



c/o The City Institute at York University  
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December 2, 2021

Matthew Green  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Councillor McKelvie and the Infrastructure and Environment Committee,

Our Greenway's team firmly believes that all communities deserve practical local mobility networks, connecting businesses, entrepreneurs and residents with the safe infrastructure, knowledge, and micromobility tools they need to animate places and seize new opportunities.

Our engagement with City of Toronto staff over the last two years has supported the City of Toronto's bold new climate target of net zero by 2040. Our expertise has:

- Supported the inclusive evolution of the City's policies toward cargo cycles for personal and commercial use across the City at scale;
- Helped to spur calls for Federally harmonized micromobility policies while supporting regulatory clarity in Toronto, and;
- Highlighted the need for the City's Transportation and Water units to act jointly to meet commercial, safety and ecological needs in the detailed street design process, in order to ensure both a healthy street tree canopy and to mitigate severe stormwater events.

We are proud of the impact our collaborative work has had. Our team yearns for further fruitful collaboration as the City of Toronto embarks on its ambitious plans to aggressively increase access to low carbon transportation options across the City from now to 2030.

On that note, City Council's direction on July 28 and 29, 2020 concerning the well supported motion 'IE 14.17 - Mobility Greenway', was for the Deputy City Manager, Community and Social Services and the Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure and Development Services to work with Our Greenway Conservancy and report back on next steps to plan, construct and maintain the Mobility Greenway

We therefore write in solemn observation of 'IE 26.9 - 2021 Cycling Network Plan Update, Attachment 7, Mobility Greenway – IE 14.17', which states:

"Transportation Services staff and senior management have met with representatives of the Our Greenway community organization on several occasions to discuss their concept."

While we have certainly met with City staff to discuss cargo cycles, micromobility and Green Streets impacts city wide, no meetings have ever been held in accordance with Council’s decision and direction made on July 28 and 29, 2020. In a similar vein, the vision image staff has included with their report today was out of date prior to July 2020 – before Council directed staff to act on IE 14.17. For City reference, the correct vision image is included below:



As City Staff noted as part of ‘IE 26.16 - TransformTO - Critical Steps for Net Zero by 2040’, the urgency of the climate crisis requires extraordinary investment at scale to keep our communities resilient and our planet habitable. Given the stress on the City of Toronto’s fiscal capacity, we are seeking to create a Conservancy – modelled on The Bentway’s success – that can unlock attentive urban design, craft microclimate improvements, improve micromobility access, and maintain a flourishing street tree canopy in Toronto’s northwest - all *without* reliance on the municipal taxpayer.

We look forward to working with the collaboratively City of Toronto and our most underserved neighbourhoods to determine how we can best act with urgency to plan, construct and maintain the Mobility Greenway at scale to benefit residents, businesses, and all taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Darnel Harris

Executive Director

Our Greenway Conservancy

Sam S. Starr

President

Our Greenway Conservancy