



December 1st, 2021

Dear Councillor Colle, Councillor Layton, Councillor McKelvie, Councillor Minnan-Wong, Councillor Pasternak, and Councillor Peruzza:

Re: IE26.9 - Cycling Plan Update

We are members of 32 Spokes, a local advocacy group in Beaches-East York. We love biking and work to promote active transportation and to make cycling safer in our community. **We are writing to you in support of the Cycling Plan Update** that is coming for consideration to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee on Thursday, December 2nd.

We are delighted to see routes listed under the goals of *Connect, Grow, Renew* and *Support* such as the extension of Danforth to Victoria Park and beyond to Warden, Kingston Road from Cliffside to Eglinton, Donlands from Danforth to the Leaside Bridge, and Victoria Park from Danforth to the Gatineau Corridor.

In 2020, we saw the installation of the Danforth cycle track from Broadview Avenue to Dawes Road and witnessed how significantly a bikeway improves the safety of a street and our neighbourhoods. At the same time, we see what is lacking from a streetscape when a protected bike lane does not exist, such as with the stretch of Danforth from Dawes Road to Victoria Park Avenue. East of Dawes Road the bike lane suddenly ends, and it becomes startlingly clear how dangerous the road is without this important infrastructure. We look forward to bike lane installation here on Danforth and for this section to become safer to bike on.

We support the recommended increase of bikeway infrastructure of approximately 100 kilometers over the 2022-2024 period. Historically we've seen an average of 10 kilometers of infrastructure installed per year and we think that's far too low of a target, especially after seeing the difference in installing just 36 kilometers of cycling infrastructure made in 2020 through ActiveTO installations across the city. More safe bike lanes will encourage more cycling, and we know that encouraging more cycling goes hand-in-hand with our increasingly urgent demands to address climate change. It's important to continue building and improving existing cycling infrastructure year by year to help Toronto meet its net zero targets as soon as possible.

In closing, we are thrilled to see there is a plan to accelerate the implementation of new bikeways, but also included is improving the safety of existing bikeways in 2022 - 2024. We are

excited to see additional bike infrastructure that will improve the connectivity of our east end neighbourhoods.

In closing, we wholeheartedly support the Cycling Plan Update being presented to this committee on December 2, 2021.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Mackey
Francis Jeanson
Mary Ann Neary