



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula FLETCHER**
Councillor Toronto-Danforth Ward 30

July 23, 2014

Councillor Mammoliti and Members
Parks & Environment Committee

Dear Committee Members:

Re: Lower Don Trail Accessibility

The Lower Don Trail has limited accessibility from Queen Street to Danforth Avenue.

Currently there are stairs at Queen as well as the Riverdale foot bridge. While there is a trench to wheel a bicycle up and down the stairs it is awkward and cumbersome. Many riders simply carry their bikes up the stairs. Trail access and egress at these points is limited to those who can manage their bicycles on the steep incline.

As part of the Lower Don Trail Master Plan there will be two new stair entrances; one from Dundas and one from Gerrard onto the trail.

In May, I had a site meeting on the trail with staff from DTAH, TRCA, PFR and members of the cycling committee to review the Master Plan for the Lower Don trail and to see if the new stairway entrances at Gerrard and Dundas could be made more accessible for cyclists, and anyone with mobility issues. Both of the locations are on street car routes and of course our new street cars will be fully accessible.

Sadly, it was not deemed possible at either of these locations.

There remains a real need for an accessible point on the trail between Queen and Danforth and it was suggested that the pedestrian bridge from Riverdale Park East to West may be a good option.

I am requesting that:

- 1) City Council re-confirm its commitment to accessibility on the Lower Don Trail.
- 2) City Council direct the Acting General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to undertake further study on potential points of access onto the Lower Don Trail, in particular the pedestrian bridge joining Riverdale Park East and West.
- 3) City Council direct the Acting General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to provide a report to the Parks and Environment Committee in the second quarter, 2015 on the results.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher
Councillor, Ward 30

