

September 11, 2017

Ms. Linda Uhyniuk
Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development
City Of Ottawa
Sent via e-mail to: linda.uhryniuk@ottawa.ca

Re: Application for ROW Patio - 113-115 Clarence Street

The Lowertown Community Association (LCA) is pleased to be given the opportunity to comment on the application for the use of the sidewalk for a patio in front of 113-115 Clarence.

Unlike most of the sidewalks in the ByWard Market, the sidewalk in front of 113 – 115 Clarence is very wide. We ask that most of the sidewalk be allocated to pedestrian movement and not to private use. In this instance, the city should allocate much more than the 2m minimum width. Too often pedestrians have to accept unsafe residual space when in fact the prime function of a sidewalk is to ensure the safe and comfortable movement of pedestrians and people with limited mobility. We believe that getting a permit for a patio on a public ROW is a privilege given to private interests and it should be done after considering the public interest.

We ask the city to put a condition on the permit requesting a clear view through the fencing and preventing advertisement. We noticed that most patios on Clarence now have opaque fencing and unsightly large advertising signs (see attached photos).





In addition, we request that in the future, when calculating the minimum clear walking width in the downtown area, the city take into account that pedestrians will not walk against a wall or a structure such as a patio nor will they walk on the curb. An additional 0.25m should be calculated on both sides of the 2m to really become an effective 2m clear pedestrian travel zone.

Sincerely,

Liz Bernstein
President
Lowertown Community Association

Cc. Councillor Mathieu Fleury