

April 11, 2018

Dear Councillors Troisi, Fletcher and McMahon and Members of the Waterfront Community:

Further to our letter of April 5, 2018, PortsToronto has been working to develop a plan for the removal of the rubble and we now have additional information to provide regarding the approach, scope and timing of the removal. I should point out that this information is directional at this point as there are still many areas that we need to research and consult on before we can confirm a final plan for the removal of the rubble. I would also like to confirm that PortsToronto will, of course, work with designates from the City of Toronto to ensure that any approach taken aligns with the planning, priorities and intent of the Toronto Islands and East Gap area.

Over the past week we have worked with our team to determine the steps and approvals needed to remove the rubble associated with the East Gap pier. As an agency member of Aquatic Habitat Toronto, PortsToronto is working with all agencies representing the various levels of government to determine approvals required to remove the pier. We have had preliminary discussions with staff in departments at Transport Canada (Navigation Protection Act and Port Authorities Operations Regulations), the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the City of Toronto. We also intend to consult with the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, as part of our proactive outreach with agencies.

Our preliminary inquiries to agencies have resulted in an understanding that applications may need to be made to: Transport Canada under the Navigation Protection Act (NPA); Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada under the Fisheries Act; and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry under the Endangered Species Act. We are currently putting together the information needed for these application packages and expect to submit all applications by the middle of May 2018. We are still working to understand the approval timelines but have already determined through these initial consultations that no work can begin until after July 15, 2018, so as not to interfere with the fish-spawning season.



Once approvals are secured and the removal activities begin, we anticipate that it will take 6-8 weeks to remove the pier and mark the location to ensure shipping vessels stay clear of the natural shoal that lies in the area. Upon completion of the pier removal, PortsToronto will work with our agency partners to explore opportunities for creation of a fish habitat in the area of the cleared pier.

Specific to Ms. Mazza's questions posed on April 6, 2018, the entire pier is approximately 165m in length. The intent of our project is to remove the most northerly 100m to 120m, as the remaining 45m to 65m must remain intact so as not to destabilize the north shore of Wards Island. The exact length of removal will be determined as we finalize our engineering designs.

As for what will be built in its place, preliminary analysis indicates that there is no environmental or structural need to replace the pier.

That said, PortsToronto would be interested in discussing what and whether a structure (e.g. a walking promenade or look-out) could be built in its place for the enjoyment of the community. Although we don't own the pier that is currently in place, we do own the water lot and see merit in having something there for public use and enjoyment. If the City of Toronto, the various agencies and community groups would be interested in consulting on this project we would be willing participants in the discussion and could potentially fund a portion of the new construct.

I am happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have and we look forward to sharing more details about the project going forward.

Sincerely,

Chris Sawicki

Vice President, Infrastructure, Planning & Environment PortsToronto

Cc: Ed Hore, Waterfront For All, Chair
Cindy Wilkey, Waterfront For All, Vice Chair
Pam Mazza, Toronto Island Community Association
Bryan Bowen, Waterfront Secretariat, City of Toronto
Julie Lavertu, City of Toronto