

# IE14.17.6 - Revised

**From:** [Darnel Harris](#)  
**To:** [councilmeeting](#)  
**Subject:** Mobility Greenway - Letter of Support for City Council on July 28, 2020 (OGC Open Letter)  
**Date:** July 28, 2020 2:49:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [Our Greenway Letter - Mobility Greenway Final - City Council 2020 07 28.pdf](#)

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Good Morning Ms. Toft,

Please see the following open community letter from Our Greenway Conservancy in regards to IE 14.17.

**Please kindly note that this is an entirely separate communication than the message sent on Jul 27, 2020, 11:35 PM, with the Subject line: Mobility Greenway - Letter of Support for City Council on July 28, 2020 (OGC). They need to be listed separately on the motion page.**

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Darnel



c/o The City Institute at York University  
Seventh Floor, Kaneff Tower, Keele Campus  
Toronto, ON M3J 1P3

July 28, 2020

Nancy Martins  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Tory, Councillor Pasternak, Councillor Perruzza, Councillor Ford and Toronto's City Councillors,

The Mobility Greenway project seeks the extensive use of raingardens, trees and plants to protect a high quality, multi-modal mobility network, which would enable economic opportunities, while developing safe and resilient neighborhoods. There should be safe and appropriate infrastructure so that people are able to use suitable mobility devices to satisfy their needs, e.g. high capacity cargo cycles to haul goods and people, mobility wheelchairs, electric cycles.

Over the past five years, Our Greenway's team has been engaging with workers, businesses, entrepreneurs, and residents across the northwest. We hear the repeated message - arterial roads are dangerous due to oil tankers and other heavy vehicles competing with lighter vehicles, cargo bikes, electric cycles, mobility wheelchairs and people walking who are simply seeking passage on the roads and shallow sidewalks. It is not safe. People walking and people biking have been hurt; several have lost their lives. When it comes to using existing multi use trails and hydro corridors, a complete lack of lights or safety boxes plus a lack of winter path maintenance means that the few off-road pathways suitable for women, seniors and children vanish at night or in cold weather. In addition, local entrepreneurs who don't have competitive financing cannot conduct their businesses effectively or at all. For example, requiring gardeners, handypersons and plumbers to move their equipment by truck raises costs and throttles entrepreneurial opportunities.

Our Greenway and the undersigned supporters propose wide mobility lanes and sidewalks on each side of the road buffered by raingardens, trees and plants. We believe that well managed adjacent parkettes will provide additional entrepreneurial opportunities year-round. The living green infrastructure system will manage storms, filter polluted air and protect people from heavy traffic. Our Greenway's plan will deliver economic impact and support the growth of resilient, safe and prosperous neighbourhoods across the entire network. In sum, implementing the Mobility Greenway will save the City of Toronto and homeowners millions by reducing flooding and enabling quick and practical community mobility – directly addressing the time poverty that is a major factor in ongoing and systemic social and health inequities across northwest Toronto.

Sincerely,



Darnel Harris (Executive Director)

Our Greenway Conservancy

*These signatories listed below have also signed on to this open letter:*

1. Duke Heights Business Improvement Area
2. Seneca College
3. Green Communities Canada (Signed by Isooda Niroomand)
  
4. Professor Linda Peake, Director, City Institute at York University
5. Professor William Jenkins, Interim Director, City Institute at York University
6. University Professor Dawn Bazely, Faculty of Science, York University
7. Professor Warren E. Crichlow, Faculty of Education, York University
8. Professor Emeritus Thomas Cohen, Chair of Eglinton Park Residents Assoc (Ward 8, at Yonge and Eglinton) and Department of History, York University
9. Professor Emerita Gerda R. Wekerle, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University
10. Professor Glenn Stalker, Department of Sociology, York University
11. Professor Jennifer Foster, RPP., Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University
12. Professor Teresa Abbruzzese, Department of Social Science, York University
13. Professor Kim Solga, Department of English and Writing Studies, Western University
  
14. Ms. Amah Harris, Retired Teacher, Toronto District School Board
15. Ms. Paula Cox, Retired Teacher, Toronto District School Board
  
16. Mr. David Shellnutt, The Biking Lawyer
17. Mr. Francis Jeffers, Founder and Executive Director, Canadian Multicultural Inventors Museum
18. Mr. Michael Jagdeo, Headhunter Launching Startups, UnicornLaunching
19. Ms. Jannette Lumley, President, On The Move
20. Ms. Itah Sadu, A Different Booklist Cultural Centre
21. Mr. Anthony Biglieri, Principal, The Biglieri Group Ltd
  
22. Honourable Dr. Jean Augustine, P.C., C.M., O.Ont., C.B.E.
23. Honourable Zanana Akande, Community Activist
24. Ms. Rita M. Cox, C.M. D.Litt
25. Mr. Doug Saunders, Richard von Weizsäcker Fellow, Robert Bosch Academy
26. Mr. Howard Shearer
27. Ms. Sandra Whiting, Community Champion
  
28. Mr. Don Mathias
29. Mr. Albert Koehl
30. Ms. Katharine Anderson, Toronto resident
31. Ms. Anna Lippman, PhD Candidate, York University

32. Ms. Afiya Edwards, Northwest Toronto resident
33. Ms. Ebony Edwards, Northwest Toronto resident
34. Mr. Elijah Edwards, Northwest Toronto resident
35. Mr. Abraham Akinmayowa
36. Mrs. Mary Jacqueline Nalwadda, Northwest Toronto resident
37. Ms. Nicole Hanson, RPP, MCIP., Development Planner
38. Mr. Paul Braithwaite, Past President, Risk Management Consultants of Ontario
39. Dr. Avonelle Pinard
40. Ms. Andrea Pinard
41. Ms. Adeye Adane, York University
42. Ms. Lorraine Delsol
43. Ms. Sherri Johnson
44. Ms. Stella Arueyingho, Northwest Toronto resident
45. Ms. Agatha McPhee CPA, CGA, FCCA (UK), MBA
46. Mr. Sean Marshall
47. Mr. Arthur Klimowicz
48. Mr. Ron Cuba
49. Mr. Tristan Paul
50. Mr. Charles Blaquière