



December 1st, 2021

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

Re: IE26.10 - Cycling Network Plan - 2021 Cycling Infrastructure Installation - Fourth Quarter Update and Future of ActiveTO Cycling Network Projects

We are writing to you as members of a group called 32 Spokes located in Beaches-East York. Our focus is making Toronto's streets safer for everyone, in particular for pedestrians and cyclists. **We support the recommendation to make permanent the installation of ActiveTO Cycling Network projects that were installed during 2020.**

As residents who drive, bike, walk, and roll in our neighbourhood, we see firsthand what a significant positive difference the ActiveTO installations made to our streets.

While there are many ActiveTO routes that we love, the protected Danforth bike lane infrastructure is a standout project for us and a great example of how incredibly ActiveTO can transform a street into a destination. Not only was the enhanced safety of Danforth for people biking notable but so too was the increased vibrancy of the neighbourhoods along the Danforth, which is simply a win-win during such a challenging time. Danforth has become an important route for many of us, especially with the connection to Bloor. Since the summer of 2020, we've heard increasing testimonials of Torontonians now using this lane, not just for pleasure but also as a safe and healthy way for commuting to work. This cross-city route is so wonderful that some of us in the summer would simply continue riding west until we reached Shaw. The route has become fun, freeing, and a great way to not only shop and visit our local neighbourhoods but also traverse the city.

We noticed that Transportation Service's report mentions that the number of cyclists increased significantly on the new bikeways. We certainly witnessed this on Danforth where it was great to see the variety of riders attracted by the safer infrastructure. Before the ActiveTO installation, people told us they found Danforth too intimidating and dangerous to ride on. Now, it's common to see people of all ages, especially families with young children, using the Danforth lanes. By encouraging more people to cycle, we help people choose an activity that is not only good for the mind, body, and spirit but also for our environment, an important consideration during a time of severe climate crisis.

We would like to close by strongly supporting the recommendations by Transportation Services that the ActiveTO cycling infrastructure be made permanent.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Mackey  
Francis Jeanson  
Mary Ann Neary

On behalf of 32 Spokes