



THE BOULEVARD CLUB

— EST. 1905 —

June 5, 2026

Infrastructure & Environment Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: IE30.4 – Western Beaches Public Realm Plan

Dear Chair and Members of the Infrastructure & Environment Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Boulevard Club regarding agenda item IE30.4 – Western Beaches Public Realm Plan.

The Boulevard Club has been a steward of Toronto's western waterfront and a proud member of the Parkdale community for over 120 years. Since its founding as a canoe club in 1905, the Club has grown into a multigenerational hub serving nearly 4,000 members, including hundreds of youth and teen members, and offering year-round programming in aquatics, rowing, and sailing, as well as a wide range of athletic, fitness, and family activities.

The Club supports the City's broader vision for the Western Beaches Public Realm Plan to make our western waterfront community a more vibrant and welcoming destination. We recognize the importance of continued investment in this unique natural asset and share the City's objective of building a more resilient shoreline with a strong sense of place. At the same time, it is critical that the Plan be implemented in a manner that respects and integrates existing uses and long-standing tenancies, ensuring that improvements to the public realm do not inadvertently undermine the operations, safety, or viability of established waterfront institutions, including the Boulevard Club.

As outlined in our January 23, 2026 letter to the project team and our local Councillor, we have significant concerns with the proposal to extend a continuous waterfront boardwalk directly through the property occupied by the Club. In its present form, this proposal would materially impair our ability to operate and create serious public safety and liability risks.

The proposed alignment of a continuous water's edge boardwalk would require lands currently under long-term lease to the Club. Without additional or replacement lands, any reduction, relocation, or displacement of essential facilities would significantly impact Club operations and compromise the viability of our core marine and athletic programs. Over the course of our tenancy, the Club has invested substantially in waterfront infrastructure that

would need to be reconfigured or relocated to accommodate a public boardwalk, at significant cost.

We are also very concerned about the public safety and liability implications of routing a pedestrian boardwalk through active boating, service, and launch areas, where there are regular equipment movement and water access operations. Introducing public pedestrian traffic in these locations would create serious safety risks for members of the public and an unmanageable liability exposure for the Club.

Taken together, the potential impacts of the current proposal raise serious concerns about the Club's ability to function safely and effectively. For these reasons, we strongly object to any plan to implement a public boardwalk through the property currently occupied by the Club.

The Boulevard Club has long valued our positive relationship with the City, and we are proud members of the Parkdale community. Like the City, we share a deep appreciation for Toronto's waterfront and the importance of protecting shoreline and natural infrastructure. However, this work must be undertaken in a manner that respects existing stakeholders and operational requirements, maintains public safety, and provides the certainty required for long-term planning and investment.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please feel welcome to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



Paul Morrell, CCM, CCE
Chief Operating Officer

Cc: The Boulevard Club Board of Directors