



June 21, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Letter of Support for London Public Library's application to the LCRN Recovery Fund.

On behalf of Downtown London, this letter is being submitted in support of London Public Library's LCRN Recovery Fund application seeking funding to construct street access to the library's reading garden from Dundas Place in London.

Dundas Place is a destination for shopping, dining, art, and celebration. From Wellington to Ridout Streets, Dundas Place is a flexible street shared by pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. With extra wide sidewalks and no curbs, parking spaces can easily transform into patios, be used for sidewalk sales, or by street performers. Dundas Place opened on Dec 9, 2019, just prior to the pandemic and its potential as a downtown destination has yet to be tapped.

The Library's Central Library sits at the east end of Dundas Place and has one of its largest footprints. The library's reading garden, a beautiful green space, is beloved by our patrons. Although the garden is visible from the flex-street through a wrought-iron fence, there is no street access except through the first floor of the Central Library. With street level accessibility from Dundas Place, it will allow easier entry for those with mobility challenges. Additionally, it will permit better coordination of this space when planning community activities and programming throughout the seasons on Dundas Place - London's most exciting place to enjoy culture and celebrate.

Downtown London looks forward to working with the London Public Library on this exciting initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Maly".

Barbara Maly
Executive Director
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