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CC: "councillor_minnan-wong@toronto.ca" <councillor_minnan-wong@toronto.ca>, ...
Date: 2014-01-01 4:52 PM
Subject: electric bikes-Proposed Policies and By-laws

To the Toronto Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

I have read thru the staff report reference # P:\2013\ClusterB\TRA\TIM\pw13015tim re-" electric bikes-Proposed Policies and By-laws."

The report as it stands is full of Flawed and incomplete data gathered in a thinly veiled attempt to include ebike stakeholders (owners, riders and retailers).

The recommendations from transportation services come as a result of a 'public consultation' which ebike stakeholders were invited to participate as well as the general public and the 'cycling' interests. This 'consultation' consisted of an online survey full of skewed and vague questions that an individual could fill out multiple times.

The transportation services are looking to use this skewed and incomplete data to have you recommend changes to city by-laws to city council and also used this 'staff report' to ask the Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Transport Canada to review and revise the definition of power assist bicycles (ebikes) There are only two points contained within this report that I can agree with 100%; 1) Toronto Police Services need to make the distinction between conventional bicycle and power assist (ebike) when filling out collision and incident reports. 2) That no person age 14 or older shall ride a bicycle on the sidewalk.

As an ebike rider with close to 20,000 km of riding in and around Toronto since 2010, in and out of bike lanes, I am happy to report I have not had any collisions with any cars, trucks, buses, pedestrians or cyclists. I feel confident that a larger majority of ebike riders can ride just as safely regardless of where the ride.

I trust that you will question all aspects of this report and the methodology used to collect ALL the data it contains.

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