



April 18, 2022

TO: Toronto and East York Community Council

RE: Temporary Closure – Market Street

AGENDA ITEM: TE 32.23

RECOMMENDATION: The Director, Permits and Enforcement, Transportation recommends:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council authorize the General Manager of Transportation Services to temporarily close Market Street between The Esplanade and Front Street East from June 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022.

Dear Members of Community Council,

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA), representing over 30,000 neighbourhood residents, fully supports the subject recommendation and strongly encourages you to accept it.

Market Street is a small street, but forms an important corridor within the St. Lawrence neighbourhood. Adjacent to the St. Lawrence Market on its western side, the street was rebuilt as a flexible street in 2015, and is the preferred local pedestrian route between Front Street and The Esplanade.

The pedestrianization of Market Street has been considered repeatedly since 2015, and a small pilot project was implemented over two weekends in 2021 with a view to extending it in 2022. As the staff report indicates, support for pedestrianization on a broader scale is very strong.

SLNA has been a full participant on the working group committee referenced in the staff report, the deliberations of which have led to this recommendation.

The working group committee acknowledges that there are objections to this recommendation from one or more merchants in the St. Lawrence Market. This is to be expected; there were similar objections to last year's small pilot as well. Change is often difficult; and projections of the impact of change on buyer behaviour are hard to predict. Conversely, there is support for this closure from other Market merchants and more broadly from merchants along both Market and Front Streets

It is worth emphasizing that SLNA's objective in supporting this recommendation, and indeed the working group committee's objective in its discussions to date is to create a positive and animated pedestrian environment in which business will grow for all of the vendors in, on and around both the Market and Market Street itself.

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association is a not-for-profit community organization incorporated in 1983, which represents the interests of the more than 30,000 people who live in the St. Lawrence neighbourhood – a number which continues to grow with many new residential buildings under construction or approved. The neighbourhood extends from Yonge St. to



Parliament St. and from Queen St. to the rail corridor to the south. The St. Lawrence Market and Market Street form a core part of this neighbourhood.

The SLNA Board reiterates its support for this recommendation and encourages Community Council's support.

Sincerely,

p.p.
Board of Directors
St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association

cc: Members of TEYCC:
Ana Bailão
Brad Bradford
Joe Cressy
Paula Fletcher (Vice Chair)
Mike Layton
Josh Matlow
Gord Perks (Chair)
Kristyn Wong-Tam

Councillor's Staff:
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SLNA Board of Directors:
Ms. S. Fishleigh Ms. V. Ilgacs Mr. S. Linton
Ms. S. McMillan Ms. D. Patterson Ms. T. Tenenbaum
Ms. R. Tilson