



February 20, 2019.

City of London,
300 Dufferin Avenue,
London, ON.

Attention: Chair and Members, Civic Works Committee.

Re: Proposed Temporary Bike Lanes on King St

Dear Chair and Members:

Downtown London is an organization that focuses on recruitment and retention of investment and businesses in downtown London, Ontario. We work together with the City of London and other stakeholders in the community to improve downtown London for the benefit of all Londoners and visitors to our city. We represent over 1600 building and business owners in the core.

We recognize the need for a multi modal city that includes excellent transit, protected bike lanes, a safe place for pedestrians and accessibility for those who require wheels chairs and walkers etc. Without great infrastructure for all user groups, we will have difficulty attracting investment and new businesses in the heart of the City.

When considering the redesign of King Street to accommodate protected bike lanes, we value street parking more than we value through traffic, particularly on the block between Talbot and Richmond Streets which includes Covent Garden Market and many other successful retailers. We are a drive to destination not a drive through destination.

The contentious issue on this block boils down to six parking spaces on the south side of the street along with loading zone space. To lose these spaces outright could prove detrimental to some of our businesses.

We suggest that perhaps we configure this half block with a protected bike lane curbside along with parking spaces and a bus-bay adjacent to it. These six spaces could be utilized at non-peak hours (e.g. the lane would be used for

driving from 6-9am / 3-6pm, and parking from 9am-3pm / 6pm-6am) This off-rush-hour parking model has been successfully implemented in other cities and would alleviate many of the concerns our business community has regarding the installation of protected bike lanes in the core.

We acknowledge that protected bike lanes are new to London, and this is a learning process for all of us. We are ready and willing to work with the City of London to create safe and attractive streets in our core, while supporting the businesses that help our community thrive.

Yours truly,
DOWNTOWN LONDON



Gerald Gallacher,
Chair LDBA.



Janette MacDonald
CEO & General Manager.