

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: Lindsay Wiginton <lindsayw@pembina.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:44 PM
To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
Cc: Nithya Vijayakumar; Dianne Zimmerman
Subject: Pembina Institute support for Item PW 24.9, Recommendation 1

Dear Councillor Robinson, Chair, and Members of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee,

In advance of your October 18 meeting, the Pembina Institute would like to **express its support for the recommendation presented under item 24.9, to maintain the eastbound and westbound cycle tracks on Bloor Street West, from Shaw Street to Avenue Road, as a permanent installation.**

Protected cycling lanes that link key destinations in the City of Toronto are critical to reducing automobile congestion by supporting a shift to sustainable and active modes of transportation; maintaining the attractiveness of the City as a place to live, work and play; supporting local commerce; protecting residents' safety; and realizing the vision of the City's own Official Plan. It should be noted that the data collected shows that the number of cyclists on Bloor Street increased at a staggering rate (by 49%) and that 25% of this increase were new cyclists; while at the same time, total customer spending in the Bloor Street pilot area increased more than in the area surrounding the pilot.

Further, we would like to applaud the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee, City Council and City staff for taking an evidence-based, flexible approach to the design and implementation of the pilot lanes on Bloor Street. Over the course of the pilot, city staff were able to adjust the design of the corridor to address emerging issues (such as vehicle delays). Moving forward, we think that this approach can help us arrive at the best transportation solutions for the City.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Lindsay Wiginton, RPP, MCIP, on behalf of the Pembina Institute

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Further reading

Pembina Institute reports to advance the opportunities to expand cycling, to move both people and goods:

- Cycle Cities - Supporting cycling in Canadian Cities: <http://www.pembina.org/pub/cycle-cities>
- Cyclelogistics - Opportunities for moving goods by bicycle in Toronto: <https://www.pembina.org/pub/cyclelogistics>