

**From:** [Peter Rogers](#)  
**To:** [Infrastructure and Environment](#)  
**Subject:** My comments for 2021.IE19.11 on January 11, 2021 Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
**Date:** Thursday, January 7, 2021 10:20:51 PM

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To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the January 11, 2021 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2021.IE19.11, yongeTOMorrow - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment on Yonge Street from Queen Street to College/Carlton Street

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

We would like to express our support for staff recommendations in item IE19.11 yongeTOMorrow - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment on Yonge Street from Queen Street to College/Carlton Street.

We recognize this project will make Yonge Street a desirable and safer destination for thousands of residents, provide support and customers for local business and bolster Toronto's road safety and climate action goals. A plan that aims to protect vulnerable road users would even help the city work towards their committed Vision Zero goals.

We appreciate that the needs of businesses should be addressed but the priorities should be for all of those who live, work, shop and play on Yonge Street and not necessarily the car traffic that flows through one of Toronto's most vital corridors. In our own ward, we're seeing how the reconstruction of Shuter Street and temporary bike lanes on Dundas have made these streets increasingly important east-west routes into downtown. If Yonge is to become an important and vital destination, then access from streets such as Shuter and Dundas must also continue to be improved.

The last ten months have shown us that the future of commuting and work is changing right before our eyes, which means we will need innovative and inclusive solutions that don't put vehicular concerns above all other road users.

The bold proposal on Yonge between College and Queen streets depict pedestrian-priority blocks and some separated bike lanes. Wider sidewalks with space for trees and outdoor patios will help make Yonge Street an inviting and inclusive destination for Torontonians and visitors.

While the multitude of designs proposed over such a short section of Yonge isn't ideal, prioritizing pedestrians and making the street a desirable destination is at the core of the project. This is an opportunity for city-building that should not be passed by.

Thank you,  
Peter Rogers  
On behalf of Toronto Centre Cyclists.