



March 31, 2017

Barbara Gray
General Manager
Transportation Services
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St. W., 24th fl. E.
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Dear Ms. Gray,

Belated congratulations to you on your appointment as General Manager of Transportation Services of the City of Toronto. Members of the Federation of North Toronto Resident Associations are located in neighbourhoods spanning the Yonge Corridor from Bloor to the 401 and from Bathurst to the Don Valley.

We are writing concerning the emerging issues arising from the placing of above ground “boxes” and large utility installations by gas companies, and potentially other utilities within street right of ways. The issues and concerns include the following:

- The rationale for above ground (instead of below ground) placement of facilities;
- The impacts on the public realm, the streetscape and community assets such as parks.
- The approval process, the involvement of affected divisions, and whether the prescribed process is being followed;
- The scope of public involvement in the approval process.

We understand that Councillor Wong Tam is co-ordinating a meeting with you and other City staff to discuss issues of utility installations and their regulation by the City of Toronto. We applaud and support this initiative. Further we believe that the issues are no just local and should be reviewed in a City-wide context. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this further.

We look forward to meeting with you.

Yours truly,

Geoff Kettel

Geoff Kettel

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Cc: ABC Residents Association
Mayor John Tory
Councillor Krystin Wong Tam
Councillor Jaye Robinson

The Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of over 30 member organizations. Its members, all residents' associations, include at least 170,000 Toronto residents within their boundaries. The residents' associations that make up FoNTRA believe that Ontario and Toronto can and should achieve better development. Its central issue is not *whether* Toronto will grow, but *how*. FoNTRA believes that sustainable urban regions are characterized by environmental balance, fiscal viability, infrastructure investment and social renewal.