

January 13, 2020

Dear Councillor Perks,

As residents of Toronto's Junction area we enjoy a beautiful, unique and friendly neighbourhood, steeped in history and charm. Our community is diverse, made up of families, professionals, shop-owners, blue collar workers, long-time residents and newcomers drawn to the quiet, small-town vibe, just outside of Toronto's core.

In the last few years we have noticed our sleepy little hidden-gem is waking up and becoming a vibrant, desirable neighbourhood, ripe for development, improvement, and densification. We look forward to the positive changes and hope to work with the city and developers to help guide decision making with our "insider's" view on how the area thrives, and what it needs.

To that end, a small (but growing) group of residents have joined together to create a group (The Junction Community Association) where we can discuss the Junction Community in terms of community activation, and short and long term development plans of the Junction neighbourhood.

We are aware that our neighbourhood is part of the city's plan for densification, but we do not have an official study and review. **We politely request that the city conduct a study as soon as possible; the area we would like covered in the study follows Dundas Street between Jane (from the westernmost point) to Bloor (at the Crossways).**

No fewer than 9 developments are in the works, or recently completed, bringing 3000+ new units into our neighbourhood. This will have a great impact on the community and infrastructure. At minimum, this is a 20% increase in the population of the Junction, within a very short period of time*. It is crucial that we create a cohesive vision for the area immediately, with a view to future transit needs, bike lanes, pedestrian ways, vehicular traffic, tree canopy and green space. Moving forward without a coherent direction, especially in view of the rapid rate of development, will result in a patchwork quilt that will make The Junction considerably less livable. We need a sustainable, far-sighted approach to development, and it begins with an Avenue Study and Review.

We look forward to working in collaboration with all stakeholders to ensure the Junction remains an amazing community for all. Thank you for your time.

Helen Vassilakos

Helen Vassilakos

On behalf of the Junction Community Association
<https://junctioncreative.wixsite.com/torontojca>

*Data from the Junction BIA-- In 2016 The Junction area population was 14,366. <https://thejunctionbia.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Junction-At-a-Glance-PPT.pdf>