



June 6, 2022

Mayor Tory, Barbara Gray, and the City Clerk's Office
100 Queen St. W
Toronto, Ont.
M5H 2N2

Re: Revisiting ActiveTO Interventions on Lake Shore Boulevard West

Please add my comments to the agenda for the June 15, 2022, City Council meeting on item 2022.IE30.19, Revisiting ActiveTO Interventions on Lake Shore Boulevard West. I understand that my comments and the personal information in this letter will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. I also understand that agendas and minutes are posted online, and my name may be indexed by search engines such as Google.

I am writing to request you do not vote in favour of extending ActiveTO on Lake Shore Boulevard West.

The Toronto Blue Jays are a major sports franchise that draw millions of fans to Rogers Centre every season. Given the unprecedented levels of construction and other diversions in downtown Toronto, removing one of the only ways into and out of the downtown core would be extremely challenging to our fans, who rely on these routes to attend our games.

Opening our ballpark for a full baseball season after two years away has been extremely meaningful to our fans and players, and an important part of Toronto's pandemic recovery. We recognize ActiveTO played a crucial role in encouraging people to get outside and moving again, at a time when entertainment options were limited; however, the location of this program in 2022 drastically impacts fans' ability to access the ballpark on summer weekends, when baseball is a main attraction in the city.

Many of our fans travel to Rogers Centre from outside of the GTA and taking public transit is not an option. Out-of-town fans are often not aware of ActiveTO and do not know to allocate extra travel time. On the days when ActiveTO has been in effect on Lake Shore, our local fans have experienced significant transit delays because traffic is grinded to a halt on all downtown routes.

As a sports organization, we support folks getting outside and being active, but Toronto has many options and routes to use, whereas our fans do not. Please do not vote to close Lake Shore Boulevard West.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Shapiro".

Mark A. Shapiro
President and CEO, Toronto Blue Jays