

## Success!

### **The Changes to Bloor St. through Markland have been deferred.**

In a letter dated March 17, 2010, John Mende, Director, Transportation Infrastructure Management for the City to Councillor Doug Holyday responded to our 400+ petitions you sent in, to the many e-mails received, to the results of our community meeting at St. Clement Church and to the imminent major changes to Highway #427 from the QEW to 401. He wrote: **“As you know, City Council approved the installation of the bike lanes on Bloor St. from Mill Road to Beamish Drive at its meeting on August 5//6, 2009. However, as you indicate in your March 4 letter, the MTO (provincial Ministry of Transportation) is considering improvements to Highway 427, the implications and funding for which might be affected by the installation of these bike lanes. Accordingly, I have agreed to defer the installation of the bike lanes until we have resolved the issues with the MTO...”**

He further acknowledges our strong distain for the non-existent public consultation that proceeded Councils August vote, and goes on to write:

**“...I acknowledge that the resolution of the MTO issues might result in changes to the plan or design of the bike lanes and, as a result, I have committed to conducting an additional public meeting to advise the public of the outcome of our discussions with MTO and any necessary changes to our plans as a result.”** He pledges to work with Councillor Holyday’s office on notification of such a meeting and the distribution of the information. Your MHA will be actively involved in this process.

Indeed be advised that we will not simply be ‘advised’ by the City. We will ask probing questions of any findings, any plans. We will play a very active and attentive role up front.

You have stepped up by attending our public meeting on this issue. You stepped up by sending in over 400 petitions and many e-mails. **This is a deferment, not a cancellation.** We will all have to step up again and play a large role in this new consultation process before any decision is made again.

I wish to thank you all for your efforts. This proves that when there is a solid cause, community action can be successful. I want to thank the MHA Board members for their efforts and support, and Doug Holyday for his astute political work to get the result we sought.

Donald Beggs,  
President,  
MHA