

**From:** [Ron Hart](#)  
**To:** [Public Works and Infrastructure Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Public Works & Infrastructure item PW 30.6  
**Date:** June 11, 2018 3:32:51 PM

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## BIKE NORTH YORK



Attn PWIC members- item no. PW30.6:

Bike North York has been advocating for cycling infrastructure in North York (formerly the North York Cycling & Pedestrian Committee) since 1997.

The City's surveys of cycling in the City have shown growing cycling numbers city-wide, and in North York specifically. I understand there are marginally more bicycles per household in the North District than in the South District.

The number one reason more North Yorkers don't commute regularly by bicycle is that the car-centric road design scares cyclist off their bicycle. While this is true throughout the City, the pre-amalgamation Transportation Dept of North York was openly anti-cycling!

As a result, while there has been some major progress on park trails in North York i.e. the Finch Hydro Corridor and the Edwards Gardens bypass, road infrastructure has been sadly lacking. Infrastructure linking Downsview Park, the Finch Hydro Corridor and York University, is sure to get bicycles out of garages. This will be popular with York University students, area residents and recreational cyclist from North York and beyond.

One important project not mentioned here, is an extension of the Keele St. bike lane. The [York Region's bike plan](#) calls for some form of cycling facilities on parts of Keele Street, including from Steeles to 16th Avenue. Toronto's Bike Plan should extend the Keele bike lanes to at least the Finch hydro corridor when York Region completes their work.

This would be similar to Dufferin Street where York Region has a bike lane that starts at Steeles Avenue and goes north to the highway. Linking to these bike lanes helps individuals, and local recreational cycling clubs get in and out of the City easily and safely. It will also help York Region cycling tourist get in and out of the City without their car.

We urge the PWIC to support the Ten Year Cycling Network Plan by approving all of the proposed cycling infrastructure projects In North York (and of course the projects in other parts of the City). Cycling doesn't have to be just a downtown activity.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Hart, Chair Bike North York