

# EX33.1.4

Mr. Mayor, Councillors,

I am here representing the friends of West Toronto Railpath. We are a community group dedicated to the care of and expansion of the west Toronto Railpath. Railpath is a multipurpose trail that currently runs 2.2 km along the east side of the Georgetown rail Corridor from approximately Dupont south to Dundas. It is our mission to see Railpath completed creating a 6 km multi-purpose trail from Liberty Village all the way up to St. Clair.

The existing section of Railpath is award winning and beloved by the community. It's a connector, it's a meeting place, it's an art/nature space. It's also a major feeder for the Bloor GO/UPX station helping make that station a true mobility hub. Railpath is powered by humans; with users of different ages and abilities. And that's cool.

Due to the hard work of many stakeholders we will soon be seeing expansion south from Dundas 2.4 km ending at Abell St. right next to the Liberty SmartTrack station.

Since Railpath's original design, things sure have really changed at Liberty Village; the corridor is more crowded, in fact Metrolinx didn't even exist when Railpath started, it's a much more lively but crowded place. It's a great place to work or live but its really really hard to get in our out of. Liberty Village needs a connections and transit. Connecting to Railpath is one of the solutions.

The current plans for the Liberty SmartTrack station, feature a bridge, reflecting the original design that Railpath would continue south and connect with more communities. This bridge, ~~which some call the King Highline,~~ is a once in a

generation opportunity to really do something fantastic for transit connectivity. It would have been so easy to just build a station but a station with a bridge that connects to Railpath is so much more.

We enthusiastically support the Liberty Village SmartTrack station and ~~King~~ <sup>to LIBERTY VILLAGE</sup> ~~Highline~~ Bridge for these reasons:

1. We support more transit period. It's even better when it has an intermodal component.
2. By connecting Railpath over to Liberty Village you are not only helping people get to a station to commute, or get across a divisive rail corridor, but you are connecting Liberty Village to all the communities north up towards St. Clair and vice versa back down to Liberty Village. Connecting Liberty Village to Railpath using the SmartTrack station is an intermodal force multiplier. And as more connections to Railpath happen, and as new connections in Liberty Village develop it's just get to get better and better.
3. Best, all the stakeholders that can make this happen agree this is a great idea. Lets not miss this opportunity.

So lets get people to this station, let's take the strain off other transit, and get people to leave their cars at home. Lets connect Liberty Village to all its friends. Lets make the West End intermodal in a big way. Lets complete West Toronto Railpath. Thank you.

Scott Dobson

Friends Of West Toronto Railpath