

**From:** [Story, Jennifer](#)  
**To:** [Nancy Martins](#)  
**Cc:** [Councillor Fletcher](#)  
**Subject:** Request to Attach Correspondence  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 26, 2017 1:49:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [VISION ZERO Acceleration Letter - Final.pdf](#)

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To: City-School Boards Advisory Committee

On behalf of myself and Councillor Paula Fletcher I'd like to submit a copy of the attached letter addressed to Barbara Gray, General Manager Transportation Services, and John Malloy, Director of Education for the Toronto District School Board for your information, in relation to Agenda item 7.1, Vision Zero Road Safety Plan: Safe School Zones Program.

Thank you,

Jennifer Story  
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**Councillor Paula Fletcher**  
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September 22, 2017

Barbara Gray  
General Manager, Transportation Services  
City of Toronto  
100 Queen St. W

Dr. John Malloy  
Director of Education  
Toronto District School Board  
5050 Yonge Street

## **Speeding up the Slow-Down: Completing VisionZero School Safety Zones**

Dear Ms. Gray and Mr. Malloy

We are writing to you because we believe, as you do, that it is imperative for Toronto's school children to be able to get to and from school safely.

As both enrolment and traffic increase in our communities and throughout Toronto, we see increasingly dangerous conditions for students walking and biking to school.

With child obesity and youth mental health challenges are on the rise, physical activity for our young people has never been more important. All levels of government actively encourage kids and families to use active modes of transportation for many other reasons: to get cars off our roads, to reduce pollution, and because research shows kids who are active are more likely to arrive at school calm, alert and ready to learn.

All the while, the routes to and from school are becoming less and less safe.

In response to this, both the City and the TDSB have started working on much needed School Safety Zones with pilot programs under Vision Zero.

While The School Safety Zone approach is certainly welcome, and we are encouraged by what we see in the plan, the pace of the roll out is simply not good enough for our kids and communities. With the current pace of 20 Schools per year the program won't be complete for almost 40 years.

We also note that none of the initial pilot sites have been selected in the south end of the city.

Simply put, we need to do better. None of our communities should be asked to wait for *decades* to see these safety measures come to their neighbourhood schools.

We don't want to give school safety a failing grade. We are calling for 100% installation of school zones by 2022 – within five years. We urge the City and all of Toronto's school boards to collaborate closely to accelerate this plan and its implementation.

We look forward to working with you to achieve this goal. Our students and communities deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,



Paula Fletcher  
City Councillor  
Ward 30, Toronto - Danforth



Jennifer Story  
TDSB Trustee  
Ward 15, Toronto-Danforth

CC:  
Mayor and Councillors  
Trustees