

January 10, 2014

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

Dear Deputy Mayor Kelly and Members of the Executive Committee,

SUMMARY:

The Martin Goodman Trail is one of the most frequented trails for both cyclists and pedestrians. Each winter the trail is ploughed along its full length to allow the pedestrians and cyclists safe access and to reduce the impact of cyclists on Lake Shore Blvd W.

In Ward 6, the Martin Goodman Trail continues as the Waterfront Trail from the Humber Bridge west towards Norris Crescent Park. The Waterfront Trail from Humber Bay Park Rd West to the Humber Bridge is the most travelled length of the trail. Cyclists use this portion of the trail to access the Martin Goodman Trail, as the cycling lanes on Lake Shore Blvd W end at Humber Bay Park Rd West.

Currently Transportation Services does not maintain the Waterfront Trail in winter months, even though the trail offers the same transportation to commuters as the Martin Goodman Trail. This creates a lack of access for cyclists to the main cycling route from the west end of the city and for pedestrians using the trail for commuting or exercise.

In October of 2013 City Council supported a motion to develop a winter cycling network as part of the 2014 budget process. The Waterfront Trail, which is in direct proximity to over 15,000 high density residents, is an integral part of the west end's commuting network.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council request the General Manger Transportation Services in conjunction with the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to extend the ploughing of the Martin Goodman Trail a short distance to the West, along the Humber Bridge, and the Waterfront Trail from the Humber Bridge to Humber Bay Park Road West. This will allow access to the Martin Goodman Trail year round from the city's west end.
2. That \$25,000 be moved from the unallocated 2014 Land Transfer Tax Revenue to the Transportation Services budget to be offset by new revenues from 2013 assessment growth.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Grimes".

Mark Grimes
Councillor City of Toronto
Etobicoke Lakeshore, Ward 6

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