

# Councillor **Mike Layton**



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March 24, 2014

Re: Update on HL23.7 Improving Safety for Bicycle Commuters in Toronto

Dear Public Works Committee,

I am writing in hopes that the committee will request Transportation Services staff to provide an update to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on a request made by City Council on bicycle commuter safety, specifically on the matter relating to safety around construction sites.

Toronto cyclists are put at risk every time they are out cycling on the street. Nowhere is the danger more evident than around construction sites. From the moment a construction project breaks ground, cyclists are treated differently from drivers. No notice is given to cyclist about parking changes, signage is rare, and existing lanes are not replaced or marked. During construction debris that can seriously harm a cyclist is common. When road reconstruction is completed, it often does not meet a suitable standard for safe cycling.

The dangers faced by cyclists need to be recognized and addressed for the city to ensure roads are safe for all users. The city must develop policies to this end that will save lives.

I respectfully recommend that:

*The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee request the General Manager of Transportation Services report back to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee at its meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 on progress made to carry out City Council decisions regarding HL23.7, specifically, progress toward developing policies for ensuring the protection of cyclists in construction areas.*

Sincerely,

Mike Layton