

15, 16, 17
10-16-21



October 12, 2021

TO: Mayor Wilson and Members of City Council
FROM: Charlotte A. Hall
Managing Director

On behalf of the Old Town Business Association, we encourage you to embrace the closure of the 100 block of King Street to vehicular traffic. We also want to encourage you to allow for the continuation of outdoor dining in on-street parking spaces and sidewalks, and retail sales on sidewalks and on-street parking spaces.

We hope that the City staff will continue working with us, the Old Town Business Association, as we refine the plans for buskers, sidewalks, barricades, enforcement, and outdoor amenities such as curbside pick-up, heaters and tents. It is essential that the staff work with us to create an environment that is business friendly and customer friendly. Over the past 18 months we have had a good working relationship with City staff and we want to continue to move forward as we address these issues and find solutions that will work for the public, the City, and the business community.

We are in favor and support the closure for the 100 block of King, and would like to have a seat at the table when it comes to determining the design and guidelines for the expanded space. Our primary concern is the 5 ft. sidewalk access, however, we are not fully aware of the proposed future guidelines. Our businesses have budgets that need to be determined and we look forward to investing in the expanded space to make the 100 block closure a huge success. We can create a great partnership between the city and the businesses to make this happen. Please consider our request to have a legitimate seat at the table with City staff.