

CORNWALL DOWNTOWN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

113 Pitt Street
Cornwall, Ontario
K6J 1Y5



DBIA Feedback on Motion to Close Pitt Street – Manon Levesque, clerk, City of Cornwall

Greetings Manon:

In order to quickly collect feedback from the DBIA on the Motion presented by Counsellor Eric Bergeron regarding the closing of Pitt Street, the DBIA requested the Cornwall & Area Chamber of Commerce to survey the DBIA members. The survey posed six questions based on the content of the motion. 41 responses were received.

There was little support for the closure of Pitt Street between Third Street and First Street, with only 12% indicating support of this motion; 20% of the respondents supported the closure of Pitt Street between Second Street and First Street; and 14% approval was received from respondents concerning the suggestion of reducing lanes of traffic on Pitt Street. **It is clear from our survey that there is minimal support for any closure or lane reduction on Pitt Street.**

There is support for the use of the sidewalk and available parking spots for patios and retail use. However, the number that can make use of a patio is small; 46% (12 respondents) of those that had use for a patio said that streamlining the process to apply for a patio on the sidewalk would make an application more likely; 38% (12 respondents) of those surveyed, to which it applies, said they would be interested in using available parking spots for a patio or other retail usage.

The final question asked for suggestions from DBIA members on what other options should be considered. The overwhelming response was to implement free parking on Pitt Street. It is not surprising that merchants would make this recommendation as they have been advocating for changes to the parking on Pitt Street for some time. The DBIA would ask that the City consider 1-hour free on street parking and 2-hour free parking in the area parking lots until September 2020. This would allow DBIA businesses to promote free parking in their marketing to attract consumers to the area.

The DBIA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback to Council. Should Council require a more complete and fulsome report, the DBIA asks that more time be allotted to this process.

Thank You,

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Martha Woods,
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