

City of London 300 Dufferin Ave. London, ON N6B 1Z2 April 4, 2019

ATTN: Planning and Environment Committee

CC: Heather Lysynski, Committee Secretary

Britt O'Hagan, Manager, Urban Regeneration - City Planning, City of London

RE: Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Study Request for the Argyle BIA and Surrounding Area

To the Members of the Planning and Environment Committee,

The Argyle area has a well established and integral commercial stretch on Dundas, between Highbury and Wavell - that currently does not have a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) in place. Up until recently, there has not been an attempt to form a CIP. Recently, we at the Argyle Business Improvement Area (Argyle BIA) decided that a crucial way forward as a community is to start the process of putting in place a CIP - not just the area within the Argyle BIA, but for the Argyle community at large. We are kindly requesting that City Planning staff undertake the study of implementing a CIP for the Argyle area.

With the East Community Centre almost at completion, we believe this is the start of something great for East London. All it takes in a single project of this magnitude to act as a catalyst and start the process of area revitalization and intensification. With a CIP in place, there will be more opportunities for investment coming in, with redevelopment incentives for commercial property owners, along with the prioritization of public infrastructure improvements within the zone.

To elaborate further, the Argyle BIA believes that the CIP needs to be in place in order to allow for certain long-term capital improvements that will renew and revitalize the area. This starts with commercial property owners and giving them the enticement to redevelop their properties via grant programs. Also, to have the CIP in place will create a sense of urgency for certain public infrastructure projects that would improve the safety and aesthetics of the public realm and overall area, which is desperately needed in the Argyle area.

We hope that you will agree that the request from the Argyle Business Improvement Area is valid and necessary for long-term improvement realization and regeneration of the Argyle community.

Sincerely,

Randy Sidhu Executive Director

Argyle Business Improvement Area