

PW11.7.98

From: [Sylvia Slaughter](#)
To: [Public Works and Infrastructure Committee](#)
Cc: [Ward 30 Cycle Toronto](#); [Councillor Fletcher](#); [Jason Slaughter](#); info@cycleto.ca
Subject: My comments for 2016.PW11.7 on March 1, 2016 Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
Date: Monday, February 29, 2016 3:41:34 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 1, 2016 Public Works and Infrastructure Committee meeting on item 2016.PW11.7, Cycling Network Plan and Requesting Information to Consider Building a Minimum Grid <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.PW11.7>

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

I urge you PWIC, to do *more than consider* information for increasing a cycling infrastructure budget to \$20m and \$25m. I urge you to **actually increase the budget**. Please consider these points:

1. The **number of Torontonians that bike is HUGE**. But we don't know even how many, because we haven't had a census in 10 years. Our own stats on bike usage come from the last available census - 2006. 10 years old! 10 years ago 7.5% of all residents in the Trinity-Spadina Ward biked to work. 7.5%, 10 years ago... that many people on bikes well before Richmond and Adelaide, and before Wellesley cycle track. 7.5%! 10 years later you know that number is huge.
2. **Toronto is WAY behind** other North American cities. Toronto has the highest bike usage, but the lowest bike infrastructure per capita spend per city. Montreal and Ottawa where it's much colder and snowier, they spend more per person. Vancouver with all that rain, spends more. Even car-centric oil town Calgary spends more than Toronto. New York, Seattle... they all spend more. It's embarrassing that Toronto is falling so far behind.
3. Ontario and Metrolinx are putting **\$4.9 million into Toronto bike share** expansion in terms of bikes and docking station - where is the infrastructure to match? Add the bikes, but not the

infrastructure - the program is set up to fail.

4. The **Toronto Board of Health** has already officially asked for this. Budget Committee Agenda item BU10.16 in August 2015: Toronto Board of Health expressed its support to Toronto City Council to commit an annual capital budget of at least \$20 million to implement a 'minimum grid' of cycling infrastructure.

5. **Cycle Toronto**, representing thousands of residents, has already asked for this.

6. The majority of you have already publicly supported the minimum grid in **your election campaigns**. Councillor Moeser, Councillor McMahon, Councillor Perruzza, and Councillor Robinson, you all supported the minimum grid in your election campaigns. It's time to actually put the money to build it!

So I urge you. no more requests for information to consider building..... You don't need more information on it. Just increase it, and build it.

Build safe bike infrastructure now.

Sylvia Slaughter
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Ward 30 resident.
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Notes:

Bike share expansion: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-unveils-4-9-million->

[plan-to-expand-bike-share-toronto-1.3139643](#)

Board of Health request for \$20m budget:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2015.BU10.16>