

*Corktown Residents &  
Business Association  
351 Queen Street East  
P.O Box 82522  
Toronto ON M5A 1T8*

August 21, 2013

Ward 28 Toronto Centre-Rosedale  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West, Suite A7  
Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

Attention: Ms. Pam McConnell - Councillor Ward 28

**Re: Request for Sidewalk Installation  
Richmond Street Between Power and St. Paul Streets**

Dear Ms. McConnell,

On behalf of the residents and businesses of Corktown, the Corktown Residents & Business Association (CRBA) requests that a sidewalk be installed on the north side of Richmond Street between Power and St. Paul Streets. There is broad community support for a sidewalk in this location. Installing a sidewalk along this section will improve pedestrian interconnectivity and public safety. The subject area is approximately 230 meters long and is shown in Attachment 1 included with this letter.

Since a sidewalk in this area meets all the goals and objectives of the City of Toronto Missing Sidewalk Program, we hope that this program could be used to get the sidewalk installed. It could be funded in part by the City's Essential Links capital program. It is our understanding that Peter Berardi in the Public Realm Section of Transportation Services, who has been copied on this letter, administers this program. A sidewalk in this area would forward the Missing Sidewalk Program's goals of improving pedestrian safety, creating walkable neighbourhoods, and promoting a culture of walking.

As shown in the site map, included as Attachment 1, the site is immediately adjacent to a place of worship (St. Paul's Basilica) and an elementary school (St. Paul's Catholic School). Both of these organizations have submitted letters to the Corktown Residents & Business Association supporting this initiative. Attached with this application are support letters from Jo-Ann Davis, Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Trustee (Ward 9) and Rev. Msgr. Brad H. Massman Pastor of St. Paul's Basilica. These letters of support are included with this request as Attachment 4.

The proposed sidewalk site has a clearly worn walking path, shown in the photo included with this letter as Attachment 2. This path is only usable in good weather conditions and does not represent a level surface for persons with physical disabilities, children and senior citizens. A sidewalk in this area would significantly enhance the appearance of the street and neighbourhood. It would benefit students and parishioners going to the adjacent St. Paul's Catholic School and Basilica as well as residents from across the southeast corner of the City. Attachment 3 shows a rendering of the proposed sidewalk.

There are mature trees in close proximity to the proposed sidewalk. Included with the attached rendering are recommendations for root protection of the adjacent trees. We believe that most, if not all, of the trees can be preserved as part of the installation by elevating the area and providing an engineered granular base. We understand that some trees may need to be removed and replaced as part of the sidewalk construction. If this sidewalk is approved, the CRBA will be pursuing additional beautification initiatives in this area along the adjacent embankment. These initiatives will be realized through soliciting corporate donations and volunteer participation.

Earlier this year, the CRBA, in partnership with the Toronto Public Space Initiative (TPSI), carried out a visioning study with the goal of improving the walkability of Corktown around the Richmond and Adelaide Overpass across King Street. Some of the resulting concept plans from this study are included with this letter as Attachments 5 and 6. The plan involves improving the pedestrian interconnectivity throughout the area. A sidewalk along Richmond between Power and St. Paul is one major component of this plan. If City of Toronto staff would like more information about this study, we will be happy to provide it.

Currently, the subject area is often used as an illegal dumping site. The CRBA has organized several community clean-ups along this stretch. The most recent clean-up was in April as part of the City's Community Clean-up Day. During these clean-ups, we have filled bags with discarded needles, drug paraphernalia, and used condoms, as well as the usual urban detritus of coffee cups, furniture and so on. Illicit uses of this pathway are frequent and are facilitated by the lack of a regular pedestrian route and the protection of overgrown bushes on the adjacent embankment. The support letters from the TCDSB and St. Paul's Basilica both address safety as concerns.

Finally, installation of a sidewalk along this stretch will advance Toronto Police Services' promotion of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). The theory of CPTED is that the proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the incidence and fear of crime, thereby improving the quality of life. A sidewalk along this stretch will promote the principles of CPTED, will decrease illicit activity, will increase public safety and walkability in Corktown, and will generally help improve the quality of life in the area around St. Paul's School and St. Paul's Basilica.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to your reply. If you, somebody from the Councillor's office or City staff wish to tour the site, we would be happy to join. We know that a sidewalk installation can be a long process from idea to implementation and the CRBA is happy to assist in any way we can and continue with the process as long as it takes.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact me, head of the CRBA's Parks and Public Realm Committee, or Kara Isert, the CRBA President ([info@corktown.ca](mailto:info@corktown.ca)).

Kind Regards,



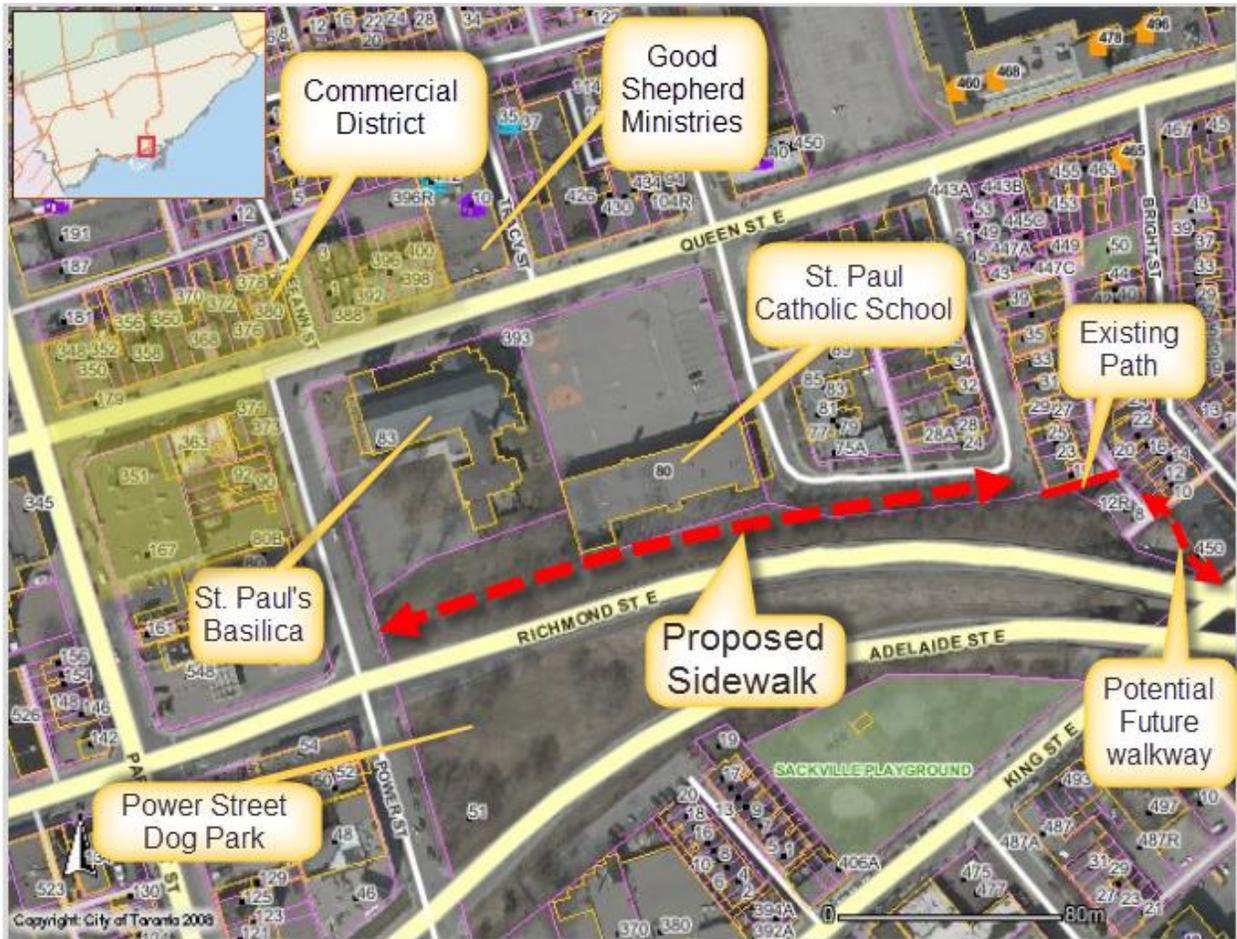
Arthur Sinclair, P.Eng.  
**Corktown Residents & Business Association**  
Vice-President for Parks & Public Realm

CC: Kara Isert - CRBA President  
Tom Davidson - Constituency Assistant Ward 28  
Peter Berardi - Project Lead, Pedestrian Projects Public Realm Section Transportation Services

Enc: Attachment 1 – Site Map  
Attachment 2 – Site Photo  
Attachment 3 – Missing Sidewalk – Section Elevation  
Attachment 4 – Support Letters – from Jo-Ann Davis - TCDSB Trustee, Ward 9 Rev. Msgr. Brad H. Massman, Pastor St. Paul's Basilica,  
Attachment 5 - Corktown Parks and Open Spaces Plan  
Attachment 6 - Excerpt from April 2013 Corktown Walkability Study

# Attachment 4

## Site Map



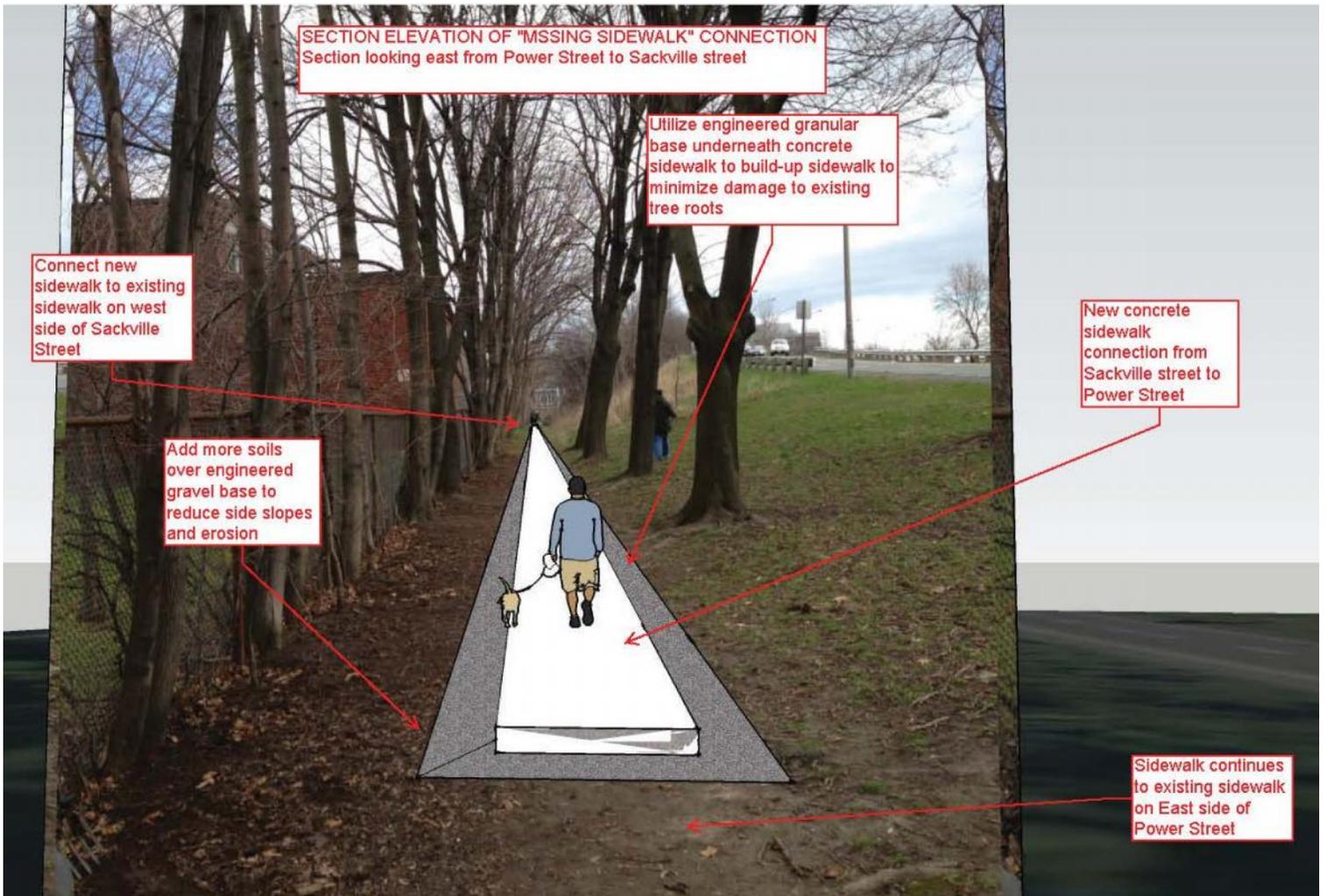
# Attachment 2

Site Looking East From Power Street



# Attachment 3

## Missing Sidewalk – Section Elevation



# Attachment 4

## Support Letters

Letter, Jo-Ann Davis - TCDSB Trustee, Ward 9

Rev. Msgr. Brad H. Massman, Pastor St. Paul's Basilica



JO-ANN DAVIS  
TRUSTEE, WARD 9

28 June, 2013

To Whom It May Concern,

**Re. Corktown Residents & Business Association Application, Missing Sidewalk Program**

As the locally elected trustee for the Toronto Catholic District School Board, I am writing to express my support for the Corktown Residents and Business Association in their request to have a sidewalk installed on the north side of Richmond Street East between St. Paul Street and Power Street.

A sidewalk in this area is clearly aligned with the objectives of the Missing Sidewalk Program, improving the safety and well being of local residences – including the families of St Paul’s elementary school, and the parishioners of St Paul’s Basilica.

Do let me know if you require anything further from me in support of this application.

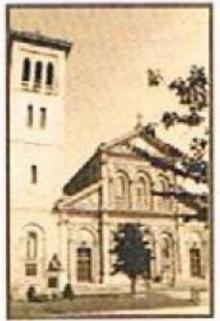
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo-Ann Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jo-Ann Davis  
TCDSB Trustee, Ward 9  
[www.jo-anndavis.ca](http://www.jo-anndavis.ca)  
[jo-ann.davis@tcdsb.org](mailto:jo-ann.davis@tcdsb.org)  
416-512-3409

# St. Paul's Basilica

Established 1822



June 20, 2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We at St. Paul's Basilica support the Corktown Residents and Business Association in their efforts to have a sidewalk installed on the north side of Richmond Street East between St. Paul Street and Power Street.

A sidewalk in this area would be beneficial to our Church Community and we are very much in favour of this request. It would do a great deal to 'clean up' the area' and would improve safety and rehabilitate the area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. Brad H. Massman, P.H.  
Pastor

# Attachment 5

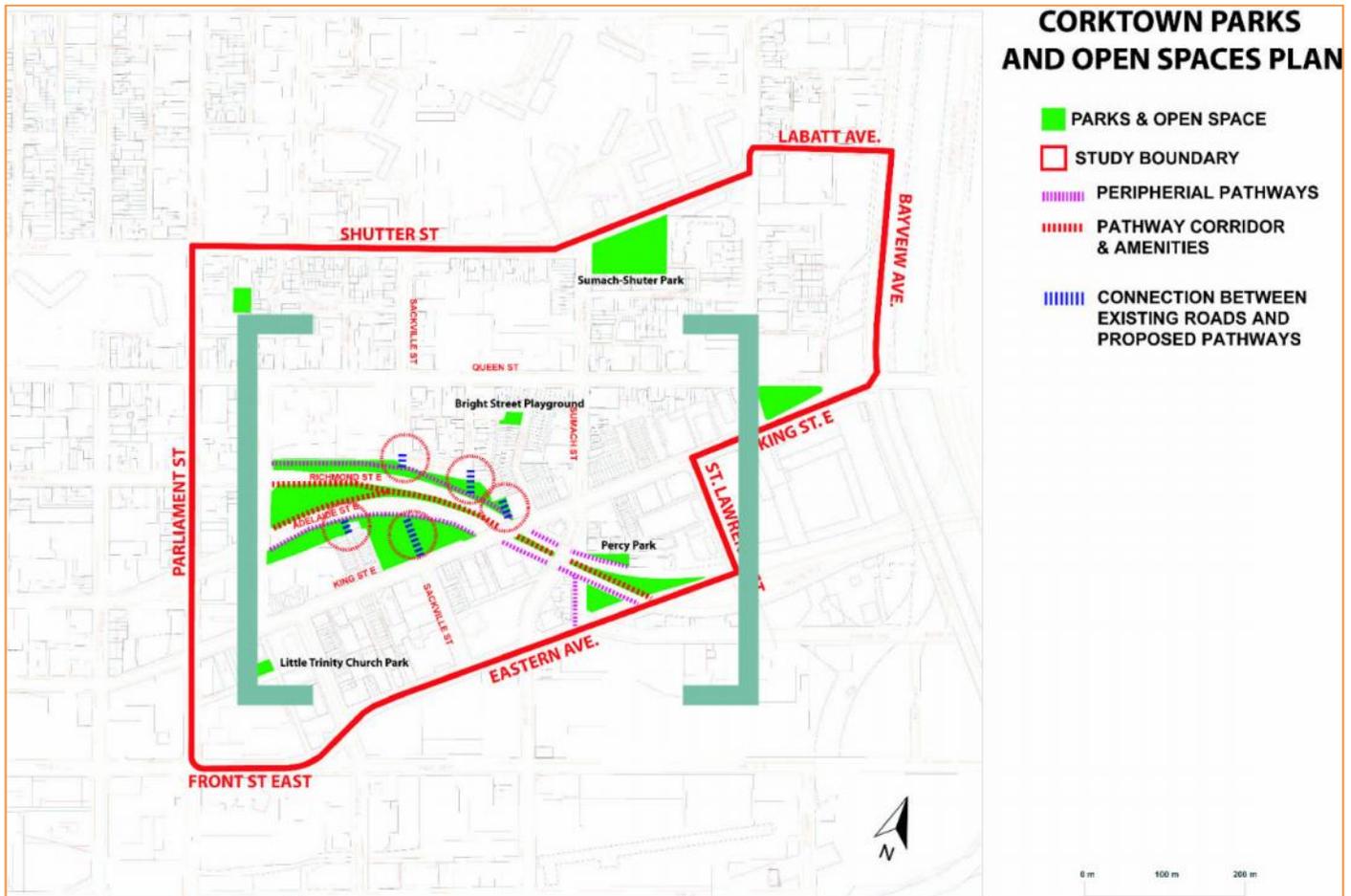
Corktown Parks and Open Spaces Plan

Excerpt from Corktown Walkability,

Prepared by Mohammad Alam

Toronto Public Spaces Initiative Intern and Masters Student at the School of Urban & Regional Planning, Ryerson University

April 2013



# Attachment 6

Excerpt from Corktown Walkability,

Prepared by Mohammad Alam

Toronto Public Spaces Initiative Intern and Masters Student at the School of Urban & Regional Planning, Ryerson University,

April 2013

