

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR INQUIRIES



Karsten Lee
416.947.5062
[>Full Bio](#)

Following on our earlier client updates from [May 1, 2013](#) and [May 30, 2013](#) there have been signs of movement on a tax on all off-street parking spaces on commercial properties in the City of Toronto.

Such a proposal had been considered but rejected by City Council in May 2013.

On February 9, 2016, the City of Toronto's Budget Committee will present to the City's Executive Committee a proposal to further study the impact of several revenue-generating policy proposals, including a revived parking tax at the suggested annual rate of \$365 per parking space (\$1 per day per stall).

If approved by the Executive Committee and then by Council, a process of consultation and analysis will begin, with a final recommendation likely coming sometime in the spring or summer. The impetus behind this proposal put forward by Councillor Joe Mihevc is the City's projected budget shortfall of \$90 million for 2016. The proposed parking tax (with anticipated exemptions for municipal organizations, universities, schools and hospitals, Toronto Parking Authority and TTC lots) is projected to raise \$300 million annually for the City's coffers and is being pushed by Coun. Mihevc on the basis that it is one of the few tax increases that would not require approval from the provincial government.

Several industry groups, including the International Council of Shopping Centers, NAIOP and REALpac have come out strongly against the proposed tax, on the basis that it will pose very difficult challenges for the commercial property sector including the retail industry and for Toronto's enclosed and open air shopping centres, power centres, grocery stores and small commercial retail units and strip plazas.

If you have any questions about the status of this proposal, the consultation and voting process, or are concerned about the potential impact of such a parking tax on your business, please do not hesitate to contact our offices for more information. Karsten Lee, a Partner in our Commercial Leasing Group, can be reached at klee@weirfoulds.com or by telephone at 416-947-5062.

WeirFoulds LLP
66 Wellington Street West
Suite 4100, PO Box 35
TD Bank Tower
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M5K 1B7
Office 416.365.1110
Facsimile 416.365.1876
www.weirfoulds.com

**Voted the #1 regional firm in
Ontario by Canadian Lawyer, 2015**

Follow us on:  