

City Planning
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February 13, 2013

Ossington Community Association
Attention: Jessica Wilson, President

Dear Ms. Wilson:

**Re: Ossington Avenue Planning Study
Draft Policy Direction for an Area-Specific Official Plan Policy**

I am in receipt of your comments on my blog page regarding the draft policy direction for an area-specific Official Plan policy for Ossington Avenue, between Dundas Street West and Queen Street West. I thought it would be more appropriate to address this in a letter. Thank you for your comments and bringing your concerns to my attention. I have forwarded your comments to the relevant staff for consideration throughout the remainder of the study.

I share your concerns regarding the importance of Ossington's character and protecting the community from the adverse effects of inappropriate development. A new area-specific Official Plan policy should address the community's prevailing desire to keep Ossington Avenue low-rise while maintaining consistency with existing Official Plan policies that support intensification if appropriate transition to adjacent *Neighbourhoods* can be achieved. The policy will need to recognize that the 'Ossington Strip' is a *Mixed Use Area* that should provide for growth but not necessarily to the extent of targeted intensification areas such as the *Avenues* and *Centres*.

The comments from the community, including those received throughout the consultation process, expressed in the petition you referenced, and exemplified in the Visioning Process Principles, are important contributions to the study and will inform staff recommendations. City Planning will also examine the physical characteristics, cultural heritage, and apply existing Official Plan policies to inform their recommendations.

If you have any further comments or concerns, please direct them to Thomas Rees, Planner, at 416-392-0758, who is coordinating the study.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Keesmaat".

Jennifer Keesmaat
Chief Planner and Executive Director