto | Ontario | M5C 3G7

From: Riverside BIA Office <office@riverside-to.com>**Sent:** December 2, 2024 12:33 PM**To:** **Subject:** Re: Please reconsider piling work during holiday season along Queen St.

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Hi Malcolm,

We have not heard any response to our time-sensitive email which is so important to our business district and community.

Tomorrow we will plan to bring this issue more publicly as it is important that this is known more widely, given the circumstances.

In the meantime, we await your response.

Thank you,
Jennifer

On Fri, Nov 29, 2024 at 11:19 AM Riverside BIA Office <office@riverside-to.com> wrote:

Hello everyone - to add to what Shelley has written and looping in all the business owners on the Queen block from DeGrassi to Boulton as well as Fontbonne who I all spoke to yesterday - here are our comments and requests:

- We had asked repeatedly for a few weeks deferral to the new year during our last Joint Corridor Lakeshore East Early Works CLC meeting where we heard that Metrolinx is planning to conduct pile driving at the Queen St E bridge (for the future station) over the month of December including during business hours on weekdays. It would involve dust, noise, vibration, sidewalk closures, and traffic disruptions.
- Yesterday I received a call from Katiana at the Metrolinx Community Office to say they would not be delaying the piling and it would be starting imminently and continuing during business hours throughout weekdays for three months, with only a break from Dec 25th to Jan 1st.
- As this is the busiest commercial time of the year, as well as packed with community events, and a busy time for pedestrian traffic, the Riverside BIA and our members continue to strongly request of Metrolinx that this work be delayed a few weeks until January 2025.
- I spoke to business owners of those on the block of Queen between De Grassi and Boulton (Helen from Tim Hortons, Ryan from Dirty Pawz, Diana from Tabule, Patrick from Bonjour Brioche) as well as Fontbonne (Wendy) and all are in solidarity with this request
- Metrolinx has asked and said they would support our local businesses and we are requesting this deferral as a key way of delivering on this support.

This work during December would be devastating to our local businesses and community who are trying to enjoy the holiday season as well as face so many economic and other pressures.

We hope you can support our request in any way possible.

Thank you,

Jennifer



Jennifer Lay (she/her)

Executive Director, Riverside BIA

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On Fri, Nov 29, 2024 at 10:00 AM Lakeshore East Community Advisory Committee LSE CAC <lse.cac.20@gmail.com> wrote:

Good Morning Malcolm and John:

We are writing to you directly in hopes of moving the piling work along Queen, Strange and Degraffi Streets in December, to January 2025.

As you must be aware, this is prime holiday shopping and dining season for all of the Riverside small businesses who need December sales to continue to operate throughout the quieter months from January to March 2025. Having this loud and dirty work begin mid-December, along with access road construction, during peak Queen Street holiday season, is completely tone-deaf and terrible timing for our BIA - a costly and potentially disastrous disruption to all our businesses in this area.

On top of that, we were only told at our Nov. 19th CLC meeting that this piling work was happening, with little or notice of this highly impactful work is also hugely unfair to our BIA. We can't understand why this work couldn't start in January 2025 - This is the perfect time to begin work like this when pedestrian traffic is minimal and people are staying inside.

Jennifer Lay has been speaking with the local Metrolinx Office and Councillor Fletcher's office to try and move this piling work to January. She can respond and add more information to our plea.

We are hoping to appeal to you both directly to move this work to January. When we say in these Townhalls that you are not listening to us - this is a perfect example of not being aware of what is happening in the community and doing your best to plan around it.

Please don't be the Grinch who stole our Riverside Holiday Season and move this construction to January.

Sincerely,

Shelley Kline

Riverside/Leslieville Lead, on behalf of

The Lakeshore East, Community Advisory Committee (LSE CAC)

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