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theara.org

September 10, 2025

To: Clerk and Members of TEYCC
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Clerk and Members,

Re TE25.41- Improving the Speed and Reliability of the 7 Bathurst

The Annex Residents' Association (ARA) supports the Staff Recommendation to improve bus transit on Bathurst Street by prohibiting cars from stopping northbound from 2 pm to 7 pm on weekdays and 12 pm to 7 pm on weekends.

Bus lanes (and bike lanes) are the fastest, cheapest, most transformative tools a city like ours has to improve mobility, reduce congestion, improve air quality, and reduce the cost of living. The ARA supports the improvement of public transit in Toronto and the Annex. We realize that thousands of Torontonians travel daily by bus up and down Bathurst Street and their commuting times are too long. The bus transit times on Bathurst Street should be improved by taking real action.

At the same time, due attention must be paid to other uses of Bathurst Street and to the needs of the adjoining neighbourhoods. Consideration must be given to the local businesses on Bathurst south of Dupont and their need for some street parking and loading areas.

Councillor Saxe and her team have consulted extensively in search of the best solution, and we commend them for their efforts.

Councillor Saxe's compromise proposal of no stopping northbound from 2 to 7 pm weekdays and 12 to 7 pm weekends directly addresses the main congestion faced by the Bathurst buses, while allowing parking and loading to continue southbound up until 4 pm and after 6 pm. This compromise solution should be implemented immediately, while study continues on creating and enforcing time-of-day bus lanes.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Rita Bilerman
Chair, Annex Residents' Association

Cc: Dianne Saxe, City Councillor