

Bloor St. Changes

I want to thank everyone who attended our community information night on Tuesday, February 23 at St. Clement Church on the intended changes to **Bloor St. West** through our community. Your MHA can only formulate an opinion in the interests of the whole community if that community tells us what it feels. We certainly heard many viewpoints that evening. Again, on behalf of the MHA, thank you for coming out and participating. And thank you to those who sent e-mails and phoned in their views. They have been helpful.

AN IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT SINCE OUR COMMUNITY MEETING

An important issue has changed. On February 25, two days after our community meeting at St. Clement Church we learned that Councillor Doug Holyday **can reopen** the decision of the Council on these changes to Bloor St. We were told earlier that only those Councillors who had voted yes to the changes at the August 2010 meeting could do so, but we have now been informed by Councillor staff and Councillor Holyday that the August vote was a **non-recorded vote**, i.e. there was no record taken of which Councillors voted for or against the issue. That being the case, we are advised, according to City procedure, **any** Councillor who was present and voted **can reopen the issue**. So even though Councillor Holyday voted against the changes to Bloor St., **he can stand to request it all be reopened, and has expressed his desire to do so.**

This being the case, the MHA at its meeting on Monday, March 1, 2010 voted to support Councillor Doug Holyday standing at the appropriate City committee/s and moving that the decision of changes to Bloor St. be reopened, and that that decision be deferred.

At our public meeting on February 23, we heard many comments and questions from residents. One clear thing we heard was a profound frustration with how the decision was quietly put through, how there has been a badly flawed public consultation process, and how there were few, if any, facts and figures to support these changes. There were concerns that this whole design concept needed to be looked at properly and more carefully to avoid major difficulties. Your MHA has responded to these resident feelings. The Board's vote at its March 1 meeting is strong support for Doug Holyday's wish to ask for a reopening of the issue and a deferral until there is a proper consultation process and proper studies of the consequences on all the communities affected.

A Markland Community Petition on Bloor St. Changes

You will find a Markland Community Petition as an insert in this Marklander. We need to give Councillor Holyday all the support we can in his attempt to influence City Council to reopen and defer these changes to Bloor Street until proper community consultation and proper studies of the impact of the changes on communities are completed. Please read the Petition over. **If you support the MHA's position in**

support of reopening and referral, give your address, sign and date the petition and forward it to the office of Councillor Holyday at one of the addresses on the Petition so he can refer to the petitions sent in when speaking to Toronto Council. You can fax it to him at **(416) 392-4004**. We urge you to do this! Few issues have been as important to this community and the quality of life here.

For those who wish to submit the Petition electronically open our website www.marklandwood.org and go to the Petition down load link. Thanks for your support.

Beyond the Petition we urge you to convey your own points of view directly to Councillor Doug Holyday in support of this request for a reopening and a deferral: councillor_holyday@toronto.ca or (416) 392-4002 or (416) 338-5344.