Dear Committee Members,

re: Eglinton Connects Study

It gives me great pleasure to lend my support to the approval of the streetscape designs recommended by the Eglinton Connects Study. The components of the proposed “Complete Street” design with continuous, protected bicycle lanes, wider sidewalks and reduced crossing distances will reflect the street’s dynamic atmosphere and multipurpose usage. This emphasis on walkability will further enhance the use of Eglinton Avenue as “Toronto’s central east-west avenue – a green, beautiful linear space that supports residential living, employment, retail and public uses in a setting of community vibrancy.”

As TDSB trustee introducing and championing the TDSB Charter for Active, Safe and Sustainable Transportation for our students, I feel it is important to note that 56 elementary schools and 18 high schools across the city are within 2 km of Eglinton Avenue. These recommendations would provide thousands of students with safe, convenient and pleasant routes to their schools.

This project provides a confirmation of the goals of Active Transportation Charter – “to identify and remove barriers to getting to and from school actively” and “to collaborate with internal and external partners to facilitate the implementation of school travel plans”. I applaud the vision of the study.

I look forward to working with the City on the implementation of the recommendations of Eglinton Connects.

Sincerely,

Pamela Gough

cc. Councillor Minnan-Wong
    Councillor Berardinetti
    Councillor Davis
    Councillor Grimes
    Councillor Layton
    Councillor Parker