



# Cesar Palacio

City Councillor - Ward 17  
Davenport

## SUMMER REPORT Accessibility - Transparency - Financial Sustainability - Fairness

Dear Friends,

I hope that you are enjoying the warmer weather.

As always, my staff and I have been very busy working on many local project improvements and initiatives to benefit our local community.

Thank you to those who attended my **16 FREE Compost Days**, Environment Day, dozens of Community Clean-Up Days, along with the Annual Community Safety Forum. With your help, we will continue to build neighbourhoods that are safer, cleaner, greener, and exceptionally vibrant.

Over the years, I have been working hard on your behalf, to have many roads, sidewalks, and laneways resurfaced or reconstructed and underground utilities replaced in our neighbourhoods. Ward 17 has received more funding for repairs and infrastructure replacement than any other Ward in the City of Toronto!

I am pleased to report that City Council approved a financial commitment for Toronto's share of funding for the construction of 6 SmartTrack transit stations along GO Transit rail lines in Toronto, **one of which is in the heart of Ward 17** at St. Clair and Old Weston Road. The City's funding commitment is based on a detailed financial strategy and Council has set terms and conditions for the agreement with Metrolinx. By the time, you get this notice, the Public Drop-In meeting would have taken place. A separate notice was distributed by the City via Canada Post - please see additional details on page 2.

I want to extend a huge thank you, to all of you, who volunteer your precious time and make every effort to ensuring Ward 17 continues to be a great place to live, work and play. Whether it be through participating in BIA's, Resident Associations, Community Block Parties, CSAC's, Police Community Partnerships, or just volunteering through your own initiative, I want to take a moment to express my sincerest thanks for making a real difference!

I take great pride in being accessible to our community, with more than 30,000 residents having my personal cell and e-mail. Remember, my community office doors are ALWAYS OPEN TO ASSIST YOU on Saturdays between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Together we can "GET MORE THINGS DONE" for Davenport.



Cesar congratulating the Portuguese community during Portugal Day 2018

**You're invited - Annual Canada Day BBQ**




**Date:** Sunday, July 1, 2018 - Canada Day  
**Time:** 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
**Place:** Earlscourt Park Amphitheatre (Caledonia & St. Clair)

**2018 World Cup Celebrations on St. Clair West**



We are super excited for the 2018 FIFA World Cup Games taking place in Russia, between June 14 and July 15.

At the recent City Council meeting, I tabled a motion that would allow local cafés/restaurants to begin serving drinks at 9:00 a.m. due to the early start time of some of the games.

It is events like these that bring communities together! Toronto is such a vibrant City with a great selection of restaurants, cafés and bars so make sure to visit one of your favourite local spots to watch the games! Home to Italy's World Cup Celebrations of 1982, 2006 and most recently Portugal's Euro Cup 2016 Victory, St. Clair West is the undisputed destination spot for celebrations when it comes to soccer. So raise your flags and cheer on your favourite team - "Ole Ole Ole Ole."

## Getting MORE Things Done

### St. Clair Transportation Master Plan (TMP) - Decongesting St. Clair/Old Weston Road Traffic Nightmare

The purpose of the St. Clair TMP is to relieve traffic congestion, improve connections for pedestrians and cyclists, and increase access to public transit, in the area of St. Clair Avenue West, between Keele Street and Old Weston Road. The City is recommending four infrastructure improvements:

1. Widen St. Clair Avenue West
2. Extend Gunns Road to Union Street
3. Extend Davenport Road to Union Street
4. Extend Keele Street to meet the Gunns Road Extension



#### Background:

In 2012, Toronto City Council, at my request, approved an Environmental Assessment (EA) to assess possible solutions to decongest the underpass area located at St. Clair Avenue West and Old Weston Road. I secured \$32 million to help deal with this major issue and I ensured that the allocation of these funds be kept in a dedicated account to fund this project, once the Environmental Assessment is completed and preferred infrastructure improvements are finalized.

#### The St. Clair Transportation Master Plan will result in:

- Better east-west connectivity, less overall vehicle delay, and reduce gridlock
- Improved access to public transit (512 streetcar, local bus routes)
- New cycling infrastructure - Extending the West Toronto Railpath to the north, Multi-Use connections to future Lavender Creek Cycle Path are being explored
- Safer and more pedestrian friendly environment (new lighting, sidewalks and other streetscape improvements).

My vision is now coming to fruition - decongesting and revitalizing the St. Clair Avenue West and Old Weston Road neighbourhood has been a massive priority for a number of years, which will result in hundreds of millions of dollars being invested directly into the Davenport community.

In addition to the widening of the underpass, we will also be creating a GO Transit Station at St. Clair-Old Weston Road to serve as a major transportation hub taking people from Ward 17 into the downtown and Greater Toronto Area.

#### Advocating for Cycling Connectivity in Ward 17

Davenport is already home to a number of bike lanes and pathways which include: Davenport Road, Rogers Road, the existing **West Toronto Rail Path - a project that was conceived by my office in 2002**. In an effort to improve cycling in the area, I proposed extending the West Toronto Railpath to the north (from Cariboo Avenue/Osler Street) to connect with the Davenport bicycle lane, Rogers Road and Lavender bicycle paths creating a better bicycle network.

### 2018 FREE Compost Days

In partnership with local community groups, Ward 17 was the first to spearhead community Compost Days!

This year, we hosted 16 FREE Community Compost Days - the most days in the entire City of Toronto.

Compost comes from the City of Toronto residents' leaf and yard waste program. My office uses part of the annual office budget to purchase this compost and provides it to local community residents, for FREE.



This year we, once again, collected hundreds of signatures from residents who are in full support of keeping these compost days as a benefit to the local community. A special thank you to all those who help make these compost days possible: Parks staff, TCDSB, TDSB, and local residents.

### Community Clean-Up Day Success

Born right here, in Ward 17, I helped to organize Toronto's first ever community Clean-Up Day in the early 1990's! Since then, Clean-Up Days have developed into a City-wide initiative with thousands of annual participants. We work in partnership with community leaders, local schools, students, and businesses to help remove garbage and debris at various locations to ensure that Ward 17 is a cleaner, greener and beautiful place to live, work and play. Special thank you to all those who volunteered their time for this year's Clean-Up Day.



### Eglinton Crosstown LRT Updates - NEW Fairbank Station

The Eglinton Crosstown LRT is a multi-billion dollar provincial investment in support of Metrolinx's Regional Transportation Plan that will have 25 stations and stops running across Eglinton Avenue West, between Mount Dennis and Kennedy Station. This transit project will better integrate transit services, improve transit reliability, and help manage congestion.

Within our community, the **NEW Fairbank Station** will be an underground station located at the intersection of Dufferin Street and Eglinton Avenue West that will feature two entrances at the S/E and NW corners of Dufferin Street and Eglinton Avenue West along with on-street connection to TTC buses. The station will include a plaza at the main entrance that will be integrated with St. Hilda's Parkette and incorporate a misting feature and a social gathering area. In addition, there will be 30 outdoor bicycle parking spaces.