

PW13.11.34

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: Jim Hedger <jim@digitalalwaysmedia.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 12:56 PM
To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee; Councillor Jaye Robinson; Councillor McMahon; Councillor Perruzza; Councillor Moeser; Councillor Lee; Councillor Holyday
Cc: info@cycleto.ca; Mayor Tory; bikeplan
Subject: Regarding PW13.11 - Please support biking infrastructure in Toronto

Dear Members of Public Works & Infrastructure Committee,

I'm a 47 year old Torontonian living on Finch Ave. in Willowdale. Thousands of single occupancy vehicles pass my front window each day. It is rare to see the street in front of my house clear of cars. In my neighbourhood, biking (and walking, for that matter) is a relatively hazardous act. Highly experienced adult cyclists have taken to riding on the sidewalks for their own safety. Three times in the last year I have almost been mowed down stepping through the hedge that surrounds my home onto the sidewalk by bicyclists. My problem isn't with the cyclists. They're doing the rational thing by riding in a safer place. Though that decision makes me a little less safe, I understand why they might make it. The problem is with aggressive drivers.

I wish I could ask you to make drivers less aggressive. Obviously you can't. What you can do is make conditions for the hundreds of thousands of Torontonians who prefer to ride bicycles rather than drive automobiles. I don't expect a bike lane on Finch though I think you should consider it. I do however expect your committee to give thought to the right of citizens to choose two wheels over four. Please support cycling infrastructure through-out the city. Make it safe for people to choose to ride rather than drive. It is absurd that the automobile voter gets more protection in this city than the ecological or economically minded bike riders do. Please move Toronto forward again and give equal right to transportation choices to riders.

yours,

--

Jim Hedger
Digital Always Media Inc.
(m) 647 990 2649
jim@digitalalwaysmedia.com
@jimhedger