

June 16, 2015

PW6.12 – Pilot Project -- Extending the Richmond St and Adelaide St Cycle Tracks to Parliament St

Chair Robinson and Members of the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee (PWIC),

I am writing on behalf of Cycle Toronto regarding PW 6.12 **in support of extending the Richmond St and Adelaide St cycle track pilot project to Parliament St.** Cycle Toronto is a diverse, member-supported organization that advocates for a healthy, safe, cycling-friendly city for all and currently represents over 3,000 Torontonians.

If You Build It, They Will Come

The protected bike lane pilot project on Richmond St and Adelaide St is an overwhelming success. City staff report that cycling volumes on Adelaide increased almost 300% after the installation of the cycle tracks. What's more, motor vehicle traffic times weren't negatively impacted on Richmond St or Adelaide St since installation. 98% of cyclists and 64% of drivers strongly agree or agree that the cycle tracks should be made permanent.

The first phase of the pilot project brought protected bike lanes to Richmond St and Adelaide St between Bathurst St and University Ave, extending safe cycling options for Torontonians travelling by bicycle in the core. The next phase of the pilot would extend the protected bike lanes to Parliament St. The proposal includes gaps in the separation on Adelaide St next to First Canadian Place and Scotia Plaza for loading zones due to construction hoarding in the curb lane on the north side of the street. While we're opposed to these gaps in the final project, we understand the limitations while construction is occupying the curb lane.

In addition to extending the Richmond Adelaide cycle tracks to Parliament, we're asking Public Works & Infrastructure Committee (PWIC) to:

1) Connect the waterfront: upgrade Simcoe St between Front St and Queens Quay to protected bike lanes

The cycle tracks installed on Simcoe St between Queen St and Front St have been remarkably successful with more than 1,100 cyclists per weekday. We want to see separation installed on Simcoe St between Front St and Queens Quay to create one of Toronto's first protected on street connections to the Waterfront.

2) Connect the east end: upgrade Shuter St and River St to protected bike lanes

While the extension to Parliament fills a much needed gap in the network that will enable more people to ride safely in the downtown core, we're concerned about the ability of people further east in Ward 28, 30 and 32 to connect into Toronto's protected bikeway network.

Upgrading Shuter St and River St (to Dundas St E) to protected bike lanes would be an effective way to extend safe cycling options. We'd like to see this happen as soon as possible, but it



416 644 7188
info@cycleto.ca
www.cycleto.ca

Cycle Toronto
@ Centre of Social Innovation
720 Bathurst Street, Suite 307
Toronto, ON M5S 2R4

makes sense to coordinate this with repaving schedules for both streets.

On behalf of Cycle Toronto, we urge members of PWIC to support this proposal.

Sincerely,



Jared Kolb
Executive Director
Cycle Toronto



416 644 7188
info@cycleto.ca
www.cycleto.ca

Cycle Toronto
@ Centre of Social Innovation
720 Bathurst Street, Suite 307
Toronto, ON M5S 2R4