



Councillor Joe Mihevc  
Toronto City Hall  
St. Paul's West  
Ward 21

Councillor Mike Layton  
Toronto City Hall  
Trinity-Spadina  
Ward 19

August 9, 2012

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West, 10th floor, West Tower  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Committee Chair and Members,

On August 6, a cyclist died in a tragic incident after falling from his bicycle when his wheel was caught in a decommissioned streetcar track on Wychwood Avenue. This incident is a very sad reminder that streetcar tracks pose serious risks to cyclists. We believe the City of Toronto must address this issue for the purposes of public safety.

Further, we believe the City has made the commitment to cyclists through the Toronto Bike Plan to make our streets safer for cyclists. In fact, one of the Bike Plan's two primary goals is to "reduce the number of bicycle collisions and injuries" and the Plan's vision is "to create a safe, comfortable and bicycle friendly environment in Toronto, which encourages people of all ages to use bicycles for everyday transportation and enjoyment."

In response to this tragic incident and given that there are many accidents involving streetcar tracks and cyclists, we request that the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee (PWIC) direct the General Manager of Transportation Services, in consultation with the CEO of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), to report back to PWIC by the end of 2012 the on hazards posed to cyclists by streetcar tracks and recommendations for addressing these safety concerns, specifically:

1. The possible options, costs, best practices and new techniques for covering decommissioned streetcar tracks city-wide, including filling in the tracks, paving/asphalting the entire street and removing the tracks;
2. The possible options, costs, best practices and new techniques to make active streetcar tracks city-wide safer for cyclists.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joe Mihevc  
Ward 21, St. Paul's West

Councillor Mike Layton  
Ward 19, Trinity-Spadina