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July 4, 2019

Re: Safety Improvements to Bathurst St & Nina St Intersection

Dear Residents,

As your new City Councillor for the Hillcrest and Casa Loma area, I have heard from many community members about concerns regarding pedestrian safety at the Bathurst St and Nina St intersection. My understanding is that this problem has been raised by residents for many years. The presence of Hillcrest Community School makes the need for substantive safety measures there even clearer. It is also obvious that the efforts and minor fixes that the City has done in the past have had little effect on frequent illegal red light crossings at the offset intersection. Moreover, I was also made aware by local parents that the City had promised a red light camera that was never delivered.

There are two updates that I would like to provide to you. First of all, I have confirmed that despite the transition of the School Crossing Guard Program from the Police to the City of Toronto, Dave will continue to serve our community. I have told him so personally. Also, I am very happy to let you know that I have been meeting with the City's Transportation Services and I have received a firm commitment to have a red light camera installed at this location. City staff are still working out specific details and timelines, but the commitment that I have received is that we will have a camera no later than next year. Staff have explained that there is still work that they need to do to work out the legal and technical aspects of this initiative, but that that work is underway now. That being said, I am still pushing for the installation date to be moved up as quickly as possible.

As your advocate, and as a parent of a 6-year old daughter, I understand that there is no more important priority than the safety of our children. As a community, we want our streets to be safe for everyone and of every age, and we expect that the City and the Police do everything they can to support us.

If you have any comments or questions, please feel welcome to contact my office by e-mail at Councillor_Matlow@toronto.ca or by phone at 416-392-7906.

Sincerely,



City Councillor Josh Matlow
Toronto – St. Paul's
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