

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: TBN Advocacy <advocacy@tbn.ca>
Sent: Friday, April 22, 2016 11:23 AM
To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
Subject: PW12.1 – Toronto Bicycling Network Supports Bloor Street Pilot Project
Attachments: TBN Support of Bikes on Bloor 2016.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Dear Members of the Committee:

The Toronto Bicycling Network (TBN), is the largest recreational cycling club in the GTA. We support the initiative to put a bike lane pilot project on Bloor Street. We believe this will increase the number of people adopting cycling as a mode of travel instead of using a car to do short trips. More cyclists means less congestion on the city's roads. So please give approval to this important project. I also request to speak to the committee on Monday, 25 April 2016.

Sincerely,

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TORONTO BICYCLING NETWORK SUPPORTS BICYCLE LANES ON BLOOR STREET

Bloor St is an important route for cyclists. The route is continuous, there is no danger of streetcar tracks and a subway supports it. While Bloor St has a relatively high cycling mode share, there is also a high incidence of car-bike collisions. Despite the disadvantageous current layout of the streetscape on Bloor Street, it is still a common cycling route with cyclists traveling in the narrow high-risk space between automobiles in motion and those that are parked; where an open door from a parked car can lead to a serious collision.

The City of Toronto is creating a 10-year cycling network plan to be approved by Toronto City Council in 2016. We believe that a pilot project for bicycle lanes on Bloor St should be launched in 2016 and that Bloor St should be included in the 10-year plan.

A pilot bike lane on Bloor St is a valuable and important next step that would identify challenges while tangibly demonstrating the benefits of cycling infrastructure to the local and wider community.

We support the proposed pilot to run from Shaw St to Avenue Rd to connect the grid.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to seeing new bicycle lanes on Bloor St in 2016.

Joey Schwartz
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About Toronto Bicycling Network: Founded in 1983, TBN is a not-for profit organization with more than 850 members and is one of the friendliest clubs you can cycle with. During the spring, summer, and fall, TBN offers an abundance of cycling activities for riders of all levels. TBN also organizes a variety of other activities, including hiking, cross-country skiing, ice-skating and weekend excursions.

For more information about The Toronto Bicycling Network, please visit www.tbn.ca.