



Safe streets
Healthy city
Vibrant voice

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December 2, 2021

Mayor John Tory and Toronto City Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: IE26.9 Cycling Network Plan Update (2022-2024) & IE26.10 ActiveTO 2020

Dear Mayor Tory and members of City Council,

Thank you for your leadership and for the progress we have made toward offering healthy, affordable, and zero-emission transportation options during the pandemic. The quick response of elected officials and City staff during this period was remarkable.

Cycle Toronto is thrilled with the staff recommendations to make ActiveTO bikeways permanent, to move forward with important bikeway projects in 2022-2024, and more ambitiously, to tackle the climate crisis by making cycling a viable option for everyone in Toronto, connecting the downtown core to the inner suburbs. These recommendations reflect a desire to continue the great work started during the pandemic that will set up a future for Toronto as a world class city with equitable transportation options for everyone.

Cycle Toronto strongly supports the City of Toronto staff's recommendations to:

- **Make all of the ActiveTO bikeways permanent and upgrade them** — these bikeways along with ActiveTO major road openings continue to provide safe space for people to be both physically and socially active during the pandemic and beyond. They increase access to homes, schools, jobs, businesses, and parks. Over 5,500 people have signed our petition in support of keeping them permanently. Specifically, Cycle Toronto is supportive of keeping these ActiveTO routes:
 - **Bloor** Street
 - **Dundas** Street East
 - **University** Avenue/Queens Park Crescent
 - **Huntingwood** Drive
 - **Danforth** Avenue
 - **Bayview** Avenue
 - **Wilmington** Avenue

- **Approve the proposed cycling network projects for 2022-2024** – these are meaningful projects City of Toronto staff are proposing;
 - **Bloor Street** extended to Kipling
 - **Danforth Avenue** extended east into Scarborough
 - **Kingston Road** to connect to Danforth Avenue in the west and Eglinton in the east
 - **Eglinton Avenue** will have a protected bikeway reaching across our city
 - **Scarborough** will see the beginning of a connected network
 - **Sheppard Avenue** will have a bike lane stretching from just east of Yonge to Leslie
 - **Yonge Street** to be studied north and south of the current midtown pilot
 - **Several connections for Thorncliffe Park and Flemingdon Park** (upgrade to Leaside Bridge, improved Don Mills and Overlea intersection, studies on Overlea and Donlands)
 - Many other neighbourhood routes and several other major roads
- **Streamline the bikeway adjustment process** that would allow staff to spend less time writing detailed reports, and instead, more time being responsive to local community priorities by adjusting bikeways after installation; and
- **Grow the staff team to meet the staffing levels that the City of Toronto needs to achieve its 2022-2024 implementation goals**, and plan for a ramp-up in future years across various divisions to support the planning, designing, and installation of bikeways.

Additionally, we urge you to **support Cycle Toronto’s recommendation that complete streets designs are considered for all major road rehabilitations going forward**. Currently, only about 15% of road rehabilitation projects include a bikeway. As a result, 25 km of major bikeway opportunities are missed every year. Complete streets can accommodate cycling in many forms, whether an on-road bikeway (Danforth Avenue), an off-road multi-use path (Lake Shore Boulevard), quiet neighbourhood streets (Shaw Street), transitways (King Street), or through other means. Bringing forward appropriate complete street design options will mean major road rehabilitations are no longer missed opportunities.

Thank you for all of the leadership and support that you have provided over the past two years. We hope that by adopting the above City staff recommendations, Toronto will leverage the momentum gained towards getting more Torontonians using healthy, affordable, climate-conscious transportation. We look forward to Toronto becoming the North American leader in cycling and equitable transportation.

Sincerely,



Keagan Gartz

Keagan Gartz
Executive Director

Cycle Toronto is a member-supported charitable organization that works to make Toronto a healthy, safe and vibrant cycling city for all. We are focused on advocacy, education and encouragement, as we work to shape policy and infrastructure, and build community to transform our city's cycling culture.

