

Ward 15, Eglinton-Lawrence

City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
2nd Floor, Suite A20
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-4027
Fax: 416-392-4191
councillor_colle@toronto.ca

Monday January 28, 2013

Parks and Environment Committee
10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2
Attention: Dela Ting

Dear Chair Kelly and Committee Members:

RE: Beltline Trail Study

Last fall, the City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Transportation Services initiated a study to look at state of good repair improvements to the Beltline Trail. The study will produce a conceptual design that will identify areas in need of repairs/reconstruction and unsafe road crossings, propose solutions to these problem areas, and provide a cost estimate for the work.

The scope of the project includes portions of the Beltline Trail that run through Wards 21, 22, and 27, a portion of the trail also known as the Kay Gardner Beltline. The portion of the Beltline known as the York Beltline, which runs significantly west of the study area was excluded. By studying the Beltline in a segmented manner and not in its entirety, an entire segment of trail users are excluded from consideration which quite simply, is not good City planning.

A comprehensive review and assessment of the Beltline Trail has been completed by Cycle Toronto, titled "*The Beltline Trail: Past, Present and Future*". This review includes a history of the trail, user needs, trail function and options for surfacing, drainage issues, safer crossings, lighting, way-finding signage, heritage considerations and much more. This report looks at the entire Beltline Trail and can be used as an invaluable resource when City Staff are considering how to move forward with improvements to the trail.

In this light, I would strongly urge that Cycle Toronto's report be included in the City's Beltline Report and also be provided to the General Manager Parks, Forestry and Recreation and General Manager Transportation Services for their review and consideration.

Sincerely,

Josh Colle
Councillor, Ward 15 Eglinton-Lawrence